

# The Long Road to Success

Bernie Robinson

During my whole life, I have been in and out of trouble. From the age of 13 to 28, I was drinking and I was off and

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on hooked on street drugs. My whole criminal record is based on my drinking. Every time I would get drunk, I would get in trouble or end up in jail. Yes, I have been to jail, and it isn't much fun. Actually, it is one of the worst places I've been. Doing drugs caused me to hit rock bottom. I lost relationships, jobs, vehicles, and a lot of money.



Bernie Robinson is a student at the Maine School Administrative District #49.

The last time I hit rock bottom was enough for me. It made me open my eyes and realize there is more to life than drugs and alcohol. Now I have the greatest family in the world: a loving and supportive girlfriend and two handsome boys. I also am in the process of buying a truck and have a good job building garages.

The most important thing I have changed is that I am now in school. I always told myself I would never go back. I hated school or thought school was boring. But now that I am back in school, I love it. In the long run, I will have a better education, a dependable job, and more money. I will be able to support my family and do the things I always wanted to do. So even though it took me all those years of hitting rock bottom and getting in trouble, I have finally made it onto the road to success.

## HITTING ROCK BOTTOM

**Describe what "rock bottom" looked like for Bernie (above) and/or for Brian (p. 29).**

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