



You Need To Stay In School!

Dear Carole:

..My only daughter is 23 years old, and my son-in-law is 24. They have just had their first child. That child is the most precious and beautiful girl that a grandmother could want. They don't abuse her or anything like that. They are loving and they can afford to give her what she wants. It's just that, in many little ways, they don't do things for her in the way that I would do things. It just breaks my heart to see how they let her cry sometimes, while they finish whatever they're doing first. When I raised my daughter and she was that age, she came first. If she cried and needed me, I dropped everything and took care of her first. I am very hurt and disappointed in my daughter and her husband. Shouldn't I tell them how I feel?

C.H.

Dear C.H.:

..You probably have already communicated your feelings to your daughter and son-in-law. Even if you have not yet told them your opinion, you have probably expressed your disapproval of them in many other ways.

Parenthood is both a biological and sociological experience in which individuals learn how to be parents. Maybe you are expecting your daughter and her husband to use the same method of parenting that you have used. That may be an unfair expectation. Have faith that your daughter will grow into her new role of parenthood just as you grew into it. It is your daughter's turn now. If she and her

husband are loving to your granddaughter and if they can provide for her, she can still be a happy child. Continue to be a loving grandmother but trust your daughter. She loves her child too.

Carole

Dear Carole:

..I want to quit schol (sic) because I think it's a waste of my time. I think I'll be better of (sic) working. I know of a few place (sic) near were (sic) life (sic) at (sic) were (sic) I can get a job. I am 16 and can quit schol (sic) if I want too (sic) even if my parent (sic) think I am making a mistak (sic). I feel that as long as I can work, and I want too (sic) work, that (sic) all that counts. What do you think?

J.B.

Dear J.B.:

..I think that you need to stay in school. If you need help with your school work, then ask for it. Several churches have after school tutorial programs which may be helpful to you. It is important to be able to get a job. But it's more important to have the skills to get and keep a good job.

Carole

..Editor's Note: Carole B. Ricks, an M.S.W., A.C.S.W. social worker, has a private practice in Charlotte as a counselor.

..If you have personal adjustment, parent-child or marriage problems that concern you, write:

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