

READERS' QUESTIONS

Training Children



Dover Publications, Inc.

William Blake shows a negative teaching that kills the creativity of children by fragmenting the living Whole, to which one student, as a true teacher, points.

QUESTION: In training children it is advised that parents get an astrological reading of the child's potentialities so as to inhibit detrimental tendencies and strengthen the beneficent. Does this pay? Is it not necessary and ultimately beneficial for the child to pass through the so-called adverse moods and experiences? Will not the spiritual nature be stronger when they are overcome? Is not acquired virtue better than innocence or purity through evasion?

Answer: No, we do not advise parents to get an astrological reading for their children. We advise them to study astrology for themselves so as to be able to study and read their children's horoscopes. We do this because although strange astrologers, professional or otherwise, may be much more competent to read the children's horoscopes than the parents, they lack the keen vital interest and the sympathy which will intuitively guide the parent to a much better understanding of what is contained in that little figure than ever an outsider can.

Furthermore, the parent will have a much keener appreciation of what is shown in the child's horoscope when he has to dig it out for himself and sees it there in symbolic form than when it is simply generated from a computer program and ready to read on a printed page. He or she will then be much better fitted and qualified by a deeper insight to help the child foster the good tendencies and avoid the pitfalls shown by the bad.

Now, our correspondent asks if this pays. Is the

child not going to be much better off by just simply wading through the mire and blundering along than by avoiding the pitfalls that are shown? Surely not. What would we think of a captain of a ship who set out on a voyage without either chart or compass because he thought it would be far better to learn by experience than to avoid the rocks and shoals already charted by others? We would call him a foolhardy man, and we would be surprised if he did not put his ship on the rocks and smash it to pieces. If everyone refused to take the experience of others as contained in books and the general knowledge now available in the world, how limited would be the experience of each—all the world committing the same blunders over and over again!

We find the same thing in our colleges as compared with the manually trained mechanics. The boy who goes into a shop and learns only by practice what work is done there may become fairly proficient in his trade during the time another spends in a technical school, but once the technological student has graduated and enters the shop, he not only quickly catches up with the man who has learned only by experience, but he soon passes him and goes to the top.

Such is the universal experience in all parts and departments of life, that by adding the practical experience of others contained in books and taught in schools to our own experience we acquire a vast

amount of knowledge that could not be obtained in any other way.

It is the same in the school of life with respect to ethics and morals. If someone who is interested in us and knows just at what point we fall short and is able to supply the needed training or encourage us to train ourselves in that particular branch of morals and ethics, and is ready to help and restrain us when we would rush headlong into a pit, then we can acquire the same faculties and qualities in a different way than would be the case if left to our own devices and forced to learn by experience. Thus we shall be able to advance upon the path of evolution much better than if we had to learn through our own sin and suffering.

PUNISHMENT FOR THE SINS OF A PRECEDING LIFE

Question: Is it right and just to punish an ego in one life for a sin committed or a debt incurred in a former life of which the ego has no remembrance?

Answer: The question involves a misconception. The ego, namely the threefold spirit, does have complete remembrance of all the acts of every preceding life because they are all engraved in an imperishable record upon the Life Spirit. It is only the personality, the lower self, which does not remember. Since the ego or higher self is responsible for gaining and maintaining mastery over the personality or lower self, it is quite right that the ego should suffer for the sins and mistakes committed by the lower self and which it permitted. The Law of Consequence is therefore entirely just in bringing to each ego the results of the deeds of the personality under its charge. The experience in purgatory purifies the desire body, but some debts of destiny hold over and must be discharged in a succeeding life.

SEPARATION OF THE SEXES IN MAN AND ANIMAL

Question: If humanity was separated into sexes so that a part of the sex force might be utilized in building the brain and larynx, and if this was not done until we became human, why are the present animals separated into sexes, also some of the plants? Why does the separation occur relatively so much earlier in the case of the animals and plants than it did in the case of man?

Answer: Each succeeding life wave manifests on a

higher round of the spiral of evolution. The animal life wave is one complete round higher than humanity was when it passed through its animal-like stage, and the plant kingdom is two rounds above the status of humanity when it passed through the plantlike stage. Certain lessons in evolution have to be learned by means of the separation into sexes. The animals and the plants are learning these lessons at an earlier stage than we did; also they will be emancipated from sex at a correspondingly earlier stage.

MATERIALIZING PHYSICAL APPENDAGES

Question: From reading your literature I understand that it is possible for an Invisible Helper to develop physical hands with which to work when he is attending a patient. Will you please tell me how this is to be done?

Answer: When the Invisible Helper works with patients he functions in his soul body, which is composed of light and reflecting ethers. The silver cord which connects him with his dense vehicle remains intact, and this gives him continuous connection with the physical body seed atom. The magnetic power of the seed atom is therefore exerted and it requires a subconscious effort on the part of the Invisible Helper to keep the physical atoms in the surrounding atmosphere from flowing into his etheric vehicle.

Consequently when he desires to perform a certain work which requires the use of a physical hand, arm etc., he can materialize the needed member with the greatest of ease simply by consciously allowing the physical atoms in his immediate environment to flow into his etheric hand, arm, etc.

When he has performed the necessary work, by the power of thought he is able to scatter the dense atoms which he has attracted to him and thereby dematerialize the physical hand or arm.

It is quite possible for an Invisible Helper when working inside of the body of a patient where it is necessary to manipulate a diseased organ, or staunch the flow of blood from an artery or vein, to materialize fingers made temporarily from the flesh atoms of the patient without causing him the least discomfort, and by the power of thought to as readily dissolve the fingers when the work has been completed. □