



Parents Do Care!
by Dr. Arlene Kaiser

“These days, parents don’t care! They just don’t care about their kids.” I heard these discouraging words when I began teaching in the 70s. Today, this myth continues, but I disagree. From my experience, I believe the majority of parents do care.

My mother, Marie Kaiser, RN, MFT, and I recently completed a Guidebook and DVD series: ***Parenting: Raising Responsible Kids and Creating Happy Families***. We interviewed an array of parents and posed these two questions. “What do you want for the children of this world, and what do you hope other parents are teaching their children so they can, in the future, work with your child or **marry** into your family?” Through hearing their thoughtful answers, we were encouraged, inspired and reminded of the dedication of the many parents in our midst.

If your perception about “parents caring,” is disappointing, try an experiment. Attend a promotion or graduation ceremony at a local school and notice the enthusiasm, pride and attention of parents and family members focused on their loved ones being honored. Or visit your local office supply store a couple days before the start of school. The business is packed with parents and grandparents buying required school supplies. These are parents committed to their children succeeding in school.

Psalm 119:5 challenges us with these words, “*Oh, that my actions would consistently reflect your principles!*” NLB . What you say regarding the parents of the students you serve is a powerful reflection of what is in your heart. You can be a catalyst of change for the positive of the myth that is still perpetuated in our midst.

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