



Value of Money for Children Views by Sudha Murthy

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ABSTRACT

Life is an exam where the syllabus is unknown and question papers are not set. Nor are there model answer papers.” Sudha Murthy

Life for parents is in children and to nurture them is there great responsibility. To nurture them with care ,love and good habits is a great challenge for parents .Sudha Murthy expresses her thoughts which are really valuable for Parents.

Sudha Murthy is one of the icons of women power of post-modern India. A multifaceted person, she is a businesswoman, a prolific writer in Kannada and English, a globally revered philanthropist, and an educator. She is an engineer by training. Born on 19th August 1950 in Shiggaon, Karnataka, to RH Kulkarni and his wife Vimala Kulkarni.

I. INTRODUCTION

A prolific writer in English and Kannada, Sudha Murthy has written novels, technical books, travelogues, collections of short stories and non- fictional pieces, and books for children. Her books have been translated into all the major Indian languages. She had cooperated with many students and it was a little impossible to recall all their names. Sudha arranged morning first hour classes because students would be renewed and energetic. As a teacher she took discomfort to make her students successful in their respective careers

Sudha portrays the values of being a shrewd observer. Her scientific knowledge and concepts are quite strong and sharp.

When the discussion is around parenting and parental values, Sudha Murthy's anecdotes and examples always fit. An educator, author and philanthropist Sudha Murthy is revered for her parenting lessons. Her opinion on parenting is so simple and easily understood that people consider her a living guidebook. Mother to two Murthy has lots of valuable parenting lessons and tips which she shares with her audiences time and again. Her talks on parentings are massively read and shared among parents and youngsters as well.

Money is a very confusing element. It confuses adults, too. On one hand it can blind a person with arrogance and greed and on the other hand it can make a person bitter about those who have it more than him. Many times it has been seen that kids tend to recognise the monetary barrier between them and their friends who might not be having as much money as their parents have. If not checked on time, these behaviours might

remain with the child forever. It is therefore essential to check these things in the kid and make sure your child has the right knowledge about money.

To those living under a rock, Sudha Murthy is the wife of Infosys co-founder NR Narayana Murthy. Her views on money and its importance is way different than how people see her. Despite affluency, which means overindulgence in luxury items to many, Murthy has always talked about the right way of spending money.

Contrary to what people think of her, she has always spoken about teaching her kids the value of money and why one should try to spend it in the correct manner. During a school function, Sudha Murthy had narrated an interesting story about her son. The story amazed the audience and till date has remained one of the most popular stories for parents. Her son, Rohan Narayana Murthy, who was a young school going kid at that time, came to her and asked her to throw a lavish birthday party. "He wanted a big party," she said.

It was then Murthy suggested her son to have a small party and give the money that could have been used for a big party, to their family driver so that his kids can have education. "My son was reluctant at first," she remembers. However, he later agreed for a small party. A party that could have cost Rs 50,000 was managed with 5,000 rupees and rest of the money was used for a genuine cause. This parenting lesson stayed with her son. Few years later, Murthy got to know what she had sowed in a reluctant child has reaped differently in a matured adult.

Years later, on his birthday her son gave her his scholarship money and asked her to give it to the families of soldiers who had lost their lives in the 2001 Parliament attack in India. Helping kids understand the value of money is something every parent should do. Kids should not be allowed to grow selfish over money and should never be blinded by it.

Another golden piece of advice from Murthy's guidebook is that money does not make someone extraordinary. Having or not having money is not something one should be concerned about. What should matter more for an individual is the human values like empathy, kindness, value towards other human beings, standing next to others without having any discrimination. Apart from these Murthy also believes in giving kids a free hand while growing up, so that they know what they want to be. She does not believe in imposing things on kids. She advises parents to talk to their kids on a daily basis as much as possible. In order to get closer to a child, you need to understand the world from their point of view, she suggests.

Be it her take on throwing a birthday party or her views on using gadgets, Sudha Murthy's parenting tips are forever relevant! Author, educator and philanthropist Sudha Murthy wears many hats, and the decorative one among these is that of a mother. Mother to two, Murthy is a powerhouse of parenting tips. Her suggestions on parenthood and upbringing of kids go without any queries. The agreeable explanations, the wholesome anecdotes and the non-partisan views given by her are not just acceptable; they seep into the households of a common Indian family. Murthy's parenting tips hold Indian values, ethics and mannerisms in a tight grip. Her suggestions are so germane to the Indian context that no discussion on parenting is possible without a mention about her quotes.

Gadget indulgence is a major headache for parents these days. Children get introduced to mobile phones, majorly, from a very young age. Toys, lullabies, stories of elders that used to keep a child busy earlier have become outdated. On the overuse of gadgets, Murthy has a unique explanation. She says the overindulgence of gadgets in kids goes hand in hand with the gadget habits of the parents. Parents should themselves first restrict using gadgets, she had said in an interview. If you want to stop your child from using gadgets, stop yourself first. Unless and until it's a priority do not engage yourself for hours over gadgets, she says. Children have a sense of

ownership. They are usually reluctant to share things with others. Be it toys or chocolates, whatever a child has in its grip is hard for it to part with.

Sharing is a very essential mannerism that kids need to be taught. On sharing, Murthy shares a very interesting story which is one of the most widely shared anecdotes on parenting. On several occasions, she has narrated this specific story on how she taught her son the importance of sharing. When her son pestered her to throw a birthday party for him, she estimated the expense would be around Rs 50,000. Instead of immediately agreeing to her son's demand, she suggested he have a small party and give the rest of the amount to their driver, for his children's education. "Initially he did not agree," says Murthy. "But later he agreed to a small party," she adds. On this she adds, "Many years later, he gave his scholarship money to me and asked me to use it to help the families of soldiers who had lost their lives in the 2001 Parliament attack in India."

Children can be lured with money and monetary promises. This prompts them to do several dishonest activities. On monetary values, Murthy says children should always be taught that values make a person extraordinary, money does not. She has always talked about how she persuaded her kids not to indulge in lavish parties, extravagant life and heavy expenditures and how that money can be used in helping someone less fortunate than they are.

"Delay" is her mantra on meeting the demands and pesters of the kids. While parenting is all about giving comfort to the kids, it is also about embedding values into the young mind. When your child is asking for something, do not give in to the demands, instead delay it for a while and try to figure out if it is really required, says Murthy. She also strongly advises not to belittle the child for the demands and instead make them understand the value of the thing they are demanding and why it can be put on hold for some time.

Sudha Murthy has a brilliant piece of advice for parents who always look forward to fulfill their dreams through their kids. Do not impose your ambitions and dreams on your child, she says. A child has its own future which should not be dictated by others. Let the child explore what he or she wants to do. A child needs guidance and supervision to explore its hidden talent. Imposition may not always lead to a bright future. It may gradually wane the real talent of the child.

II. REFERENCES

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