

Of Seeds and Flowers

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William R. Pfeiffer – Director

Mary's Field, Ltd. - PO Box 99 - Hebron, CT 06248 - 860.424.1912 - wisdom@marysfield.org

CHILDREN ARE: "THE LIVING MESSAGES
WE SEND TO A TIME WE
WILL NOT SEE."

WHO IS RAISING THE KIDS? Cindy, my wife has a college degree in "Early Childhood Education". She studied and worked in day care centers during the Head Start era, before wild liberal thinking hit the scene. OFTEN, she was told often by her professors "**mother care always beats day care**". The other day Cindy, reminiscing, told me a story about a one-year-old Gina, when she worked at Head Start, the government program designed specifically for *disadvantaged children*.

The other day-care worker on staff really disliked Gina. One day Gina, a one-year-old, was playing with a toy and a two-year-old came over and roughly took it from her. Reflecting on this incident Cindy still asks, WHAT DID THESE TWO CHILDREN LEARN FROM THIS??? One child is bullied and the other bullies. And further, mom and dad didn't even know this happened, and will never know, and will not be able to do anything to even mildly undo the emotional damage. And what are these children learning about morality or simply being a good person or citizen. And this is going on every hour of every day!! "What happens at Day-Care stays at Day-Care". -in spite of all the good intentions and efforts of parents and Day Care Workers. All children are angels and receive angelic care! No one sets out to hurt children. The system, the culture, social changes make it happen despite all our GOOD INTENTIONS. The road to hell is paved with good intentions, RIGHT? MAY ALL CHILDREN HAVE A CHILDHOOD THAT THEY DON'T HAVE TO RECOVER FROM! May ALL SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS contribute to children's wholeness, but we certainly know they are not! Too much NON-SENSE! -and deliberately shared! How much is Day-Care responsible for the behavior in our schools and society? -where anything goes! The books on the problems of Day- Care are now being written.



I worked very comfortably for 32 years in a Language Department of 3 men and 11 women, all very competent, chaired by a woman. My wife is a woman. I have 2 daughters. They all have kept me on the "straight and narrow".

Cindy and I have six children. We have been married for 49 years. I was in education for 40 years both as a principal and teacher. I have seen some very, VERY good things with children and I have seen some very, VERY bad things with children. I have spent countless hours with parents and children who were celebrating good things in their lives and enduring bad things. So, my present questioning and wonderment in this issue of "Of Seeds and Flowers" about marriage, family and the care of American children is not naïve or without experience. One day I took out the calculator and figured with 6 children (not including the grandkids), 13 years, and a conservative 6 diaper changes a day Cindy and I (mostly Cindy) changed about 33,000 diapers and for 5 of the children, these were cloth diapers which then had to be washed etc...

NO parent does the perfect job. We all bring junk, psychological, emotional, moral, racial, social, educational, spiritual, physical etc. from our parents, brothers and sisters and friends and school and

grandparents and great and great, great grandparents and on and on back with us and share it ALL freely and fully with our children. -and the GOOD STUFF TOO!

The core questions are: Who is raising and educating the children? Have we intentionally decided to raise a lost generation by our actions and lack of action? Children need care, they need time, serious personal time, one-on-one-time, love and adult/parental wisdom, not just the euphemism of QUALITY TIME. Love is a four-letter word spelled TIME!

Have we fooled ourselves by clever language that slips easily from our tongues, which if spoken, over and over, becomes true? Like, "It takes a whole village to raise a child", so I don't have to. "Children are resilient". "Latch Key" -Sounds safe and secure.

And, of course, we need the second job- car, clothes, vacations etc.. We get the best day care, and they even call it "The Discovery Center." "The Learning Center" etc. And there is always karate, dance, gymnastics, camps, lessons, lessons and more lessons. In the car, out of the car, in the car, out of the car. ***"The person ...in the grips of an old emotional problem says things that are not pertinent, does things that don't work, fails to cope with the situation, and endures terrible feelings that have nothing to do with the present."***

Harvey Jackins If you think any or all of this is wrong, please wait for a year or two and then let me have it.

When the children are unable to go to school because of a stomachache, sore throat, tooth ache or just need a mental health day they want to be in THEIR OWN BED WITH MOM IN THE HOUSE saying, "I love you" by her presence, love, and sick care. EVERYBODY KNOW THIS! -Especially the children. Remember when you were a sick child? Have we normalized the abnormal to the point that it is now normal? In our present culture, if you hear a lie, spoken by important people, loud enough and long enough, and often enough, it BECOMES THE TRUTH. MY TRUTH! WOK TRUTH! Cindy, mostly Cindy, and I have sacrificed to raise our 6 children and keep them out of Day Care and happily are helping to keep our grandchildren out of Day Care as well. Have we become weak people always looking for an easy way to be non-truthful?

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I do know that some single and married parents absolutely must have day care for their children so they can eat, be clothed, housed etc. But please avoid the obscure study out of the U.K. that says early socialization and community are good for children as they fight for the attention of mom and dad and long to nap in their own crib/bed, or as they fight another child to play with their favorite toy. -or day after day, year after year put in a longer "work" day than mom or dad. Children need their parents ALL THE TIME. They are needy by nature, not by choice. A Child's needs are dependency needs, that is, needs that depend upon another to be filled.

I know, **I TRULY KNOW** that women have been used and abused ever since women have been on PLANET. -Eons of maltreatment. - incredible pain and abuse! Anger, tons of anger have rightly been built up for these eons in both society and in church. In 1975 it took 51.7 % (average house \$39,300) of income to have a house, In 2025 it takes



Louis T. Grant in an incisive article called "Fast Folk" which appeared in "**Harpers**" details the lifestyle of one working mother that was presented as a model of sorts. *"She rushes from home to work in the morning, eating yogurt in the car for breakfast; has lunch at the gym where she works out; leaves child care to her husband, who also has a managerial position 40 miles on the other side of home; pilots a small plane in her leisure time for pleasure; teaches, on the side, a class at a local women's college; leaves the kids with Grandma; leaves the kids with sitters; leaves the kids with..."* Grant likens this lifestyle, which he calls "fast folk", to keeping up with the gerbils. There is no time for family, for husband, for intimacy, for communication, for listening, for CHILDREN. That is for slowpokes. And he points out our, "Children are slowpokes". No time for silence in this woman's life and so her inner life is fragmented. She has no real power and so she is nurturing no one, NOT EVEN HERSELF. In 2025 more parents will die from success than from cancer.

80.3% of income to have a house (average cost of \$522, 200.) Need two incomes. However, is that enough to explain the current “women in the workplace” reality? -and its explanation and justification? By 2030 it’s estimated that 45% of all women will be childless. Who is willing to defend this? - at what cost? The T.V. ads say it is all about having dogs and cats.

ONE QUESTION HERE: Has the rightfully built-up anger, serious flaming, boiling, anger, legitimate anger, about the centuries of abuse clouded the real, true, thoughtful, genuinely informed, holy solutions, so false solutions don’t create more problems for future generations of children and women? -so that in the process of trying to making things right we give full, true, respect for the proper God given role of women intended from the beginning of creation? The Knee-jerk, emotional, based on anger and retribution “Gloria Steinem solutions” of the past 60 years don’t seem to have solved anything. Freedom is always in the TRUTH. - in RIGHT ORDER. - in GOD’S wisdom. Is this true Feminism? PROGRESS IS PROGRESS ONLY IF IT MAKES THINGS BETTER. Men have truly screwed up the world and the lives of women but now, so have women. Time to work together and begin to fix things! There is truly NO RIGHT WAY TO DO THE WRONG THING!! Progress is not progress unless it is fixed, not just CHANGES things. I may not be the brightest bulb in the pack, but I do know what we are doing isn’t working.

A schoolboy asked his teacher, “Which was the greatest achievement, that of a man who conquered an empire, the man who could have but did not, or the man who prevented another from doing so?” “I don’t know about any of that”, said the teacher, “but what I do know is that the most difficult task in life is **Getting people to see reality as it is.**” Teenage depression on the rise.” Guess why???



Please PRAY! We can’t afford any more false solutions! Only the TRUTH for ALL CONCERNED will work. Our society is presently seething with anger, and we can’t let the anger destroy clear thinking. The one thing I do know is that what is happening now isn’t working and the **annual governmental poll** of women reports that women are still very unhappy. Is there anything wrong being a woman? Male and FEMALE, He made them!! Genesis. And God created woman and said, ‘**Gee, THIS IS FUN**’. “And God saw all he had made, and indeed **it was very good.**”

“Prayer is the rope that pulls God and man together. But it doesn’t pull God down to us; it pulls us up to Him.”

Billy Graham

“True contemplation is not a psychological trick but a theological grace.”

“Your enemy will limit your prayer because he knows that your prayer will limit him.” Thomas Merton, Trappist monk.

“Cognitive Dissonance” is how psychologists describe the anxiety generated when a person experiences conflicts with their model of the world. To get rid of this anxiety you must change the **FACTS TO FIT THE MODEL**, or the model of the world must give way to fit the facts. Today, the model is so severely damaged that many, many people are suffering from “Cognitive Dissonance”. We simply call it stress, anxiety, OR “TOO MUCH”.

“We need transformed people today, not just people with answers.”
Rohr.

There was a time when Christianity morality was like our national immune system, and our stability to fend off toxic ideologies like WOKE and Communism were rooted in those convictions. WE have become too comfortable calling evil good and good evil. “*There is genuine vilification, and often practical consequences, if you dissent from woke orthodoxies.*” Princetown Professor Robert P. George. PRAYER: “*May ALL children have a childhood they don’t have to recover from.*”

Politics and social problems will come and go. The ability to deal with truth and wisdom depends on YOUR PRAYER LIFE.

“The greatest thing anyone can do for God and man is to pray. It is not the only thing but it is the chief thing. The great people of the earth are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; but I mean those people who take time to pray.” **S.D. Gordon**

Jesus said to Peter. “Do you love me?” NOT, “Are you THINKING of loving me”?

“Pray long but with few words.”
- Louis Evelyn

**IF YOU ONLY PRAY WHEN
YOU'RE IN TROUBLE,
*you're in trouble.***

"One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so He could touch them and bless them, but the disciples told them not to bother Him. But when Jesus saw what was happening, he WAS VERY DISPLEASED with His disciples. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me. DON'T STOP THEM! For the kingdom of God BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE. I ASSURE YOU, anyone who doesn't have their kind of faith, will never get into the kingdom of God. "Then He TOOK THE CHILDREN INTO HIS ARMS AND PLACED HIS HANDS ON THEIR HEADS AND BLESSED THEM." Gospel of Mark

BE IT ALSO KNOWN: There are no perfect parents just as there are no perfect children. But there are some elementary rules, prescripts, practices etc. that MUST be observed to say that one has done a proper job parenting. Have we upped the price children pay for career success? We need self-fulfillment but not at the price of the next generation!

O quam bonum et iucundum est, ubi fratres et sorores habitant in unum. – "Oh, how good and sweet it is where brothers and sisters live as one". Often, I would write these words in Latin on the board in my class.

Transformed teachers transform students!

A MEDIOCRE teacher (parent) TELLS. A Good teacher (parent) EXPLAINS. A SUPERIOR teacher (parent) DEMONSTRATES. A **GREAT** teacher (parent) **INSPIRES**. Teachers, parents, educate by what they SAY, more by what they DO, even more by what they ARE, but most of all by what they **LOVE**. Transformed teachers, parents, transform people, especially "Little People"!! The INTERIORIZATION of the person of Jesus transforms the teacher and the teacher transforms the students. Some schools and teachers are deliberately a part of the problem. "ALL our efforts must be UNPRETENTIOUS; ONLY THEN can you avoid being deceived and deceiving others by our pride. WATCH FOR THIS!!" Holy wisdom From the Cloud of Unknowing

Charles Wahl, Univ. of Southern California, "**We now know all that we need to know about raising happy, well-adjusted mature children and if we did this for one generation we could change the world.**" Why don't we do this? What hinders us from doing this? What ideas? What pride? What motivations, what unspoken conditioning??!

I know that this issue of "OF Seeds and Flowers" won't win me many friends but it is essential to open the discussion. 60 years is enough, and our no child, anti-child, no mothers, no parenting, let dogs and cats dominate the culture, especially when the polls are reporting many women are unhappy. As we have written issue after issue, ONLY THE TRUTH FREES. THERE IS NO RIGHT WAY TO DO THE WRONG THING. "**Everyone is afraid to SAY a new thing; everyone is afraid to DO a new thing.**" **Doestevsky The Church/Gospel and the world are colliding!!**

Some companies have wisely and creatively provided day care at the job site so mothers can nurse or have lunch or visit their children. We all must be involved in the nurturing of the next and future generations. The future is NOW! "Today, if you hear His voice, harden not your hearts." When the grass looks greener on the other side maybe the Holy Spirit is telling you to water the grass you are standing on. Now is the time to plant the trees under which our children will one day sit.

Autism in American children has increased 384% since the year 2000. Big Pharma?? Children are having heart attacks since taking the covid vaccine, and other childhood vaccines, reports Johns Hopkins and Yale doctors are documenting the same. Real people's bodies and souls are being injured. FAMILIES IN PAIN!! A religious problem??? YES!

"Give me a generation of genuine Christian mothers and I will change the face of the earth in 12 months." Lord Shaftesbury

Thomas Dewey, the Father of American Public schools, made sure our schools became social institutions, slowly taking away responsibility or power or right of parents to educate their own children. -or to have a say in their children's schooling. Too many of our schools and colleges have become social institutions of indoctrination. "Why waste time trying to discover the truth when you can easily create it." David Baldacci HONESTY NOW! As the saying goes. "I may not be a farmer but I know manure when I smell it."

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