

Encouragement— The language of Love

Discussion

'Parents want their boys to become high officers, to earn large incomes, acquire wealth and lead a life of comfort and ease. But they do not consider for a moment how they should make the children realise the need to develop good qualities. It is up to parents to teach the children to cultivate right attitudes and moral qualities. To encourage them merely to get on in life is not proper.'

Sathya Sai Baba, Kunwarba Auditorium, Brindhaavan, 5 February 1984,
<http://www.sssbpt.info/ssspeaks/volume29/sss29-03.pdf>

'Recognize the great potentials of the child. In the tender hearts of the children, there is much potentiality of devotion and attachment to higher ideals and objectives; this can be developed and cultivated by you. Do not think that they do not know anything; that you can divert them any way you wish; this is a mistake. Recognize the great potentials of the child; adopt such methods as the child himself might suggest or indicate, Help the child to reach Godliness and become aware of its high destiny. Do not presume that the child is some inferior personality or that is incapable of attaining the heights.'

Sathya Sai Baba, Bangalore, 10th July 1974
<http://sssbpt.info/ssspeaks/volume12/sss12.pdf>

'Raising the standard of living must also mean raising ethical, moral and spiritual standards. Then only can education lead to progress in human values and harmony in social life.'

Sathya Sai Baba, Vidhya Vihaar, Hyderabad, 8th March 1981
<http://sssbpt.info/ssspeaks/volume15/sss15.pdf>

'Education must award self-confidence, the courage to depend on one's own strength. To-day, one emerges from the process of education with a hardened heart. Education has as its goal the fostering of sympathy with the less fortunate, but the knowledge and skill earned by one are diverted to selfish ends. Einstein explained to a friend why he spent sleepless nights and Gandhi too once gave the same reason to a questioner: "The hardness which the heart gains through education"! The friend told Einstein, "But you are a product of the same educational system." Einstein retorted, "I am what I am, not because of it but in spite of it!"'

Sathya Sai Baba during the Inauguration of the Administrative Building of Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning at Vidhyaagiri, 22nd November 1982
<http://sssbpt.info/ssspeaks/volume15/sss15.pdf>

Activities

1. Encouragement is the best way to deal with mis-behavior.