I'm sure everyone sitting here today has actually heard of this saying. I for a fact, am very familiar with this saying and to be honest... I just don't agree with it. Because I know that my friends love me, and we're not blood. And those that teach, lead and support me, they love me too but we don't seem to be blood either.

If I’m going to talk about this on a family type of basis, I will stick with my opinion. I won't contradict myself, because I feel that this point I will raise completely opposes the purpose of the saying itself.

Step-parents.

First of all, let's take a step back and see how step-parents are really portrayed. Everyone's aware of the Cinderella story right? There's an evil step mother, that mistreats a child in her home because they're not "blood". She gives Cinderella chores and duties that she wouldn't give children of her own. And that's how step parents are shown to us. As mean, evil and unfair.

Girls, and Boys if you can, imagine you're a single mother. In a country where you don't understand what anyone is saying to you, you're not financially stable and you've always been alone. And one day this guy comes along, making you and your 1 year old daughter his main priority. He’s throwing your daughter her second birthday party, as she gets older buys her first bike, and he's even at all those boring parents evenings.

Time goes by and you get married to this guy and have kids of your own.

Stepping out of that story, and yeah I know it's a pretty fairy tale ending... But would it shock you if I told you that story was true? Would it shock you even more if I said that woman is my Mum, that child is myself, and that guy... He's my step dad. Because that's exactly how it is. And that's exactly why it makes me believe that blood should not be the barrier to define who you love, why you love someone and how you are to love that person.

Just as water is seen as a substance, why can't blood be seen as one too? Step parents choose to be your parent. They take it as their responsibility to bring you up. I feel that step parents give opportunity. Step Parents step up to the roles that other figures may have fallen beforehand. And they do this by choice.

Exactly the reason why I don't call my step dad my "step dad". He’s achieved the role of being my Dad through love and compassion.

So going back to the saying that "Blood is thicker than Water"; just know that for me... and possibly for you. That water can be pretty thick too.

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