



CHAPTER 11 | Raising Children

Conscious people are able to raise conscious children. Unconscious people raise unconscious children. After all, only that which you know and have experienced yourself can be transferred to another person. This awareness can give (prospective) parents a sense of great responsibility. Surely everyone wants the best for their child? Does that best consist of transferring emotional blockages, fear, obstructing behavioural patterns and beliefs to your child? Or is it best if you, as a parent, are able to let the child experience what is going on within him by keeping him free of it? Every parent obviously strives for the latter by parenting to the best of their knowledge and ability. Reality teaches us, however, that few are able to give their child this best because they themselves are not ready yet. From parents who are in their twenties or thirties, this is hardly to be expected. They are usually also still busy establishing themselves in society. For some educators it is therefore worth considering offering the child a coaching programme around the age of eighteen. This gives the child the opportunity to stand on its own two feet emotionally. The aim of this coaching should be to give the child insight into the emotions, obstructing beliefs and conditioning projected on him by the father and the mother, and to release the child from them. From this (more solid) basis, the child can then give substance to his study, career and partner relations. The aim of parenting is to enable the child, the individual, who was born into the lives of both parents, to stand on his own two feet in life from the awareness of who he really is. So with as little emotional ballast as possible. The originality of the child of the soul, should come first. The chance of success is greater if parents can let the child be who he or she is as much as possible. This is achieved by doing your best as little as possible. This does not mean that both parents should underestimate their specific role. Until about the seventh year of the child's life, both parents have an important role to play; the mother as an expression of love and affection and the father as the person who sets the boundaries within which the child may act safely and freely. Within this framework, the child can then discover the world, fall down a bump as often as necessary and get his clothes dirty. Without being constantly confronted with announcements as to what he may or may not do. Overprotection is counterproductive. The most effective form of parenting is achieved when desired behavior is rewarded and undesired behavior is ignored. No human being is the same. This means that it makes little sense to model the child on the image the parents or their environment have of the child. No individual, including the child, is someone else's property. The child is of itself. From that awareness the parents only have the task to offer the child a safe environment in which to become acquainted with the duality of this world and to present themselves in it as a thinking and feeling human being. In that process, the parents' unprocessed emotions, frustrations or impeding beliefs play no role. For the child and the process he has entered into, they have no added value. The child already has enough to himself. Fortunately, many 'new age' children already have more wisdom of their own to deal with life. The challenge for parents and society is to recognize



this and to deal with it in the right way for these children. This requires the development of new structures and frames of reference.