

Physical Poster Presentation Proposal

Title—A Holistic Study and Synthesis of Parenting Styles and Strategies

Program of Study—Family and Consumer Sciences

Presentation Type—Physical Poster

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Category—Textual

Abstract: In examining multiple styles and strategies of parenting, it comes to light that many parenting styles are functional, but that some are better than others for certain children. Learning to interpret a child's needs regarding discipline, emotional support, physical stimulation, and need for encouragement are all key aspects to utilizing proper parenting style. However, parents are affected differently through family disruptions, like divorce and death, so parents have tendencies to shift parenting styles in such family situations. In such situations, freedom tends to be restricted and parenting styles become more authoritarian. Parenting styles can be determined by multiple factors including culture and personality. The four most commonly described parenting styles are authoritative (democratic), authoritarian, permissive, and overprotective. An authoritative parenting style is generally known as the most effective, fair, and flexible parenting style. An authoritarian parenting style is high on discipline but low on warmth, resulting in children with a more legalistic view of life. A permissive parenting style tends to lack discipline, and it raises children that are immature and do not know how to respect authority. Overprotective parents, or dismissive parents, tend to treat their child with only consequences in mind and the children grow up with little experience or knowledge of the

world. These parenting styles affect all aspects of a child's life including their development into an adult in future years. This paper discusses the utility of each parenting style, if they are at all useful, and offers suggestions based on research and theory for transitions between parenting styles as a result of the family's stage in life.

Christian Worldview Integration: My Christian worldview has informed my research in a way that incorporates a religious perspective on parenting and parenting styles. Because I already have knowledge about parenting from the Bible, I already have a head start on information regarding the importance of Christianity to a family. Throughout my research, I searched for articles with a positive view of religion on a family and its result on a child. Within the culture at large, my research is useful because it is a holistic view of many parenting styles, gives practical advice for parents utilizing certain parenting styles or a mix of the parenting styles, and offers advice that has been proven through science. Often, scientific discoveries of family relationships and a functional way of approaching them is corroborated by the Bible's advice, which was written thousands of years before the research was ever performed. Sharing this information with the culture will give people a less indignant view of the Bible and help them begin to see it as a book of practicality and usefulness. In communicating my results, it is always important to be patient and responsive, but not reactionary. Seldom do other's views ever corroborate with one's own. Although this is more often the case at a Christian university, there are still many people who may have a different perspective of my research simply because I have a Christian worldview. When I present my research, I can be gracious to those who do not share my belief in Christ. I will be anticipatory and considerate to everyone I talk to because I do not know if they share my worldview.