

Pointers For Parents

For Boys, Fathers Make An Indelible Impression

(NAPSA)—Parenting is a job that requires intelligence, wisdom and determination—and for parents rearing one or more boys, parenting may be even more of a challenge.

An entire generation of boys may be growing up without a clear idea of what it means to be a man, says Dr. James Dobson in his new book, *Bringing Up Boys* (Tyndale House Publishers, \$22.99).

Drawing on his many years of experience as a child psychologist and family counselor, as well as the latest research, Dobson offers practical advice for parents and others involved in shaping the lives of boys.

In *Bringing Up Boys*, Dobson redefines the unique characteristics of boys and how to help them rediscover the rewards of honesty, integrity and masculinity.

According to Dobson, one reason that boys today are in trouble is because “their parents, and especially their dads, are distracted, overworked, harassed, exhausted, disinterested, chemically dependent, divorced or simply unable to cope.”

Dads can make a difference just by modeling the behavior they hope their children will identify with.

“Boys watch their fathers intently, noting every minor detail of behavior and values. It is probably true in your home too. If you blow up regularly and insult your wife, your boys will treat their mother and other females disrespectfully. If you curse or smoke or



bringing up BOYS

Practical advice and encouragement
for those shaping the next generation of men

DR. JAMES DOBSON



Fathers and mothers may find boys easier to understand with advice found in a best-selling new book.

fight with your co-workers, your boys will probably follow suit. If you are selfish or mean or angry, you'll see those characteristics displayed in the next generation,” said Dobson.

However, if parents are honest, trustworthy, self-disciplined and God-fearing, their boys will, most likely emulate those characteristics, says Dobson, who based his book on biblical principles.

Dobson is founder and president of Focus on the Family. He has a Ph.D. in child development from the University of Southern California.