

# Section 1: Analysis & Insights

## Executive Summary

**Thesis:** The “Helicopter/Snowplow” model creates anxious, dependent children. The antidote is **TRICK**: Trust, Respect, Independence, Collaboration, and Kindness. Wojcicki (the “Godmother of Silicon Valley”) used this to raise three powerhouse daughters (CEO of YouTube, CEO of 23andMe, Medical Researcher) and thousands of students. **Unique Contribution:** Wojcicki applies the **Journalism Model** (Moonshots, deadlines, self-editing, collaborative teams) to parenting. She treats children as adults-in-training, giving them radical autonomy (e.g., letting 5-year-olds walk to the store) to build “Grit” and self-efficacy. **Target Outcome:** A child who can think for themselves, advocate for themselves, and cares about the world (Kindness).

## Chapter Breakdown

- **Part I: TRICK:** Unpacking the 5 values.
- **Part II: The Method:** Applying TRICK to early childhood, school, and adolescence.
- **Part III: The Result:** Creating citizens who contribute.

## Nuanced Main Topics

### The TRICK Framework

1. **Trust:** The foundation. If you don’t trust them, they won’t trust themselves.
2. **Respect:** Treating their ideas as valid, not “cute.” Not dictating their future.
3. **Independence:** Doing nothing for them that they can do for themselves.
4. **Collaboration:** Parenting is not a dictatorship; it’s a co-working space.
5. **Kindness:** Success without kindness is emptiness. ### The “20% Time” Rule Based on Google’s policy, Wojcicki advocates letting children have 20% of their time entirely under their own control. No scheduled activities, no homework—just “what do you want to do?” This is where innovation happens. ### Failure as Editing In journalism, a bad draft isn’t a failure; it’s just a draft that needs **editing**. Wojcicki teaches kids to view life mistakes (bad grades, broken relationships) as “bad drafts.” You don’t quit; you revise.

# Section 2: Actionable Framework

## The Checklist

- ☐ **The “Trust” Walk:** Let them do something slightly “unsafe” (walk to a store, cook a meal) to prove you trust them.
- ☐ **The 20% Time Block:** Designate Saturday morning as “The Kid’s Choice” (no input from you).

- ❑ **The Collaboration Dinner:** Discuss a family problem (e.g., budget, vacation) and give them a vote.
- ❑ **The “Edit” Conversation:** When they fail, say “Okay, that’s a rough draft. How do we edit this?”
- ❑ **The Service Project:** Do one act of kindness together every month.

## Implementation Steps (Process)

### Process 1: Building Independence

**Purpose:** To stop helicoptering. **Steps:** 1. **Audit:** List 3 things you do for them (tie shoes, pack lunch, email teacher). 2. **Handover:** “Starting Monday, you are the Lunch Captain.” 3. **Training:** Show them once. Watch them once. Then walk away. 4. **Consequence:** If they forget lunch, they are hungry. (Do not rescue).

### Process 2: Collaborative Discipline

**Purpose:** To gain buy-in. **Steps:** 1. **The Problem:** “We are fighting about screen time.” 2. **The Ask:** “What do you think is a fair rule?” 3. **The Negotiation:** They say “Unlimited.” You say “1 hour.” You agree on “2 hours, but strict off-time.” 4. **The Contract:** Write it down. Sign it.

### Process 3: The “Moonshot” (Passion Projects)

**Purpose:** To teach agency. **Steps:** 1. **Idea:** “I want to start a band/blog/garden.” 2. **Plan:** Ask “What do you need?” (Don’t buy it yet). 3. **Pitch:** Have them pitch you the budget/plan. 4. **Execute:** Let them run it. Only help when asked.

## Common Pitfalls

- **Trusting but Verifying (Too Much):** If you check their homework after saying you trust them, you don’t trust them.
- **Respecting only “Good” Ideas:** Respecting their wish to play video games is harder—but deeper—than respecting their wish to learn violin.
- **Kindness as Weakness:** Being kind doesn’t mean having no boundaries. It means holding boundaries firmly but warmly.