A Child

Prabhakar Sengupta

It has been recognized by almost all the child psychologists that a child lives a life which is full of secrecies and unknown traits which the adults can hardly understand in its entirety. As a result, an adult does not have the capacity and intelligence to understand the variegated potentialities of a child. And here arises the great problem. A child can neither nurture itself wholly after its birth nor it can fully depend on others who can understand him fully and provide atmosphere for his total growth. There is abundant ignorance among the adults to understand the various physical and mental activities of the children. In the different structures of the society, there should have some arrangements for social, economic, educational and psychological studies of the children so that social consciousness about the children could be increased for better protection of them. We should take such steps which can take care of the baby when it is in the womb of the mother. With the full protection of the children in all its faculties, peace can be restored to a great extent in a family and in a society.

There are some international rules and regulations recognized and accepted by a majority of states for the better protection of the children of the world. It has been emphasized that a family is the best institution which can provide suitable environment for the child's natural growth. Consequently, it is urgent and necessary that member of the family should play a very careful and responsible role. The adults of the family and the society do not fully understand the behaviors, thought process, imagination, memory, sensations, perception and feeling of a child in true perspective. An adult sometimes, behaves with the child rather irrationally due to his infinite ignorance of the child-mind. Sometimes, an adult's behaviors become unsocial and immoral in the society of children.

In spite of all the problems and challenges, it has been said that parents are the best persons for proper upbringing of the children. The primary responsibility of the parents is to protect and nurture the child in the best manner possible. The child has also his fundamental

Prof. Pravakar Sengupta, Former Principal, Raja N.L. Khan women's College, Midnapore.

rights to get care and protection of his being from his parents and other adults. It is a big role to protect the dignity of the child. It is found that adults are generally indifferent to the dignity and honor of a child. They do not have perception of it properly.

In case deviation is found in the parents in their proper thought process and behaviors, it will be the duty of the family & the society to rectify. But no body, no organization should humiliate the parents in any way and in any circumstance. Parents are the highest property of the children, therefore no children should be kept away from the parents unless the parents themselves decide properly.

I will remind all of a story regarding Swami Vivekananda who was mercilessly beaten by his class-teacher in the class when his teacher noticed that Naren was not giving proper answer to his question. Naren told his Master repeatedly that he was speaking the truth, but his Master did not agree and continued to beat Naren. I think the teacher could not tolerate the personality of Naren. Naren came to his mother Bhubaneswari Devi and told her everything. Bhubaneswari Devi told Naren not to cry telling Naren that truth was more powerful then the teacher's punishment. You are more powerful-she told. Naren later told that his education was result of a great contribution of his mother Bhubaneswari Devi.

There is a National Policy in India and it has been said in the policy that children are the highest & best property of the country. Children should be nourished very carefully, so that his potentialities could be properly manifested. Infinite qualities are there in a Child's mind and it is the Nation's duty to protect them from various types of impediments and hardships. The adults should also understand that children should not be compelled to live according to the whims of the adults. Maximum freedom & dignity should be provided to the children for the growth of civilization, Science, Arts, Culture and Religion which are universal in character and which continue to develop depending upon the proper growth of the children in all variegated ways.

Reference

- 1. Maria Montessori. (1982) The Absorbent mind. 8th Edition.
- 2. K. Koffka. (1952) The growth of the mind. 2nd Edition.