

Author's Introduction

Parenting is a critical job, arguably the most important job in the world. Certainly one of the germane considerations and questions in parenting is what to teach the children.

Parenting is not an academic function. It's a common sense function. Anyone can be a good parent if they choose to be and are willing to make the tough decisions and sacrifices necessary.

Parenting is not a new concept. It is as old as mankind itself. However, this fast-moving, ever-changing new world often leaves new parents and parents-to-be in search of ideas which can assist them in raising their young.

Parenting Wisdom – What To Teach The Children addresses thirty-three universal, time-tested concepts and principles for raising healthy, whole, substantive children. This work is a companion book to *Parenting Wisdom For The 21st Century – Raising Your Children By Their Numbers To Achieve Their Highest Potential*. The former work focuses solely on concepts and principles. The latter addresses the numerological aspects of a child's destiny. They can be read separately and are not necessarily inclusive. However, for a full treatment of parenting wisdom both works are recommended, especially in this 21st Century and for those parents who are forward-thinking.

The writing style I've chosen for this work is the most personal of my books to date. I sometimes use the first person in order to share my direct thoughts and feelings, just as I would if I were teaching my own children, grandchildren, or students.

In this work I share truths about raising and guiding children that I've used successfully throughout my life. In simple words, it's just myself talking to you. My ideas are my ideas, yours are yours. If you can find something in

this book to help you, great. If not, no worries. As a parent, you will have your own way of doing things, as I have mine. I'm just here to share.

As raising and teaching children is an important function, here's a little background about me, just in case you have such curiosity. I'm a father, grandfather, professional educator, and martial arts instructor. I've taught thousands of people – children and adults alike – in my career, which began in the 1960s. I have a B.A. in English and a Standard Secondary Teaching Credential. I financed my way through college working with children in my city's Parks and Recreation Department. In my teenage years I had a booming babysitting business, and was ever grateful that parents were comfortable and confident in my abilities to care for their children. The point I want to make is that my experience with children does not come from a book. It comes directly from my life's experiences.

Please note that sometimes I can be very direct and firm. I make no apologies for this. In fact, I believe the direct approach is needed today more than ever. My professional martial arts teaching experience has taught me many things about sculpting individuals to attain a high level of skill and personal conduct. In doing so, sometimes one has to be soft and gentle; sometimes tough and firm, even unrelenting. My goal has always been to create excellence in those children and adults who seek me out for the things I have to offer. I do not believe in mediocrity, hypersensitivity, political correctness, or enabling people's weaknesses. I believe in making people strong, courageous, confident, independent, whole, and substantive. This has and will always be what I regard as a sacred responsibility to those whom I serve, whether as a parent, grandparent, educator, or martial arts professional.

For the Love of Children,

Richard Andrew King