

# Editorial E COOSH EEWA: (The way it is)



From the Parenting Committee

## Teaching Children Responsibility Not Easy but Essential

Excerpted from Reality Therapy by William Glasser)

The teaching of responsibility is the most important task of all higher animals, man most certainly included. Except for man this task is performed primarily under pressure of instinct — instinct related directly to the continuation of the species.

As the many instances of abandoned children show, man is not driven by instinct to care for and teach responsibility to his children. In place of instinct, however, man has developed the intellectual capacity to be able to teach responsibility well.

Children ordinarily learn by means of a loving relationship with responsible parents, an involvement which implies parental teaching and parental example. In addition, responsibility is taught by responsible relatives, teacher, ministers and friends with whom they become involved.

The responsible parent creates the necessary involvement with his child and teaches him responsibility through the proper combination of love and discipline. People who are not at some time in their lives, preferably early, exposed intimately to others who care enough about them both to love and discipline them will not learn to be responsible. For that failure they will suffer all their lives.

The words "preferably early" used above are important; they mean that the younger we are exposed to love and discipline the easier and the better we will learn responsibility. That it can be taught only to the young is not true - responsibility can be learned at any age. Nevertheless, it is easier to learn correctly at first than to overcome previous bad learning. Similarly, responsibility should be learned early at home and in school rather than later from a psychiatrist.

Few parents will argue with the statement that many children do not learn responsibility

easily. Children do not know that what seems easy to them will not fulfill their needs, so almost from infancy they struggle against the reality that they must learn from their parents how to fulfill their needs.

Later, when they are old enough to recognize reality, they will test their parents with irresponsible behavior. Through discipline tempered with love, parents must teach their children to behave better. The child learns thereby that parents care. Children want to become responsible, but they won't accept discipline and learn better ways unless they feel the parents care enough to show them actively the responsible way to behave.

For example - the other night our five year old son was asked if he wanted to use the large bathtub, which was full, to splash and play. In his own inimitable way he said no, probably because he recognized that allowing him in the big tub was easier for us than filling his smaller tub. He wanted to assert his independence of our wishes, a very common but trying five-year old characteristic.

Asked again, he repeated his refusal, whereupon his ten-year old sister flew out of her room, shedding her clothes, and popped into the big tub, a real treat for her. Immediately the five-year old started to scream that he really wanted to bathe in it himself. I had to pick up fifty pounds of tantrum and place him in his own tub where he continued to wail his protests.

When he realized that his complaints were doing no good he became quiet and I went in to talk to him. I said, "Let me give you some advice. Do you know what advice is?" He did, so I told him, "Never say no when you mean yes," and explained this a little more with several examples from previous behavior. Later I heard him telling his grandmother, "Dad gave me some good advice," and repeating what I said with great understanding.

Too many of us fail to fulfill our needs because we say no rather than yes, or perhaps later in life, yes when we should say no. If I had given in to his tantrum he would have learned nothing. In his attempts to find out if I really cared, he judged me first by what I did, then by what I said.

Parents must continually act responsible when dealing with their children in order to maintain involvement. Those whose

actions do not demonstrate responsibility to their children lose involvement and raise irresponsible children who have to test others in the world to try to gain the involvement essential to fulfilling their needs.

The child who does not learn both by example and instruction will not respect his parents.

The parents must understand that the child needs responsible parents and that taking the responsible course will never

permanently alienate the child. An appreciation of this simple fact greatly aids parents in teaching their children responsibility.

In summary then, we learn responsibility through involvement with responsible fellow human beings, preferably loving parents who will love and discipline us properly, who are intelligent enough to allow us freedom to try out our newly acquired responsibility as soon as we show readiness to do so.

## Editor of Rawhide Press Fired

(from the Sho-Ban News)

Wellpinit, Wash. — Editor of the Rawhide Press, Bob May has been terminated from his position, allegedly because of his editorial stance he took—often in conflict with the tribal council.

On August 2, the council asked for the resignation of May, who replied to the council "I realize that the council thinks it is doing me a small kindness in asking for my resignation rather than firing me outright; and I appreciate their good intention. However, after due consideration, I have decided not to

resign."

The council later voted to have May fired. Tribal Chairman Alfred Mc Coy, when reached by telephone responded with an official "No comment."

May charged the council with violation of the Indian Civil Rights Act, which provides for a free press. He also contends the decision was "not in the best interest of the Spokane Tribe."

In a letter to the council, May affirmed his support of the Spokane member's "right to know", and said it had clearly been infringed upon. He also

suggested in the future, the Tribe should set up an editorial policy board, composed of non-political tribal members.

"In summary," wrote May, "I feel that the Tribal council not only does a disservice to its members and ultimately itself by suppressing news (no matter how bad) or newsmen. I will go down if I have to; but all the time I will keep repeating: 'The people have a right to know what is going on.' The Tribe needs to develop a policy that protects the right, whether I remain here or not..."



RED RIBBON WINNER — Editor Sid Miller's winter shot of Mt. Jefferson won him a second prize in landscapes in the Jefferson County Fair photography contest.

## Cunningham Still Wants to 'Lift the Yoke'

The treaty abrogation bill introduced by Congressman "Jack" Cunningham (R., Wash.) last year has been revised. The new H.R. 13329 would:

- direct the President to abrogate all Indian treaties within one year of enactment;

- phase in the payment of state and local property taxes on former reservation land over a 20 year period;

- provide former treaty Indians with transition payments

of \$100 million a year for five years; and

- eliminate the BIA upon enactment.

Cunningham staffer Bill Johnson said the legislation seeks to "lift the yoke of federal paternalism off the Indian's back." He went on to state that H.R. 13329 "may not be the final answer, but it is a start; it will help get this thing off center," referring to the treaty rights disputes in various parts of the country.

## Lost Puppy

One female Dachshund, light brown, wearing a blue collar with two bells. She is 3-4 months old and answers to the name of "T.J." Her sister misses her

terribly, so if you find her please call Helena Jones at the Community Center, 553-1161, ext. 243 between 8 and 5. Small reward offered.

## Wanted: Indian Editor

To edit a novel and a technical law book. Contact Roberta Kensler (Tribal Tribune), Box 56, Nespelem, Washington 99155, (509) 634-4591, ext. 242.

## Thank You

My sincere thanks to the Pi-Ume-Sha Committee for helping me find my lost article and being friendly and cooperative when I was in Warm Springs for the Pi-Ume-Sha Powwow in June.

Roberta Kensler  
Nespelem, Washington

## Tribal Council Agenda

- Aug. 21st-25th AFFILIATED TRIBES ANNUAL CONVENTION Spokane
- Aug. 25 COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN FISHERIES ALLIANCE Quarterly Meeting - Kah-Nee-Ta Lodge
- Aug. 26 HATCHERY DEDICATION - Warm Springs Hatchery 9:30 a.m. Posting of the colors Indian Religious Ceremony Introduction of Guests 11:00 Congress Ullman, Guest Speaker
- Aug. 28 - Tribal Council Meeting, 9:00 a.m. 1. 1979 Tribal Budgets
- Aug. 29 - Tribal Council Meeting, 9:00 a.m. 1. 1979 Tribal Budgets
- Aug. 30 - Tribal Council Meeting, 9:00 a.m. 1. 1979 Tribal Budgets