
family



JERRY CAMMARATA FATHERS DIARY

Don't need a license to parent, but management class can't hurt

Victor Borge once said to me that being a parent is about the only thing you can do these days that doesn't require a license.

Street vendors, electricians and doctors all have to prove their expertise before they can practice their professions, but parenting is

one of the most complex jobs a human can have.

Parents are not only responsible for the physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development of their children, they must also care for a home, earn a living and fulfill community duties.

According to George Terry, an authority on the principles of management, management can be applied to all facets of human activity, including the home, where they can allow family members to use their full potential, to achieve family goals and to work out the day-to-day transactions of life.

My daughters recently applied management principles to one mundane aspect of water conservation — taking baths and showers — and were even interviewed on TV news for their efforts. The girls spent a week evaluating the problem — saving water and still getting clean — and got the process down to six minutes.

In the early 1900s, a couple named Frank and Lillian Gilbreth, who had 12 in 17 years, developed a system of washing that saved time and water. One of their children wrote up their father's system in the hilarious book "Cheaper by the

Dozen."

We parents today can invest the same time, patience and training to teach our kids new and better ways of living and enjoying life. Considering the price of food and clothing, resourcefulness is a quality worth developing.

How's your PIRO? It is our responsibility to mobilize our kids (P = People), encourage them to think creatively (I = Ideas), understand that magnitude of thought is always limited to and sometimes enhanced by the available resources (R = Resources), and provide direction in attaining a

desired goal (O = Objective).

Your kids' success lies squarely on your ability to lead them to utilize management strategies, such as PIRO, in all areas, from administering discipline or planning for their education.

You might thing seriously about taking a fundamental course in management and organization at a local college. It could help you to be a super parent.

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