
Intergenerational transmission of values/beliefs

Posted by j2b03 - 2008/05/06 14:35

As someone who studies families for a living, I have a question about other peoples' experiences with their children and BYU football. The intergenerational transmission of values basically means that we as parents transmit our values and beliefs to our children through direct teaching or modeling of behavior.

I have a 3 year old son who knows about BYU football, knows the fight song and will watch it for about 20mins. and that is about it, after that he is on to something else. Furthermore, I have taken him to the stadium and he lasts about 15 mins. I hear of other children and I see other children at games who sit for a good portion of the game and are about as young as my son and I have even seen some younger. I am trying to transmit this value on to him but he just doesn't seem to care. This email is a little TIC BUT nonetheless and notwithstanding I wonder if it is just my son or does this happen to a lot of other parents. I want to get season tickets but honestly it may be a waste. My wife won't let me just go by myself because that leaves her at home all by herself with him and a 9mo. old and if we all go it is really just chaos trying to chase him around the bleachers. Any thoughts, parenting ideas?

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/belief

Posted by NorthernCougar - 2008/05/06 14:45

From a father of 5 ranging from 5 to 16, I would say that 3 is probably too young to sit through a full game. Most of my kids didn't handle a full game until they were about 7 or 8.

Now, a 3 year old will probably do better with bribery such as ice cream, etc. I don't think it is a lack of interest in BYU football, I think it is a lack of attention span. 15-20 minutes is really pretty good.

Good luck!

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/belief

Posted by Hengst - 2008/05/06 14:53

Two things, remember that there is always variance (error) in every social science study based on a theory.

Second, I remember when I was young (5-10 or so) we used to always go to the stake center to watch the BYU games. I don't remember much of the actual games because my friends and I would go out and play football on the lawn instead of really watching the game. Sometimes kids just need to expend energy (not enough kids do this now, that's why so many of us americans are getting so fat).

I don't think you have anything to worry about.

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/belief

Posted by CrimsonCoug - 2008/05/06 15:03

I took my 4-year-old to his first games last year at UCLA and at SDSU. For the UCLA game he lasted almost until halftime and again almost through the third quarter. Then he wanted to play with the binoculars, his cousins, and the goo underneath the seats (nearly making his 7-months-pregnant mommy add her own special blend to that goo). We kept his attention by helping him with cheers, knowing when to clap, and by teaching him the numbers of some of the key players (Kehl, Hall, Collie, Allen) and asking him questions about the game. He had a good but not great performance.

By the time the SDSU contest rolled around, he was pretty attentive for the most of game. That stadium is a great place to bring a kid because it's empty enough for him to move around a bit, but full enough to keep him somewhat corralled.

He played around during the timeouts and such, but would reengage when it was important.

This year we probably won't be able to hit any games (living in Southern California), but we're going to keep up his education with the distance learning program of televised games.

Good luck to your sons. "Train up a child in the way he should go..." and all that.

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/beliefs

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/06 15:47

j2b03 wrote:

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No worry. According to Al Gore, due to increased global warming the next generation is far more likely to not only be BYU football fans but they are far more likely to be rated as extremely rabid BYU football fans. In fact the rating services are considering creating a new top category just so that they can properly classify the upcoming generation of BYU football fans. :huh:

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/beliefs

Posted by SFCougar - 2008/05/06 15:57

I think the important thing is to at least plant the seed of BYU Fandom. Ensuring your children can sing the entire BYU Fight song by age 2 to 3 is a good start. My son just turned 5 and he gets more excited about being at the stadium, hearing the band and spotting Cosmo then the game itself sometimes. I live in Northern California, so my son has only been to one BYU football game in person, but his favorite clothes are his BYU shirts, sweatshirts and hats. For christmas when he was three he got an entire BYU football uniform (including helmet) from Santa. (Works great as a halloween costume too!) Just remember, you must teach your children correct principles when they are young or the sin will wrest upon the heads of the parents.

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/beliefs

Posted by Ball4 - 2008/05/06 18:45

I have no idea how to help you there. I have 4 kids 8, 7, 4, and 18mos. The 8 year old refuses to watch any kind of sports with me. He is into science and engineering type things. Things that I am not too interested in. We love fishing together and camping, but sports...not at all. My 7 year old daughter loves the cheerleaders. Couldn't care less about the actual game, but loves the cheerleaders...oh and the sno cones and nachos. That's about it. My 4 year old daughter will sit with me for about 15 minutes, but then she is off playing on the piano or singing something different. She could sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" at age 2. It's still her favorite song. I am trying to teach her the National Anthem and she enjoys that, but that is just the beginning of the game. My only hope is my 18 month old boy. He loves playing with basket balls, foot balls, and anything he can throw or kick. I did buy a Kirelinko/Jazz shirt for him...he doesn't know what it is, but he is my last hope of having a BYU buddy for games. I will probably get him a BYU shirt this fall and see what he thinks.

All I can say is don't force them, or you will be watching by yourself and you will have an upset wife on your hands.

Good luck to you j2b03.

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/belief

Posted by Schroeder - 2008/05/07 09:02

I started many years ago by taking one child at a time with me to BYU games. When they were young they were more interested in snow-cones and snacks. Before the football, I did the weekly grocery shopping and took one child at a time.

We live in SLC so with travel it really was a day out with dad. We sat at the top of the north endzone. Father/child bonding time.

Now 20 years later they are all in their mid 20's, two are BYU graduates, and they ALL come with their spouses to all the home games and I have to buy 8 tickets each year (of course they pay for their own but I buy to keep us together).

They are more rabid fans than I am by far. I don't for a minute think that it would have happened by just watching the games on TV. It was the in person experience that made it happen! They fell in love with the game and the atmosphere. My daughters and my wife attend the BYU Women's football camp and last year we took my 78 year old mom to the camp. She was so impressed with Bronco and the program, that this year she is also coming to the games with us.

Good luck!!!

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/belief

Posted by decloucog - 2008/05/07 12:05

I'm going to make an observation from the opposite side. I don't have kids yet but can't help but think my dad's attitude helped me become the BYU fan I am today. Growing up, we lived in southern idaho so a trip to BYU was a long journey and more traffic than we saw in a year. Usually 2 games a year was the most we got to go to. We would listen to the pre-game show on the way there, run into the game, eat some food (that was the part we liked the most because my parents didn't take us out to eat ever) and me and my brother would always come home with a football. I don't remember the games too much, but I do remember the rubber BYU footballs and me and my bro acting like we were BYU players in our backyard and always barely beating the imaginary teams we were playing with. (For some reason we always picked ND to beat). I fell in love with the creamery at this time too. As we got older we started enjoying the games more and I remember being so frustrated that BYU lost to Utah 2 times in 3 years at LES and watching the Utah fans run on the field and pull down the goalposts. I'm sure that's where my rivalry blood started flowing. My dad never pushed us and simply provided us the opportunity to enjoy something that he did. I was hooked quick and couldn't get enough BYU anything, but my brother took a while longer. He's at BYU right now and is also a huge fan. In the long run your relationship with your kids is way more important than their interests. I was always glad that my dad supported ANY worthy cause I was trying to pursue, I never felt pressured to perform better than I was able, just do my best. I guess what I'm saying is just enjoy your kids and they'll come around just fine.

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/belief

Posted by NotSackless - 2008/05/07 12:41

My daughters and my wife attend the BYU Women's football camp and last year we took my 78 year old mom to the camp.

Wow! What's her 40 time?

Re: Intergenerational transmission of values/belief

Posted by Schroeder - 2008/05/07 13:06

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