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Mom and Dad as Role Models

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MOM & DAD AS ROLE MODELS

I. With today:
A. Pulitzer & merangea trois.
B. Bear Bryant drunk on 6th hole.
C. Eliz. Taylor goes for #7; Henry Fonda 5 - we need role models.

II. Our Kids face a lot!
A. Suicide 2nd leading cause of death 14 - 20.
B. Achievement scores are down.
C. Drugs, pregnancy, crime, venereal disease.

1. "Home is stronger than any other influence to determine how happy, secure, stable a teenager will be; how he responds to adults; how confident he is in himself." Dr. Ross Campbell "How To Really Love Your Teenager"

Pg. 10

2. Million under 19, 30,000 are 140 or under

3. 3 new cases of venereal disease annually

4. 60% in sex before finish Hi School

5. Clip #1

6. #2 Abuse

7. #3 Tomorrow

8. 46% of women & children under 6 in labor force; 31% in '70

Prov. 29:15 A child left to itself disgraces his mother
Fidelity - committed - no sex experiments before marriage. 84% who did state it did not later improve marriage. Those who wait have the highest ev. of staying together. Marriage - Krause?

III. Let Our Children See

A. A lifelong commitment to carry out our marital responsibility as we grow in love, appreciation & respect.

1. 12 million kids under 18 whose parents are divorced, 6 million in fatherless homes
2. Triple in last 20 yrs. It's 5% higher than insider
3. Divorce is one of the most serious & complex mental health crises facing children of the 80's - Albert Solnit Yale child study center
4. "My sorrow is more than I can bear - alone"
5. Corn (with) Ponis (Bread - companion bread seller) - messmate - we eat together
6. Move any 4 yrs; Henton move; Car 6 yrs

B. Let them see the Lord & His church 1st in our lives

1. Need foundation.
2. Provide moral system.
3. Avoid cults. Clip 4 & 5
4. 13: 5 whatever you do, work at it c/f all your heart as working to the Lord not men.
5. How handle money
6. Pray
7. Worship
C. Let every child know he is unconditionally loved.

1. He didn't ask to be born.

Lu. 11:11 "If a son shall ask

2. No more important qt.: do you love me.

3. Don't avoid eye & physical contact! Back scratched.


a) Clip #6

b) #7

5. A. Henders 1976 qt- if you had it all
to do over again, would you have
children - 70% said no.

D. Let him be correctly taught by you.

1. Do unto your mate as you would have your children
do unto others.

"A in French talk it- Geometry-its hard in circles..."
2. Take time to be with your children.
3. Create the proper environment in your home.
5. Be your own family.
6. Participate with Kids.
7. Take a stand.
8. Stakes are high! Takes effort to get away from busy schedule.

E. Give them hope.
1. Is this "apathetic generation"?
2. Is the mood hopeless, helpless despair.
3. Is that our attitude.
4. Do we count our blessings
   We influence other's attitudes.
5. Pessimism or promise of God?
   Rom. 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good - not evil - future & hope."
Isa. 41:10 "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not afraid.

Chips 2045 #14
Rules #15

Hw 6: 38 "Give it it shall be given to you
Joel 2:25 "I will repay you for the yrs
that the locust has eaten."

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE - A NOTE TO PARENTS.

The Boulevard Church of Christ in Baton Rouge, La., recently engaged in a study of the problem question, "Why are we losing our young people?" They made a very thorough study using that congregation and a cross-section of congregations throughout the brotherhood. The study produced some rather interesting and to some, startling statistics. Over the years, they found that they had been losing about 38% of their young people. The loss figure one year was as high as 73%!

They found that where both parents were faithful and active in attendance, work and support, 93% of their children remained faithful and became active in the work of the local church. Where only one parent was active and faithful, 74% of the children continued faithful in the Christian life. Where parents were reasonably faithful in attendance, but inactive in work, 54% of the children continued their relationship with Christ and His church, where parents attended only occasionally, the children remained faithful in only 6% of the cases!
Why are we losing so many kids? To answer this question parents should examine their own lives first. It is all too easy to blame the world in which we live, or the preacher, or the elders, or the church as a whole. Parents, if your children are lost to Christ it may well be because of your indiffernce and neglect in the matter of regular Bible Study attendance in Bible classes, worship, and your failure to obey Matt. 6:33, "put the kingdom first."

"GOOD-BYE, GOD"

Some people go to church on Sunday, but only once that day. And when they leave the service you almost hear them say: "Good-bye, God, I'm going home - for this day is all that's mine; I've given Thee a portion one hour of it is Thine. For I must have diversions, in pleasure's haunts I'll seek. Some needed recreation - help for the coming week. So, God, I'll not be here tonight - I know you'll understand, and I can't come for Wednesday's meet; my work has its demands. I have my family to sustain and other reasons why I need to gain all earth can give until the day I die. So, good-bye, God, till Sunday morn, I'll worship Thee again - unless some come to visit me and I should be detained." --Selected

SUNDAY EXCUSES

The house that claims our Sunday care, The clothes our pride forbids us wear, The weeks accumulated pain, The clouds that threaten Sunday rain, The rest our weary bodies claim, The health that only sleep can save.

"THEY MISLED US"

"They" told us that, if we'd relax about sex, take our clothes off and not get all uptight about it, there would be no more sex crimes. So we'd better question some of the other advice "they" gave us. "They" told us we'd been too tough with criminals, that we must go easy on them. So we went easy on them - and the rate of violent crime has increased 47 percent since 1968, increased 6 percent last year, is increasing 15 percent this year. "They" told us that, if we'd just be more generous with poor folks, there would be no motive for stealing any more. So we gave everybody a guaranteed income, and robbery, burglary, larceny and auto theft are running 15 percent ahead of one year ago. "They" said that churches were "old-fashioned," that they must modernize, liberalize, rationalize, compromise. And those that compromised now are shrinking fastest. If it is appearing up here that "they" gave us some awfully bad advice, they did. "They" insisted that our schools must boot God out and rely on enhancing junior's intelligence. So we graduated a generation of juniors with refined intellects and undisciplined emotions - so school-age suicides have soared 92 percent in two years. "They" told us alcoholism and drug addiction were sicknesses, not crimes. Now we're gagging, choking, strumming on forbidden fruit. They said "informal marriage" was enough, so now the odds are 5 to 4 your rapture will be ruptured and 2 in 7 that the next baby will be born illegitimate. Who are these "they" who've been thus misleading us? Spaceship earth came with a book of instructions; let's see what it says. It says we should not get drunk - period. It says sleep only with your own wife. It says you don't do what you "want," you do what you "ought," and for those whose consciences are anesthetized it specifies which is which. In other words, if that rule book were not divinely inspired, it would still be the best blueprint for an orderly existence. If it did not promise life hereafter, it would still contain the best formula for a good life here. --Paul Harvey

Jesus didn't quit meeting with the disciples because Judas Iscariot was a thief, nor because Peter was fickle at times. He did not quit preaching, living right because some of the brethren were unforgiving,unkind or over-ambitious or agnostic. Jesus didn't quit his post of leadership because he once was in the presence of an adulterous woman, a gang of Pharaonic hypocrites, or narrow minded demon worshippers.

Do we claim Jesus as our example, but go our own way, doing and saying whatever we please? Have we only given "lip service" to Jesus?

If Jesus is the example we strive to follow in our lives today, we will not be a quitter. We will be forgiving of others about us. We will be kind to all. We will be so busy with the work of the Lord that there will not be enough hours in the day to do all we planned to do. The results will be all that we have hoped and prayed for. The church will be what we want it be. Our lives will be happier ones. The world around about us will be better for us and our children. With so much sin all about us, may we strive more diligently to live more Christ-like, save more souls, and await that reward in Heaven. Shield of faith, Jackson, Mo.
OUR SICK

Mrs. Bernice Sanders is at home and doing about the same. Mr. Otto Davis is recovering nicely at home after recent surgery. Mrs. Betty Lawing is now at home. Several of our number have been sick with flu, strep throat and chickenpox. We wish for all who have been stricken with illness a speedy recovery.

Sincere Sympathy

Our deepest and heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Mrs. Mamie Forline. Services were conducted October 18th at Shearon-Hunt Funeral Home.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of Mr. Jude Allen. Services were conducted this past week in Amarillo, Tx. Mr. Allen was the brother of Mr. Gilbert Allen.

LADIES

You are invited to attend a Ladies Bible Class each Tuesday at 10:00 at the Church building. This class is being taught by a very capable Christian lady - Mrs. Christine Bracey. The topic of study is the book of Galatians. A nursery will be provided.

Friendship is a vitamin — “B-1”

“The Churches of Christ salute you.” Romans 16:16

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live down the block. His bloated belly may be empty or his tiny frame may be ravaged by disease. His face may be bruised, his feet may be bare, and a tear may be running down his soft cheek. As child advocate Eda LeShan has said, "This is a terrible time to be a child."

Children are caught in a deadly tug of war, pulled toward disaster from every side. They are virtually powerless against overwhelming forces, and it is to our shame that these forces originate in adult society.

A global view: cloudy

Throughout the world, children are being denied the right to grow up.

- In underdeveloped countries, less than one third of the school-age population is in school.
- In some developing countries, 25 to 30 percent of the children die before they are five.
- Nutritional deficiency is responsible for as many as 57 percent of all deaths before age five.
- In developing countries there is only one doctor for every 3,700 people.
- Decent housing, caring families, and equal opportunity are illusions for millions.

In our own country, the state of our children is startling.

- One of every two black preschool children lives in poverty.
- Poor children's chances of dying in their first year of life are two thirds greater than those of children living above the poverty level.
DEADLY TUG OF WAR

• One white student drops out for every four who graduate from high school, but one black child drops out of school for every two who graduate.
• 18.3 million American children under seventeen have never seen a dentist.
• 9.5 million children under eighteen have no regular source of primary health care.
• Only one in seventeen American families represents the typical image, with a working father, a stay-at-home mother, and two children.3

As the most privileged nation in the world, we still lag scandalously behind less privileged countries with respect to our youth. Says Pat Wald, staff attorney for the Mental Health Law Project (Washington, D.C.): “Despite the fact that more than 40 percent of Americans living at the poverty level are children and only 15 percent are over 65, we spend many more of our tax dollars on the aged than on youth.”4

Every year Americans spend more money on dog food than on baby food. U.S. Senator Ernest Hollings of South Carolina declared in The Case Against Hunger:

It is now documented that from 10 to 15 million Americans are hungry constantly and chronically. They are Americans—not Biafrans, or those poor starving Chinese we all heard about in our childhood when we were being encouraged to clean our plates. They are in all corners of America and in every color—2 to 1, white over red and black.5

How many of those starving people are children? Are they being denied a share in the wealth and
Honor Thy Children

at times by the power of your fury, by the potential for injury that lies in a fit of rage?

Child abuse is rising to epidemic proportions; soon it may be the leading cause of childhood death, topping the combined death totals from smallpox, polio, typhoid fever, and scarlet fever.

An estimated one million children are abused in the United States each year. Two to four thousand die—and those are only the ones we can count!1 Children are beaten, scalded, boiled, blinded, raped, whipped, bludgeoned, hurled down stairs, and slashed with razor blades in a country that claims to place children and the family on a pedestal. What more abhorrent violation of a child’s rights can we find than the instance where a three-year-old boy’s fingernails were ripped off by his angry father? What is more loathsome than the case of a child whose father burned the words “bad boy” into his back with lighted cigarettes?

We can all agree that child abuse of any kind—physical, sexual, emotional, or through neglect—is intolerable and inexcusable. We can shake our heads over the more than 50,000 children who died from abuse in the 1970s alone, and the 300,000 who were permanently injured.2 But I hear little national outcry in protest. I see no tide of letters flooding Washington. I see only the further disintegration of the American family, which I believe is largely responsible for this youthful holocaust. We are losing control.

We are now a nation of “lock-and-key” babies and “latch-key children.” They are the babies whose
THE THREE Bs OF CHILD ABUSE

mothers leave them unattended; they are the children who go off to school with house keys dangling from their necks. In our nation, 27 million children under the age of eighteen have mothers who work; 6 million are under five; and we have day-care facilities for less than 1 million.

In our nation the roles of mother and father are not held in high esteem; the roles of the rich, the powerful, and the "successful" are. We live with violence, in the media and on the streets. We spend millions on juvenile detention, far less on detection of social problems. It costs $12,000 to keep a teenager in jail for one year; it costs far less to be a parent.

The abusers
I believe that nearly all parents innately love their children. A high percentage of abusive parents were abused or neglected as children and know no other kind of parenting. They cannot cope with a web of financial, psychological, and social problems, and they don't know how to cry for help. They are white, black, Catholic, Protestant, under thirty, over fifty, highly educated, disadvantaged, or wealthy. They are garbagemen, engineers, doctors, electricians, carpenters, lawyers, and ministers. The myth that child abuse happens mainly among the lower classes is being shattered. It happens among all classes, but the middle and upper classes are more adept at keeping their atrocities secret.

I read of one case in which a prominent minister sexually abused his nine-year-old daughter. The act
Any time we deal with the future, we’re groping in the dark. Our crystal balls are cloudy, at best. But when it comes to tomorrow’s child, I can make one prediction without reservation: Deep-down inside, he will not differ from today’s child. He will still need love and affection every year of his life. He will seek friendship, acceptance, and assurance from family and friends. The future child will need his parents to help mold his personality and to help resolve his confusion about the physical as well as the spiritual world.

The child will not change in the years ahead. But tomorrow’s husband and wife will deliver that child—bravely or not—into an entirely new world. Our environment will be altered in some ways that we already expect and in other ways that will surprise and even shock us.

A number of changes appear likely at this point:

- Our society will be far less child-centered.
- The family unit will come under increasing pressure.
FUTURE CHILD: A SHOCKING LOOK

• Technology—and the media in particular—will fight us for control of our children.
• Sexual roles will be redefined.
• Education and business will mesh.
• Rising inflation and the threat of war will restrict our lifestyles.

A world for the small?

Once upon a time, it was fun to be a kid. It was even okay to be a kid. Today, and in all likelihood tomorrow, we hurl our children headlong into adulthood. As one sixteen-year-old put it:

If you don't act old, you get lost, the world passes by without you... You rush yourself to grow up. You push, they push, and then when you get there—wherever there is—you realize you've come up out of the ground into, like an empty cave. There's nothing in it at all. It's just a cold, empty cave. Right now, that's the way the future looks to me.... You hate to admit it, but there are lots of times you wish you still were a little kid nodding at all the questions people ask.1

As our society places greater emphasis on the aged, we are entering a world "far less child-centered than our own," says futurist Alvin Toffler in his new book, The Third Wave. Toffler describes the "Second Wave" era.

Millions of American parents lived out their own dreams through their children—often because they could reasonably expect their children to do better socially and economically than they, themselves, had
HONOR THY CHILDREN

done. This expectation of upward mobility encouraged parents to concentrate enormous psychic energies on their children. Today, many middle-class parents face agonizing disillusionment as their children—in a far more difficult world—move down, rather than up, the socioeconomic scale. The likelihood of surrogate fulfillment is evaporating.

For all these reasons, the baby born tomorrow may well enter a society no longer obsessed with—perhaps not even terribly interested in—the needs, wants, psychological development, and instant gratification of the child.  

Childhood will be more demanding and structured, says Toffler. Parents will be less permissive, and childhood will shrink. The forces tugging at our children will be stronger, but Toffler suggests that more responsible and productive youth “may well turn out to be the high achievers of tomorrow.”

All in the family?

The family unit as we know it may be the oddity of the future. Test-tube babies and sperm banks will cast a new light on tomorrow’s decision to become parents, and we will see radical experiments with childbearing and childrearing. More and more, your children’s playmates will come from single-parent homes or two-paycheck homes. We know that the traditional family with working father and stay-at-home mother is becoming a myth; it is predicted that by 1990, 60 percent of all adult women will be in the labor force. Over half of our children under the age of eighteen have working mothers. The children
FUTURE CHILD: A SHOCKING LOOK

come home from school to empty houses and television sets. Part-time parents deposit children too small for elementary grades at tennis clubs or nursery schools. We see picture-window children wearing monogrammed sweaters and tiny fur coats, when they need to be swathed in attention and affection.

One out of three marriages currently ends in divorce, and predictions say the number may rise to half of all marriages. For children of divorce, parental harmony will be mere fiction. Mothers and fathers will play musical custody as children try to decide whom to love best.

Julius Segal and Herbert Yahraes, in their book A Child’s Journey: Forces That Shape the Lives of Our Young, give this warning.

The stresses endured by adults cannot be hidden from the child’s view altogether—nor should they. But neither ought children become the chronic targets for parental conflicts and passions. In resolving their discord, parents owe it to their children to protect them from becoming innocent casualties of the emotional warfare waged daily in so many homes.

That the family structure would change was inevitable. But if the family is to survive at all—and it must for the good of the children—we must see:

• a resurgence of love for children and for each other.
• a return to sacrifice for the sake of the chil-
Rabbi James Rudin and his wife, coauthors of *Prison or Paradise? The New Religious Cults*, profiles the type of person most defenseless against the cults.

The most vulnerable target group for cult recruitment is the person, young or old, who has made no meaningful spiritual connection with an established religion, who is in search of spiritual values and transcendent meaning, who is willing, even yearning for strict discipline and authority, and who may be burdened with guilt about affluence or sex or drugs.

Such a person may enthusiastically make the sacrifices necessary to maintain the love of the cult leader and of his peers within the group. In an age of dislocation, when everything and everyone seems rootless and in flux, when one's own family is seen as superficial and vapid, one's own religion as irrelevant and relativistic, and society as chaotic and uncaring, the absolute claims, guarantees, and promises of cult life are appealing.12

*Morality begins at home.*

It is my opinion that in one sense we are all to blame for the proliferation of cults. All of us—if even by our silence or apathy—are reaping what we have sown in today's society, and we are now witnessing a near total moral eclipse.
HONOR THY CHILDREN

I believe that morally and spiritually developed people do not seek out cults. Parents have given over the control of their children to outside influences, while they themselves have become mired in moneymaking, career-advancing, and status-seeking. The video age has programmed children into being spectating robots who lack self-help and decision-making skills. The church is, in many cases, a sanctuary for grown-ups, not for those who are growing up.

Dr. Robert Coles, research psychiatrist for Harvard University Health Services and a perceptive student of children's crises, says society today does not sufficiently emphasize "a child's struggle to make sense of the world and to come to some kind of moral judgment of the way the world works." He says children today "have lost everything except preoccupation with themselves, and this is enhanced every day by the way they are brought up."13

I will say it again: Responsibility rests with the parents. Morality begins at home. How many of you parents are listening to your neighbors' problems while your children's inner puzzles are in pieces? I know children of pastors who have joined cults because the pastors ministered only to their congregations and neglected their own families. Coles says parents have surrendered their moral authority to the "experts," to "newspaper columnists who give advice ad nauseam," and to "fads and secular authorities."14

And when our homes are dens of cynicism and criticism for the boss, the teacher, the president, the
Our selfishness can range all the way from giving up an unwanted child to refusing a child medical treatment. Children take their problems to empty rooms and to housekeepers, while Mom and Dad are at the country club. My heart goes out to them as much as it does to the estimated 500,000 children in foster care, and to the millions whose lives are shattered by divorce. Who is taking a stand for our children's best interests, while the rest are "looking out for number one"?

Too much love

Five-and-a-half-year-old Laura might have been able to answer those questions. When Laura was
clear family.
6. I do not oppose the right of women to work, but I do believe a mother should be with her child as much as possible during the first four years of his life. Less than that is a compromise no family can afford!

Historian Will Durant calls this the age of "the industrialization of woman.... Women call it emancipation because they wanted to do whatever the men did.... But it is a mistake to call that emancipation.... It will bring a good deal of suffering to women. But it's all in the nature of industrialization, which completes its work, and then has a nice big war, and begins all over again." 20

We must count our families more important than career, power, and wealth. Intensely career-minded parents may be as guilty of child neglect as the parents who locked Jimmy in a closet. I know one man
CHILDREN AND TELEVISION

Children with reading problems are hurt the most. According to Marie Winn, author of The Plug-In Drug, "Television plays a profoundly negative role in such children's intellectual development, since it is only by reading a great deal that they can hope to overcome their reading problems." 16

And now, a word about the sponsors...

Perhaps the harshest criticism of television in relation to children is directed at commercials—and justifiably so. The United States is one of only three countries worldwide that allow commercials on children's television programs. 17 A child under twelve may see 25,000 commercials in a year 18 blaring messages that urge him to buy or beg for sugar-laden cereals, tasty candy bars, new games, and exotic toys his parents may not want him to have and may not be able to afford. A young child will have a hard time resisting seasoned writers, producers, directors, musicians, and artists skilled in the powers of persuasion.

Consumer advocate Robert Choate, testifying in Senate hearings, said, "In the 1930s a mother... fended off aggressive door-to-door salesmen eager to get junior's ear. Today she is told to protect the innocent while 22 salesmen per hour beseech her child over the tube, disguised as the friendly folk of cartoon, jingle and adventureland." 19 The number of commercials per hour now averages eighteen to twenty, but the blatant and subliminal messages continue to ensnare gullible youth.
assume they know how to turn on a television set.\textsuperscript{11}

Dorothy G. Singer, co-director of the Family Television Research Consultation Center, Yale University, reports that the children who watch the least amount of television and who engage in make-believe play are the most imaginative, cooperative, persistent, and joyful. They also have more imaginary companions than children who are heavy television viewers.\textsuperscript{12}

Not only may children's imaginations suffer, but they may also have trouble distinguishing between reality and fantasy. They are at a gullible, susceptible age. They're not yet sure about right and wrong, and we cannot expect them to sort out fake from fact.

I predict that the children of today who list television as their hobby will be the listless retirees of tomorrow. It is appalling to hear teachers say that model airplanes, butterfly collections, and toy railroads lure few youngsters. They sit and stare, waiting for someone to change the channel on life's television set. What will these children expect as
A further danger of excessive TV watching follows logically—and dismally. Children are losing their desire and ability to read. When we read we create our own images; television delivers them prepackaged. Says psychologist Bruno Bettelheim, "Television captures the imagination but does not liberate it. A good book at once stimulates and frees the mind." 14

Reading militates against passivity. When you read you are in control. The lazy TV viewer is often reluctant to become a thoughtful reader. This comment came from the twelve-year-old daughter of a college English teacher:

I mean television, you don't have to worry about getting really bored because it's happening and you don't have to do any work to see it, to have it happen. But you have to work to read, and that's no fun. I mean it's fun when it's a good book, but how can you tell if the book will be good? Anyhow, I'd rather see it as a television program. 15
A nationwide study done by Dr. Hershel Thornburg, professor of educational psychology at the University of Arizona in Tucson, revealed that only 8 percent of parents had discussed sex with their children. In ranking where children obtained information about sex, children put mothers fourth in importance behind schools, friends, and miscellaneous literature. Fathers contributed virtually nothing. In Dr. Thornburg's excellent book, *The Bubblegum Years*, he says only 4 percent of nine- to thirteen-year-olds discussed intercourse with their fathers; 21 percent did so with their mothers. Menstruation was discussed by 1 percent of the fathers and 8 percent of the mothers.

Why? Although sex is one area in which parents cannot plead inexperience, they are decidedly short on expertise and finesse. They are too uneasy with their own sexuality to discuss the subject with their children.
HONOR THY CHILDREN

a magic wonderland by adding a finger paint playtime before bath. When the painting session is over, the tub and the child can be washed together. Children need space to run, climb, and explore; they need a chance to touch, feel, smell, hear, and see their world.

You should also talk to your child a great deal during this time, naming things, explaining things. Parents are the catalyst for their children’s language development, and language is the key to thinking, learning, and reading. That doesn’t mean you should be a walking encyclopedia, speaking in complex sentences.

A friend tells about being cross with her daughter, ending her tirade by telling the child “not to do it again.” The child retorted, “I won’t, just as soon as I figure out what it is I’m not supposed to do!” Too often we think our message is clear when our children have only heard a barrage of words. Are you just talking, or are you communicating?

Children go through periods of tremendous language growth and learning as they develop a working knowledge of grammar. They learn the regularities, patterns, and rules—not consciously, but implicitly—that make creativity possible. We know the child has learned these rules because he says things he could not have learned from others. When a child has developed a rule, he will generalize it to fit similar situations. So he blurts out “goofs” and “one-liners” in youthful innocence.

Chukovsky cites the classic example of the child who looked at his naked body and announced that he was “barefoot all over.” He was extending a concept
CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF YOUR CHILD

he knew (barefoot) and applying it to a new situation (a bare body). Piaget, world-renowned psychologist, suggests that children's "errors" are not only clues to their thoughts, but also to changes in intelligence as their minds develop. Do not criticize or overlook your child's language errors; they are a result of what is happening inside.

You can also help your child's language develop by expanding his vocabulary and his sentence structure. If a child says, "Dog, pretty dog," you can say, "Yes, it is a pretty dog. What a pretty brown dog." Explain things: "We can't go to the park because it is raining." Expand curiosity by asking questions like, "What will happen if . . . you put the soap in the water . . . or the boat in the water?"

Point out the relationship of objects, such as large compared to small. Take children on walks through the neighborhood. Describing the parts of a house—garret, gargoyle, shutter, bay window—all help improve vocabulary while giving a mental image of the word's meaning. Even giving examples of double entendres is an excellent method of teaching multiple word meanings. Jokes and riddles are good ways to incorporate current events into language development.

Make language fun. On car trips, have contests to see who can remember riddles and who can repeat tongue twisters. Both parents and children can sharpen their tongues and their wits.

*Once upon a time*

Another ideal language development tool is storytelling and story reading. Children who listen to
So, in some ways, whether a child's experience was pleasant or unpleasant is much more important than the details of what a teacher taught. By pleasant I do not mean that a teacher need cater to a child's desire for fun and frolic. I mean that the teacher should treat the child with respect, kindness, and concern, and make him feel good about himself. The child should not be criticized, humiliated, or otherwise put down.

If religious training is a degrading or boring experience for a young person, he is likely to reject even the best teaching, especially if morality and ethics are involved. It is from this type of situation that a teenager develops a bias against religious matters, and tends to consider church people as hypocrites. This attitude is difficult to rectify and can continue with him for a lifetime.

On the other hand, if the learning experience is a pleasant one, a teenager's memories of religious things will be pleasant and can then be incorporated into his personality. Emotionality and spirituality are not entirely separate entities. One is quite related to and dependent upon the other. For this reason, if parents want to help a child spiritually, they must care for him emotionally. Because a child remembers feelings much more easily than facts, there must be a series of pleasant memories within which to accumulate the facts—especially spiritual facts.

The Wait-and-Choose Approach
I would like to examine a popular misconception that goes something like this: “I want my child to learn to make his own decisions after he is exposed to things. He shouldn't feel he has to believe what I believe. I want him to learn about different religions and philosophies; then when he has grown up he can make his own decision.”

This parent is either copping out or is grossly ignorant of the world we live in. A child brought up in this manner is to be pitied. Without continual guidance and clarification in ethical, moral, and spiritual matters, he will become increasingly confused about his world. There are reasonable answers to many of life's conflicts and seeming contradictions. One of the finest gifts parents can give a
child is a clear understanding of the world and its confusing problems. Without this stable base of knowledge and understanding, is it any wonder many children cry to their parents, “Why didn’t you give me a meaning for all this? What’s it all about?”

Another reason this wait-and-choose approach to spirituality is grossly negligent is that more and more organizations and cults are offering destructive, enslaving, and false answers to life’s questions. These people would like nothing better than to find a person who was brought up in a seemingly broad-minded way. He is easy prey for any group offering concrete answers, no matter how false or enslaving.

It is amazing to me how some parents can spend thousands of dollars and go to any length of political manipulation to make sure their child is well prepared educationally. Yet, for the most important preparation of all, for life’s spiritual battles and finding real meaning in life, a child is left to fend for himself and made easy prey to cultists.

Prepare Your Teenagers Spiritually
How do parents prepare their teenagers spiritually? Organized religious instruction and activities are extremely important to a developing child or teenager. However, nothing influences a teenager more than his home and what he is exposed to there. Parents need to be actively involved in a teenager’s spiritual growth. They cannot afford to leave it to others, even superb church youth workers.

1. Parents must teach their teenagers spiritual concerns. They must teach them not only spiritual facts, but how to apply them in their everyday life. And this is not easy. It is quite simple to give teenagers basic scriptural facts, such as who different Bible persons were and what they did. But that is not what we are after ultimately. For we want teenagers to understand what meaning biblical characters and principles have for them personally. We can only do this at somewhat of a sacrifice to ourselves, as with focused attention. We must be willing to spend time alone with our teenagers in order to provide for their emotional needs as well as
dren play in “shaping” you as they grow.

So here you are, facing a twenty-year responsibility for the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional growth of another human being—and nobody has told you how. You didn’t go to college for four years to get a parenting degree. You didn’t have to pass an exam certifying you as a bona fide, qualified parent. You never even had a crash course in “Parenthood 101.” No wonder you’re scared!

As an educator and a father of three, I too have felt the weight of responsibility for my children’s lives. It’s a shame we have to wait so long to see how they turn out! But although I have worked hard at being a parent, I have not forgotten the joys that cannot be duplicated and the moments I would not have wanted to miss. The “care and maintenance” of your child is life’s most bittersweet experience.

**Babes in arms**

You already know infants need the basics: food, clothing, shelter, lots of holding, cuddling, and hug-
for any one incident." In my opinion, one swat is too many.

What I call "counseling discipline" should be the substitute for corporal punishment. Teachers, like parents, should look for the underlying problems that produce an unruly student. School authorities should talk with parents and involve the church if possible. If these remedies prove futile, and if the child consistently disrupts class or is physically violent, he should be removed from school. Classrooms are not boxing rings, and violent students must be forced to receive their education outside the traditional school setting. They must be helped by those trained to deal with such behavior.

The "master parent"

I recommend that whenever possible teachers and parents follow some time-honored guidelines we have used with our master teachers at National College of Education. These are only a few tips for becoming a "master parent," but I believe they are ten times more constructive than using a paddle.

1. Have only a few rules. Be sure they are necessary and not just for your comfort.
2. Be consistent and impartial.
3. Enforce the rules.
4. Don't nag.
5. Use certainty of punishment, rather than severity, as a deterrent.
6. Stop the minor problems.
7. Don't be afraid to admit an error.
HONOR THY CHILDREN

8. Avoid sarcasm and ridicule.
9. Be tolerant of passing fancies; give kids a chance to grow up.
10. Make yourself a model of the self-discipline you expect from children.

Finally, I do not believe the sole burden of discipline should be placed upon the father. No father wants to be greeted at the door each night by, “Johnny was bad today. You have to spank him.” What kind of relationship does that create between a father and his children?

You are not alone

It should be some consolation to know that every parent has gone through, and will go through, what you are experiencing with your children. So speak up and give your misery some company.

Children need to have more adult friends than just their parents. Dr. Derek Miller says parents should ask a child one essential question: “What adult do you see frequently who is not a relative and you know accepts and loves you for what you are?” If your child cannot answer that question, you should take a hard look at the opportunities you are providing for your child to know other adults.

We extend our family by spreading Thanksgiving-type dinners throughout the year. We invite other parents and their children over to dinner regularly for family fellowship. Children enjoy being around other adults, and other parents can have a positive
As a tribute to her late husband, pretty Mrs. Loyal Smith had these words inscribed on his tombstone: "My sorrow is more than I can bear."

But before the inscription was completed, she married again. The monument works asked if she still wanted the tombstone carved.

"Yes," said she, "but please add one word: alone."
Table Talk

The 15-year-old was discussing her report card.

“No wonder,” she observed, “Jean always gets an A in French. Her father and mother speak French at the table.”

Boy friend, trying to be consoling: “If that’s the case, I ought to get an A in geometry. My parents talk in circles!”

Hampton, Neb. N. H.
Neuromantic Manifesto
justifies abortion, divorce, sexual freedom, euthanasia, and suicide.
It rejects any religious
moral code that suppresses freedom.
As such, man must replace
God and reaps the development
of a world order.
"No deity will save us, we
must save ourselves.
Promises of immortality
salvation or fear of
eternal damnation are both
illusory and harmful.
"Moral values derive their
source from human
reasoning."