

IB Inheritance Builders

'A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children' Proverbs 13:22

Dollars & Sense

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Dear Reader,

Have you ever wondered how we've progressed to the state at which we find ourselves as a nation? How is it that urban-ghetto gangsters now set the trends for our youth? What ever happened to "family values" being something tangible, rather than some metaphysical mystery only known in bygone eras?

The other day I had an experience that made me acutely aware of one contributing factor to the current state of affairs within the American society. I was listening to a young, aspiring mother muse on a conversation she had with her contemporaries just prior to her marriage.

The young ladies were each sharing their goals and ambitions. I was imagining some aspiring to be a doctor or a nurse; maybe a teacher, a lawyer or the next marketing guru. When it came to this young lady's turn, she shared her heart's desire to be a successful wife and a wonderful mother. The "aspiring" woman beside her leaned over and consoled her by saying, "It's ok, not everyone needs to have ambitious goals." Little did this friend know about the real value of a mother pouring herself into her children & her husband.

With "Mothers' Day" upon us, I think it would do us well to remember a few realities that seem to have been forgotten by our "aspiring society:"

- ☞ A mother trains every CEO...
- ☞ Entrepreneurs are shaped by Mom's Boot Camp...
- ☞ Every president's character or lack thereof was shaped by his mother...
- ☞ Every preacher learns to listen to his mother, before he learns to listen to God...

George Washington said, *"Everything I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her."*

Abraham Lincoln said, *"All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel Mother."* He also said, *"I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."*

Lin Yutang said, *“Of all the rights of women, the greatest is to be a mother.”*

William Ross Wallace once said, *“The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world.”*

Could it be that our “aspiring” ambition has caused us to no longer recognize the truths of these quotes? Might that be the reason we are where we find ourselves today? Maybe we’ve ambitiously aspired ourselves into utter decay and eventual ruin.

There was a time when it was understood that the role of fathers and mothers, was to mold the next generation-- a role that is much more valuable than the paychecks brought home or the real estate on which the children would grow.

Thankfully, this experience did not change this young woman’s commitment to being a successful wife and mother. Today she is newly married and eagerly expecting her first baby. Somehow, I trust, this child is going to turn out to value something other than the urban-ghetto gangster culture so widely accepted.

We should embrace the reality that our faith or lack thereof passes on to the next generation. In Paul’s second letter to Timothy, he recognized and encouraged him to grow in the sincere faith that he inherited from his grandma Lois and mom Eunice.

Unquestionably, who we are passes on to our children! The scary thing is that if we’re consumed with ourselves, then they will be even more so and the cycle continues to spiral out of control. We must check our own perspectives and values, recognizing the invaluable role that fathers and mothers fulfill in the development of our society. Rather than degrade an ambitious mother, we need to give her every tool she needs to fulfill her God given destiny.

As we think about Mothers’ Day, let us embrace those who’ve played such a major role in making us who we are today. We must all do our part to help mothers (and fathers) achieve their ambitions of successfully molding the next generation!

Happy Mothers’ Day!

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