2. Parenting has severely changed over the years; from a more rigid and formal structure, to a more informal structure. Before the twentieth century, children were raised to be tough, and to be able to live on their own as early as possible. Therefore, parents did not really dedicate their time to nurturing children. As soon as children were able to walk and do certain tasks, they were put on the farm to start helping out. Parents believed that this would make children strong and ready for the world. They believed that children’s role was to make them happy, by working hard in helping them in the farms. The relationship between parents and children was very structured and formal; as if children were believed to have to bow down to their parents. Parents had no interest in understanding their children, and their likes and dislikes. They believed that children had to submit to them, and be grateful for whatever they provided for them, without question.

On the other hand, parenting in the twenty-first century has become much more lenient when compared to the parenting of previous generations. In this day and age, parents create a much friendlier relationship with their children. Unlike in the olden days, parents are now taking interest in understanding their children. They want to create an environment where their children can express their feeling to them. They take into consideration their children’s feeling in their parenting styles; avoiding to create any resentment from their children. Contrary to the old parenting style, where parents would train their children to live off on their own as early as possible, today’s parents keep their children under their wing for as long as possible. They parent them till they are fully grown adults. They also shelter them from danger and hard labour, unlike the parents of old generations who would intentionally expose their children to hard labour, because they believed it made them tough. Today’s parents have become more aware of the effects their parenting can have on their children long term, emotionally and psychologically. This is a shift from the old belief that parents are always right.

On the other hand, some parents get frustrated by parenting adult children. Due to the changes that occur in the standard of living from generation to generation, finding work and leaving home has become difficult for today’s generation. Many children now pursue post-graduate degrees in order to secure jobs, as more and more people are getting educated. This then means that they require financial support from their parents up to their full adulthood. This then causes frustration to the older generation parents who were financially independent and left home by the time they were their children’s age. They feel as if today’s generation is not working hard enough to become independent.