



TRUST

Let's just agree on something right now. No matter the reason that you are the way you are, you have a choice about what kind of parent you are going to be.

We don't have to deny the past or say it didn't happen. But by the same token, we do not have to have the future marred by the past. Today is a new day and you can change your life and you can change your child's life.

We do not need to bring our past into absolutely everything that we do in the present. Nor should we.

To your child, your past does not matter. It only matters that you are their parent.

They depend on you one hundred percent from the moment they are born. Their trust in you is not dependent on anything whatsoever.

They TRUST you entirely.

They are born so helpless. Their future lies largely in your hands.

The moment that really counts is when you look at your child and realize you can be the hero in the story of their life.

All you have to do is act with honor and courage and decency. All you have to do is have some vision and to think about the world as it might look to this little person who exists now solely...because of you.

Because once you become a parent, everything is not about you! It is an opportunity for you to 'overcome' your background and help another individual to reach their incredible human potential.

No matter who you are, from which background, you can learn to respect the rights and opportunities that exist for your child and you can maximize their experience of life beyond the boundaries of your own experience.

It is a sad thing is that we parents sometimes fail to provide the most important needs of our children. And what makes this incredibly sad is that at the time neither the parent nor the child is even aware of it.

Childhood is a window of opportunity. Neurologically, physically, intellectually, socially, emotionally and spiritually, it is a time for development and growth. It is the time when a person's path in life is pretty much decided (though not absolutely) and it is a time when a parent can make the most difference in their children's lives.

Do you believe that you cannot give something that you do not already have yourself? I do not believe that.

Here's why.

- I can feel dejected and unloved....and yet, I can give love.
- I can have no peace in my life and feel agitated by circumstances....and yet I can help another feel peace and calm.
- I can feel helpless and yet, I can help another.

So even if you grew up in less than desirable circumstances, with your own needs not met and you have little respect for the way your parents provided your needs, you can still meet your own child's needs. This is because what your child needs is not 'stuff'. And what your child really trusts you to provide is not always something that you can 'buy'.

Your child trusts you to care enough, to educate yourself to find out how you as a parent can help them be the best that they can be. They don't know to ask you for some things, but that doesn't mean that they don't want or need them. It simply means that they are a child and they don't have to worry about all that because you will.

And remember, one day they will not be children. They will be adults and they will look back at how you handled the stewardship of their trust and they will judge you. They will realize how precious they were and how dependent on you.

Many parents today are the children of people who were raised to think small. They were raised by parents who were raised to go without, whose feelings were never a consideration and in fact were never acknowledged, much less discussed or thought about.

These people raised the people who raised you....and now you are a parent, raising a child yourself.

Like I said in the beginning, it doesn't matter what your background is or what your circumstances are. What matters is that now you are a parent and you have the opportunity to be the hero in your child's life story. Today is a new day and you can change the way you do things.

All you have to do is act with honor and courage and decency. All you have to do is have some vision and to think about the world as it might look to this little person who exists now solely...because of you.

Stop for a minute and consider that much of what you will do as a parent comes from some pretty undesirable parenting styles, which are completely obsolete and inappropriate to raising children to succeed in this world that we live in.

And the fact is that your child deserves better than what you got, or your parents got and definitely more than what your grandparents got. And why, in this day and age with all the information and the internet and technology, would a parent not grab with both hands the opportunity to give their child everything that they themselves desperately would have loved to have.

Is this not the most natural thing for a parent to want to do?

So going back to the point that one day your children will be grown, and they will look back and they will know that you had access to information, counselling, coaching and help to be the best parent that you can be.

We all forgive our parents even though we struggle through years of trying to develop traits that will serve us well in life, things we could easily have developed as a child, but our parents couldn't help us because they either didn't know how, world events prevented it or they had too much to overcome themselves to be able to help us.

We all forgive our parents for one reason and one reason alone. We know they did their best with what they had and what they knew.

The time that a person does not forgive their parents is when they are convinced that their parents didn't care.

With all the tools, information and help available today, your child will know when he or she grows up that you just did not do what it took to find out what you needed to know, in order to live up to the job of 'parent', 'steward of their trust' and 'provider of their needs'.

The most important things your child trusts you to provide are things that your child does not yet know exist. But they will know one day.

Will your child find you to be a good steward of their trust?

Sieze the day and be worthy of the TRUST your child places in you!

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