

18 Handy Tips for Family Education

Tip 8: When kids are too dependent? (Dialogue Script)

Docudrama 1: DON'Ts

Mother: Siu-yee, are you ready? We hardly ever have tea with Auntie on Sunday. We can't be late. Are you ready?

Siu-yee: Not yet. Just a moment. It's almost done.

Mother: How come it takes so long?

Siu-yee: I haven't tied the shoelaces and put on the jacket.

Mother: Then tie them now!

Siu-yee: I don't know how to do it.

Mother: What about your jacket?

Siu-yee: Nobody helps me. How can I put it on?

Mother: Siu-yee, how do you get dressed for school on weekdays?

Siu-yee: Jone helps me.

Mother: So you can't do it when nobody helps you? Let me help you.

Expert Advice

Prof. Wong Po-choi: Many parents complain that their kids are too dependent. Have you ever realized it's because we care for them too well? Come to think of it, if someone could do everything for you so quickly and well, then you wouldn't bother doing anything yourself. But then your kids would be deprived of the opportunity to learn taking care of themselves. They wouldn't be able to do anything in future, how can they lead a happy life then? So, if there's anything a kid can do himself, let him do it. Anything he doesn't know how to do, teach him. Anything he doesn't have the confidence to do, do it with him. Then you can train your kids to take care of themselves, and their self-care intelligence would be enhanced.

Docudrama 2: DOs

Siu-yee: I don't know how to tie them.

Mother: What about your jacket?

Siu-yee: Nobody helps me. How can I put it on?

Mother: Siu-yee, how do you get dressed for school on weekdays?

Siu-yee: Jone helps me.

Mother: Siu-yee, mum hired Jone to work here because I don't want you to stay at home alone, and she can share the housework with Mum. Siu-yee, look at Mum. You're not a baby anymore. You should learn to take care of yourself, understand? We still have a little bit of time. Let me teach you how to tie a shoelace.

Siu-yee: Thanks, mum!

Mother: Look. First, make a knot. Then form a circle. And pass it through. Now it's done! Isn't it very easy? OK! It's your turn. That's right.