

**CHILDREN DISCIPLINE: A CASE STUDY OF KING DAVID'S FAMILY
AND ITS RELEVANCE TO PARENTS TODAY**

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ABSTRACT

This research was conducted to examine children discipline with respect to the causes of King David's children's indisciplinary behaviour with an attempt to see its relevance for contemporary parents.

An x-ray of King David's children revealed some of the causes of their indisciplinary behaviours. Also opinions of authors concerning the topic "children discipline" were reviewed as well as what the Bible says about children discipline.

150 parents randomly selected from Saki West Local Government Area were used for the empirical study. The results of the study were calculated using simple average and percentage basis. The findings reveal:

1. That misconception of the word discipline by parents is not a cause of neglect of children discipline,
2. That parental bad modeling is a cause of children indiscipline.
3. That children indulgence by parents is one of the causes of breakdown of children discipline.
4. That peer group influence is a cause of children indiscipline.
5. That parents' riches could be a cause of children indiscipline.
6. That position of parents in the society is a cause of children indiscipline.
7. That parents' negligence of children is a cause of children indiscipline.

Finally, the study brought recommendations that can improve children discipline in our society.

Conclusion

The research findings revealed that the level of children indiscipline is very high today to the extent that the effects of children indiscipline can never be over-emphasized in whatever form and magnitude it is presented. Children indiscipline did not only affect physical life of an individual child, parent or community, but the society as a whole. This also affects moral and spiritual development of families of the world as well. Therefore it behoves on the contemporary parents to hold children discipline in high esteem, thereby employ all the available methods to discipline their children in order that the

effect of these indisciplinary activities will be reduced drastically in families, if it cannot be totally eradicated.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the research concerning the impact and the great havoc children indiscipline has caused and is still causing the society the following recommendations are made:

To Parents:

1. That since discipline requires effort, just as anything worthwhile requires effort, parents should make intentional efforts to discipline their children.
2. Parents should be prepared to spend more time on discipline of their children instead of putting it in the hands of other persons.
3. That parents should remember that the purpose of discipline is to ultimately produce an adult with self-control who will be eventually self-disciplined. Therefore, parents should try to be self-disciplined themselves. After that it would now be easy for them to inculcate the habit in their children.
4. That parents should prepare to put up desirable behaviour worthy of emulation for training of their children.

To The Church:

5. That church and local governments should formulate a policy of preparing the would-be couple as intended parents for parenthood through specially enlightenment programmes before joining them in marriage.

6. That church, school, government and parents be intentionally involved in specially prepared disciplinary training for today's teenagers

To the Government:

7. That government put up awareness programmes on the television to make the populace know the importance of children discipline.
8. That moral teaching be included in the school curriculum for primary and secondary schools. The programme should include both theory and practicals.

Suggestions for Further Studies

1. The effects of positive and negative reinforcement as a method of discipline.
2. The effect of child indiscipline on the society