

American Decency Association

PO Box 202, Fremont MI 49412 231-924-4050 www.americandecency.org
Encouraging Christians to guard their heart June 2025

Building a nation one family at a time by Steve Huston



“As goes the home, so goes the church, so goes the nation. Family worship is a most decisive factor in how the home goes.” ~ Dr. Joel R. Beeke, Chancellor, Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary

For any home to have its influence in the future history of a nation, there must be children in that home. Whether adopted, natural born, or to lovingly come alongside to bring another's children “under your wing,” Scripture likens these children to “arrows...in the hand of a mighty man.” (Ps. 127) These “arrows” are to be shaped into straight, sturdy shafts; fletched well; and prayerfully shot into our future lineage, churches, and nation – by God's grace and for His glory!

But what happens when a society and the churches of that society largely become deceived, no longer seeing children as “an heritage of the Lord,” and put their own perceived needs and desires ahead of child-rearing for the glory of God?

God's Word tells us that children are a blessing, but, for many generations now, leftists have succeeded in convincing our culture that they are a burden instead. For years, we've been warned that the West's plummeting birth rates will be devastating, particularly in light of the fact that Islamic families continue to reproduce at healthy, sustaining, and even growing birth rates.

Between the left's various anti-child propaganda schemes and Marxist training in public schools, Pew Research found that 47% of Americans without children, aged 18-49, do not plan to ever have children. The top reason given for this was that “they just don't want to.” David Hogg, current Vice

Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, has stated that he prefers to own a Portuguese water dog, saying, “*long-term, it's cheaper, better for the environment and will never tell you that it hates you or ask you to pay for college.*”

Very few have heeded the warning of declining birth rates, until Elon Musk recently posted on X: “*Low birth rates will end civilization.*”

What Musk and others have missed, but we must not, is this: **It's not just about giving birth to more children; it's about building healthy families.** Strong families founded on Biblical principles are what shaped and stabilized Western civilization and that's what it will take, by God's grace, to pull us out of this nosedive.

We don't just need more babies; we need more men and women stepping into real fatherhood and real motherhood. That starts with boys and girls

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“fletching those arrows!” Lord Jesus? (Col. 3:17)

2. Regroup and Rethink

– 1) Exit Public Schools – much of the decline in fearing God and in family ideals came from Marxist ideology taught in public schools. What good is it to pull weeds and clear a field for planting if you purposefully allow weed seed to be planted with your good seed? 2) Many churches today have been infected, to some extent or another, by this same Marxist, “squishy” ideology. Be sure to attend a Bible-believing, God honoring church. Speak with your children about the sermons, Sunday School lessons, and various issues which arise in the church. 3) In all you decide as a family, ask: “What does the Bible say about that?”

3. Reassess and Reorient Family Life Around Christ

– It’s vital to be in the Word as a family and to pray as a family. Be intentional in your conversations and your choices regarding entertainment, cell phones, friendships. In all that you do ask: Can I do this to the glory of God? (1 Cor. 10:31) Can I do this in the name of the

Allow me to close with these words from Dr. Beeke: “*Would we see revival among our children? Let us remember that God often uses the restoration of family worship to usher in church revival. For example, the 1677 church covenant of the Puritan congregation in Dorchester, Massachusetts, included the commitment ‘to reform our families, engaging ourselves to a conscientious care to set before us and to maintain the worship of God in them; and to walk in our houses with perfect hearts in a faithful discharge of all domestic duties, educating, instructing, and charging our children and households to keep the ways of the Lord.’*”

“*As goes the home, so goes the church, so goes the nation. Family worship is a most decisive factor in how the home goes.*”

To help you in these endeavors, I encourage you to purchase (\$12) a copy of Dr. Beeke’s latest book, How to Lead Your Family, by calling us at (231) 924-4050.

1. Recognize Reality – Most people around you don’t think strictly Biblically; be prepared to experience opposition. Prayerfully, lovingly, painstakingly, stand your ground. Come alongside others to “reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.” Think generationally and start



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growing up, not just becoming older in age. It means becoming Christ-centered instead of remaining self-centered. May we commit to the costly work of self-sacrifice, from start to finish, in having children AND discipling them, teaching them the fear and love of the Lord.

What is this costly work? It begins with truly committing your own life to Jesus Christ and following Him with all that you are. After all, you cannot pass on what you do not possess. Then it moves on to three very general things.

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