

your authority

you are her mother  
but she has no desire to speak with you  
you stood back and allowed her to be hurt  
you did not speak up for her  
time and again in important matters  
throughout her life you have done this  
whether with child abuse  
or with teachers  
your response is the same  
to think that they have more authority  
especially if they are male  
your response is always inadequate  
you fuss and you fret  
but it leads to nothing of any consequence  
your words are useless, meaningless  
you give away your power

Jo Beth Gray