

# PARENTING TODAY

J.G. MEIRING HIGH SCHOOL - PARENTING WORKSHOPS - 14 MARCH 2015

## PARENTING... PRICELESS

when I put together the topic for today's programme: PARENTING... PRICELESS, it reminded me of the television advertisement by MASTERCARD. That money can buy almost anything, but there are certain moments, certain truisms and certain values that are priceless. It's strange that even the business world realizes the value of relationships captured in special moments and making lasting imprints on people.

Today we are attaching value to parenting. Over the past decades there have been a drastic decline in the meaning and value of parenting today. I'm using the terms meaning and value as related terms to emphasize that parenting has lost its meaning in modern day society, as parents hardly make imprints on the lives of their children today, and everything else is doing that. Values are the meaning people attach to the priorities in life. And we know that modern day society is finding it difficult to reintroduce this "old" concept to parenting. Attaching **Values** to parenting.

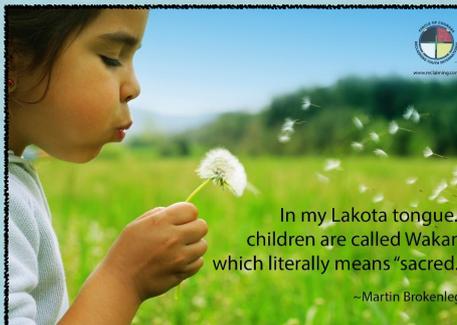
Giving new meaning to the value of parenting by placing emphasis on family values.



## ATTACHING VALUES TO PARENTING

Parenting is something money cannot buy. It is essential for the development of children. When I speak to educators whom I train in learner discipline in school settings they complain about parents and their ability to parent their children. Often I feel compelled to defend the nameless and faceless parents, for they might just be detracted from their own responsibility and worth in the life space of the

child. What they are saying is true; parents are not playing a meaningful role in the life of their children. Those are aspects schools cannot remedy. Schools cannot take your place as a parent. Education cannot fulfill the need that parenting needs to satisfy. Often schools encounter the manner in which children deal with their unfulfilled needs.



In my Lakota tongue, children are called Wakan, which literally means "sacred."

~Martin Brokenleg



Our children are the best we have to show; we will work together to heal our wounds and not pass them on.



# TAKE BACK YOUR SPOT IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE

...

By just reading the newspaper you will find yourself thinking that all families are doomed and we have reached the point of no return. Then I thank God for seminars like this one where we can find hope in our own abilities and the possibilities we can still create for our children.

But things are different:

Parents spending limited time with their children. Wilhelm Jordaan (Rapport 15 June 2008) reported that parents only spend 20 minutes per week in conversation with their children. Being present in the life of your child.

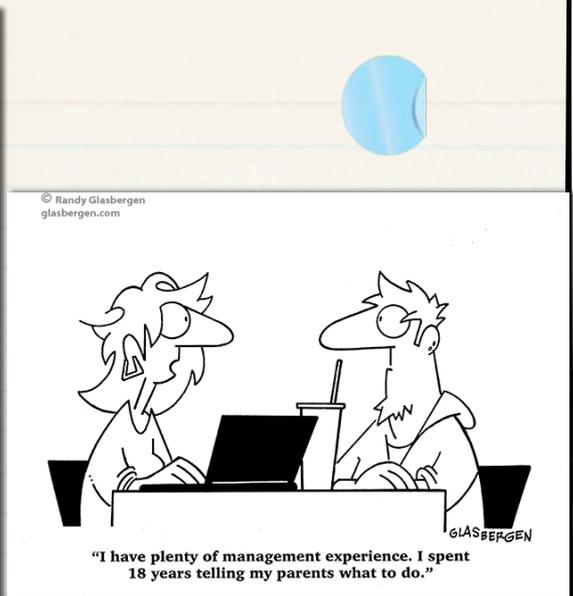
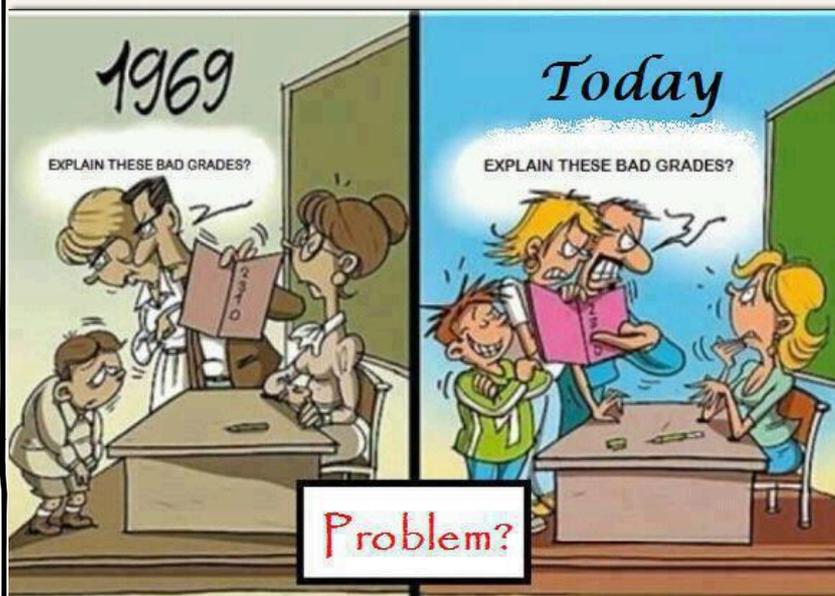
Single parenting does not need to imply a dysfunctional family, but unfortunately in many cases it has a harming impact on the development of the child. The question now is: what are the single parents doing differently where children have positive development.



Modern day society has an ever increasing divorce rate, that places extreme stress and creates varied responses for different families and especially children deal with this with create difficulty. Negotiating two homes, as a parent I need to be present just to maintain the one I have. The blended family introduces even greater difficulties for children to master; such as step brothers/sisters and the authority of the acquired parent. Two homes, two

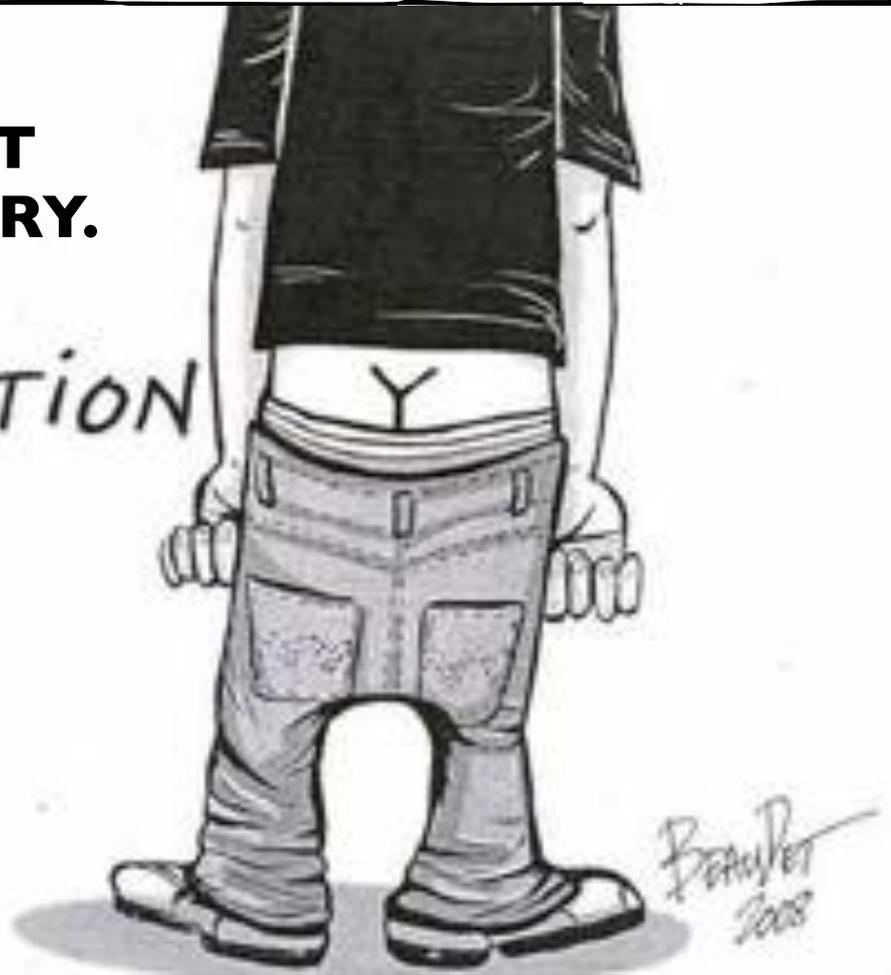
families and two (often different) sets of rules.

These modern day challenges presents us with opportunities to reinvent our parenting, and if you look closely we are not doing anything that's so new, but rather acquainting ourselves with the needs for positive behaviour, and that is still the same... you must reclaim your spot, your position as mother and father, taking back your responsibility.



# A TIME FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DISCOVERY.

## GÉNÉRATION



**THE HIGH SCHOOL LEARNER FINDS HIMSELF IN A WORLD FILLED WITH MULTI-FACETTED CHANGES THAT NEEDS CAREFUL GUIDANCE.**

•••

The Grade 8 and 9 learner finds themselves in the stage of their life where major physical, emotional and social changes are experienced. The delicate journey of development and discovery requires strong mentoring.

Excitement and confusion are often entwined in a single emotion observed in the behaviour of the young person.

Adolescence confronts every high school child that is never ready for the experiences. The physical changes are as scary as it is exciting. To be the early blossom or the late bloomer are equally difficult for the adolescent to handle. The emotional rollercoaster makes their lives one big FEELING.

The new social role is often defined in high school and at a stage when there is a mash of excitement, confusion and hurt. Social recognition is achieved in the shaping of the self-

image that is acquired in the attachment and adjustment the young adolescent must make within the school realities.

The learner requires mentoring from at least one significant adult to manage this delicate balance that is needed. The role of the educator must be emphasized, especially in the absence of effective parenting. Adolescence have become very complicated for the young person to negotiate with all his rights and very little coaching in his responsibilities.

## ABOUT ME



NEVILLE G. GOLIATH

COORDINATOR: POSITIVE  
BEHAVIOUR PROGRAMME

METRO NORTH EDUCATION  
DISTRICT

WESTERN CAPE EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT

TEL: 021 938 3068

[Neville.Goliath@westerncape.gov.za](mailto:Neville.Goliath@westerncape.gov.za)

# Parenting Balancing Act



This is a time where young people require their parents to be present in their lives. There are too many teens out there that have little or no meaningful relationships with their parents. The 12 parenting roles require parents to create that fine balance between:

1. Stay close vs Hang back
2. Optimist vs Pessimist
3. Big picture vs Detail
4. Relaxed vs Anxious
5. Fun-loving vs Serious
6. Like variety vs Like routine
7. Show emotion vs Keep emotion inside
8. Like to say "yes" vs Like to say "no"
9. Praise vs Blame
10. Coaching vs telling
11. Adults always know best vs Adults sometimes know best
12. Comfortable with conflict vs Avoid conflict