

Parenting Styles and Outcomes

Thought:

We know that the way children are parented when they are young influences the type of people they become. How? Why?

A Kentucky father of a teenage boy says his hardest job is getting his son to realize that “no” is a complete answer.

Types of Parenting Styles and Outcomes

Most parent can be classified into three main types by the style in which they guide their children. As we discuss each, think about where your own parents fits most appropriately. Do each of your parents use the same style? Do you fit the outcome?

Authoritarian: Limits without Freedom.

Definition:

Parents' word is law, parents have absolute control.

Misconduct is punished

Affection and praise are rarely give

Parents try to control children's' behavior and attitudes

They value unquestioned obedience

Children are told what to do, how to do it, and where to do it, and when to do it.

Outcomes of Authoritarian Style

- Obedient
- Distrustful
- Discontent
- Withdrawn
- Unhappy
- Hostile
- Not High Achievers
- Often Rebel

Children from authoritarian homes are so strictly controlled, either by punishment or guilt, that they are often prevented from making a conscious choice about particular behavior because they are overly concerned about what their parents will do.

Permissive: Freedom without limits.

Definition:

Parents allow their children to do their own thing.

Little respect for order and routine.

Parents make few demands on children.

Impatience is hidden.

Discipline is lax

Parents are resources rather than standard makers

Rarely punish

Non controlling, non-demanding

Usually warm

Children walk all over the parents

Outcome of Permissive Parenting

- Aggressive
- Least self—
reliant
- Least self-
controlled
- Least
exploratory
- Most unhappy

Children from permissive homes receive so little guidance that they often become uncertain and anxious about whether they are doing the right thing.

Democratic: Freedom within limits.

Definition:

Middle ground between the two above

Stress freedom along with rights of others and responsibilities of all

Parents set limits and enforce rules

Willing to listen receptively to child's requests and questions.

Both loves and limits

Children contribute to discussion of issues and make some of their own decisions

Exert firm control when necessary, but explain reasoning behind it.

Respect children's interest, opinions, unique personalities.

Loving, consistent, demanding

Combine control with encouragement

Outcomes of Democratic Style

- Happy
- Mostly self-reliant
- Mostly self-controlled
- Content, friendly, generous
- Cooperative
- High-achiever'
- Less likely to be seriously disruptive or delinquent

Children whose parents expect them to perform well, to fulfill commitments, and to participate actively in family duties, as well as family fun, learn how to formulate goals. They also experience the satisfaction that comes from meeting responsibilities and achieving success.

Activity

In groups of 4 or 5, students will choose a parenting style and create a skit as an example.

The students will perform their skit, and the class will guess the style they are portraying.