RECONCILING PARENTS AND CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOR

by:

Maria Emma B. Susi
Master Teacher I, Pandatung Elementary School

Parents have an enormous influence on their children's personality development and adult character. Researchers hold that a father behaves just like his/her parents with his/her children. Parents adopt attitudes toward their children which resemble the attitudes taken toward them by their parents. Parent behavior is learned and is transmitted from one generation to another and by the mechanism of personality.

Research for several decades explains that there are two types of parents' characteristics that describe the general behavioral atmosphere of the home—acceptance and rejection.

The accepting home climate produces happy, confident, well-adjusted and emotionally stable children. While the rejecting home atmosphere has been seen to relate to personality and conduct problem of youngsters reared in such settings.

Research answers, "How do we know whether a home is accepting or rejecting?"

In the same manner, research answers this with a list of evidences summarized as follows:

In accepting home atmosphere, parents

a. Participate with the child in games, sports and hobbies;

b. Take trips and special occasions together with the child;

c. Are pals to child;

d. Make rearing the child their main job;
e. Give the child loving care and protection;

f. Are interested in school progress;

g. Are demonstrative in affection;

h. Speak well of the child;

i. Encourage the child to bring friends home;

j. Worry when the child is ill;

k. Trust the child;

l. Talk over plans with the children;

m. Do not expect too much of the child/children;

n. Give wise counsel and encouragement.

However, parents in a rejecting home environment

a. Show no interest in the child;

b. Have no time for the child;

c. Unfavorably compare the child with siblings;

d. Employ verbal punishment, such as nagging and scolding;

e. Fail to support the child;

f. Criticize/blame the child;

g. Use physical punishment like cruelty;

h. Turn the child out of home.
Hence, the most significant aspect of the home is the warm relationship between the parent and the child, and such warmth is the most crucial and pervasive aspect affecting the child. Parents' attitudes and relationship with the child should be nurtured, for when children grow to adulthood, they will be well-developed, like precious stones, polished like children of a palace, because they are modeling after parents.

"A child is not a vessel to be filled, but a lamp to be mightier". (Unknown author)

Their characters were developed. Their nobler aspirations were born. Their sympathy was extended. Their assurance held sway. Their sleep was more inviting to the bed.

It was a combination of nursery, pulpit, classroom, lecture hall, library and study room. Whatever it was, we desperately need it today, squeak and all, for even the squeak was music-"music to the heart".

References:

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Michalic, Frank, The Millenium Stories, SVD 2012, p. 181