

# Teaching Children Gratitude and Respect for Parents

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## SUMMARY

*The speaker emphasizes the importance of obligations within familial and societal relationships, arguing that individuals owe something to their parents, spouses, and children. They express concern that modern ideologies promoting complete autonomy may lead to a generation of entitled and self-absorbed individuals who lack appreciation for their familial bonds.*

- *Relationships, including familial and marital, come with inherent obligations.*
- *The speaker feels a strong sense of duty towards their parents, siblings, spouse, and children.*
- *Modern ideologies may promote excessive individualism, leading to a lack of respect and gratitude in relationships.*
- *The idea that children owe nothing to their parents can foster entitlement and narcissism.*
- *A balanced approach to relationships includes recognizing and fulfilling obligations to one another.*

I think that we as children do owe our parents something. I think as societies we owe each other something. I think as husbands and wives we owe something to each other. I think that is the meaning of being in you know a contract being in a relationship being in a covenant being in a marriage, being in a family. I think we do owe our family something. I can say for myself as a daughter I feel that I owe my parents a great deal. I feel as a sister that I owe my siblings a great deal. As a wife, I owe my husband a great deal. As a parent, I owe my children a great deal. I take her point that we don't get to control our children, that they are not ours, that they're not, you know, some puppets that we get to master. Uh that we don't get to, you know, live vicariously through them or project onto them all sorts of things that are our own baggage or our own issues or force them into our way of life and our belief system. But I think that it's messages like these that I think sound quite new age and spiritual and enlightened and liberating as she says at the end uh that actually lead to a very odd sort of society indeed and very lost children indeed. Children who are entitled, who are narcissistic, who are extremely self-obsessed, who don't owe their parents anything because that's exactly what their parents taught them, right? You don't owe me anything.

You don't owe me respect. You don't owe me relationship. You don't owe me gratitude.