

EasiPREP: What Do Parents Have To Do With It?

I remember as a young boy in my primary school and secondary school days, how my parents, particularly my dad, would often check my school homework, to ensure I'd done them, before going to sleep. Sometimes I had to do the homework before having a change to watch TV or play soccer with friends in the neighbourhood. More often than not, from my performance at the homework and additional assignments from my dad, he's able to predict what my term report card would look like. I remember him stating sometimes that he is not surprised as he scans through my term sheet. I also remember, what then used to be a very annoying trait to me, of him retrieving my previous term sheet, reading out the corresponding grades for each subject and asking me loudly if there was an improvement or a relapse. Although as annoying as the exercise often was, I sometimes found myself grinning at the end like the cat that got the milk when most of my responses were in the positive.

Looking back over the years now, I have not come to rue those days and I could now not only understand but also appreciate my dad's then annoying performance comparison habit. You see, he was an accountant, and after years of reading financial reports in newspapers, I have come to terms with the accountant's habit of juxtaposing financial reports for current and previous years or periods for stakeholders to easily review performance.

Years after, it turned out his efforts paid off as I not only passed out of secondary school with distinction in all subjects but also went through university on multiple scholarships.

The Big Question...

But now, as I join the league of parents, I'm filled with a lot of mixed feelings. Things are not the same as in my growing up days; Education is on a downward spiral and there are more distractions for children that ever before in these days of Facebook, Reality TV Shows, X-Box and PlayStations, Mobile Phones and SMS and the Internet.

These are the days of mega traffic hold-ups and increasingly late work hours that make it increasingly difficult to get home in time to do any meaningful thing with your kids. The days of daddy or mummy dropping kids at school or picking the kids up after school are rapidly becoming extinct.

I'm filled with the longing to be a good parent, at least as good as my own parents were, if not better. I believe my kids deserve the latter because I got better from my parents than they got from theirs. But my situation is not helped by the understanding that good parenting goes beyond just putting food on the table for the kids, buying them new clothes and paying their school fees.

The Whisper of a Solution...

After much brain-wracking and soul-searching, I have come to these conclusions:

1. That the world is going to continue to change and there is nothing I can do to stop it. I can't hide the TVs. I can't hide the Internet.
2. That if I'm to be the good parent I want to be, I'll have to utilize or harness the emerging and current technologies and trends as tools to help me as much as possible become a better parent and increase my value delivery to my children.

And that's why I'm positively excited about EasiPREP, an innovative information technology driven examination and test preparation service that allow students to prepare for examinations through online simulation of tests and exams, exchange academic information through a moderated internet forum and get their essays remotely graded amongst other offerings. Ideally, students should be the only ones excited about EasiPREP's service and solutions.

However, as a parent, I have simply fallen in love with EasiPREP's revolutionary reporting services that allow parents to be able to logon to the system and not only get reports on the performances of their wards or children with EasiPREP practice tests and examinations, but also get invaluable information on the academic strengths and weaknesses of their children, the number of times they're practicing with the EasiPREP system and a whole lot more. And all these can be done with the ease and flexibility of accessing emails on the internet!

EasiPREP is like an epiphany because it easily and effectively enhances parenting and allows more quality time to be spent with kids by their parents. If you've got 30 minutes or an hour to spend with your kids on school work, it can hardly be qualitative when you don't have any clue to their strengths and weakness, what they're struggling with academically or how they're performing relative to their peers. Quality time is enhanced by information and the extent to which you go for the information reflects your love and concern for your children. It is hardly surprising that children know when their parents genuinely care and when they're trying to make up for lack of genuine care with mundane gifts, cash and mantra.

Reflecting after all these years on my most cherished memories from my time with my parents, it is note worthy that food, clothes, cash and gifts rank so low on the scale.

Now, even with EasiPREP, I can't really say for sure if I'll end up being a better parent than mine relatively were, but of one thing I'm sure: I'll always keep trying to do my best. And let my children judge my efforts years later...

For more information on EasiPREP, how you can sign up and features and benefits available, please visit www.easiprep.com or email us through enquiry@easiprep.com