## Mother knows best

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Our mothers taught us that feminism is not about conforming to a certain ideal – the powerful businesswoman image is not for anyone – but that feminism comes from whatever makes us happy, be it domestic chores or being a CEO.

We were taught to respect our own bodies and love ourselves before getting caught up in that inevitable flurry of teenage relationships. They taught us to stand up for

ourselves.

One of the most important things we are taught from childhood is manners. At the time we might have rued them for constantly barking instructions at us, as did I, but I beamed with pride the first time I heard an aunt tell my mother how well-behaved my brother and I were. I am sure the pride my mother felt was tenfold.

There is not an analogy good enough to describe the

relationship between a mother and her children. Woven between the unconditional love and packed lunches are arguments and slammed doors. I have fought with my mother countless times the same way she has fought with hers, but I know that despite everything hurtful we have ever said to each other, she is my best friend and always will be. To me, that's what the perfect mother is.

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