

YOUR PERSONALITY AS A PARENT



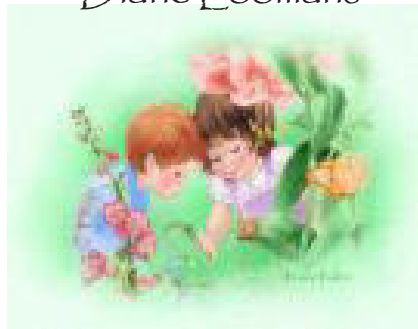
“Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged by man”.



If I Had my Child To Raise Over Again...

If I had my child to raise all over again,
I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.
I'd finger paint more, and point the finger less.
I would do less correcting and more connecting.
I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.
I would care to know less and know to care more.
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.
I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.
I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars,
I'd do more hugging and less tugging.
I'd see the oak tree in the acorn more often,
I would be firm less often, and affirm much more.
I'd model less about the love of power,
And more about the power of love.

—Diane Loomans



FAMILY TREE

Husband

Wife

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Sons & Respective Wives

Mr.		
Mrs.		

Daughters & Respective Husbands

Mrs.		
Mrs.		

(Son) 's
Children

Mr./ Miss	
Mr./ Miss	
Mr./ Miss	

(Daughter) 's Children

Mr./ Miss	
Mr./ Miss	
Mr./ Miss	



Thoughts to Consider As You Raise Your Child

Remember that a child is a gift from God, the richest of all blessings. Do not attempt to mould him in the image of yourself / your father / your brother / your neighbour. Each child is an individual and should be permitted to be himself.

Don't crush a child's spirit when he fails. Never compare him with others who have outshone him.

Remember that anger and hostility are natural emotions. Help your child to find socially acceptable outlets for these normal feelings or they may turn inward and erupt in the form of physical or mental illness.

Discipline your child with firmness and reason. Don't let your anger throw you off balance. If he knows you are fair you will not lose his respect or love. Always make sure the punishment fits the crime. Even the youngest child has a keen sense of justice.

Remember that each child needs two parents. Present a united front. Never join with your child against your husband / wife. This can create in your child emotional conflicts. It can also create feelings of guilt, confusion and insecurity.

Do not hand your child everything his little heart desires. Permit him to know the thrill of earning and the joy of achieving. Grant him the greatest of all satisfactions - the pleasure that comes with personal accomplishment.

Do not set yourself up as the epitome of perfection. This is a difficult role to play 24 hours a day. You will find it easier to communicate with your child if you let him know that mom and dad err, too.

Don't make threats in anger, or impossible promises when you are in a generous mood. Threaten or promise only that which you can live up to. To a child, a parent's word means everything. The child who has lost faith in his parents has difficulty believing in anything.

Do not smother your child with superficial manifestation of "love". The purest and healthiest love expresses itself in day-in, day-out training which breeds self confidence and independence.





Teach your child there is dignity in hard work, whether it is performed with callused hands that shovel coal or skilled fingers that manipulate surgical instruments. Let him know a useful life is a blessed one and a life of ease and pleasure-seeking is empty and meaningless.

Do not try to protect your child against every small blow and disappointment. Adversity strengthens character and makes us compassionate. Trouble is the great equalizer. Let him learn it.

Teach your child to love the Creator and to love all his fellow men.

Don't send your child to a place of worship - take him there. Children learn from example. Telling him something is not teaching him. If you give your child a deep and abiding faith in God, it can be his strength and his light when all else fails.

If you are a single parent, surround yourself with loving and supportive friends, role models for your child. It takes a whole community to raise a child.



MANAGING CHILD - PRIMARY

1. Play with baby daily and treat the child as an individual.
2. Play peaceful and happy music that naturally creates a pleasant climate.
3. Tell the baby nursery tales and rhymes.
4. Use the words “peaceful”, “loving”, “sweet”, “happy” with the baby.
5. Do not only comment on physical appearance.
6. Verbalize their positive qualities and ways of being.
7. Choose safe, peace giving toys, puppets, videos and cartoons.
8. Do not expose the infant to hearing violence on television / radio or within the community.
9. Even if your work absorbs all your time and energy, make a point to spend sometime with your child daily.
10. Never entrust and leave your child alone with strangers (or to be more safe, even with known people).



PARENTING OLD TYPE

Makes decisions himself, then pushes to workout these decisions.

Talks pompously.

Talks and argues with the children forcing them to follow.

Controls the children by strict rules and orders. Maintains discipline under threats.

Keeps and maintains distance so that the children would respect him and obey when he orders.

Values tradition and fears to be a deviant.

Maintains control over the children and their

Is reactive in approach.

Goals arise out of necessities.

Goals are deeply embedded in history and culture of the family.

Strategy assumes more importance than the goal.

Focuses on strategy, structure and system.

Relations with the children are according to their role.

Prefers high probability of winning and low possibility of losing.

Communicates to children indirectly through others.

Perceived by the children as detached and at times manipulative.

Does not recognise ability because of ego.

Listens to the family depending on his mood and fancy.



PARENTING NEW TYPE

Asks questions, gets help from the child and reaches decisions.

Talks modestly.

Listens and cares for what the children think, know and feel.

Does not depend much on threats, allows more freedom of decision, brings out best in the children.

Acts as human, keeps in close touch with the children.

Children follow him for reasons other than his authority or power.

Seeks change, makes innovations and implements new ideas.

Intuitive - watches and understands situations and responds accordingly.

Encourages autonomy.

Is proactive in approach.

Goals arise out of family needs.

Focus of goals is on the need to change.

Strategy is the means to a goal.

Discusses the style, socialises and shares the goals.

Relations with the children are intuitive and sympathetic.

Is willing to take risk if rewards for winning are high.

Communicates directly with children.

Attracts strong feelings of identity and attachment.

Recognises ability and takes the right decisions at the right time.

Loves to listen and spends time with the children with interest and concern.



QUESTIONNAIRE ON BALANCING PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE

Please tick your answers:

1. How much time do you spend with your child discussing about his school / studies / any matter of your child's interest?
 - a. Much time
 - b. A little
 - c. Not at all
2. How frank is your child with you sharing his / her personal issues?
 - a. Enough
 - b. Somewhat
 - c. Not at all frank
3. Are you friendly with your child's friends?
 - a. Very
 - b. A little
 - c. Not at all.
4. You advise and direct your child -
 - a. Sometimes
 - b. Always
 - c. Never
5. How will you react when your child tells he / she has a serious problem in his / her school -
 - a. Will only listening
 - b. Will keep wondering what to do
 - c. Will give some suggestions
6. Does your child's behaviour affect your work?
 - a. Very much
 - b. A little
 - c. Never
7. Are you satisfied with the way you maintain both your personal and professional life?
 - a. Satisfied
 - b. Somewhat satisfied
 - c. Not satisfied.
8. Will your child do something which you will not approve?
 - a. I don't know
 - b. He / She might
 - c. He / She won't
9. For any reason, has your child tried to run away from home?
 - a. Once
 - b. No
 - c. More than once
10. Has your child destroyed any property in your home?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Do not remember

ASSESSMENT

	Points			Your Points	Your score	Result
	A	B	C			
1.	5	3	0	40 – 46	Excellent balancing
2.	5	3	0		
3.	5	3	0		
4.	3	5	0	30 – 39	Good balancing
5.	3	0	5	20 – 29	Need improvement
6.	3	5	0		
7.	5	3	0		
8.	0	3	5	10 – 19	Insufficient
9.	3	5	0		
10.	3	5	0		