

THE ROLE OF FATHERS IN THE EDUCATION OF PRESCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN AND THE INFLUENCE OF PATERNAL PARENTING ON CHILDREN

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Annotation: This article provides information on the role, behavior, and upbringing of fathers in the education of preschool-age children (especially boys), their place in the family, and also provides recommendations for parents.

Keywords: spiritual wealth, socialization, values, traditions, maturity

Introduction: The family is a stronghold that ensures human happiness in this world. Our religion has established specific laws and regulations between husband and wife. If the husband and wife follow these rules and fully fulfill their duties and obligations to each other, such a family will be happy. If the family is honest, pure, peaceful, the society will be strong and life will be prosperous. The responsibility of the man in the family is specifically mentioned. Allah Almighty created the man with the physical and spiritual aspects of being a leader in the family. Allah Almighty has entrusted the man with the responsibility of leading the sacred institution of the family, and has blessed him in the Holy Quran as follows:

“Men are the permanent guardians of women. This is because Allah has made some of them excel others in some respects and because they spend from their wealth.”

“The duty of a husband towards his wife is to feed her when she eats, to clothe her when she dresses, not to hit her in the face, not to insult her with bad words, and to lie down in a different place when she is angry without leaving the house,” it is stated in a hadith.

The greatest duty of a man is not to allow his dependents to become dependent on others. In fact, it is obligatory on a man to provide for his wife. It is a pity that nowadays some heads of families are forgetting their duties in this matter, and some men are seen forcing their wives to go out and earn money in ways that are not in keeping with the dignity of women, even forcing them to go to the streets and even to work as maids. This is because the husband is unable to fulfill his duties, which ultimately leads to the breakdown of the family.

One day, a woman brought her husband to Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) and showed him her husband and said, "O Commander of the Faithful! This man will be my husband. We have been married for three months.

I have tried very hard to live in peace with you, but my husband is not interested and does not fulfill his duties. I am divorcing him." Hazrat Umar asked her husband, "What do you think?" The husband said, "I have no complaints, but I will not divorce you." Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) understood the reason by looking at the husband's clothes, complexion, and face, and said to the woman, "You go home now and come back in a little while, until then we can talk to your husband." After the woman left, Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) took the man to the bathroom and ordered him to wash and put on clean clothes. The husband was washed and put on clean clothes. In the meantime, the woman came in, and seeing her husband's cleanliness and clean clothes, she forgot the divorce agreement and took her husband home. Then Hazrat Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) said to the people, "Just as your wives like to greet you nicely, your wives also like you to be clean and pure."

Research and Analysis: The main goal of this approach, called the modern discipline approach, is to develop self-control mechanisms in children from an early age. As a child develops, he often relies on the family's expressed attitude and feedback to understand his behavior and what is right and wrong.

Discipline and setting boundaries require consistency. Parents need to demonstrate the same and stable attitude towards the child in all situations. The difference in the approaches of parents complicates the process of distinguishing between right and wrong for the child.

What is boundary setting? Boundary setting is the provision of guidelines and indicators that define an area in which a child can act safely. Boundaries require discipline, but discipline and punishment are not the same concepts. Physical punishment can increase a child's feelings of shame, unhappiness, and hopelessness, and can lower their self-esteem. Even more dangerously, it can instill in the child the false idea that violence is acceptable and appropriate behavior, and that the use of force can achieve the desired result. When teaching children proper behavior, it is more important to explain with reasons and explanations what actions to take and what actions to refrain from than to punish.

Why do we need boundaries? Children are born into a world where rules and norms are alien to them. As they grow older, the demands and responsibilities

expected of them change and become more complex. In this process, boundaries play an extremely important role in the process of children learning and understanding (discovering) their environment. As children begin to explore the world, they begin to engage in various activities independently, establish new social relationships, and as a result, encounter different attitudes and reactions. The most important guidance for children to effectively manage these situations is clear and unambiguous signals. When the boundaries are clear and consistent, it is easier for children to understand and apply them.

Incorrect parental attitudes when setting boundaries

- Inability to say “no” to the child;
- Overly broad, variable, and unclear boundaries;
- Overindulging the child;
- Not devoting enough time to their children;
- Not working on themselves in raising the child;
- Showing pedagogically incorrect parental attitudes.

How should boundaries actually be set? The presence of loving, open, attentive, and consistent parents is one of the most important conditions in the upbringing process. Children are more likely to accept rules and norms in an environment where they feel accepted, loved, and cared for.

Boundaries should be reviewed and adjusted as needed. They should be established from infancy and adjusted as the child ages and develops. The importance of respecting boundaries should be clearly and concisely explained to children.

Boundaries should be purposeful. It is not right to say “no” to every situation under the pretext of setting boundaries. The boundaries set should be enforced consistently. If a child understands that boundaries can be violated, he will inevitably try to test them in any situation.

The reasons for negative behavior should be analyzed in depth, because behind each behavior there is a specific need, goal, or problem. While explaining to the child what is not allowed, it is also important to show him what alternative and acceptable behaviors are possible.

Involving children in the process of setting boundaries helps them internalize these rules and feel responsible. It is also extremely important for parents to be role models for their children. A single and harmonious position, clear views, and daily behavior of parents are the most effective factors in setting

boundaries. A child growing up in an environment without boundaries has difficulty setting his own direction, cannot feel safe, and constantly needs external support, approval, and help. Such a child tests boundaries, checks how strict the parents are, and makes various attempts to understand what consequences he will face if he breaks the rules. Parents who do not know how to say “no” to their child, who are too indulgent, and who raise him as a special person should realize that in the future they are raising an adult who is weak in coping skills, prone to dissatisfaction, low in self-confidence, and prone to depression.

When a child does not listen to their parents. Sometimes children, despite being responsible, do not want to do what their parents say. In some situations, they strongly demand to get the item they want at the mall, sometimes they do not want to sleep, and in some cases, they regularly repeat behaviors that are completely contrary to what their parents say. For example, negative behaviors such as drawing on walls, breaking toys, hitting peers, biting parents are among them.

In such situations, children need clear and healthy boundaries. An environment without boundaries is not only worrying for children, but also for adults. Although the rules in life seem to limit human freedom on the one hand, they provide a sense of security on the other. For example, the red light rule in traffic may annoy many, but it is precisely because of this rule that we feel safer in traffic. Similarly, although children may not seem to want rules and boundaries on the outside, their mental world needs healthy boundaries. Therefore, it is necessary to set clear boundaries for children in matters such as bedtime, mealtime, screen time, and responsibility.

Points to consider when punishing. When it comes to punishing a child, the following should be emphasized: regardless of the behavior a child has committed, humiliating, insulting, yelling at, or physically punishing him/her as a person is absolutely unacceptable. This approach will help to reduce negative behavior in a child.

Threatening a child to complain to his father, mother or teacher about his negative behavior is also one of the wrong educational methods. This situation conveys to the child the message that the parents are powerless to control the situation. Although such a threat may seem to change behavior in the short term, it does not lead to long-term, sustainable positive changes.

Conclusion: The presence of certain rules in every family is important from the point of view of forming an internal discipline mechanism in the child. The family must establish rules and ensure their consistent implementation. Punishment in the upbringing process is a last resort, and the most appropriate punishment is to deprive the child of his favorite activity for a certain period of time. For example, if the child does not regularly complete his homework, non-degrading punishments can be used, such as temporarily restricting the right to watch TV. However, punishment should only be used if the child continues to repeat the negative behavior despite the necessary explanations and warnings.

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