

Freedom or Control

Guest post by Wendy Priesnitz.

Life learners trust kids to learn. We believe that learning is innate and doesn't require teaching, texts or tests. We know that children are not blank slates or raw clay, to be written on or molded into shape by adults. We allow kids to learn by living. And our trust is well placed, as they grow into responsible, well-educated, sociable adults.

However, those of us who are dedicated to the philosophy of self-initiated learning do not always trust our children to make all their learning and other life decisions for themselves. It is easy to agree with our kids' choices when they make the ones we want them to make. But is it really freedom to be allowed only to make choices about things for which an adult is confident the decisions will be "correct"?

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