

Children need to be free to express themselves so that they can learn better in class.

part of growing up. Not getting what one wants should be put into practice right from the early stage of life. We assume that we are helping our kids by giving them all that they want but sadly that is not always the case. Sometimes we are helping them more by refusing them what they want. A pampered kid is going to the path of one who will live a life of painful realisations.

Children and studies are like chalk and cheese and usually cannot mix. But infusing fear into a kid's heart, forcing them to study cannot be a permanent solution. During my silent treatment, I was often surprised to find him doing everything neatly and properly. As a child, I never could excel when I was made to study under pressure and fear. Freedom helped me extricate myself from the monotony of this arduous task and explore the many depths of knowledge. If I remember correctly, in my case that happened right about at this age-in the transition from class-three to class-four. Yet I know that for each child the time is different. And it also will not just spring by itself. The boy or girl needs to be encouraged continually and needs to be left to themselves so that they train to become self-reliant. "Plans providing motivation to conform to required standards, will be more effective than plans that simply serve to control behavior," says a study of IEP (Individual Education Plan).

Albert Bandura's Social Learning Theory outlines three requirements for people to learn and model behaviour which include retention (remembering what one has observed), reproduction (ability to reproduce the behaviour) and motivation (good reason) to want to adopt the behaviour. It is the theory that new behaviour is learnt through reinforcement or punishment or through observed learning. As far as punishment is concerned, it is said that the punishment which may work on one child may make another child more diverted and so it should be closely linked with an understanding of the child's sole mentality.

For the many parents and teachers who suffer the tutoring hours the following facts, from personal experience, may be helpful:

a) Childhood is a very susceptible stage and perhaps the only point of life where habits can be attained or modified.

b) They must realise their identities as a person which means that they have certain rights and responsibilities.

c) Abusive language must be kept away in the child's presence as this will induce an inappropriate language, lack of empathy and boost the child's egocentrism.

As ZIg Ziglar had said, "I learnt more as a teacher than I ever did as a student for the amount of research I have to go through".

I can relate to the very statement in full harmony.