

## **Parenting the adolescence in the present scenario of twenty-first century**

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**Abstract:** *Parenting the adolescence is the most difficult and most important duty of the present day parents. As we are experiencing in our day to day life, the present human society is becoming more and more dangerous to be associated with. The root responsibility of the present restlessness of the human society is the parents in the greatest percentage contribution. Some of the parents in our society do not take care of the moral development of their children. Simply they will provide all the requirements, but not participating in giving moral development. Instead the responsibility of moral development of their children will be given to the teachers of the schools of their children, may be day scholar or boarder. May be their children got high class education from their school. But the children are lacking in their outlook regarding their social responsibilities and they are also lacking in knowing their custom, religion etc. This helps in brain drain and in religious drain as well. Here a triggering thinking is given to the parents how to parent their children consciously not only with higher education but also with moral and religious development. Because our religion is our identity.*

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### **I. Material and method**

It includes the study of the modern day families in our society and personnel experience in the society.

### **II. Result And Discussions**

We can see different types of families in our society. Let us take up some of them.

1. Labour class family
2. Middle class family
3. High class family

#### **Labour class family**

Here we can see some of the male parents are heavy drinkers, some are good hard workers with good morals and so on. In our society most of the labour class male parents do not care for the future of their children and will remain drunk from morning till night and will beat their wives. In such families the future of the children are so much uncertain. No one can help such families, by giving money or rebuking or beating. Every step will be helpless. But some of the labour class families are doing very well in developing both high education and moral education. Most of the modern high class families are originated from labour class families. There is a proverb in meetei society that “**Cheng chagring amana chengkok ama chenthei**”. It means that even one single spoiled rice can spoil all the rice in the container. The literal meaning of this proverb is that the future generation is very much important that if we give birth to even a spoiled child it will spoil a society. So each and every child is important in building of a nation.

#### **Middle class family**

Most of the middle class family parents are trying their best to give high education to their children sending their children to high class institutes outside the state, may be they are borrowing money from neighbours or from the bank. Here the frequency of heavy drunker male parents is decreased. But their children are far from social attachment. In such houses, when the children are grown up, we can see only the old parents are residing in the homes, may be they sometimes go to their children’s place of work, or maybe they purchase a flat or a loan outside. But they are far from social attachment. Such situations are giving a role in the religious degradation not only in brain drain.

#### **High class family**

In such families the only difference with that of middle class family parents is that high class family parents do not have the problem of money for the education of their children. But all other conditions seem to be similar.

## Quotations

Parents who shun fairytales 'miss chance to teach children morality'. Politically correct parents who shun traditional fairy tales are missing the chance to teach their children right from wrong, an education expert claims (By Graeme Paton 7:30AM GMT 14 Mar 2011. [www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk) > Education > Education News).



So let us see what the strategy of moral education to our children is. Here we can discuss some quotations.

Let us discuss “The Importance of Fairy Tales” written by Albert Einstein. The following eight quotations are very much important in the present context.

1. “If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.”<sup>[1]</sup> Albert Einstein.

2. Fairy Tales Show Kids How to Handle Problems-We learn from the characters in stories, even as adults. They help us because we connect to our own lives, dreams, anxieties, and consider what we would do in their shoes. Fairy tales help children learn how to navigate life (Bettelheim, B. *Uses of Enchantment: The Meaning and Importance of Fairy Tales*).

3. “Fairy tales do not tell children the dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairy tales tell children the dragons can be killed.”— G.K. Chesterton.

4. Fairy Tales Cross Cultural Boundaries.

Many cultures share common fairy tales like Cinderella, with their own cultural flavor. We read the versions and know we all share something important, the need to make sense of life with story, and the hope for good to triumph over evil.

5. Fairy Tales Teach Story.

Fairy tales understand the basics of story — setting, characters, and plot (rising action, climax, and resolution) as well as the difference between fiction and non-fiction. Once a child understands story, it supports his ability to make predictions and comprehend other stories he’s reading.

6. Fairy Tales Develop a Child’s Imagination.<sup>[1]</sup>

“When I examine myself and my methods of thought, I come to the conclusion that the gift of fantasy has meant more to me than any talent for abstract, positive thinking.”<sup>[1]</sup> Albert Einstein

7. Fairy Tales Give Parents Opportunities to Teach Critical Thinking Skills.

I absolutely hate Disney’s *The Little Mermaid*. A girl abandoning her life for a boy is rubbish and no kind of role model for my daughters. Even the original version shows a weak woman who dies for the man — I don’t like it. (But at least she suffers the consequences!). It doesn’t mean I won’t let my kids read the mermaid story. Sheltering doesn’t give my kids critical thinking skills. Exposure and guided conversation does!

8. Fairy Tales Teach Lessons.

We can use fairy tales to teach morals and lessons among the little and growing children.

Like this our child grows through and become adolescent with morals through folk tales and fairy tales. Even though such things are true, grown up children are often among different environments which are very difficult to handle for parents to bring their children to the right path. Let us pick up some tips for an effective parent.

### ★Showing love.

When our children behave badly, we may become angry or upset with them. We may also feel miserable because we become angry or upset. But these feelings are different from not loving our children. Young adolescents need adults who are there for them—people who connect with them, communicate with them, spend time with them and show a genuine interest in them. This is how they learn to care for and love others. According to school counselor Carol Bleifield, “Parents can love their children but not necessarily love what they do—and children need to trust that this is true.”

### ★Providing support.

Young adolescents need support as they struggle with problems that may seem unimportant to their parents and families. They need rise when they’ve done their best. They need encouragement to develop

interests and personal characteristics. Young adolescents need adults who are there for them—people who connect with them, communicate with them, spend time with them and show a genuine interest in them.

**★Setting limits.**

Young adolescents need parents or other adults who consistently provide structure and supervision that is firm and appropriate for age and development. Limits keep all children, including young teens, physically and emotionally safe. Carole Kennedy is a former middle school principal, U.S. Department of Education's Principal-in-Residence (2000) and president of the National Association of Elementary School Principals. She puts it this way, "They need parents who can say, 'No, you cannot go to the mall all day or to movies with that group of kids.'" Psychologist Diana Baumrind identifies three types of parents: authoritarian, permissive and authoritative. By studying about findings from more than 20 years of research, she and her colleagues have found that to be effective parents, it's best to avoid extremes. Authoritarian parents who lay down hard-and-fast rules and expect their children to always do as they are told or permissive parents who have very few rules or regulations and give their children too much freedom are most likely to have the most difficult time as parents. Their children are at risk for a range of negative behavioral and emotional consequences. However, authoritative parents, who set limits that are clear and come with explanations, tend to struggle less with their adolescents. "Do it because I said so" probably didn't work for your son when he was 6 and it's even less likely to work now that he's an adolescent.

**★Being a role model:**

Young adolescence needs strong role models. Try to live the behavior and values that you hope your child will develop. Your actions speak louder than words. If you set high standards for yourself and treat others with kindness and respect, your child stands a better chance of following your example. As adolescents explore possibilities of whom they may become, they look to their parents, peers, well-known personalities and others to define who they may become.

**★Teaching responsibility:**

We are not born knowing how to act responsibly. A sense of responsibility is formed over time. As children grow up, they need to learn more and more responsibility for such things as: —completing chores, such as doing yard work, cleaning their rooms or helping to prepare meals, that contribute to the family's well being; —completing homework assignments without being nagged; —taking on community activities; —finding ways to be useful to others; and—admitting to both the good and bad choices that they make.

**★Providing a range of experiences.**

Adolescence is a time for exploring many areas and doing new things. Your child may try new sports and new academic pursuits and read new books. He may experiment with different forms of art, learn about different cultures and careers and take part in community or religious activities. Within your means, you can open doors for your child. You can introduce him to new people and to new worlds. In doing so, you may renew in yourself long-ignored interests and talents, which also can set a good example for your child. Don't be discouraged when his interests change.

**★Showing respect.**

It is tempting to label all young adolescents as being difficult and rebellious. But these youngsters vary as much as do children in any other age group. Your child needs to be treated with respect, which requires you to recognize and appreciate her differences and to treat her as an individual. Respect also requires you to show compassion by trying to see things from your child's point of view and to consider her needs and feelings. By treating your young adolescent with respect, you help her to take pleasure in good behavior.

**★How can I communicate better with my child?**

Young adolescents often aren't great communicators, particularly with their parents and other adults who love them. Realize that no recipe exists for successful communication.

**★Listen.**

Sometimes the less you offer advice, the more your young teen may ask you for it. Create opportunities to talk.

**★Talk over differences.**

When differences arise, telling your child your concerns firmly but calmly can prevent differences from becoming battles.

**★Avoid over-reacting.**

Responding too strongly can lead to yelling and screaming and it can shut down conversation. “Try to keep anxiety and emotions out of the conversation—then kids will open up.”

**★Talk about things that are important to your young teen.**

Different youngsters like to talk about different things. “Music has been the signature of every generation. It defines each age group. Parents ought to at least know the names of popular singers.”

**★Communicate with kindness and respect.**

However hard your child pushes your buttons, it’s best to respond calmly.

**★How much independence should I give my child?**

Set limits.

**★Health and safety come first.**

Your most important responsibility as a parent is to protect your child’s health and safety. You can guide by being a good listener and by asking questions that help your child to think about the results of her actions.

**★How can I help my child to become more confident?**

Young teens often feel inadequate. They have new bodies and developing minds and their relationships with friends and family members are in flux. They understand for the first time that they aren’t good at everything. The changes in their lives may take place more rapidly than their ability to adjust to them.

**★Provide opportunities for your child to succeed.**

As teacher Diane Crim points out, “The best way to instill confidence in someone is to give them successful experiences. You need to set them up to succeed—give them experiences where they can see how powerful they are. Kids can engineer those experiences. Part of confidence knows what to do when you don’t know what to do”. An adolescent is likely to feel more confident doing some of these things than others.

**★Help young teens feel safe and trust in themselves.**

The modern day children are much demanding to their parents beyond the limit. In such cases the parents have to convince their children of the problems like a discussion but not forcibly. The pros and cons of the demand should be discussed with their children calmly, not angrily.

### **III. Conclusion**

From all these discussions it can be concluded that whether labour class or middle class or high family class we parents must not escape to tell fairy tales and folktales of high moral value to our children and we should be role models for our children. A drunker father cannot say his children not to drink. A gambler father cannot say his children not to game. A male or female parent with bad habits cannot say his or her children to keep aloof from the bad habits they are habituated. In short both the parents should be role models for their children.

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