

You Reap What You Sow

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This is not news, and I am sure it is not new to you either. It is an age-old adage that we grew up hearing.

When your parents would warn you against a certain action, which you would do anyway, they would come back to you with this simple line, “You Reap What You Sow.”

What they did not explain however, is that not only do you reap the same as what you sowed, but you also reap after you have sowed, and you reap more than you have sowed.

When harvest time comes, the farmer who sowed a single kernel of corn produces ears of corn with multiple kernels.

We can see the same process in our own lives and in society in general.

Nothing in life ever just happens. There must be a cause in order for there to be effect.

This is the thought that comes to mind whenever I hear people talk about “kids these days”. We are raising a discipline starved generation.

I find myself wondering at the kind of seed that we as parents and as society in general, have planted in them that they should turn out the way that they have.

Have we set boundaries and standards for our kids? What happens when they test those limits? Are we as parents disciplined enough to have a firm ‘no’ and stick to it?

When we discard discipline, we court disaster and flirt with danger. It is akin to driving down a road you have never travelled on before, with no road markings, on a wet misty night.

This is exactly what is becoming of our nation and this current generation. We have shifted the goal posts and lowered the standards.

Values and parameters have become foreign and the word ‘no’ has since become the worst swear word.

We are raising an, “I’m just doing me,” breed that is becoming increasingly ignorant of the cost. A generation of instant gratification and no regard for the future.

When people have no bounds, they become barbaric. The recent scourge of violence in schools is a prime example of what happens when we raise kids that have no fear of consequences.

It starts in our homes with the kind of programmes that we allow our kids to watch. Violence, pornography, witchcraft and all kinds of wickedness are available at the click of a button or better yet, on the R10 000 iPhone you give to your eight-year-old.

All these devices have parental controls that parents never bother to learn or implement. We have given our parental responsibilities over to technology and media that is driven by ratings and money, not by what is in your child’s best interest.

The very laws and policies enacted in our country are not in any child’s best interest.

It is not right that a 12-year-old can access contraceptives with no parental guidance.

If things should go haywire? No problem, they can legally have an abortion without any parental consent.

When their academic performance starts to drop, then the pass mark gets dropped.

If they still fail then they get pushed to the next grade, until they get to matric and the system is done with them whether or not they pass. And if you dare try to smack some discipline into your child, you get arrested.

It is little wonder then that drug and alcohol addiction, violent crimes and divorce rates are at an all-time high.

People are living on a constant visual diet of violence, drugs, alcohol, pornography, infidelity, promiscuity, witchcraft and all kinds of wickedness on the television and even social media.

If we do not counter this with the benefit of discipline and training on obedience, then hearts cannot be convicted, minds cannot be corrected, and character cannot be cultured.

If we continue to lead our children down a road they have never travelled before, with no road markings, on a wet misty night, then a crash is almost inevitable.

We need to ask ourselves what kind of future we want for them and then look at the seed we are planting. What kind of harvest are we going to reap?

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