

The importance of Fathers, Teachers, and Coaches in the lives of young people.

This article will be relevant 100 years from now and beyond. **I don't think I will ever write anything that will come close to the importance of this piece.** The readers should range in age from 12- 100, it is important for males and females.

As I write this in April of 2023, I see a drop-off in the relevance and quality on this subject. **I am not taking a swipe at all Fathers, Teachers and Coaches, but I believe we can all do better and can learn from our mistakes.** I have made my share and I will admit to still making mistakes now and will in the future. I hope this is a wakeup call for everybody, that we will all strive to be better for society.

I will discuss first the relevance of Fathers to children and to society in general. I will start out saying this is no attack on divorced or single mothers. There are many mothers in society who are doing great work being a mother and a father and I tip my hat to them. I also have a friend whose wife abandoned her two young daughters, and this man is doing an excellent job in the role of father and mother.

What is my definition of a good father? Before I go further, I will admit to crossing the line at times and making mistakes. But I have a saying that each generation is supposed to learn from the previous generations' triumphs and failures.

A father needs to be a good role model for his children and all the young people he associates with in public. I was taught from my Grandpa and Dad to watch your language in front of women and young people.

We need to be positive with our children and big motivators, as they go through life. Stay involved as they get older with advice, but they need to make their own decisions. Let them know you are always there for conversation, good or bad.

I went to almost all my children's teachers' meetings and too almost all of their activities. **Becky always said she could find me at all her dance recitals because my neck would always stretch about two feet so I can see her real well!** My point is to be involved in your children's life and if you are, you will be rewarded.

My wife Peggy was an excellent mother with my kids when they were young; she worked with them on their reading and other homework. Then as they got older, and they needed extra help we encouraged them to see their teacher after hours or see a tutor if needed.

Discipline is love and it builds strong character that will last them a lifetime. My Dad always stressed to never tell a lie and I followed his advice with Jeff and Becky. My son only received one spanking and Becky received a few more and I explained to her why, when she was around 23 years old.

I saw something a while back in the Black Community that gave me a good feeling inside with a young girl. Her school had a father daughter dance, and she had no male in her life. So, a Black Father of one of her classmates put the word out there was a need for this girl to have a male with her for this dance. **I am very pleased to say, there were 10-15 Black Men who showed up in formal attire.**

The statistics prove without a doubt the females without a father are more likely to get pregnant outside of marriage at a young age and girls

will find themselves in situations they shouldn't be in. The figures show with boys they are likely to go the way of being involved with criminal activity and drug usage. Many boys and girls fail to make average grades and a good percent drop out of school.

We need all males to stand up and take responsibility for their actions and to be role models for those who have no real men in their lives and to make a difference. Do not go along with the liberals when they talk about toxic masculinity and their desire to feminize males. Be a motivator and positive with your family and community. But do not allow the uncivil and the criminal element to dominate in your neighborhood. Maybe we can start a local men's club that is active in different localities in America under the umbrella of Conservative Wisdom United. I am open to this, so drop me a line and we can get the ball rolling.

Teachers from kindergarten through college are with our young people sometimes more than we are. They can be an influence whether it is good or bad, and we will discuss both.

Conservative Wisdom United will be a leader in rewarding the educators who are at the top of their game. These are the ones who have passion and go the extra yard for their students. I had an instructor Mr. Mihevic who was my history teacher, my junior year of high school. I really enjoyed his class, he made it interesting, fun and he created an atmosphere for you to have the desire to work hard to make better grades. He had a question of the day, and we would all discuss the issue and then get to our studies.

I believe in teaching up, which means if you have a D student, you push him to be a C student and a C student gets encouragement to be a B

student and then right up the line. Our K through 12 grades is very important for our children and parents because there are relations built that can last a long time.

Parent involvement at parent teacher meetings is at the top of the list as it helps our young people to develop and shows we care and that we are a team with their teachers. I really enjoyed talking to my children's teachers at each level and getting to know some of them.

Guess what, I have talked to many teachers and at some schools virtually no parents show up and then they blame everybody but themselves when their children stray down a dark path. We are going to do our best around the country to change this attitude with the help from our members and some ideas I have that I can't wait to share.

A huge problem in our education system is the liberal slant and indoctrination of our young people. Conservative Wisdom United will be concentrating on our schools and will call out teachers and administration when they cross the line.

I think teachers are expecting less from students and accepting mediocrity instead of raising standards. This has a lot to do with parents not being involved, and if that is the case, why should teachers push students if the parents could care less?

The lack of discipline and respect for others in mainly the urban schools is of great concern and it needs to be discussed with honesty. This situation must get better, or we will all suffer together. I feel for the teachers in the big cities, it is like a war zone with no end in sight.

The rural areas also have problems with poor parenting and many grandparents are raising their grandchildren. **I tip my hat to the**

grandparents for stepping up to the plate. They have a very difficult job, and they shouldn't be in this situation. Simply because the parents are doing drugs, and many are living their lives as criminals. Our teachers are facing an uphill battle with very little support and not enough pay.

Our schools are not up to par for several reasons, and it is time to get a handle on the situation. There's plenty of blame to pass around the room. This is a situation that needs everybody working together and the truth is to get the liberals out of our schools! **Our children are being indoctrinated by the liberal mindset of poor me and to blame others for their lack of success.**

It is a must for parents to take an interest in their children's education and to show up at parent teachers' meetings. Your children reflect you as a parent, so urge them to be the best they can be and get as much education as possible or to learn a trade.

Last but not least are the coaches for our young athletes from little and up to adulthood. **I am a baseball guy and have taught my son Jeff and coached others about the way to play the game.** This is not about teaching fundamentals and the correct way to play the game, but about the other responsibilities of coaches.

I think being a good coach is also about being a good role model to the players and doing your best to do the right thing when on the field and in the community. None of us are perfect and we need to all admit our faults and then go forward. We all need to watch our language around our athletes and in public. I understand this and have been guilty.

An example is Easter of 2019; I received a phone call from my sister Robin asking me to bring my baseball glove and if I would show her grandson how to play the game, along with his other 10-year-old buddy. When we began to get warmed up, I saw their talent, I thought what I am in for, they were terrible. But after about 45 minutes of work the improvement was unbelievable and obvious for all to see. This was another example of a major lack in good coaching in baseball. I will be working with these 2 boys and others real soon, when the ground dries out. **When I coach baseball, I am always moving, hustling, and working hard with the players.** One of the boys threw the ball over my head and I leaped and couldn't reach it and I used the S- word. A relative mentioned this to me and I then apologized for the language. When I coached my boys from the age of 10 – 15 I did let words slip from time to time and sometimes you just can't help it when in battle.

I never heard any of my coaches or teachers' swearing back in the 60s or 70s and it seems to be a lot more common now a days. I do think there may be a need as the athletes' get older, but not to use the vulgar words.

I think for all ages there is a need for all coaches whether school or volunteer to promote the value of making good grades and giving a full effort to be the best student – athlete they can be.

A pet peeve of mine is with the Black community being obsessed with football and basketball and not stressing education. Now I do understand there are many good Black Coaches who stress the value of studying and working hard for better grades. But from my research I see both parents and coaches pushing the sports and not giving enough attention to grades.

I think our colleges are using Black athletes for their athletic talent and the people in charge of the different sports do not take education seriously. An excellent source said you could always tell when the Black football players were in a class, they would be in the very back listening to their headphones and not paying attention. Matter of fact there was a scandal at a major university where a tutor and others were taking the tests for many of the athletes.

I do not like to see people being used and taken advantage of and them not knowing they are being used. I have always been a fan of college football and basketball, but I quit following the sports years ago because of the players being used by the universities.

I loved coaching baseball and teaching the fundamentals of the game. I worked hard with my players and always hustled on the diamond. Always make sure you and your team represent your town or state in a very dignified way. Have fun with your team family but do your best to do the right thing.

Conservative Wisdom United will be on top of these issues and pushing education and training for different trades for our young people. We all need to strive to better ourselves and to motivate those around us and our family.