

(9-6-15)

**CHILDREN AND SOCIALIZATION:
THE PARROTED, ROBOTIC OBJECTION TO HOMESCHOOLING AND
CHRISTIAN SEPARATION**

TEXT: Romans 16:19 For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and **simple concerning evil.**

"In doing good, Christians should have that wisdom and skill which result from practice, experience, and habit; but they should be wholly unskilled and inexperienced in doing evil."

(Family Bible Notes)

1 Corinthians 14:20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit **in malice be ye children**, but in understanding be men.

"Paul distinctly warns us against a 'knowing' spirit as to worldly things [1 Cor. 3:18]...'Sophisticated' is what many young people today so desire to be considered: but it is a horrible term, implying experimental knowledge of the unclean things of this world, with all its evil ways." (Newell, *Romans*)

2 Corinthians 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

1 Corinthians 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

Ephesians 5:11 And have **no** fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

"It has been of great interest to me to observe the critics of the fastgrowing Home Education movement. It has been my experience that one of the most common accusations made to parents wishing to educate their children at home is that the children will suffer due to **lack of socialization**. By this the concerned critic of Home Education is voicing the fear that Johnny may end up **socially retarded** if he does not rub shoulders with enough of his peers and may not know how to **get along in society** as a well adjusted personality. Many voices of this school of thought are convinced that maximum

exposure for Johnny to friends and activities is an absolute necessity for his well being and has a far reaching impact on his ability to get along in a complex world. Not surprisingly many Christians have obligingly accepted this theory as fact and have **diligently sought to socialize their children**. Most have found out to their chagrin that once their child has been properly socialized they have more than they bargained for...socialization has largely produced carnal worldly feeling oriented Laodicean Christian youth. Even the pagan world has authoritatively documented the deleterious effects of television on young minds. Yet Christians are still heard to not only defend its usage and ownership they maintain one is depriving his family if he destroys the family altar (television). My dear Christian friend your TV is indeed socializing your youngsters but in a way you will profoundly regret in years to come. How about friends? Surely our children should have many of them, especially if they are found in church and at our Christian school. May I respectfully point out that our churches and Christian schools in this country are filled with hardhearted youth whose hearts are clearly inclined toward this world...How a child behaves in and adjusts to his family can be a possible forecast of how he will function in the world around him as an adult. This is precisely why it is so vital that he be taught to immediately and sweetly obey authority, learn the lessons of selfcontrol over his flesh and feelings and learn how to lovingly interact with his siblings...a child vigorously trained to responsibly interact with his several brothers and sisters (the Bible presupposes the normal family has many children Psalm 127:35 Psalm 128:3 Psalm 113:9) will be able to successfully integrate himself in most social situations as an adult. Witness an early agrarian America with its rural economy which, in many instances, saw families living in comparative isolation from their nearest neighbors...On the other hand socialization and peer interaction of contemporary Christian youth may reinforce hardened hearts and questionable character if the child's home is weak; because youth left to socialize (especially in unstructured unsupervised ways) on their own **will tend to reinforce one another's weakness of character**. I am convinced no child should be allowed unfettered and unsupervised fraternization outside the family circle if he is not correctly responding to his parents or siblings...A rebel may well find comfort, acceptance and solace in the arms of uncharactered friends but he has bypassed his primary responsibility to first find his pleasure, joy, peace and fulfillment in his family. To put it another way, a child properly socialized with his parents and siblings is a far better prepared candidate for marriage and ministry than one who is primarily socialized with friends...It is about time some Christian parents said to another set of parents 'Our kids are not good for one another'...This is not unloving. That is love and genuine caring. We must very carefully gauge the effect children have on one another. Scripture warns us that evil character is contagious (I Corinthians 15:33; Haggai 2:12-13; Proverbs 22:24-25)...You must very carefully choose his friends and associations and just as closely monitor his activities. The chief friends of a child ought to be his Godly parents and secondarily his Godly siblings. Other friends and associations should have a lesser priority. To some these ideas seem narrow and restrictive. This is true. So are the

Scriptures. In fact the Scriptures picture the Godly life in that way and yet it is filled with happiness peace and joy. Whereas worldly Christians are busily socializing their children to their detriment and exposing them to all manner of things this world has to offer, the narrowminded Fundamentalist agrees with Paul: 'I would have you wise unto that which is good and simple concerning evil' (Romans 16:19). Ask Jacob and Leah how happy they were when their daughter Dinah was socialized! (Genesis 34:15). Read the Old Testament closely and see how God was pleased when Israel became socialized with the pagan nations around her. Israel's many compromises and her ultimate apostasy should stand out as clear warnings for us today (I Corinthians 10:11). Noah appeared to the world of his day as a religious fanatic yet his family alone was saved. Abraham kept his family at arm's length from his Canaanite neighbors and their filthy abominations and produced a Godly Isaac...It is my prayer that you see the two contrasting principles in all of this. it is the satanically dominated world which says socialize whereas it is the Word of God that says SEPARATE!"

(Ronald E. Williams, Director, Hephzibah House)

"One of the most persistent criticisms of home-schooling is the accusation that home-schoolers will not be able to fully participate in society because they lack 'socialization.' It's a challenge that reaches right to the heart of home-schooling, because if a child isn't properly socialized, how will that child be able to contribute to society?...Today, it is accepted that home-schoolers, on average, outperform their public school peers...In part to address this [socialization] question from a research perspective, the Home School Legal Defense Association commissioned a study in 2003 titled 'Homeschooling Grows Up,' conducted by Mr. Ray, to discover how home-schoolers were faring as adults. The news was good for home-schooling. In all areas of life, from gaining employment, to being satisfied with their home-schooling, to participating in community activities, to voting, home-schoolers were more active and involved than their public school counterparts...Now we have a new longitudinal study titled 'Fifteen Years Later: Home-Educated Canadian Adults' from the Canadian Centre for Home Education...The results are astounding...home-educated Canadian adults ages 15 to 34 were more socially engaged...Average income for home-schoolers also was higher...there were no cases of government support as the primary source of income for home-schoolers. Home-schoolers also were happier...Almost all of the home-schoolers - 96 percent - thought home-schooling had prepared them well for life...This new study should cause many critics to rethink their position on the issue of socialization. Not only are home-schoolers actively engaged in civic life, they also are succeeding in all walks of life. Many critics believed, and some parents feared, that home-schoolers would not be able to compete in the job market. But the new study shows home-schoolers are found in a wide variety of professions..."

(*The Washington Times*, December 13, 2009)

"The great problem of the age is how to get rid of our unsocial classes. Obviously, the only way to get rid of them is **to socialize them**. And this may be done **by education**, and this should be, we contend, its main object..."

(I.W. Howerth, *The Social Aim in Education*, National Society for the Study of Education, 1898)

"*Confessions of an Un-Socialized Public Schooled Child*...You can't convince me not to homeschool my son using the socialization argument...Not even because we want to customize our child's learning to incorporate our ethnic background, serve our children unique interests, stay in control of our own time, and include basic real life skills and experiences as part of our educational plan...what I am calling the 'socialization argument' is the commonly over-voiced belief among people (currently chief among them, my mother) that homeschooled children are being denied (nay, robbed) of the opportunity to become 'socialized' with other children...I am living evidence that the socialization argument is flawed...I was a public school child...My mom moved in with my grandparents after her divorce...everyone worked...I wasn't a social butterfly. I was awkward...little has changed. I am still not a social butterfly. I am still awkward...Being in a group did not help me learn or learn to be around people, it made me feel isolated and alone..."

(Eliza De La Portilla, Homesteader and Homeschooling Mom, *Huffington Post*, June 6, 2015)

"One research study even concluded, 'The socialization of home-educated students was often better than that of their schooled peers.' The research proves homeschoolers surpass standard social expectations, and in exceeding them, they **fall short of social mediocrity**. I hate to be the one to break it to you, but there's nothing 'normal' about our kids. Your homeschooled child is odd compared to the schooled population because they have not experienced ongoing school-based socialization and standardization...they will always think and act differently than those who attend traditional schools. How could it be any different? They haven't been indoctrinated in the same way... the very act of homeschooling questions the power and authority of government and societal norms. By choosing to homeschool, you have set an example for your kids to defy conventional wisdom and not to accept the status quo...Why would anyone expect that such a marked divergence from the norm would produce a person who is so common or usual - or so 'well-socialized' - that they fit right into the mainstream?...Others may admire homeschoolers' unique perspective or intellect...but they will definitely know that something about homeschoolers sets them apart from the rest...You can insist all you want that your children are well-socialized, but the truth is **they haven't been assimilated**... if you have dared to challenge government schooling or conventional private schooling, I suspect you aren't normal or especially well-socialized either. Somehow you were impervious to social conditioning enough to think outside the box. You're probably a little odd too...We're either deliberate, accidental, or reluctant social

misfits who imbue our children with a set of values and beliefs that resist the siren songs of government schooling, pop culture, and social engineering. Rather than worry that your kids won't 'fit in' or be 'well-socialized,' celebrate their deviant behavior!..." (Diane Flynn Keith, *Yes, My Grown Homeschooled Children Are Odd - And Yours Will Be Too!*, HomeschoolnewsLink.com)

"Homeschooled kids do not show up in media very often, but when they do, they are usually shown as either socially inept nerds or religious fundamentalists...who have been sheltered by their paranoid parents."

(<http://tvtropes.org/pmwiki/pmwiki.php/Main/HomeschooledKids>)

"Many people worry that the supposed lack of homeschooling socialization opportunities will create shy kids. In fact, the opposite is true. Can Homeschooling Cause Shyness? Can the supposed lack of homeschooling socialization opportunities create shy kids?...First of all, there is no lack of socialization opportunity in homeschool. But still, it is perfectly true that no matter how many outside social opportunities homeschoolers take advantage of, they are not with a large group of kids all day, every day, the way students are in institutional schools. So the question is: is it possible that children who are somewhat disposed toward shyness will be pushed into shyness by being homeschooled, but would be pulled out of shyness by being placed into an institutional school setting?...This idea that shy homeschooled kids are shy because of homeschooling contains a very big, if unspoken, assumption: *institutional schools have no shy kids*. Well, are there any shy kids in institutional schools, whether public schools or private? Here's a shocking fact: yes, there are! How did that happen, if homeschooling causes shyness? And if shy homeschoolers should be put in school to make them not shy, then what should we do with shy public schoolers?...The truth is, homeschooling does not cause shyness. Many things can contribute to shyness, but at least one causative factor is forcing introverts into social situations where they cannot retreat when they feel overwhelmed...How do I know that being forced into unwanted social situations can cause shyness. Well, it did for me...Introverts do not enjoy social chit-chat, not necessarily because they are shy but because they prefer more meaningful conversations...Three of my four children are introverts...Introverts should go to school so they'll have socialization opportunities, right? Wrong. Yes, of course introverts need to learn to deal with social situations, but they don't need to attend an institutional school to do that. In fact, as we've already noted, it often can hinder social development..."

(<http://arcticcompass.blogspot.com/2014/08/whats-right-about-home-schooling.html>)

"If a child is 'shy,' why is it so important to send them to school to 'cure' them of their

shyness? How did it become common knowledge that shy children who are not properly socialized by other children their age then turn into self-closeted psychopaths who can't get along in the world?...Shy kids might not win any popularity contests, but is that really the important thing in life? In school, it might be pretty important to some, but in real life, is that the point? To be considered 'social'?...If a child is shy, or reserved, or slow to get to know people, is it a trait that needs to be 'fixed'?...School doesn't teach kids to make friends..."

(T.T., "What Is Wrong With Being 'Shy'?", December 8, 2006)

Psalms 127:4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.
5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall **speak with the enemies in the gate.**

Social:

"...a. *L. socialis*, from *socius*, companion..."
(Webster's, 1828)

"Ready or disposed to mix in friendly converse..."
(Webster's, 1828)

Matthew 5:47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?

3 John 1:14...Our friends salute thee. Greet the friends by name.

"There's as strong an association between fatherlessness and anti-social behavior, as there is between cigarettes and lung cancer."
(William Raspberry, columnist)

"The authors note that well-socialized children tend to come from homes in which the demands made on the child by both parents are consistent, and that the opposite characterizes the families of anti-social delinquents."
(Marshall L. Hamilton, *Father's Influence on Children*, 1977)

"...mother dominance was related to lower masculinity in boys..."
(Marshall L. Hamilton, *Father's Influence on Children*, 1977)

Job 30:1 But now they that are younger than I have me in derision, **whose fathers I would have disdained to have set with the dogs of my flock.**
8 They were children of **fools**...

Job 5:3 I have seen the foolish taking root...

4 His children are far from safety, and they are crushed in the gate...

Proverbs 24:7 Wisdom is too high for a fool: he openeth not his mouth in the gate.

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