Raising Gender Healthy Kids

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Galatians 6:9, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give-up."

The Gender Spectrum

The A's All Boys and Girls Need

Affection

Attention

Affirmation

For Healthy Development of Male Sexuality

A Father Must:
• Strongly connect with son at an early age.
• Affirm son's sexual identity as a boy/male.
• Take interest in him and his interest(s).
• Not allow him to reject you.
• Demonstrate love by word and deed.
• Love his mother and assure her security and safety.
• Transmit gender-esteem (i.e."You measure up!").
• Always give affirmation, attention, and affection.

A Mother Must:
• Push son towards his father.
• Affirm your son's masculinity.
• Point out the differences between yourself and him, him and his sisters, etc.
• Allow for emotional distance and independence.
• Demonstrate positive touch with him.
• Love and respect his father.
• Bring other boys into the environment.

For Healthy Development of Female Sexuality

A Father Must:
• Love wife and make sure she feels secure and safe.
• Be affectionate with daughter.
• Affirm daughter's femininity with words and deeds.
• Be your daughter's "protector".
• Tell her she is loved and beautiful 3X more than you think is necessary.

A Mother Must:
• Respect and honor husband.
• Affirm daughter's femininity.
• Demonstrate strength in nurturing.
• Love daughter, don't compete with her.
• Do girly things together early and often.
• Communicate feelings, not weakness.
• Continually develop and demonstrate a healthy relationship/romance with husband

Please keep in mind that sexual development is a very complicated and complex process. The above items are suggestions I have observed to be helpful in the formation of healthy sexual identities. They are not intended to be exhaustive, exclusive, or absolute. - Sue Bohlin