

“But I want it....”

One, among more than a few, problems in our society today is that our children are overwhelmed with information. Between television and the internet there is more information than any person can manage. There has been some discussion that it may be contributing to the rate of depression we now see. Advertising psychology studies how to make you and your children believe you **MUST** have their product. (There was a picture recently in a magazine of a very poor child in Africa who out of mud and sticks made a toy cell phone.)

Add to that the desire for most parents to provide more for their children than they may have had. Add to that some parents feeling guilty for the second job and more time away from the children. It becomes difficult for parents to say “no.”

Add to that the level of affluence, wealth, in this country. There are many who do appear to have everything.

Also there appears to be a prevailing belief today that because I am here I deserve it or because I want it I should have it. There are many teenagers who not only have their own car paid for by their parents, but so is the insurance, maintenance, and gasoline.

This is known as entitlement: I deserve to have without having to earn it. A very dangerous belief. It can result in dishonesty as when a person reaches an executive position and decides to rob pension funds. It can result in depression when things do not come easy in the real world.

The harder we work for things the more we appreciate them. Life will not make things easy for our children. Better they learn this while at home where they have parental support than away at school, in their job or in their marriage. The harder you work the luckier you become.