

APPRECIATING OUR LOVED ONES

A young man once went to apply for a managerial position in a big company. He passed the initial interview, and now would meet the director for the final interview.

The director read his CV, and discovered that the man's academic achievements were excellent. He asked, "Did you obtain any scholarships in school?" The young man hadn't.

"Was it your father who paid for your school fees?"

"My father passed away when I was a year old. It was my mother who paid for my school fees."

"Where did your mother work?"

"My mother worked as clothes cleaner."

The director requested to see the young man's hands. The man showed a pair of hands that were smooth and perfect.

"Have you ever helped your mother wash the clothes before?"

"Never; my mother always wanted me to study and read more books. Besides, my mother can wash clothes faster than I can."

The director thought about the man's words, and replied, "I have a request. When you go home today, go and clean your mother's hands, and then come see me tomorrow morning."

The interviewee felt that his chances of landing the job were high. When he went back home, he asked his mother to let him clean her hands. His mother felt strange. Happy, but with mixed feelings, she showed her hands to her son.

The young man cleaned his mother's hands slowly. His tears fell as he scrubbed. He had never noticed that his mother's hands were so wrinkled, and that they contained so many bruises and scratches. Some bruises were so painful that his mother winced when he touched them.

For the first time, the young man realized that it was this pair of hands that washed clothes every day to be able to pay his school fees. The bruises on his mother's hands were the price that she had to pay for his education, his school activities, and his future.

After cleaning his mother hands, the young man quietly washed all the remaining clothes for his mother.

That night, mother and son talked for a very long time.

Next morning, he went to the director's office.

The director noticed the tears in the young man's eyes, when he asked: "Can you tell me what have you done and learned yesterday in your house?"

"I cleaned my mother's hands, and also finished cleaning all the remaining clothes. I know now what appreciation is. Without my mother, I would not be who I am today. By helping my mother, only now do I realize how difficult and tough it is to get something done on your own. And I have come to appreciate the importance and value of helping one's family."

The director said, "This is what I am looking for in a manager. I want to recruit a person who can appreciate the help of others, a person who knows and understands the suffering of others, and a person who will not make money his only goal in life."

You are hired."

This young person worked very hard, and received the respect of his subordinates. Every employee worked diligently and worked as a team. The company's performance improved tremendously.

A child, who has been protected and habitually given whatever he wanted, will develop an "entitlement mentality" and will always put himself first. He will be ignorant of his parents' efforts. When he starts work, he will assume that every person must listen to him, and when he becomes a manager, he will never know the suffering of his employees and will always blame others.

For this kind of person, noteworthy though his academic achievements may be, he will eventually begin to feel dissatisfied and unsuccessful. He will grumble and be full of hatred and fight for more. If we are the kind of parents who protect our children from shouldering any responsibility, and instead provide everything and more for our children, are we really showing love, or are we destroying our children instead?

You can let your child live in a big house, eat a good meal, learn piano, and watch on a big screen TV. There is nothing wrong with giving your child a good life, to the best of your ability. But when you are cutting the grass, please let them experience it. After a meal, let them wash their plates and bowls together with their brothers and sisters. It is not because you do not have the money to hire a cleaning lady, but it is because you want to love them the right way. You want them to understand that no matter how rich their parents are, one day their hair will grow gray, and they will no longer be able to provide for their children as they once did. The most important thing a child learns is how to appreciate the effort his parents invest in him, and learns the ability to work with others to get things done.

Try to forward this story to as many as possible...this may change somebody's fate.

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