





# WEEKLY BULLETIN

# **CELEBRATING THE COMMUNITY**

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# **DEAN'S ARTICLE** The Big "R"

"She/He made me do it!" "Everyone's doing it so I thought it is okay to do it as well." "I did not think my actions through and just did it for fun." "Why am I the only one being punished when the others did it too?"

In my career as a teacher, I have heard these statements countless of times uttered by students during our talk with them because of their discipline cases. All these statements are alluding towards "lack of responsibility" and it is an important trait that students need to learn.

I believe that among the many qualities or traits that parents would want their children to have, responsibility can be easily part of their top 5. It is understandable why adults would like the young ones learn this trait because becoming a responsible person will make them successful later in navigating not only their school life but their life in general.

Responsibility is such a big term and can mean many things. The article below, taken from The Center for Parenting Education, is a good resource for teachers, parents or guardians to read as it explains succinctly the many meanings of responsibility and more importantly shares insights on how to inculcate responsibility to our wards, who will become adults like us later on.

#### THE BIG PICTURE: TEACHING RESPONSIBILITY TO YOUR CHILDREN

#### What is Responsibility?

When asked what traits parents would like their children to have now and as adults, one of the most common responses is "to be responsible." This is a broad term which means many different things, including:

- being dependable so people know they can count on you,
- keeping one's word and agreements,
- meeting one's commitments,
- doing something to the best of one's ability,
- being accountable for one's behavior,
- accepting credit when you do things right and acknowledging mistakes,
- being a contributing member of one's family, community and society.

Being responsible is a key to children's success both in school and in the larger world when they grow up.





# **DEAN'S ARTICLE** The Big "R"

#### Obedience vs. Responsibility Parents often confuse obedience with responsibility.

Most parents would love their children to do what the parent asks, to follow directions and to not question their authority – understandable and important goals when raising children. However, this is not responsibility!! These behaviors would be classified as obedience.

Over time, most parents want children to accept ownership for a task or chore – the children do it because it needs to be done and accept that it is their obligation to do it. Over time, they may even initiate doing a task "because it needs to be done" – not because they are being told to do it. This attitude would be called responsibility.

Parents may have to give up having things done exactly as they would like them to be done and on their exact timetable in order for a child to move from obedience to responsibility. But allowing a child to "do it his way" will encourage a feeling of pride in accomplishment and foster a sense of responsibility.

#### How Involved Should You Be?

Considering the shift from obedience to responsibility raises the issue of how involved you should be in helping your children to meet their commitments and complete tasks.

- Not wanting our children to fail can lead parents to do too much for their children; when this happens, the children don't learn to take on the responsibility themselves.
- On the other hand, there are times when children do need guidance, support or information so that they can learn how to be responsible.

#### Finding the balance between over-managing and under-parenting is an art.

Deciding when it is appropriate to step in and when it is more effective to let go and give the child space to do it his way will depend on the child's maturity, past behavior with responsibility in general and with this task in particular, the developmental task the child is working on, the child's temperament, and many other considerations.

Instilling the attitudes and traits that make children responsible occurs over years and involves many different pieces that make up the parenting puzzle.







#### The Dual Role of Parents

If you have ever wondered if you are being either too strict or too lenient, or if you are giving your children enough love, then you have stumbled upon considerations about the two important roles that parents have. Each has a part in helping your children become responsible.

#### **Nurturing/Caring Role**

When you are carrying out the Nurturing/Caring Role, you are being kind and loving to your children. It is in this role that you listen to your children, support them, spend time with them, and are affectionate with them.

As the Nurturing Parent, you communicate unconditional love – no matter what happens, you love your children just because they exist and are yours. This allows your children to take risks, to make mistakes, knowing that they have their parents' unconditional support and love.

#### Structure/Executive Role

When you are fulfilling the responsibilities of the Structure/Executive Role, you are setting limits and boundaries, imposing discipline, teaching your children how they should behave, passing on your values, and giving guidance.

By not meeting their needs immediately and not giving them everything they want, you provide an opportunity for your children to tolerate some frustration, delay gratification, become less impulsive and less self-centered.

You set standards of behavior that you expect your children to meet. You establish consequences for breaking rules and you follow through on those consequences. You teach your children to be appreciative for what they have.

It is through the Executive Role that you hold your children accountable for their behavior, and that in turn, fosters the development of a sense of responsibility.

#### **Dual Roles Combined**

**Children need their parents to carry out both roles**. Children are more likely to accept the limits you set and are more likely to want to meet your expectations (i.e. be responsible) when you provide a warm, caring and supportive relationship that underlies the discipline you impose.

Healthy parenting occurs when children are raised in a home in which there is unconditional love along with clear boundaries, limits, rules and consequences.







#### How High Self-Esteem Leads to Responsibility

It has been shown that children with high self-esteem tend to be more responsible. They are better at:

- waiting for what they want they believe that with persistence and practice they can reach a goal.
- acknowledging their mistakes and learning from them.
- sticking to a task.
- being willing to ask for help.
- being clear about their strengths and weaknesses.
- taking risks and trying new things.
- believing that they can solve problems they encounter.

How can parents instill a high sense of self-esteem in their children? One way is by providing messages that build each of the two essential components of self-esteem, feeling lovable and feeling capable.

#### **Feeling Lovable**

Children feel lovable when they have a sense of worth, when they feel appreciated and loved for who they are, regarding themselves as important and worthy of being loved.

To tell your children that you love them unconditionally, you can send "Being" Messages. For example:

"I will always love you."

- "I am so glad you are my son/daughter."
- "I love spending time with you."

"Welcome Home!"

#### Feeling Capable

Children feel capable when they have a sense of power, competency and control over their lives, believe that they can handle challenges and that they are able to make a contribution to their environment, and when they feel pride in accomplishment.

It is the capable part of Self-esteem that most ties in to the Executive Role of parents and that fosters responsibility.

When children feel capable, they are more likely to meet their obligations, sign on for new tasks, try their hardest and feel good about what they do. All of these things







#### How High Self-Esteem Leads to Responsibility

You can increase your child's sense of responsibility by helping them to feel that they are capable by sending "Doing" Messages. These messages refer to all the things your children can do, their special areas of talent, and also to their potential and their growth. will increase a child's responsibility.

For example, you can tell your child:

"You were so thorough in doing your research paper – you did a great job of planning in advance how you were going to tackle the project."

"Thank you so much for setting the table – it helped me a lot, and I see you put everything exactly in the right spot."

"I know you can do this."

"You are practicing your backhand so persistently. I bet you will really improve by the class next week."

"I really appreciate that you took out the trash without my having to ask you. That's what I call being responsible."

"I can see that you really are concerned about Grandma – you sent her the get-well card and even called her yesterday. I'm sure that made her feel better."

#### **Over-Indulgence and Teaching Responsibility**

Much has been written these days about the "entitled and over-indulged generation." The traits that these children exhibit are the antithesis of what it takes to be responsible.

Over-indulged children:

- frequently expect things to be done for them that they could do for themselves.
- are demanding.
- do not show gratitude or appreciation.
- often have an abundance of 'things' but never feel like they have enough.
- do not tolerate frustration well.
- have a hard time waiting for something that they want.
- do not admit to mistakes.
- do not try to do their best.
- do not think about giving back or being generous, either at home or in the community.







- Three Ways to Over-indulge
- According to Jean Illsley Clark in her book, How Much is Enough?, there are 3 basic ways that parents over-indulge their children.

#### 1. Giving Too Many Things

Giving them too many material things or too many activities without the expectation that they will fulfill obligations. This would clearly interfere with a child becoming responsible, either about his commitments or for his things. Examples of giving too much would be:

- A 5-year old boy gets a new video game as it is released even though he does not take care of his things and does not show appreciation for what he has.
- A 13-year old girl takes private music lessons, but often doesn't practice because she also is on the travel tennis team and is on the student council. Sometimes she misses the tennis practices on Friday nights because she prefers being with her friends.

#### 2. Doing Too Much

**Doing things for children that they are able to do for themselves.** This results in them not learning skills of everyday living and how to care for themselves. This also occurs when parents do not require them to be contributing members of the family. The child is not expected to be responsible, is not given the opportunity to do so and does not learn the skills and attitudes that will lead to responsibility.

Examples of this type of over-indulgence would be:

- The mother of a 5-year old hangs up his coat for him even though he can reach the hook himself.
- 13-year old Brian never makes his own social arrangements; his mother does that for him.
- The father of a 4-year old still gets him water from the refrigerator even though the child has a very steady hand and is capable of pouring the water himself.

#### 3. Not Expecting Enough

Not expecting enough or demanding enough of children. This has to do with parents **not requiring their children to meet their obligations or the parents' expectations, or to face the consequences of their actions.** These parents do not hold their children accountable for their behavior, they make excuses for them, and 'bail' them out when they get in trouble or slack off.







- 10-year old Billy is supposed to take out the trash, but when it is cold out, his father does it for him.
- 7-year old Alex begs to stay up to watch television until 10:00 pm on a school night even though his usual bedtime is 8:00. His father lets him even though he knows Alex will be too tired the next day.
- 3-year old Sasha's father cleans up her toys for her after she is finished instead of having her participate in the effort.
- 14-year old Sam makes plans to go out, even though there had been family plans to celebrate Grandma's birthday that night; the parents change their plans to accommodate Sam.

#### How to Avoid Over-Indulgence

By carrying out the "Executive" role, parents can avoid the pitfalls of over- indulgence, help their children to feel good about themselves and learn to be responsible.

They can:

- set limits
- say no
- hold children accountable
- establish and enforce rules
- set expectations
- encourage children to give back in some way
- assign chores and make sure they get done
- set and follow through with consequences

#### Parting Thoughts:

To develop responsibility in children/students is a long and tedious process. Just like any skill, being responsible is a teachable skill that students must put into practice. Adults – parents, guardians and/or teachers – should be committed and consistently following through. If we want them to become more independent and take ownership of their actions, they need a positive learning environment where adults teach and model the responsible behaviours they want their children/students to catch.

Shared by: Dexter Higinio C. Canicula





### **LEARNING JOURNEY TO POCARI SWEAT FACTORY**

GO SWEAT, GO ION!

By: Thomas Kho Rusady, Steven Mulya, Evangeline Pranoto

Pocari Sweat, a well-known health drink known for its distinctive unique and fresh taste. Yet despite its recognition, many individuals are still uninformed of its primary purpose and numerous health benefits towards the body. On February 2 2023, the Year 10 students of NationalHigh Jakarta School were given the privilege of visiting one of the Pocari Sweat's manufacturing factories in PT Amerta Indah Otsuka. This field trip marked an age of transition from the pandemic and online learning towards normalcy, traditional face-to-face educational programmes. An ecstatic air of excitement filled the hallways as the students headed towards the bus, prepared for the journey onwards.

As soon as we arrived at the factory, we were escorted into a conference room called the "Brilliant Hall". Tablets were provided to every student to be further engaged in the presentation and other fun activities. The staff enlightened us on a brand new revelation about Pocari Sweat and its primary purpose, which emphasized quenching dehydration by matching our body's water contents composed of water and ions.

Information was conveyed about the production process behind the famous Pocari Sweat bottles. 30% of all Pocari bottles' components are recyclable materials, and by 2030, are expected to be fully recyclable. Students were showcased the history of the company Otsuka and their mission to make the world a healthier place. Their mission was evident in the high level of hygiene that was maintained in the entire building.

"I was shocked by the cleanliness of the factory. It was incredibly well-kept and the workers were friendly." said Sarah, from Y10E.

Behind the simple design of the Pocari bottle is a meticulous process for production. The resin is transformed into preform which is then moulded into a bottle-like shape through operating machinery; The staple Pocari label is then plastered onto the bottle along with its caps tightly sealed on top. Quality control checks are then performed by workers to meet industry and international standards.

Afterwards, we were invited to participate in an immersive 3D virtual game experience. The "ExplorION Theatre" made use of modern technology by using a motion tracking device to capture our movements which translated into live inputs of the game.

"The experience was highly interactive and enabled us to exercise. It was unique and we've never experienced anything like this in our previous field trips," said Madeleine from Y10G.

At the end of the field trip, all students were given a small gift bag containing various products from Otsuka as a token of appreciation from the staff.

Overall, we, the Year 10s found the field trip to be a worthwhile and valuable experience. It was thoroughly enjoyable to discover the behind-the-scenes of a well-loved product. Especially since the excursion was a return to regular field trips we've missed after a long three years.





## LEARNING JOURNEY TO POCARI SWEAT FACTORY GALLERY







### PAN-ASIA PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS COMPETITION (PAP)



We cordially invite your child/ward to join the PAP International Mathematics Competition. This competition aims to motivate students, enhance their critical thinking abilities and foster a passion for the art of solving mathematical problems. We believe that this experience will be both rewarding and enjoyable for your child/ward.

If you are keen to let your child participate in this competition, please see the details below.

- A. Eligibility The competition
  B. Date of the Competition
  C. Due of the Registration
  D. Amount of the
- F. Link for the Contest Info https://tinyurl.com/papinfo22G. Link for the Sample Questions https://tinyurl.com/PAPsamples2021

All contestants will receive PAP certificates.

First, Second, Third Places and Merit Awards are in the percentage of 10%, 20%, 30% and 40%. Students placing Third and above may compete in the Pan-Asia Pacific International Mathematics Invitation Competition 2023 Finals in the coming summer.





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### ANNOUNCEMENT







