

Living With Children

By John Rosemond

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We're a month, more or less, into the new year and America has already suffered two school shootings. As usual, the usual voices are calling for increased restrictions on the buying and selling of guns. But guns are not the problem, a contention I can prove.

In 1963, at age 15, I packed my bags and went to live with my father in Valdosta, GA, where I attended Valdosta High School. Hunting being a primary feature of male culture at VHS, I quickly acquired the necessary gear including a Stevens double-barreled shotgun. During deer- and duck-hunting seasons, I rose well before the start of school and joined several buddies out in the field. After a couple of hours of shooting (or just sitting in a blind and freezing), we put our guns in the trunks of our cars, drove to school, stripped off our hunting duds (under which were clean school clothes), and went to class.

Everyone - including the principal, teachers, parents, and kids who didn't hunt - knew that the student parking lot contained a small arsenal. No one ever mentioned it, and believe me, it never occurred to any of us that our gun could be used to even some score or vent some frustration. Lots of males in my generation, especially those who grew up in small towns or rural America, report a similar high school experience.

No, guns are not the problem. The problem is feelings. I am a member of the last generation of American children whose parents disciplined not only our behavior, but also insisted that we exercise emotional self-control. I am also a member of the first generation of American parents who fell for progressive psychological propaganda to the effect that insisting upon emotional self-control was repressively authoritarian and would prime our kids for future serious mental health problems.

My graduate school professors stressed the need to help children "get in touch" with their feelings, talk about them, and express them safely. A child's feelings, I learned, contained deep meaning that needed to be divined, discussed, and properly directed. This was the late 1960s and early 1970s. By the 1980s, children were venting their feelings rather freely all right - including toward parents and teachers - and child mental health was tanking.

*Medicaid

(Continued from page 1.) change Medicaid rules so that the Medicaid eligibility of prisoners is suspended, instead of cut off. That way, county jail and state prison officials could take them to hospitals, and if they stayed there longer than 24 hours, reactivated benefits mean Medicaid would pay. That would shift some medical bills from counties and the state Department of Corrections onto Medicaid. Because of Mississippi's high share of federal reimbursement, federal money would pay three-quarters of costs.

Wiggins said the move could also provide better access to care for mentally ill inmates.

Mass school shootings began occurring around the same time and are now taking place, on average, weekly. As I said, guns are the means but the problem is what I term emotional entitlement syndrome - the narcissistic belief that certain feelings are all the excuse one requires to justify anti-social and/or self-destructive behavior.

To widespread emotional entitlement one can add the effects of encouraging high self-esteem (which is associated, we now know, with low respect for the rights and property of others) and the demonization of shame, the primary purpose of conscience. A calamity was sure to ensue, and it has. It includes not only school shootings, but the widespread use of social media as a platform for acting out personal soap operas (i.e., emotional dramas), a dramatic rise in child and teen depression and suicide, cutting, epidemic bullying, and millions of children on psychiatric medications that may cause more problems than they solve (if they solve any).

The great irony in all of this is that psychology, the very profession that manufactured the propaganda that is fueling this

Why do we not live in unison with God?

By Gary Andrews
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Not long ago I attended a Bible study one of my friends, Paul, held in his home. This was a unique Bible study in that the men attending were not from the church Paul attends. These men came from all walks of life and some of them drove over 30 miles to attend this study, which is held every week.

Paul delivered a message about being in unison with God. Jesus tells us in the gospel of John 17:20-23: "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one. I in them and you in me, so that they may be brought to

calamity, is the very profession to which schools and parents turn whenever it rears its ugly little head.

And so, around and around we go and will continue to go until we figure out that therapy is no substitute for firm discipline.

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complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

Not too many times are we going to hear a sermon on being in unison with God because there are not many of us who are in total unison with God. In most cases it is when we want to be in unison that we say we are in total unity with our Lord and Savior.

God wants us to be in unison with Him in everything we do or say. The problem is that we are so wrapped up in worldly needs and possessions that we don't stop to think what the Lord wants us to do. We hardly ever discuss with God our intentions through business dealings, social interactions, or family matters.

This is the biggest problem facing us as we live these few days on earth. God wants to be in total control of our life, but we live our life as if He isn't watching what we do. Many families have gone through divorce because of immoral and unfaithful activities. Lying, deceit, and unethical values have ruined many business dealings. Many of us get so wrapped up in what the world wants instead of us looking to the Lord for guidance and strength.

Our country has a taken a step backward in some of the laws our elected officials have allowed to pass. Our schools are taking on a new look because of the shady teachings we are allowing to be taught. There are many unwed mothers going to high school today because family values are not being taught at home and these wayward parents are allowing our schools to promote values for our children.

How can our young learn to live in unity with each other, much less be in unison with God, when family morals and values, along with government systems, schools, and to some degree, our churches allow worldly ideas and factions to control. Even the upright and outstanding spiritual leaders have been taken to task because of some of their actions and decisions.

Our world, country, state, or cities will never be in complete agreement on everything, and one thing we can all bank on is that there will never be harmony and peace when God is left out of our lives.

We need more in home Bible studies where the truth is taught and the Word of God is revered. God's people need to come together and become one in total unity with our Lord Savior. Then and only then will we have peace among our families, children, co-workers, cities, na-

tions, etc. Then and only then are we going to see moral values and high ethics once again become the norm.

Gary Andrews is the author of *Encouraging Words: 30-days in God's Word*. To obtain a copy go to his website www.gadevotionals.com.



(Pictured at top, left) Tyler Diffey was awarded the 2018 Payton Netherland Memorial Scholarship for his achievements in Holmes County 4-H Beef Cattle for the past ten years. Pictured with Diffey is Joey Netherland (center), father of Payton, and Lindsay Killebrew, sister of Payton. (Pictured above) Diffey is flanked by Carolyn Myrick who also presented him with the James "Bubba" Cunningham Award. Tyler is the son of Dayle and Steve Diffey. Both awards were presented during the Holmes County Livestock show held on Saturday, January 27. Diffey is a senior at Central Holmes Christian School with plans to pursue a career in Beef Cattle Production.

(Photos by Julie Ellison)



Wes Melton showed the Reserve Champion Chester the 2018 Holmes County 4-H Livestock Show that was held on Saturday, January 27 at the Holmes County Livestock Barn in Lexington. (Photo by Julie Ellison)



John Thomas Murtagh showed the Reserve Champion Market Barrow during the 2018 Holmes County 4-H Livestock Show that was held on Saturday, January 27 at the Holmes County Livestock Barn in Lexington. (Photo by Julie Ellison)

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