**Resilient Women Project - WHO AM I -Casey**

[00:00:00] **Casey:** [00:00:00] My name is Casey. I'm 31 years old. I'm a teacher and a children's author, and I also work with The Y as a Program Designer. You might recognise this face from being on Survivor season four, Australia.

[00:00:16] Did you enjoy school? Why or why not?

[00:00:19] I enjoyed elements of school. I would say most of the time I felt that school sort of sucked.

[00:00:26] I think I was very creative.

[00:00:28] **Annemarie:** [00:00:28] She was absolutely brilliant at art.

[00:00:30] **Amber:** [00:00:30] She was very creative, very, very creative.

[00:00:33] **Dianne:** [00:00:33] When she put her mind to something she did very well.

[00:00:36] **Casey:** [00:00:36] I felt like I was never really succeeding with English or particularly maths. I felt like I was like top of the class with art and so that's where I sort of spent all my time.

[00:00:50] What do you think you were bad at during school?

[00:00:52] I would avoid sport at all costs.

[00:00:55] **Amber:** [00:00:55] I do not remember Casey is being a sports person.

[00:01:00] [00:00:59] **Dianne:** [00:00:59] Casey always tried to get out of school.

[00:01:02] **Casey:** [00:01:02] All of the academic components of school, I found really hard. I didn't see myself as a very smart person, which made me sort of struggle through school.

[00:01:14] **Amber:** [00:01:14] It can be really hard thinking that you were dumb or not good enough. And I think it's really hard to see that, that you are actually really smart.

[00:01:22] **Annemarie:** [00:01:22] I do remember in Year 8, she was quite angry about a number of different things but I wasn't exactly sure what they were nor did we really pry too much.

[00:01:35] **Casey:** [00:01:35] Throughout school, I always had a really blunt, thick fringe to cover a birthmark that I had on my forehead.

[00:01:43] It was something that I was really insecure about and I started getting like really badly bullied. I would try and hide how upset I would be or how hurt I was at times. People's words are so damaging and it was really hard [00:02:00] to just get on with things. If I could go back in time, I wish I didn't let the bullying have so much weight on me.

[00:02:08] **John:** [00:02:08] That was just sad. Even though the birthmark was part of her life, it really wasn't something that stopped her being a confident young girl.

[00:02:18] **Amber:** [00:02:18] I think he is one of those people who like throws herself at different challenges. Honestly, I think like she was like one of the most interesting human beings I know.

[00:02:29] **Annemarie:** [00:02:29] She won't be put off by what anyone else says. If she wants to do something, she will do it.

[00:02:34] **Dianne:** [00:02:34] She always wants to know why and always wants to explore her ideas.

[00:02:39] **Casey:** [00:02:39] Something that I think I've really worn as a badge of honour as I've gotten older is a teacher telling me that I always danced to the beat of my own drum.

[00:02:47] Being able to follow my own path and go my own way has been extremely important and has led me to do some really cool things. [00:03:00]