



It's Time to Take Out the Trash!

January 2009

A follow up to last month. Is it just me or does it seem like ever since it pretty much became illegal to spank or discipline your children in a non ultra-liberal way we have become a more violent society which is wrought with disrespect and devoid of compassion for human life? I don't condone beating your kids, but if you have an out of control kid and continue to try and rationalize with them, or just give in because it is easier and you don't want to cause a scene or have the child dislike you, then maybe it is the parents that need a spanking.

There is nothing wrong with cracking your kid on the ass if they misbehave, yet as a society we have made it a heinous crime. If you have a well behaved child and started parenting from birth as to where you have never had to raise a hand then I commend you. Unfortunately, too many parents try to start true parenting only when they can no longer control the child. Everyday I hear stories from co-workers regarding their kids causing problems at day care, or swearing at them, or even hitting them. Then I hear them describe what they do to prevent bad behavior. Suffice it to say arrays of non threatening, sensitive to feeling tactics are being used. Let's just say I won't be shocked when little Emilee ends up with a bun in the oven at 12, or Braydon is selling meth in the sixth grade, I won't be surprised. Of course their parent's will be shocked and no doubt will displace the blame on everyone and everything else.

Don't even get me started on that time-out bullshit. When I was a kid, if I misbehaved I was spanked. I wasn't sent to the bottom step for ten minutes to get in touch with my feelings and think about what I did. One example is when I was a toddler I had picked up the word "mother fucker" from an older kid at day care. My mother tells a story of one day she took me to the grocery store to do some shopping. I was out of the cart and had started running down the aisle screaming mother fucker at each passing person. When my mother caught up to me around the corner an older lady was right in the middle of delivering a good swat to my ass. My mother didn't locate the manager of the store to call the police, nor did any of the onlookers call CPS. Instead my mother simply thanked the stranger and explained that if she could have caught me quicker she would have done the same. That is how we were taught, whether it was a lesson of not to swear, or touch something dangerous, or talk back to our elders.....and surprise, surprise the lesson stuck with me and I was sure not to tempt fate or face the consequences. After all punishment and discipline are meant to be used to dissuade bad behavior and if done properly over time drastically reduce the need to have to use them.

To this day as I quickly close in on the ripe old age of 40, if I talked disrespectfully to my mother she would crack me upside the head. I don't talk that way to my mother because I fear her (I am pretty positive I could take her in a fight....hahahaha) but because I respect her. People need to quit trying to be a friend to their child and realize they are a parent first and foremost and that role will never go away as long as they live. And while they may go through some rough spots they will more than likely realize that if you do your job as a parent you will be a close friend to your child. Children crave structure whether they know it or not. I treat my six year old daughter as if she was my own and I expect her to

behave well, respect her mother and I (and she does) and become a contributing member of society when she grows up. She runs the show at her paternal father's, and eats what she wants, goes to bed when she wants, talks back to him and doesn't do her homework, etc. Yet at our house she has rules and structure and is required to adhere to them. You might be surprised as to where she prefers to be. For the record, she has never had to be spanked by her mother in the three years I have known her. I credit her mother for doing the job of both parents very well.

So to the parents of the worlds undisciplined out of control children, you have failed miserably! Bend over and take your paddling, then drive yourselves to the dump and just jump right into the pile,
BECAUSE IT'S TIME TO TAKE OUT THE TRASH!

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