

57. Parenting

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Are parent/child bonds fixed or do they change?

A question that many parents would be interested in hearing the answer to. Salumet starts by stating that children do not belong to their parents. A child is only 'loaned'. Bonds are not always strong and that comes from the freewill of both parties. There can be power struggles that should not always be seen as negative. Learning works both ways, as parents and children with testify! (15/10/01)

Sara: Can I ask a question about parent and child bonds? Is it natural for the bonds to remain very strong throughout the whole of the human life, for the parent and child bonds, or do they sometimes change.

You do not *belong*—I believe that is a word you would use—to each other. It is a bond which is there for this one lifetime in the parent/child way. It may not always be that way, but may be changed in another lifetime to that of other relationships, shall I say. The bond need not be strong, that is not the purpose of it, that is not the purpose of living. The child is loaned to you for this one lifetime, so do not assume that there will always be strong bonds between parent and child.

Sara: But it's down to freewill really, isn't it, between both parties?

All is dependent upon the freewill that all of you have been endowed with, of course, but remember what I have told you that there *is* a contract between you, if I may use that earthly word, before either of you come to this form of life. But what you have to remember is that once you are joined with a physical body, then the thinking becomes rather distorted, may I say, and freewill will kick into place and many things can be altered; because you know that not all tread the pathway that they have chosen to go. But because there is a child-parent link, I would say to you my dear friend, think of each other as Spirit and not as the physical beings, then the understanding will be fuller and the understanding for this lifetime will become greater, which will enable you to work together in that true mission which you have chosen. When you speak of parent and child you are speaking of a power struggle, which should not be. Whether you are 40 earthly years or 4 earthly years should matter not. A parent's job in your world is to guide, is to give to that Spirit the love which it comes for, the guidance which it seeks and the

knowledge which it is trying to obtain—but you do not own. This is difficult for many of you, but again I say to you my dear friends, think spiritually.

Sara: And it is true also in families, we often have a very limited view of family, but souls are sometimes older, parents can be younger souls than children. (Yes.) There is so much variety I imagine in families.

Remember that the child can teach you much, if you will but allow it and allow—and I return again to *thinking*—if you will use but clear thinking, that a child can bring you much knowledge, much happiness, but if you are only thinking along *physical* lines, then you will only come across difficulties. I know it is not easy to always think on a spiritual level, but my dear friends I have told you often enough that only will all of this life become clearer to you, when you begin to look and act as the Spirits that you are. You do not change, it is only that you have become restricted within the physical garb. This is the problem always and that for most of you, the spiritual memory has been erased, but you know the reason for that, that you would not learn otherwise. And of course there are exceptions as you full well know, there are those children who bring to this lifetime memories from our side of life, memories of previous times, who grow to adulthood and they are the ones who become your developed mediums, as you call them, in this lifetime. Does that help you? (Yes.) Do not always assume that struggle between parent and child is negative, it is not. It is the outworking of karmic debts sometimes. I know it will give you something to think about. I know you have concerns my dear friend about raising of your children. I know sometimes you do not fully understand the ways of young children, but I say to you, they are teaching you.

Sara: Yes, I'm sure of that! (*giggles*)

So I will leave you with that. (Thank you—)

Technology and addiction

Many parents are concerned about the degree to which their youngsters are on their computers and mobile phones. Sara raises this concern with Salumet who agrees that one important aspect of parenting is to protect our children. (26/1/09)

Sara: I wrote a letter today to try to raise awareness about computers and technology for children, and I thought at the time I felt I had a good motive for doing this. Do you think it's a good thing to do, using words in that way—the written word?

When you talk of technology, you are speaking of something that has been part of the progress—I use that word loosely, 'progress', of your world. I would say that progress will never go backwards—it must move forward—but what I would say is that each individual is responsible for how they feel and act in any given situation. Therefore, as a parent I would suggest that if your views are strong, then you must follow that instinctive pathway.

Sara: Yes, I felt compelled to do it, because I feel it's not that the technology itself is wrong, but it's the degree to which I think many children are exposed to it.

Yes. It is the *love* of something which is not good—yes, I fully agree with you. All things have a purpose, but any abuse of that technology can only be damaging, but again I say,

responsibility, especially when you speak of youngsters, must lie with parents and your societies.

Sara: Yes, because I feel that many parents are using technology as a form of free baby-sitting (**yes**). It's not that the parents are necessarily aware of what they are doing and the effect it is having. So, in a sense, many have become a victim, I feel, of this way of life. So really what I wanted to do was to try to raise awareness about the danger of the addiction to these things.

Yes, there is never any harm in sowing seeds that would allow any person to stop and consider actions, especially when there is great responsibility for the children in your world. So, I would say continue if you feel strongly enough, but I cannot say that it is all negative, because that would be an irresponsible statement.

Sara: No, I agree and I'm not saying it is wrong but ...

Yes, I understand, yes. If parents cannot protect young children then your world would indeed be a place to feel concerned about.

[Any given situation can create good or bad](#)

Salumet explains that there are often two sides to situations and so not clear cut. However, parenting includes the responsibility of the child's safety. Our lives are, at least in part, to experience difficulties and problems for our growth. (16/2/09)

Sara: Salumet, we were talking about the 13-year old boy who's become a father recently. I presume that much good can come from this happening, and we were debating about the fact that this was meant to happen—meant to be. Would you care to comment?

Mankind must live in the world as it is now. There is no doubt of that; of course, any given situation can create good or bad. But that is why I have said to you: 'good', 'bad', 'right', 'wrong', are all but one whole. So yes, there is good, in as much as the outpouring of love for that new-born child will bring together many people, but also it might bring hardship to many people. So again, you have that division of what is good and what is bad.

Sara: And I can also see that it would perhaps make parents think a little more about protecting their children from having this happen at such a young age, which could be seen as a good result—a good effect.

Every parent in this world has taken the responsibility for the child within its care. But remember you do not own any child—they are on loan to you. But of course, on Earth, there are responsibilities which people follow. All I will say to you is that you must follow what is within your heart; be guided by that light, by the knowledge you have gained, and no matter what problems come to you in life, you will learn to deal with them. There is no clear-cut answer for Earth's problems, but that is why, or *partly* why you have come here, to experience many difficulties and problems. But remember what I have said to you in past times: it is not the importance of the problem, but the way that you deal with it—with love, with foresight, with understanding and with the help of us here, in spirit. I hope that has helped you.

Sara: Yes, thank you, yes.

Messages to both teachers and parents

Salumet gives powerful guidance to those responsible for the development of youngsters in our world today. (18/5/09)

I was interested to listen to one of you ask for help for the children in your world—children specific to the life of the gentleman.

Graham: Yes.

But what I would like to say to you this time is: it is now coming, that the children and the youth of your world must be made aware much more, of their own spiritual needs. This, you know, is a responsibility, not only for parents and close families, but also those peoples who are part of their everyday lives, such as yourself, my dear friend, (*Graham*) but all who come into contact must show these youth and children what is good about *Life*. We would wish that humankind could move gently away from so much materialism that holds your world at this time to ransom—ransom of spirit. The children of your world deserve to know the truth; the truth as you have come to know it, the truth that never changes, the truth of love—love of your fellow man, of each and every human-being, no matter what their status. So, my dear friends, I reiterate to you the simplicities of my teaching and my purpose here is to give you the very simple truth of what life should be about.

George: Yes, that is a very important message for these times (**yes**). I feel there are so many children who *only* get to observe materialism (**yes**), and that is a very sad situation.

We are happy with the way your planet, in general, is moving. There has been a raise of consciousness—yes, we see it and many people now think clearly for themselves, but your children and your youth are much more vulnerable. They are bombarded from every direction with so many gifts of materialism. You must help them, my dear friends, to return to those simpler things in life, such as ‘love’, ‘understanding’, ‘gentleness’—all the attributes of spirit. I know it is a great task that we ask of you, but it is achievable.

George: Perhaps, observing the beauties of nature is a pathway towards that status.

Yes, it is so untrue that small children cannot appreciate the beauty that surrounds them. I am sure, my dear friends, that you have watched infants who are fascinated by the smallest creatures and insects of your world. That is to be encouraged.

(*Agreed*)

Lilian: Yes—as they grow up.

It should be an ongoing teaching.

Lilian: I remember taking my youngest grandson for a walk and we were looking for bird’s nests. I found one and I gently took out the egg and showed him and he asked if he could hold it. I suppose he was about 3-years old, maybe, and he actually kissed the egg. He probably wouldn’t believe me if I told him now.

Yes.

Lilian: It’s a shame they lose that wonder,

But that is where the responsibility of adults comes into play, yes. Children are precious gifts of life and should be treated as such ... yes.

Graham: It’s getting better for children in schools. They get an opportunity to speak now, more so than before, where we now have things like ‘circle time’, where children are

encouraged to sit in a circle. Nobody is any more important than anyone else, because they are in the circle. They all have a chance to speak. It's quite a responsibility to share such a circle-time meeting **(yes)**. I've found this to be a very good way to enable the children to have their voice and to feel valued.

And I am sure that you also must feel the blessings of doing such work, yes. We know of your difficulties, but do not forget the blessings also. What better way is there than directing a child on the right pathway of life (yes) and then you have that effect go down each generation of human beings. That is what you should try to strive towards. Yes, you have the knowledge and it is good that the word is spread, but all I say to you, my dear friends is: do not forget those special, small human beings. You should listen to them sometimes; you might well learn something.

(Agreed)

Graham: Yes, I'm sure—I'll do that.

Thank you. Are there any questions about children?

Graham: You have answered this question before when I was asking you about why children can be so challenging: You said that materialism was largely to blame for this; that the values are wrong. It's difficult thinking of a way forward within a school environment ... the best way of helping children, who are incredibly challenging, because in the school I work in, the children are at my school *because* they are very challenging—it's a Special School. I wonder about the best way of helping these children, because they get so upset and so stressed and they can behave so badly really, by what we would consider behavioural standards **(yes)**, so what's the best way of helping them? I suppose, it's what you were saying before about teaching them spiritual messages of gentleness, kindness, and patience?

And, of course, by example.

Graham: By example, yes.

My dear friend, before you lies a stairway with many stairs. I say to you: begin at the bottom and live in one moment of time (yes). Do not try to go to the top of the stairway too quickly—that will not work. 'Love', 'understanding', 'patience' and 'example'—those are my words to you (yes). I do not say it is easy, but it is most worthwhile (yes), and of course, as I have just said to our dear lady friend, that positive thinking; remember again, I return to my teaching of thought and that most powerful ally (yes). Yes.

Graham: Yes, staying positive isn't easy when you've a particularly challenging group waiting for you.

Yes, I understand, yes.

Graham: But it's extremely strange that we should feel equally towards all children, but I often find myself feeling a particular something towards those children who are incredibly challenging. Their need is so great, it makes you feel a warmth towards them.

Yes, that is your own spiritual being, being attracted to those in need and being able to offer the help that is needed (yes). That is why all children are bright lights. Remember that; and remember it in a spiritual manner, not in a physical way.

Graham: Yes. I have found that children respond well to touch: when you touch their shoulder or their arm ... when you are around them, it's a way of communicating that can be very effective. I've found that they do respond positively to touch. Sometimes they like to slap your hand; put their hand up to your hand, or something—they all do their funny little things, but it does seem to be a form of communication, of mutual respect or assurance or something that does seem to help them. In England we're not quite used to

that type of thing. It comes from America—they call it ‘High Fives’—where you can touch the hands and it does seem to work.

It matters not which country you live in. To be tactile is good for all peoples, not only children; but what is happening is nothing unusual, it is just a blending of spiritual energies. That is why it is comforting, that is why it works. Again, look to the spiritual equivalence and not the physical. You understand?

Graham: Yes.

George: Perhaps, this is one area where society in general *does* set a good example, because the touch, the handshake when people meet, it is one small area where the example is set, of touch **(yes)**.

Sara: I think the Italians do it better!

(Laughter)

I will bow to your knowledge!

(More laughter)

George: But one of the difficulties of the materialist society is that so many *bad* examples are set!

Yes, I do not wish you to forego all materialism in your lives—that would be foolish; but what is important is to put it in its correct place, in your *spiritual* life. You understand?

George: Yes, unfortunately, when bad examples are set, the press seem to publicise these, and the situation *appears* to be even worse **(yes)**. This is unfortunate within our society.

If only you could look upon these small children, almost like a blank canvass, whereupon the most beautiful picture can be created. That is something you could keep to the forefront of your thinking, because that is what they are, these *beautiful spiritual beings*; and they want only to be loved, nurtured and guided and to know and feel that they are loved. That is all anyone wishes for their lives. I am sure if you were to ask anyone, and I mean *anyone*, even people who dwell within your prisons in the world; what more do they desire than the love of someone.

(Affirmed)

It is most important, my dear friends, that you nurture and cultivate the love in your lives today, and I wish to leave you with those words, those simple words—and it is a very small word in your vocabulary, but the most powerful.

Sara: That’s a powerful teaching, Salumet. Thank you very much. Wonderful words!