



Living With Children

By John Rosemond
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An individual who occupies a fairly high-level position in the mainstream media recently told one of my associates that I’m “old-fashioned.” She meant it as a slight, but I hardly took it that way. I do, in fact, espouse a child-rearing philosophy and approach that prevailed when I was a child. To my media critic, I’m a throwback. When I came out of graduate school in 1972, I was thoroughly indoctrinated in psychological par-

enting theory and convinced that pre-1960s parenting had compromised child mental health; that it had to go; that its demise would bring about a childhood utopia upon which we – I’d been a radical student activist, progressive to the core – could build a brave new world. Two wake-up calls came in 1979. I realized, courtesy of my supervisor at the Charlotte (NC) Mental Health Center that

clinical psychology, for all of its scientific pretenses, was an ideology that cared little to nothing for research that contradicted its icons and idols. The second came when my son’s very rational third-grade teacher told me that he was the worst-behaved child she had seen in twenty years of teaching. That caused my wife and I to reverse course and begin raising our children the way we ourselves had been raised: chores, a minimum of after-school activities, the unwavering assignment of personal responsibility, and discipline that was less talk and more action. The results were nothing short of amazing. Within three months, our son had gone from being a classroom sociopath to being, in that same teacher’s words, “a model student.” I’ve been espousing a retro-parenting message ever since, becoming, along the way, evermore convinced that my profession has caused more problems for children, parents, families, schools, and culture than psychologists know how to solve. I miss no opportunity to say exactly

that, which has not endeared me to my colleagues (albeit there are those who somewhat secretly agree with me). I’m old-fashioned (as opposed to progressive) because I care about research, and the research is clear that emotional resilience, the essence of good mental health, the ability to deal functionally with disappointment and failure, resides best in children raised by parents who adhere, whether wittingly or not, to the pre-1960s paradigm: a whole lot of love and a whole lot of unwavering, unequivocal authority. I’m old-fashioned because the new paradigm, built on the shifting sands of unproven and even disproven psychological theory, has informed a ten-fold worsening of child and teen mental health since the 1960s. I’m old-fashioned because the old way taught children, within their families, what good citizenship was all about: to wit, respect for and service to others. The new way, by contrast, emphasized esteem for the Almighty Self.

The goal of infusing children with high self-esteem



Goodman’s Assistant Fire Chief, Elijah Brooks, retired officially from his position with the Town of Goodman on February 6, after serving for 16 years. Goodman’s current fire chief is Antonio Wilson and assistant Marcus Landfair. Brooks said he still plans to help out around the department as needed during his free time.

(Photo submitted)



Trust Your Perfect Guide

The story is told of a man on an African safari deep in the jungle. The guide had a machete and was whacking away the tall weeds and thick underbrush. The traveler, wearied and hot, asked in frustration, “Where are we? Do you know where you’re taking me? Where is the path?” The seasoned guide stopped and looked back at the man and replied, “I am the path.”

We ask the same questions, don’t we? We ask God, “Where are you taking me? Where’s the path? Oh, He may give us a hint or two, but that’s all. If he did give us more, would we understand? No, like the traveler, we are unacquainted with this jungle. So rather than

give us an answer, He gives us a far greater gift...Jesus gives us Himself. He says in Matthew 28:20, “I am with you always to the very end of the age.” We need that reminder!

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John Riley (Pictured above, center) of Lexington, recently served as a page for the Mississippi House of Representatives. Pages generally run errands for officials and House staff. John is pictured with Speaker of the House Philip Gunn (at right) and Representative Bryant W. Clark who sponsored his visit. John is the son of Katherine and Matt Riley and attends Central Holmes Christian School. When asked about the week, John said, “I had a lot of fun paging this week. It was really fun running errands and working for all of the representatives.” (Photo submitted)

has proven to be a complete bust. No good – zero, zilch, nada – has come of it. In fact, it just might factor highly into the psychology of the typical school shooter. We know, for example, that women in relationships with high-self-esteem males are in significant danger of emotional and physical abuse. I’m old-fashioned because I absolutely know that high self-esteem is a problem, not a solution to a problem.

I’m old-fashioned because the nouveau approach to discipline – based on what I call “consequence-delivery-systems” – has completely failed. I’m old-fashioned because I absolutely know that behavior modification does not work on human beings, that the proper discipline of a child is accomplished with a certain attitude, not certain methods. My media critic also claims that I appeal primarily to grandparents. She should come to one of

my speaking engagements, where the word that best describes the age range represented in my audiences is one she surely appreciates: diversity.

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Molly Sutton
Wesley Dew
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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE INITIAL HEARING / CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

The City of Lexington, Mississippi, is considering applying to the Mississippi Development Authority for an Community Development Block Grant of up to \$ 450,000.00. The State of Mississippi has been allocated approximately \$22.8 million that will be made available to cities and counties on a competitive basis to undertake eligible community development activities. These funds must be used for one of the following purposes:

1. To benefit low- and moderate-income persons and households;
2. To aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or
3. To meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

The activities for which these funds may be used are in the area of economic development and public facilities. The City of Lexington proposed project consists of wastewater improvements that will benefit the City of Lexington. The public hearing will be held at Lexington City Hall on March 26, 2018, at 5:00 p. m. and will provide more specific details regarding the activities, program requirements, and rating system. The purpose of the hearing will be to obtain citizen input into the development of the application.