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# The Ideal Father

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## The Ideal Father

The ideal father, a figment of the imagination, a daydream dreamt repeatedly but unbecoming of reality. A man may struggle to achieve perfection, but perfection seems unattainable. Knowledge of how to become the ideal father becomes most difficult for one who has never had a father. Drive to feel like part of a family or unit appears stronger in a man who has never had a family over one who has. Someone who understands completely, becoming part of a family develops a gift greater than life, which can easily cease to exist. **The Ideal father, compassionate, a responsible disciplinarian tough or strict when needed to perform, but willing to make sacrifices of his wants to meet the child's needs.**

Many characteristics define the ideal father, like being head of the household, able to adjust, adapt and improvise. The perfect dad knows the difference between a leader and a totalitarian, knows when to delegate responsibility as well as accountability. Children form habits while young, delegating responsibility and accountability will instill a good work ethic and strong leadership skills. The father, the role model/pace setter for a household, should act accordingly; remember children are impressionable and constantly sponging in knowledge of behavior, as well as character. Hence, leadership becomes a significant trait of a father. One should lead by example without double standards. Hypocrisy can cause disgrace, consequently instilling distrust between a father and child. A father telling a child to conduct in a specific manner, while acting out the opposite behavior would confuse anyone, especially a youngster.

The ideal father has tremendous wisdom of discipline. A question of how much chastisement becomes appropriate; a father knows his child's limitations. A private location, one on one away from other children, becomes the most efficient setting for reprimanding a child, ensuring a child will give his or her entire attention span. A child may act out in front of a friend

or sibling when confronted to appear unbothered by consequence. Lack of discipline will allow a child to create bad habits, although too much discipline will push a child into rebellion. A father requires an entire arsenal of corrective methods, one punishment will not work for every single infraction, and the penalty should fit the misbehavior. Some may feel corporal punishment is criminal and morally wrong; the ideal father knows corporal punishment becomes appropriate, as a last measure, after exhausting every other resources. Resources may include, timeouts, taking away favorite toys and games, taking ones attention away from a young one seeking attention through bad behavior. A personal favorite, extreme exercising almost until exhaustion with pushups, planks crunches and a-symmetrical stances seem to work extremely well with preteens and teens. One can always resort to the boring old standby of grounding for a specific amount of time, although creativity always stands out, besides who says a parent can enjoy the punishment after all the child most likely enjoyed torturing the parent with his or her behavior. The objective with punishments, to ensure a child does not want to act out, for fear of the repercussions of his or her actions. Lack of discipline, quickly becoming a problem society will have to cope with. Look in any classroom with disruptive children present. Teachers have no right to instill discipline. Society medicates children rather coping with behavior problems at home or school. Parents are too lazy to deal with the problem and too prideful to allow the teacher, who probably want the child to succeed more than the parent. A good swat seems exceedingly healthier than chemicals in a developing mind and the side effects, which accompany most behavior medications.

A father should teach a child to practice humility, but humiliation should never become form of punishment. A child's self worth is impressionable and easily infected. A father, who has to admonish his child in public, should execute the reprimand in a way not to humiliate the child.

The Ideal father shows consistency with discipline; therefore, a disobedient child will learn to expect repercussions for his or her actions. Society's children are becoming more problematic; lack of discipline, lack of exercise, less pressure to perform well in school and complete lack in social skills. Many children today are overweight, lagging in education but aloud to move forward, and the majority struggle, to look an adult in the eye and hold a complete conversation. People can point blame at soda companies, fast foods companies and video games, but also parents, teachers, and government need to except some of the responsibility, but in the end, finger pointing, solves absolutely nothing, finding a solution and dealing with the problem take precedence over finger pointing.

A child needs to feel morally supported. Showing gratification becomes uncomplicated when a child is performing well, however a child needs moral support, especially in competition when outperformed. Showing pride, complicated, after a child has acted out badly, but a child needs to feel encouragement and compassion, after the consequences occur. Showing compassion, consideration and acceptance of the child, not the behavior the child has demonstrated, a tough love achievement, extremely difficult, but effective when used correctly. Compare a child with a piece of clay, the parents can mold and shape into a beautiful piece of art, the right amount of pressure can preserve the strength or durability, too much pressure will cause the clay to collapse, not enough pressure leaves the piece under developed and less stable.

A father should not act like a child's best friend, instead being a warm shoulder to cry on and a great listener throughout tough times becomes extremely important, which also constitutes as being ones friend. Teenagers have people within their own circle who are their companions or friends. A child needs to feel secure enough to communicate with a father no matter what the dilemma. Although extremely difficult to achieve a level of trust, especially when a child feels

threatened by punishment, trust becomes the foundation for a strong relationship between a father and child. A father with multiple children, needs to treat each child with a sense of equality. Children will compete for parental attention. Sibling's sense out favoritism and it becomes unacceptable. Children go through phases, feeling life is prejudiced anyway, no need to add to confusion each will already face. A father needs to devote quality time with each child one on one as often as possible, but utilizing equality with each activity. A father should spend one on one time spent with a child, to build a strong relationship with a child, one with a strong foundation of trust and reliance. One on one time, the best time to have deep conversations with a child.

Another father's responsibility to install a strong work ethic in children. A child needs taught at a young age the value of time leveraged for money. A father should teach a child to work hard for his or her wants, to take pride in ownership, and to create less waste. A child also needs to learn not every job earns income, charity work is important so a child can feel part of the community. Not every jobs is fun, but every job has importance, also when working, taking time and doing the best job one can, instead of hastily getting the job over, no matter if a job is liked or not.

Any post pubescent adolescent can father a child, but only one who has reached true maturity is ready to raise one. Because a man can procreate does not mean one should. A man, who becomes a father, needs to take responsibility, to step up and assume accountable for his actions. A responsible decision can also be to step out of a child's life if the relationship will cause the child more harm than good. A child is better off not to grow up in a hate relationship, when parents cannot get along for the child's sake. Sad and pathetic as the predicament seems, sometimes the child is better off when a father is absent, especially when the father is a drunk or

will not respect the mother. **The ideal father is a leader, willing to make sacrifices to meet a child's needs, but also is patient, willing to let a child act like a child, a compassionate man willing to give a child the most precious commodity possessed, time.**

