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Annotated Bibliography, Changes in the concept of "good" parenting from 1950-2008

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Changes in the concept of "good" parenting from 1950-2008

        The concept of "good" parenting can vary among different families, cultures, and societies. However, in the United States the overall concept has remained fairly similar throughout the years. "Leading by good example" is a major factor when raising a child. Children shape their behaviors from those that they are surrounded by, therefore, every parent or caregiver must be cautious about their actions while around their children. The response to a child's action is also crucial in their raising. The early stages of childhood are important times when trust is either gained or lost, which means that this is when a good parent-child relationship is first formed. Parents need to nurture their children to let them understand they are safe and secure with them. If a parent or caregiver neglects a child or acts harshly towards them, it will cause the child to feel less confident and worthless. Today's times are much different than those of the 1950s, which has allowed changes in even family relationships. Despite these changes, it is important to build a strong, healthy parent-child relationship early in the child's life, because it affects their lives as well as your own.

        The greatest controversy in parenting today is the punishment of a child, and whether or not "spanking", or any physical punishment, should be considered. When it comes to "good" parenting, this subject varies from parent to parent. In order for a child to learn rules and boundaries, they must be punished for their wrong actions, however. The type of punishment they deserve depends on what they had done to deserve it. They can vary from time-outs, to the banning of a toy, or maybe even a spanking. There is a line that can be crossed between punishment and abuse, which is why physical punishment should always be the last resort. The authority of a parent should be understood by the child, but not to a point of where they're scared of them. No matter what day and age, parents are supposed here to love and help their children grow and mature, serving as their main guideline of that process.

Two Websites

Thurber, Christopher Ph.D., "Do As I Do: The Circle of Parenting and Socialization" campparent.org . American Camp Association, n.d. Web <http://www.campparents.org/expert/03910thurber5#>
This website provides a recall of past psychological perspectives on children and their behaviors. It is full of

excellent examples that portray the different parenting styles as it relates to the child's behavior. It also includes a list and description of the four main styles of parenting.

Unknown, "Disciplining Your Child" kidshealth.org. Kids Health from Nemours, last reviewed in October 2008 Web <http://kidshealth.org/parent/positive/talk/discipline.html#>
This website is a great guide to learning affective punishments for a child. It describes what techniques would be the best and worst for children. The information is organized into age groups, which makes it easier to read and understand, and it provides explanation for their reasoning of each punishment.

Two Books

Bettelheim, Bruno. *A Good Enough Parent: A Book on Child Rearing.* New York: Knopf : Distributed by Random House, 1987. Print.
Through this book, the author attempts to discover what is required for successful child raising. This book provides a multi-perspective on handling important issues with children and discusses the best ways (in his opinion) to resolve certain issues. It includes insights to why some punishments may not work on children.

Miller, Darla Ferris. *Positive Child Guidance/ Darla Ferris Miller.* Ed.3. [South] Africa ; Albany, NY : Delmar Publishers, c2000. Print.
This book provides a structures outline that explores several factors in positive guidance for a child. It explores both psychological and environmental factors when raising a child. Also, it discusses several specific situations and circumstances encountered while raising a child.

One Scholarly Journal

Carlo, Gustavo; McGinley, Meredith; Hayes, Rachael; Batenhorst, Candice; Wilkinson, Jamie. "Parenting Styles or Practices? Parenting, Sympathy, and Prosocial Behaviors Among Adolescents". *The Journal of Genetic Psychology,* 2007, *168*(2), 147–176. Web.
This journal reveals, through extensive studies, the different parenting styles, practices, sympathy, and behaviors in adolescents. The authors provided evidence and comparisons between these different styles and practices. The authors provide clear, factual evidence and studies that exemplify the different styles of parenting and their relationship to adolescent behavior.

One Reference

Balter, Lawrence. "Parenthood In America: An Encyclopedia". The American Family. Balter, Lawrence, editor; McCall, Robert B., foreword. V.2, N-Z. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, c2000. Print.
This reference source provides general information regarding parent-child relationships, parent-hood, and child development. This encyclopedia also includes insights of the psychological perspectives, social, cultural, and historical matters, as well as the biological perspective. This source helps to enrich one's basic knowledge of these general concepts, but can also serve as a "how-to" guide.