

57-Parenting

The parents of a child are but his enemies when they fail to educate him properly in his boyhood.

Hinduism, *Garuda Purana*

I am He, you are She; I am Song, you are Verse, I am Heaven, you are Earth. We two shall here together dwell, becoming parents of children.

Hinduism, *Atharva Veda* 14.2: 71

Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Judaism, *Misheli (Proverbs)* 22: 6

Let thy father and thy mother be glad, and let her that bore thee rejoice.

Judaism, *Misheli (Proverbs)* 23: 25

For the father and mother of an only son, in sleep or while awake, or while walking, standing, sitting, or reclining, their minds always think of the son. If he does wrong, they give kindly advice and lead the boy that he does not do evil any more.

Buddhism, *Mahaparinirvana Sutra* 470-471

Brethren, one can never repay two persons, I declare.
What two? Mother and father.

Buddhism, *Anguttara Nikaya* 1: 61

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Christianity, *Ephesians* 6: 4

And he took a child, and put him in the midst of them; and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

Christianity, *Mark* 9: 36-37

Our Lord! Bestow on us from our wives and our offspring the comfort of our eyes, and make us leaders of the pious.

Islam, *Qur'án* 25: 74

Strive thou with heart and soul; see to it that the children are raised up to embody the highest perfections of humankind, to such a degree that every one of them will be trained in the use of the mind, in acquiring knowledge, in humility and lowliness, in dignity, in ardour and love.

Bahá'i, 'Abdu'l-Bahá,
Compilation of Compilations, Vol I, p. 272

Ye should consider the question of goodly character as of the first importance. It is incumbent upon every father and mother to counsel their children over a long period, and guide them unto those things which lead to everlasting honour.

Bahá'i, 'Abdu'l-Bahá,
Selections From the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, p. 134

Therefore, make ye an effort in order that these children may be rightly trained and educated and that each one of them may attain perfection in the world of humanity. Know ye the value of these children, for they are all my children.

Bahá'i, 'Abdu'l-Bahá,
Promulgation of Universal Peace, pp. 53-54