

Child development leading to the pursuit of virtues and the avoidance of vices

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Abstract

Learned hatred in childhood leads to violent speech and subsequent violent actions. Optimizing the social, emotional, moral and cognitive development of children will support prosocial behavior and peaceful societies. To accomplish these goals, efforts need to start from birth with authoritative parenting to achieve secure attuned attachment between caregiver and child. Such parenting should eliminate the toxic stress associated with the authoritarian approach and the lack of direction seen with permissive or uninvolved parenting. Early literacy is the key to building character using the vehicles of modeled behaviors, reading stories with a moral and that teach a lesson and Human Relations Programs for Children. Benevolent mindfulness characterized by emotional empathy, compassion and helping behaviors will result from proper parenting and successful character education. The resultant ability to think in a complex fashion where virtues are pursued and vices avoided should facilitate resistance to false narratives and non-violent conflict resolution. Avoiding Adverse Child Experiences has been shown to minimize depression, violence perpetration and other problem behaviors and disorders. When there are educational and professional resources in play to support the development of children in communities, a responsible, caring citizenry can be anticipated.

Biography:

Dr. Gerald Katzman received his MD degree from the Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1968. He served a Pediatric Residency at the University of Chicago and the Children's Hospital of Michigan. After serving two years as a physician in the US Navy, he completed a fellowship in Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine at Temple University Hospital. Clinical positions have included Director of Nurseries at The Toledo Hospital, Chairman of Pediatrics at Sinai Hospital of Detroit and Chief of Pediatrics at Detroit Riverview Hospital. Dr. Katzman has been a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the Wayne State University School of Medicine since 1986. He received the designation of Certified Physician Executive by the American College of Physician Executives. In recent years, Dr. Katzman has developed an interest in the teaching of hatred to children and the potentially violent actions that result from such indoctrination. He is board certified in Pediatrics and Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine.

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