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Review Paper

From Expelled to Genius: Power of Parental Education

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ABSTRACT

This article tells the story of Thomas Edison, one of the most prolific inventors in history, who was expelled from school as a child due to his mental health issues. However, his mother's unwavering support and belief in his abilities helped him to overcome his challenges and achieve greatness. This story highlights the transformative power of parental love and support and serves as a reminder of how our words and actions can impact children.

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INTRODUCTION

Thomas Edison, one of the most prolific inventors in history, is a testament to the transformative power of parental love and support. Edison's journey, as narrated by his biographers, highlights the crucial role that parents, educators, and caregivers play in shaping a child's destiny.^[1]

The narration

It begins with a young Thomas Edison, who, as a mentally troubled child, struggles to cope with the challenges of traditional schooling. One day, he returns home from school with a letter from his teacher, which he hands over to his

mother, Nancy Edison. As she reads through the letter, her eyes tear up, and she struggles to maintain her composure. The letter, addressed to Nancy Edison, contains a message that would change Thomas Edison's life forever. However, in a remarkable display of maternal love and intuition, Nancy Edison chooses to interpret the letter in a profoundly different manner. Instead of reading the words as they were written, she sees an opportunity to unlock her son's true potential. With a shaky voice, Nancy Edison slowly begins to read the contents of the letter to her son, but with a twist. She tells him, "Your son is a genius. This school is too small for him and doesn't have enough good teachers to train him. Please

teach him yourself." These words, though not reflected in the original letter, would become the catalyst for Thomas Edison's future success.^[2]

The next morning, Nancy Edison pulls her son out of school and begins to teach him diligently at home. This bold decision, driven by her unwavering faith in her son's abilities, sets in motion a chain of events that would ultimately transform Thomas Edison's life.

Many years later, Thomas Edison grows into one of the most celebrated inventors of his time, with a plethora of groundbreaking innovations to his credit. He invents the electric light bulb, the first electric generator, the phonograph, submarine radar, cinema, and over a thousand other inventions that shape the modern age. He is remembered as the 'Father of Invention'.^[3]

Meanwhile, Nancy Edison passes away quietly, leaving behind a legacy that would continue to inspire generations to come. Many years later, Thomas Edison discovers the original letter while searching through old books. As he reads the words, "Your child is mentally ill. We cannot let him attend our school anymore. He is expelled," he is overcome with emotion.

For several hours, Thomas Edison is motionless, with tears streaming down his face. He realizes that his mother's actions, driven by her love and faith in him, had saved his life and future. Few years later, he gathers enough strength to write in his diary, "Thomas Alva Edison was a mentally-ill child whose mother turned him into the genius of the century".^[2]

DISCUSSION

This poignant story serves as a powerful reminder of the impact that our words and actions can have on children. As parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, grandparents, friends, and teachers, we all have a role to play in building and activating the glorious destiny of children. A single word, whether positive or negative, can make or destroy a child's future.

The story of Thomas Edison highlights the importance of mindful communication and the need to nurture a child's self-esteem. By choosing to focus on a child's strengths and potential, rather than their weaknesses or limitations, we can empower them to reach their full potential.

CONCLUSION

The story of Thomas Edison serves as a testament to the transformative power of parental love and support. It reminds us that our words and actions have the power to shape the destiny of children and that we must use this power wisely. As we strive to build a brighter future for the next generation, let us remember the profound impact that a single word can have and the enduring legacy of Thomas Edison, a true genius of our time.

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