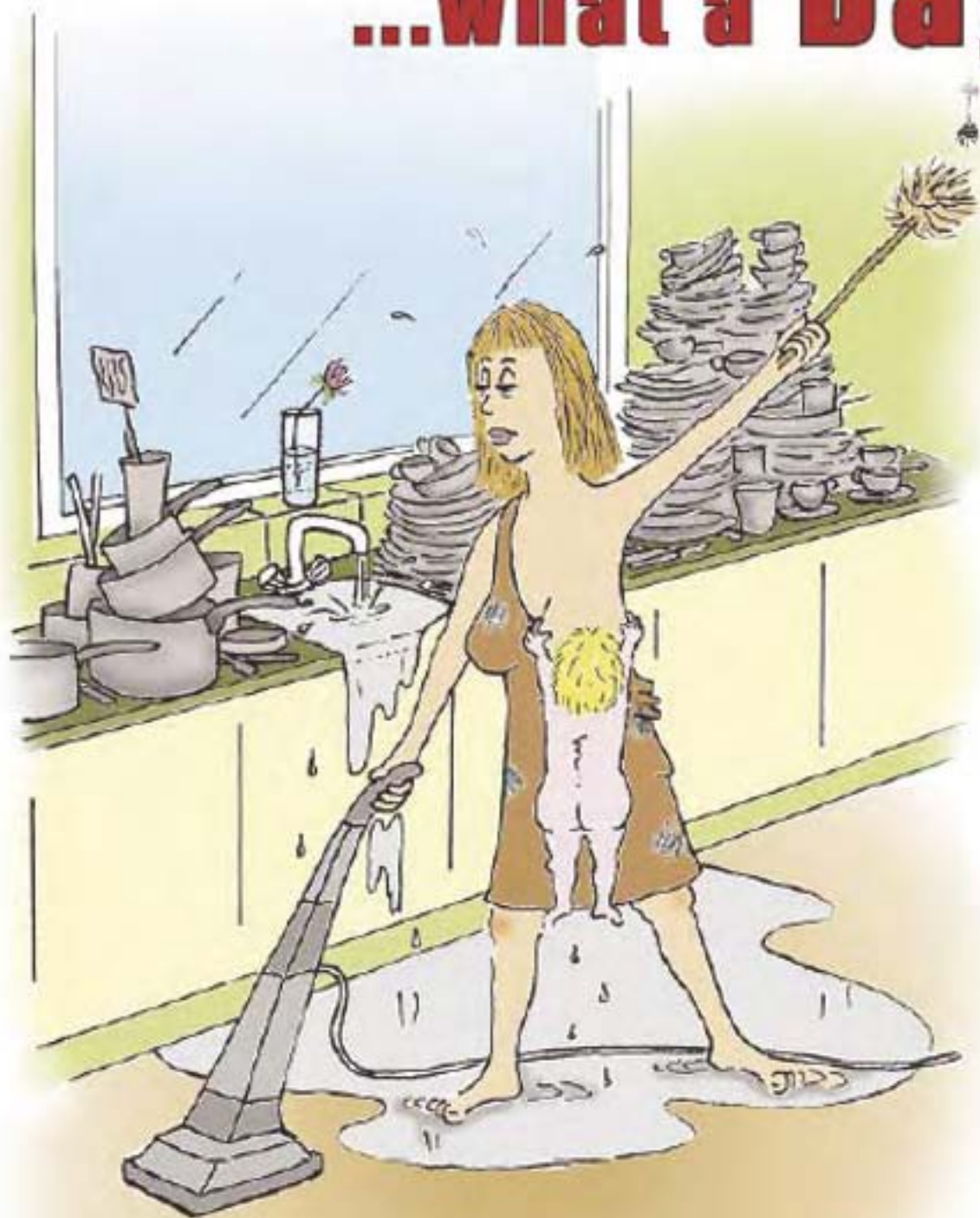


Mother... ...what a Day



Illustrated by
Bob Gibbs



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INTRODUCTION

Once upon a time there was a young, free-spirited, beautiful princess. She wanted for nothing and all who saw her adored her. One day her prince came along, the beautiful couple fell in love and were married. A year passed and into this world came forth a bouncing, gurgling, squeaky, belching, forever-hungry pooing-machine of a baby boy. Things were never the same again...

WHO'D BE A MOTHER?

JOB: MOTHER

PAY: NONE

HOURS: ALL

HOLIDAY: SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION

EXPERIENCE: PREFERABLE

DRIVER'S LICENCE: ESSENTIAL

PATIENCE: A VIRTUE

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



THE COURTSHIP

Familiarity breeds children.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



THE CONCEPTION

For adult education, nothing beats children.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



PREGNANCY TEST (CAN BE TRICKY)

Mum-to-be: How will I know if my vomiting is morning sickness or the flu?

Doctor: If it's the flu, you'll get better.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



MORNING SICKNESS (SOMETIMES
UNCONTROLLABLE)

Prenatal:
When your life was still somewhat your own.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



FOOD FADS

Who'd be a mother when...
You spend an entire week wearing a tracksuit.
(Why bother with anything else?!)

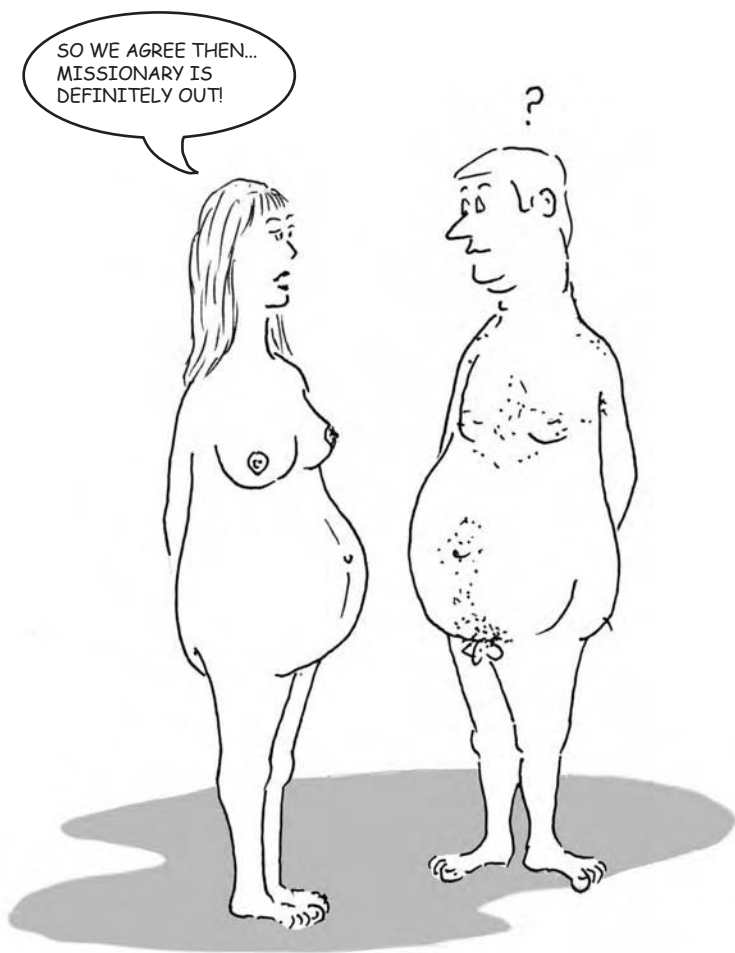
MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



THEN THERE'S THAT NEW FIGURE...

**Those who say they “sleep like a baby”
obviously haven’t got one.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**SEX CAN BE AWKWARD...
ESPECIALLY IF HUBBY HAS BEEN
OVER-CELEBRATING THE IMPENDING BIRTH...**

An alarm clock is a device for waking up people who don't have small kids.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



WATERS BREAKING...
IDEALLY OCCURRING IN FRONT OF STRANGERS MILES
FROM HOME WHEN WEARING LIGHT GREY.

“I never met a kid I liked.”

W.C. Fields

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



LABOUR (CONTRACTIONS)

BEST SOLVED WITH EVERY PAINKILLER KNOWN...
STARTING WITH EPIDURAL, PILLS, ALCOHOL, GAS AND AIR...

“If you must hold yourself up to your children as an object lesson, hold yourself up as a warning and not as an example.”

George Bernard Shaw

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



GIVING BIRTH...
WHEN YOU SUDDENLY FIND YOU
HAVE PRODUCED A PROTEGEE.

**“When my husband comes home, if the kids
are still alive, I figure I’ve done my job.”**

Roseanne Barr

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



POST DELIVERY...

The Golden Age:
When the kids are too old for a babysitter
and too young to borrow the car.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



POST DELIVERY...
WHEN YOU FIND OUT THAT 'ONLY ONE LITTLE STITCH' MAY
HAVE BEEN A LITTLE OPTIMISTIC...

**OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT
TYPES OF MUMMY. THE ONE MOST
VISUALISED AS BEING PERFECT IS...**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



SCRUMMY MUMMY

**HOWEVER, NOT EVERYONE CAN BE
PERFECT, WHICH MEANS THAT WE HAVE
A LOT OF OTHER KINDS OF MUMMY.
HERE ARE A FEW...**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



BUMMY MUMMY
OFTEN ENDS UP INITIATING THE SECOND CHILD.

Who'd be a mother when...

If you can't find your cordless phone, you ask a friend to call you, and you run around the house madly, following the sound until you locate the phone downstairs in the laundry basket.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



CHUMMY MUMMY

AFTER NO ALCOHOL FOR NINE MONTHS, IMBIBING
CAN OFTEN LEAD TO BEING OVER-AFFECTIONATE.

Who'd be a mother when...
You're so desperate for adult conversation
that you cling on to the caller from the
telemarketing company and *he* hangs
up on *you*.

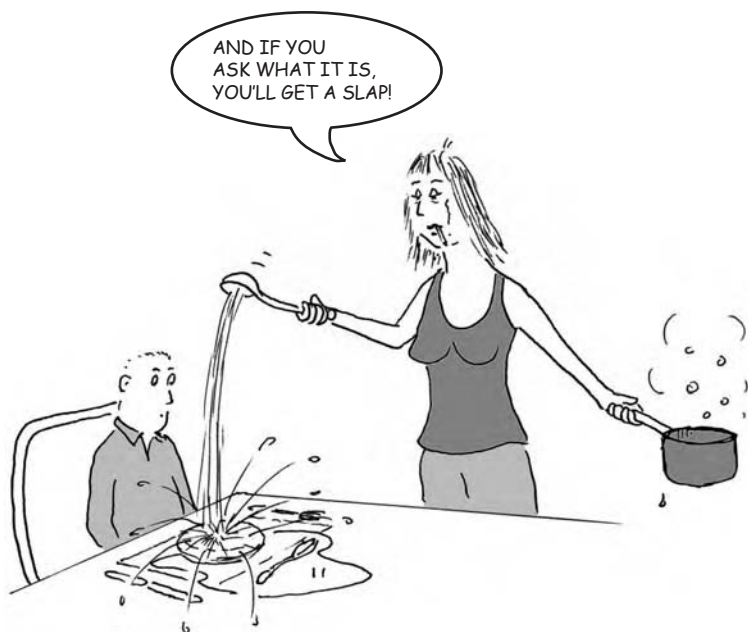
MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



DUMBY MUMMY
NOT QUITE GETTING TO GRIPS WITH MOTHERHOOD.

Who'd be a mother when..
Your idea of a good day is making it to the
evening without being peed or puked on.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



CRUMBY MUMMY
NOT EXACTLY RELIABLE...

**Who'd be a mother when..
If the kids start fighting, you threaten to
lock them in a room together and not let
them out until someone's bleeding.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



MUMMY MUMMY
THE LAST RESORT FOR PEACE AND QUIET... OR MAYBE NOT!

Who'd be a mother when...
Your favourite film is a Disney one.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



NUMBY MUMMY
OFTEN FOUND ON COLD AFTERNOONS WAITING TO PICK UP
THE KIDS FROM SCHOOL...

Who'd be a mother when...
Your feet stick to the kitchen floor...
and you don't care.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



RUMMY MUMMY
TO BE FOUND ON HOLIDAY DRINKING
VAST AMOUNTS OF RUM AND COKE.

Who'd be a mother when...
You find yourself shouting things like,
"I brought you into this world and
I can take you out!"

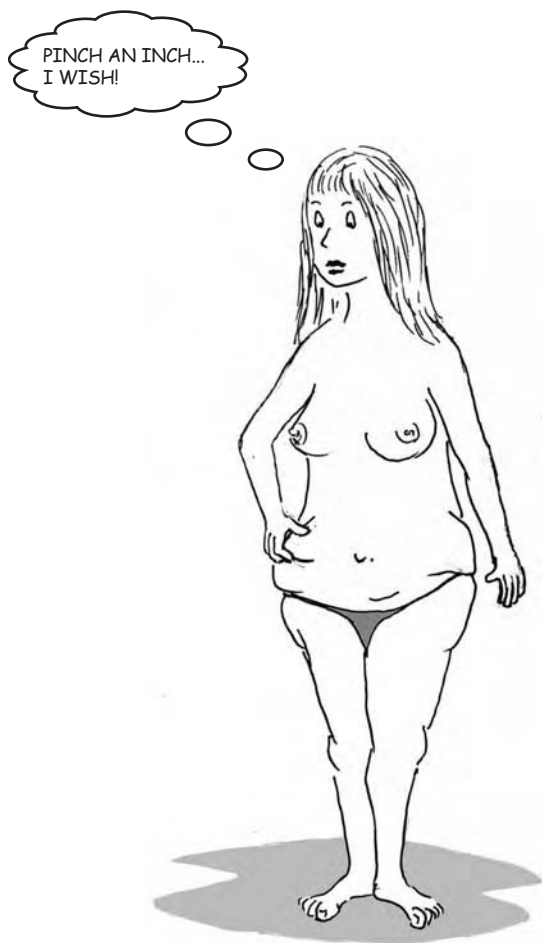
MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



SCUMMY MUMMY
NOT CONSIDERED TO BE QUITE UP TO THE JOB.

Who'd be a mother when...
You find yourself cutting your husband's
sandwiches into cute shapes.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



TUMMY MUMMY
WITH THAT 'ANNOYINGLY HARD TO MOVE' SPARE TYRE.

**SO NOW YOU'VE ACHIEVED MUMMY STATUS,
WHAT DOES LIFE HAVE IN STORE FOR YOU?
THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF INSIGHT INTO
THE VARIOUS UPS AND DOWNS OF BEING
A MOTHER...**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



NEW INNOVATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR
THAT 'POSSIBLE' NEXT CHILD...
AN AUSTRALIAN BIRTHING POOL.

**Who'd be a mother when...
You stop criticising the way your
mother brought you up.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



Who'd be a mother when...
You used to look forward to a night
out on the town. Now you long for
a night in to yourself.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



THE CASUAL APPROACH

Who'd be a mother when...
Cleaning the house whilst the children
are at home is like raking the leaves
during a blizzard.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**You can learn many things from children...
like how much patience you have.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



Amnesia:

A condition that enables a woman who has gone through labour to have sex again.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



BRINGING UP KIDS - TIRED DOESN'T EVEN COME INTO IT AT THE END OF THE DAY...

Weekend:

**Those two days when Dad plays golf while
Mum catches up on the washing, ironing,
cleaning and food shopping.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**“There is no such thing as
‘fun for the whole family’.”**

Jerry Seinfeld

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



TEETHING...

Precocious:
A child who is more talented than yours.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY

WHAT'S THE SECRET
THEN, MARG? YOU'VE
GOT YOUR BABY SO
BEAUTIFULLY QUIET.



**“Human beings are the only creatures that
allow their children to come back home.”**

Bill Cosby

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



DO REMEMBER TO SWAP BREASTS WHEN
FEEDING A HUNGRY BABY...

Who'd be a mother when..

You're up each night until 10:30 p.m. doing chores - vacuuming, dusting, wiping, washing, drying, loading, unloading, cooking, ironing, sweeping, cleaning, tidying, sewing, gardening, painting, and walking the dog. You get up at 5:30 a.m. and you have no time to eat, sleep, drink, or go to the bathroom, and yet... you still managed to gain half a stone.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



GETTING BABY TO GO TO SLEEP CAN OFTEN
MEAN THE NEED FOR A LITTLE 'ASSISTANCE'.

Feedback:

What you get when your baby doesn't appreciate the mashed banana and avocado.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**YOU WORK OUT THE CALORIES IN BABY FOOD AND
REALISE WHY YOU'RE PUTTING ON WEIGHT...
BY FINISHING OFF 'THAT LITTLE BIT'.**

**Bottle feeding:
An opportunity for Daddy to
get up at 2:00 a.m. too.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



EVEN EXPRESSING MILK CAN'T KEEP UP
WITH SOME WOMEN...

Grandparents:

**The people who think your children are
adorable - even though they're sure you're
not bringing them up properly.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



PARENTAL CONTROL

TOILET TRAINING

**FOR A LONG PERIOD, ONE'S OFFSPRING
INFLECTS AN AMAZING AMOUNT OF CRAP
ON ONE'S LIFE. FINALLY, THERE'S A GLIMMER
OF HOPE WHEN TOILET TRAINING STARTS.**

**HOWEVER, IT DOES HAVE ITS
UPS AND DOWNS...**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



TOILET TRAINING - 'THE REVENGE'

**Who'd be a mother when...
You find yourself asking dinner guests if
they'd like a 'drinky-poo'.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



“I like children. Properly cooked.”

W. C. Fields

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



A DINNER PARTY IS NOT NECESSARILY THE BEST
TIME TO SHOW OFF THE LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS...

“A king, realising his incompetence, can either delegate or abdicate his duties. A father can do neither. If only his sons could see the paradox, they would understand the dilemma.”

Marlene Dietrich

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



Family planning:
The art of spacing your children enough to
keep you on the edge of financial disaster.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



ONLY HAVING THE ONE TOILET, UPSTAIRS,
CAN BE A CHALLENGE.

The weaker sex:
The kind you have after the kids
have worn you out.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



THE 'SCUMMY MUMMY' APPROACH...

Laissez-faire:

**When the tendency to want to ignore all
behaviour - not just the bad - is overwhelming.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



OFF THE WALL OR WHAT?

**The Joy of Motherhood:
What a woman experiences after she's
put the last little bugger to bed.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



SEAT RESTRAINTS ARE ADVISABLE.

Whodunnit?
None of the kids in your house.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



Independent:
How we want our children to be as long
as they do everything we say.

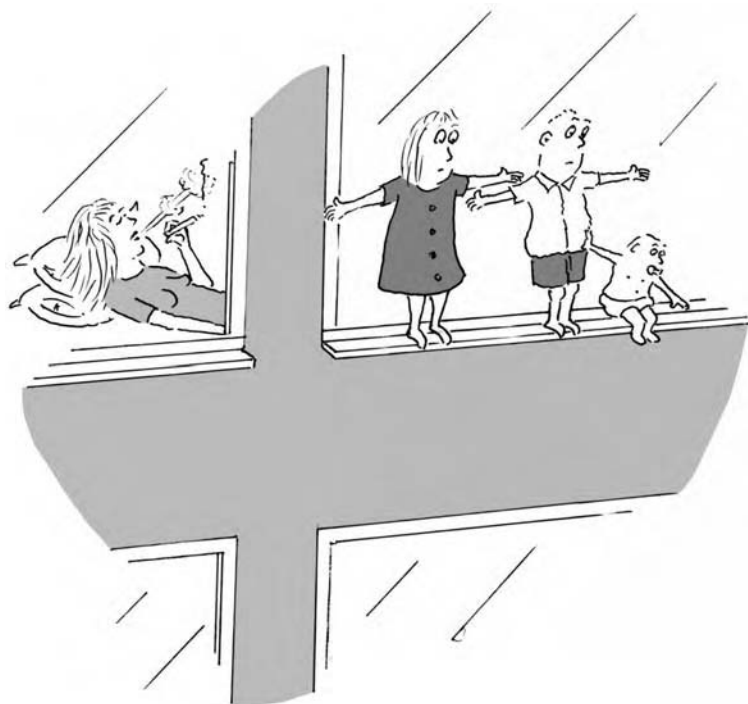
MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**CONSTIPATION - SOMETIMES A LITTLE
HELP IS NEEDED.**

BRINGING UP CHILDREN IS FRAUGHT WITH PROBLEMS. WHETHER IT BE FROM YOUR OWN MOTHER OR FROM A PROFESSIONAL HEALTH VISITOR, YOU'LL GET PLENTY OF ADVICE ON 'MOTHERHOOD'. HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO GET YOU BY SOME OF THOSE AWKWARD MOMENTS...

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**“When I was a kid my parents moved a lot,
but I always found them.”**

Rodney Dangerfield

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY

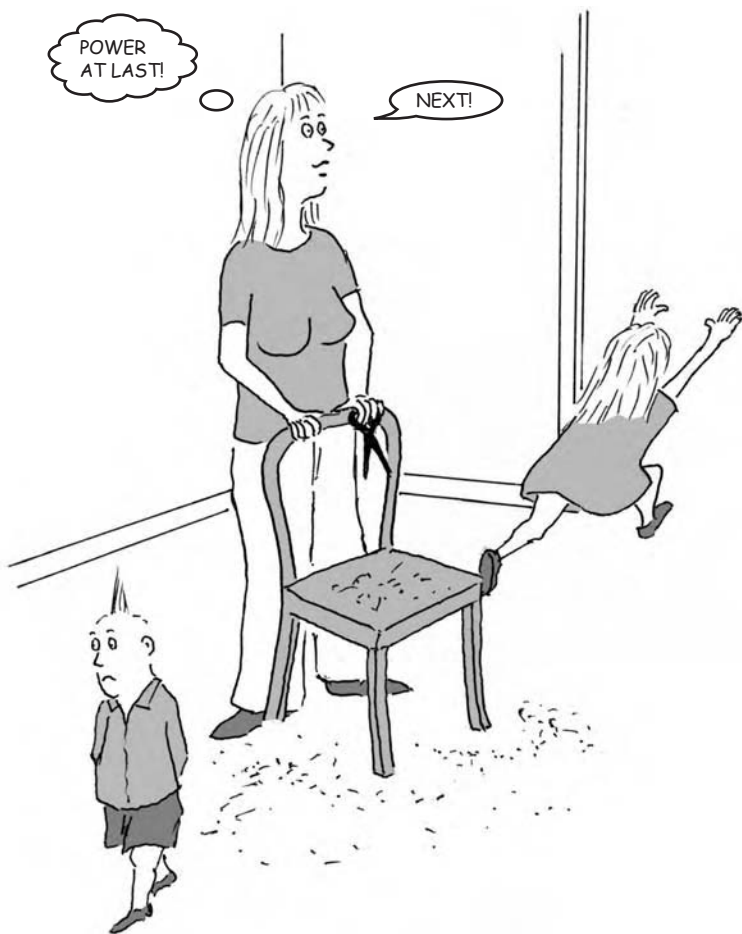


DON'T DRINK AND BREAST FEED...

**“Children begin by loving their parents;
as they grow older they judge them;
sometimes they forgive them.”**

Oscar Wilde

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



CONTROL KIDS BY THREATENING
TO CUT THEIR HAIR...

“In spite of the seven thousand books of expert advice, the right way to discipline a child is still a mystery to most fathers and... mothers. Only your grandmother and Ghengis Khan know how to do it.”

Bill Cosby

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



CONTROLLING KIDS WHEN OUT SHOPPING...

**“Learning to dislike children at an early
age saves a lot of expense and
aggravation later in life.”**

Robert Byrne

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



PLACE 'FALSE EYES' UNDER THE BED AND INFORM
THE KID THAT THE TROLL WILL GET HIM IF HE
UPSETS THE BABYSITTER...

**“All God’s children are not beautiful.
Most of God’s children are, in fact,
barely presentable.”**

Fran Lebowitz

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



DON'T OVERDO THE REPRIMAND.

“The first half of our lives is ruined by our parents, and the second half by our children.”

Clarence Darrow

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



ETIQUETTE...
MAKE SURE THAT YOU LET PEOPLE THINK YOU'RE
LAUGHING WITH THEM, NOT AT THEM.

SCHOOL DAYS

**SENDING THE KIDS TO SCHOOL CAN
OFTEN GIVE MUM THE BREAK SHE SO BADLY
NEEDS. HOWEVER, THIS BENEFIT IS OFTEN
OVERSHADOWED BY EVEN MORE PROBLEMS
AND RESPONSIBILITIES. AS WITH LIFE, YOU
CAN'T HELP BUT MAKE COMPARISONS...**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



YOU DISCOVER THAT IT'S NOT JUST YOU
WHO HAS AN ARSEHOLE FOR A SON...

**An unbreakable toy is useful
for breaking other toys.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



NOTHING LIKE THE SCHOOL GENIUS
TO PISS YOU OFF...

Who'd be a mother when..
You end up doing things like counting
the sprinkles on each child's fairy cake
to make sure they're equal.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



WHEN A KID OUT-DOES YOURS, GET IN A LEVELLER.

Who'd be a mother when..
You have time to shave only one leg.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



THERE ARE TIMES WHEN IT IS
NECESSARY TO DISOWN KIDS.

If you have trouble getting your children's attention, just sit down and look comfortable.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY

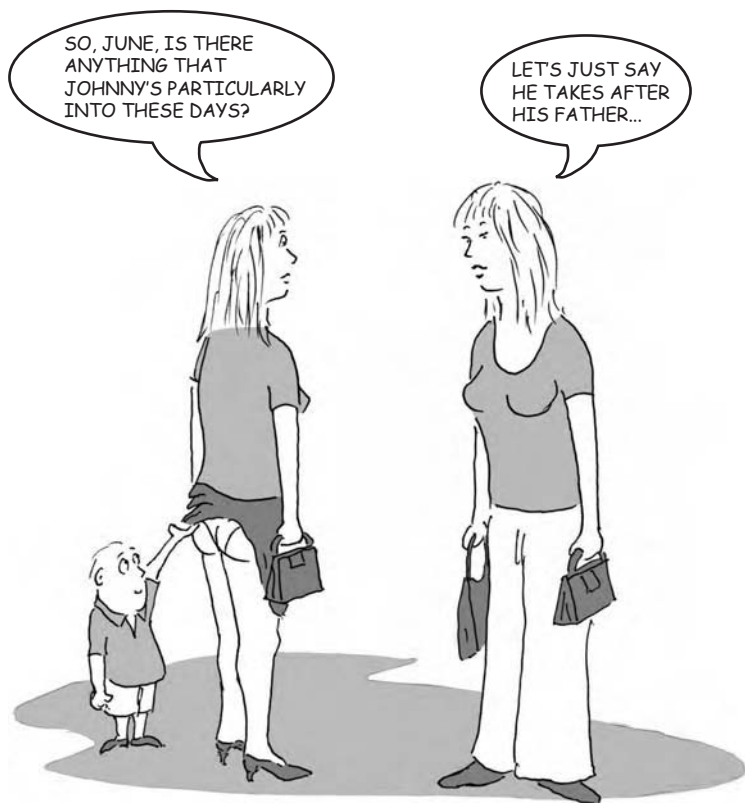


YOU'RE SO GLAD YOUR KID IS NEARLY NORMAL.

**“Having children is like having a bowling alley
installed in your brain.”**

Anon

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



There are three ways to get things done:

- 1) Do it yourself**
- 2) Hire someone to do it**
- 3) Forbid your kids to do it**

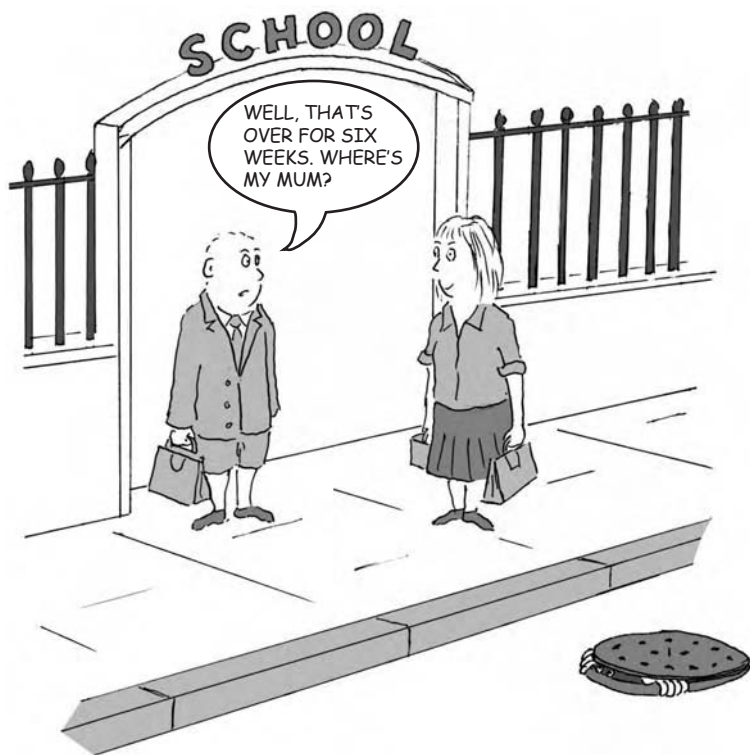
MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



YOU FIND THAT THE PRACTICALITY OF
'HAND-ME-DOWNS' DOESN'T EXACTLY DO
THE SIBLINGS ANY FAVOURS.

It is during the first week of the summer holidays that a mother totally appreciates how grossly underpaid teachers are.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ARE A FACT OF LIFE - THERE'S
NO ESCAPE.

**THEN THERE'S THE INEVITABLE SCHOOL
PET SYNDROME, OFTEN REQUIRING
TEMPORARY ADOPTION DURING THE
HOLIDAY PERIOD. THERE IS A CASE,
HOWEVER, FOR CERTAIN PETS...**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



A WELL-TRAINED LARGE DOG CAN BE AN
ABSOLUTE BOON, TAKING THE KID TO SCHOOL.

**“Setting a good example for children
takes all the fun out of middle age.”**

William Feather

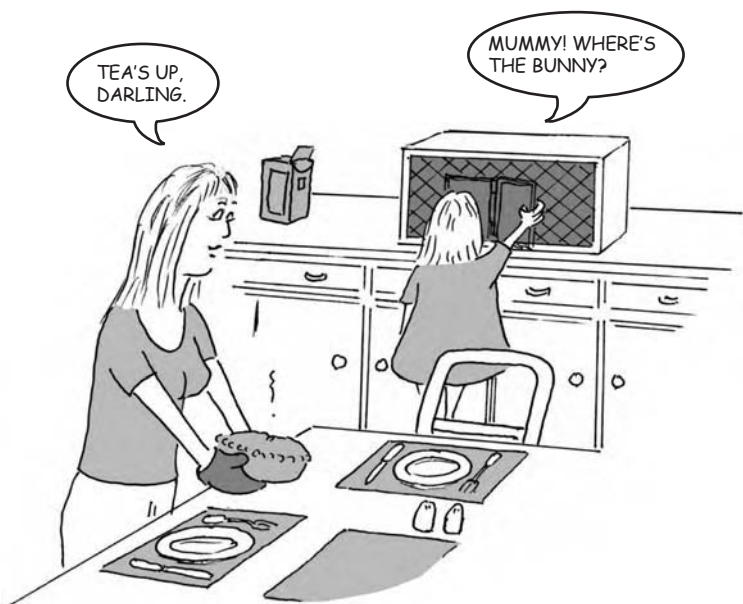
MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**“Childhood is a disease - a sickness
that you grow out of.”**

William Golding

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**There are only two things a child will
share willingly: communicable diseases
and their mother's age.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



YOU LEARN THAT EVEN A FART CAN
KILL OFF A GERBIL.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**“The trouble with children is that
they are not returnable.”**

Quentin Crisp

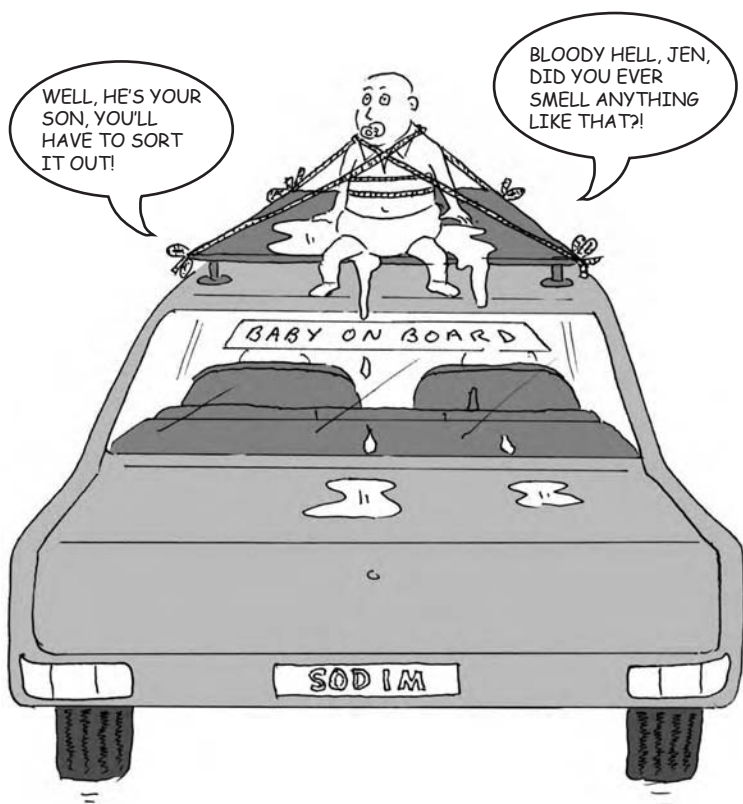
MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



SO HE INSISTS ON HAVING A PACKED LUNCH
EVERY DAY AND WON'T HAVE SCHOOL FOOD.
SURPRISE HIM.

**...AND SO FOR A MUM, LIFE GOES ON WITH
THOSE LITTLE INCIDENTS THAT PUNCTUATE
ONE'S EXISTENCE... NORMALLY LEAVING THE
MUM IN QUESTION EVEN MORE PERPLEXED.
YOU FIND THAT...**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



EVERY NOW AND THEN JUNIOR COMES UP WITH
A DUMP THAT IS A HEALTH HAZARD.

**“Youth is a wonderful thing. What a
crime to waste it on children.”**

George Bernard Shaw

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



YOU ARE WOKEN UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE
NIGHT AND THEN REALISE THAT LAST NIGHT'S
FROLICS COULD RESULT IN ANOTHER
WONDERFUL BUNDLE OF JOY...

**“Ask your child what he wants for dinner
only if he’s buying.”**

Fran Lebowitz

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**NATURE TAKES THE PISS SOMETIMES...
THE BEST EXAMPLE IS WHEN A BODY SWAP
IS THE SOLUTION.**

**“There is no reciprocity. Men love women,
women love children, children love hamsters.”**

Alice Thomas Ellis

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



**YOUR HUSBAND IS COMPETING WITH THE KIDS
WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO SKID MARKS.**

Hearsay:
What toddlers do when anyone
mutters a dirty word.

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



IF THERE'S A DISEASE OUT THERE,
YOUR KIDS WILL FIND IT...

**“Madam, there’s no such thing as a tough child
- if you parboil them first for seven hours,
they always come out tender.”**

W.C. Fields

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



IF YOU WANT TO MEET UP WITH YOUR FAMILY,
GO TO THE FRIDGE...

**Woman pre-children: Thankful for holistic
medicine and natural herbs.**

**Woman post-children: Thankful for pediatric
cough syrup guaranteed to 'cause drowsiness'
in young children.**

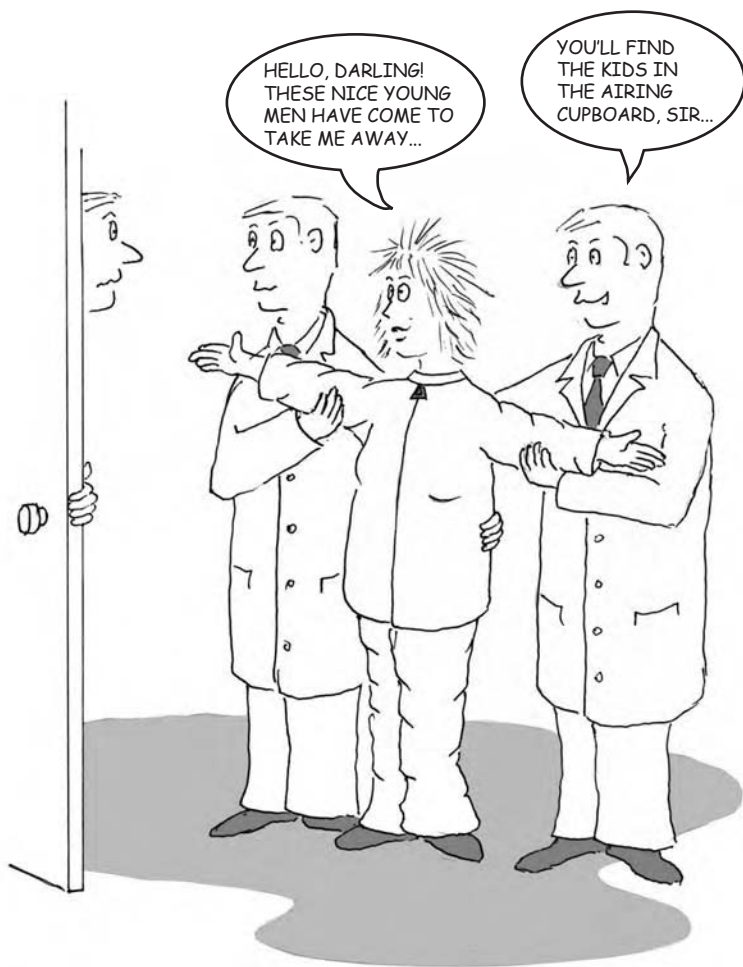
MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



BRINGING UP KIDS AND HOUSEWORK IS THE
ONLY CURE FOR THE COMMON COLD...

**Avenge yourself:
Live long enough to be a
problem to your children.**

MOTHER...WHAT A DAY



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GETTING OLD IS WHEN...

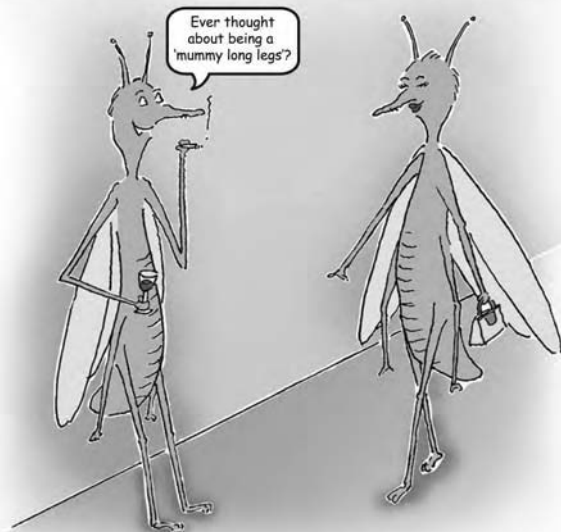


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Oil Diegol Another pint
of Sangria por favor...



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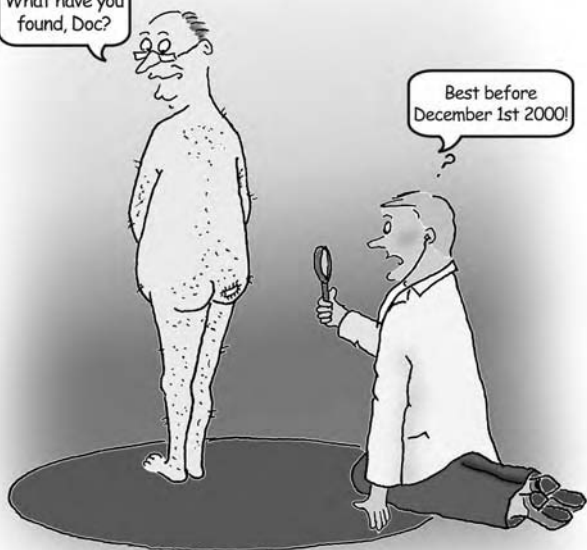
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