

Teaching Children What Is Right

We nurse and nurture our child until, and sometimes even beyond, the time he is, or should be, able to stand on his own feet and sometimes many of us extend our responsibilities way beyond what is necessary, to care for our grandchildren.

Most of us will recognise ourselves in these few words but has anyone stopped to think, that in over-providing for our children, in over-caring for them, we commit two outright sins? The first, we teach them how to receive, but we forget to teach them how to give. The second sin? By caring and providing for them every inch of the way we teach them nothing about life as it really is and take from them any initiative they may possess. In other words, we do not teach them how to stand on their own feet and take responsibility for either themselves or for others.

For most of us it is too late to undo the damage we have done to our children, and inadvertently to ourselves, for this is partly the reason we bewail the fact that our children fail to take responsibility and, alas, fail in their duty to their parents. If we consider everything carefully we find we have only ourselves to blame for today's attitudes. The main reason for our writing all these is in the hope that our children, while providing the best of care for their own children, will not go overboard, as we did, and will also teach them there is pleasure in giving also and life is, in the long run, a series of events which involve the idea of give and take.