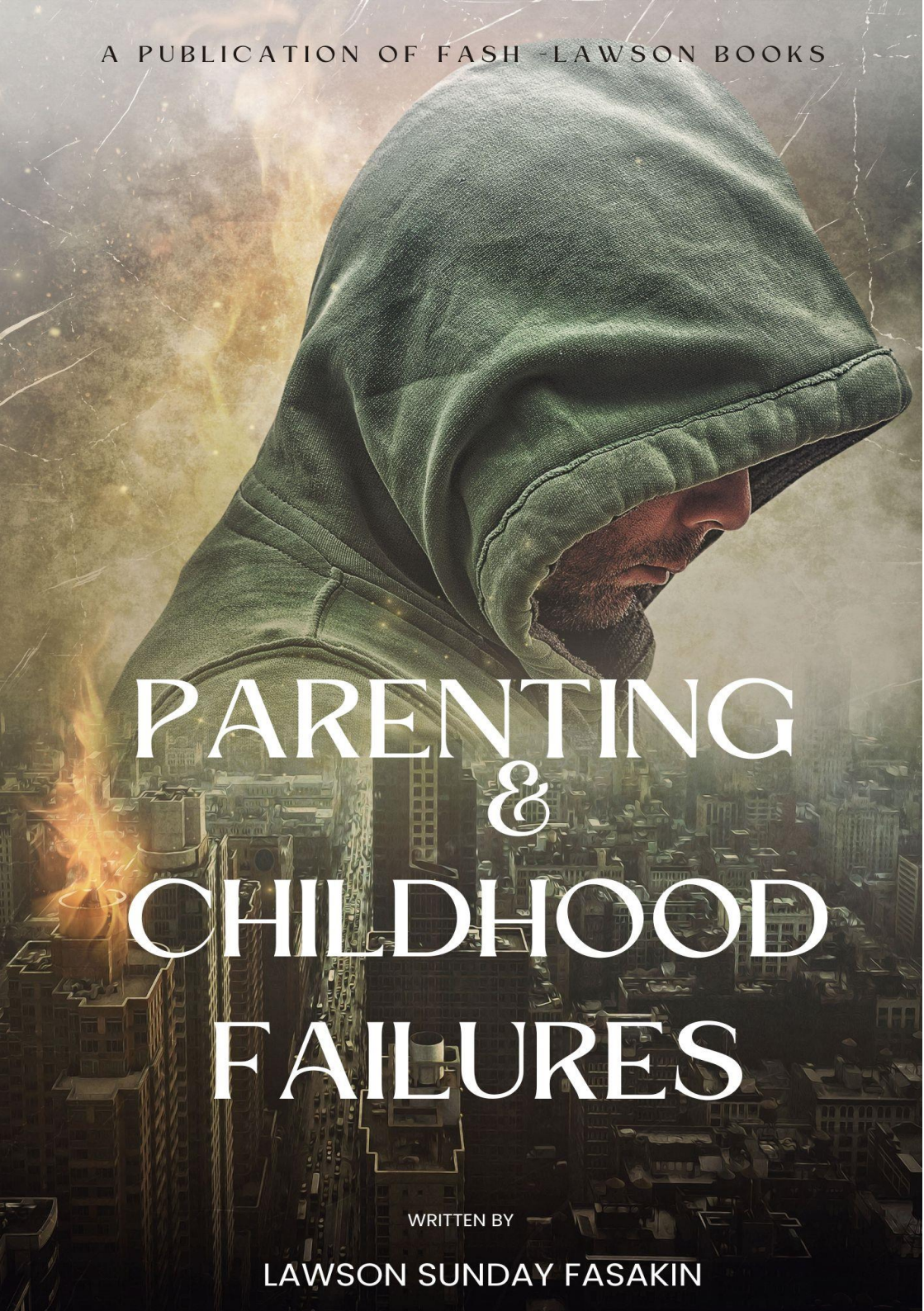


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A man wearing a green hoodie is shown in profile, looking down. The background is a dark, high-angle view of a city at night, with a fire burning on the left side. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

PARENTING
&
CHILDHOOD
FAILURES

WRITTEN BY

LAWSON SUNDAY FASAKIN

PARENTING AND THE CHILDHOOD FAILURES

FASH-LAWSON PUBLISHING BOOK

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INTRODUCTION

The concept of parenting originated with God, who created humans in His image. Adam and Eve, the first humans, had God as their parent, who provided guidance and discipline. This divine example emphasizes the importance of home training and corrective measures when children err.

However, some modern parents neglect this fundamental responsibility. The biblical account of Eli, who failed to discipline his children and faced God's displeasure (1 Samuel 2:12-25), serves as a cautionary tale. Parents must engage with their children, discussing life's challenges and preventing mistakes whenever possible.

Meaningful education begins at home, shaping a child's personality and values. Unfortunately, many parents relinquish their responsibilities, resulting in children lacking a sense of duty and values. To address this, home education must be reimagined to meet children's needs, and parents must be educated about their duties. While acknowledging parents' efforts, I urge them to approach home training with renewed vigour and creativity."

CHAPTER ONE

FAILURE AT HOME AND THE CHILD

As the gates of the Remand Home closed behind teenager Biltson, his thoughts remained a mystery. He was just another casualty of a complex society that seemed too overwhelming for him to comprehend. Biltson's story is a tragic one – a broken and maladjusted member of society, labelled a juvenile delinquent and confined behind iron gates, disconnected from the system he struggled to understand.

But have we considered what the future holds for Biltson after his time in this "microworld"? Will he emerge more confused and unfit for society? It's widely accepted that criminals are made, not born. When examining delinquency, both environmental and hereditary factors come into play. This book focuses on the former, exploring how elemental impulses and needs, especially during early childhood, must be tamed, disciplined, and redirected to align with social demands.

Psychoanalysts often trace neurosis back to early childhood, highlighting the critical role of family in the socialization process. The family is the child's initial point of contact with society, and a wise upbringing during infancy and childhood can equip them to withstand life's crises. However, even with a sturdy childhood foundation, intense challenges may still take a toll.

CHAPTER TWO

THE CHILD AND THE SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In addition to the family, other social institutions play a significant role in shaping a child's behaviour and development. These include peer groups, schools, neighbourhoods, and society at large. It's essential to recognize that no single institution is solely responsible for juvenile delinquency. Rather, delinquency results from the cumulative impact of various factors on an individual.

In reality, most people have exhibited delinquent behaviour at some point, making it a common aspect of the human experience. However, there's a distinction between temporary and prolonged deviation. The degree of abnormality determines whether someone is classified as a delinquent.

Delinquent acts vary widely, from truancy and theft to drug addiction. Interestingly, societal acceptance and rejection of these acts often depend on factors like class, status, and power. For instance, a thief may be viewed as a gentleman if their wealth and status outweigh their criminal behaviours.

The troubled youth often distinguish between two types of delinquencies: one that progresses gradually, like a slow disease, and

another that stems from impulsive reactions. The former may begin with minor offences like truancy, escalating to stealing, gang fights, armed robbery, and eventually, violent crime. The latter type involves reacting to situations without consideration for consequences.

CHAPTER THREE

THE UNDISCIPLINED YOUNGSTER

The consequences of an undisciplined youngster are far-reaching, posing a danger not only to themselves but also to the community at large. As one writer aptly puts it, "Undisciplined youngsters are a danger not only to themselves but to the community." Their behaviours suggest they have surrendered to negative influences, abandoning the values and norms of society.

Delinquents often exhibit ungovernable behaviours, failing to adopt the principles and standards of their community. This deviation is frequently seen as a reflection of family shortcomings. The family unit is responsible for training children, transmitting cultural values, and preparing them for adult responsibilities. However, modernization and civilization have impacted these traditional roles, leading to challenges in family dynamics.

Adverse home conditions, such as poverty, divorce, ineffective discipline, and parental alcoholism, significantly affect children's behavioural tendencies. In many developing countries, homes are often characterized by overcrowding and inadequacies, forcing children to spend more time outside the home. This environment contributes to the

perception of juvenile delinquency as a predominantly lower-class phenomenon.

CHAPTER FOUR

FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS AT HOME AND THE CHILD

Financial struggles are a harsh reality in many households worldwide. The difficulties and stress caused by poverty can lead to a range of negative consequences, including theft, embezzlement, nepotism, tribalism, discontent, and other vices. In such circumstances, it's challenging to preach morality when basic needs are unmet.

The influence of financial constraints on children is particularly concerning. When parents struggle to provide, children may feel the effects of poverty deeply. In some cases, parents' criminal behaviours can even be passed down to their children, either through direct teaching or indirect examples. Knowing that a parent is in prison or engages in immoral behaviours can significantly impact a child's worldview, potentially leading them towards lawlessness and vice.

Losing respect for one's parents can have far-reaching consequences, including a loss of respect for others and the moral framework that guides society. When children see their parents engaging in unethical behaviours, they may begin to question the value of honesty, integrity, and hard work. This can lead to a cycle of poverty and criminality that's difficult to break.

Additional points to consider:

- How financial constraints can limit access to education and opportunities.
- The impact of poverty on mental health and well-being.
- The role of social support systems in mitigating the effects of poverty.
- Strategies for breaking the cycle of poverty and promoting positive values.

In conclusion, financial constraints not only limit access to education for children from low-income backgrounds but also restrict their future opportunities. This can have long-lasting effects on their mental health and well-being, perpetuating a cycle of poverty. To mitigate these effects, countries must establish robust social support systems. Implementing strategies to break the cycle of poverty will foster positive values among disadvantaged children, ultimately benefiting society as a whole. By addressing financial constraints and promoting education, we can empower future generations to thrive and contribute positively to their communities.

CHAPTER FIVE

PARENTS' ABDICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents have abandoned their collective responsibilities towards their children, leading to a lack of guidance and discipline. Many parents are reluctant to set boundaries, fearing confrontation or legal repercussions. This has resulted in a pervasive "I don't care" attitude, where parents prioritize gossiping with peers over correcting their children's misbehaviour.

In the past, community involvement and discipline from neighbours or authority figures served as effective deterrents for misbehaving children. However, today's adults often turn a blind eye, allowing children to engage in increasingly destructive behaviour.

Parents must recognize their critical role in shaping their children's values and morals. Opting out of discipline and guidance will have far-reaching consequences. While schools share some responsibility, parents are primarily accountable for instilling morals in their children.

Home education is a collaborative effort, involving learning and teaching. Parents must take an active role, seeking guidance from community leaders, religious figures, and other resources. Society's

indifference, apathy, and lack of moral fibre contribute to the erosion of values in young people.

It's essential to acknowledge that teachers alone cannot rectify the damage caused by societal neglect. Everyone must take responsibility for correcting anti-social behaviour. Parents, in particular, must recognize their impact on their children's destinies and the importance of self-discipline in achieving personal fulfilment.

In conclusion, the consequences of financial constraints and parental abdication of responsibilities have far-reaching effects on children's lives. Poverty and lack of guidance can lead to a cycle of negativity, limiting access to education and opportunities, and perpetuating harmful values. To break this cycle, it's essential to address financial constraints through social support systems and promote positive values among disadvantaged children. Parents must reclaim their role in shaping their children's morals and values, and society must take collective responsibility for addressing societal issues. By doing so, we can empower future generations to thrive and contribute positively to their communities. Together, we can create a brighter future for all.

Summary of Chapters

Chapter One: Introduced the concept of juvenile delinquency, its definition, and the importance of understanding the factors that contribute to it.

Chapter Two: Explored the role of social institutions, including family, peer groups, schools, and society, in shaping a child's behaviour and the potential consequences of their influence.

Chapter Three: Discussed the consequences of undisciplined youth, including the dangers they pose to themselves and society, and the impact of family failings and environmental factors on their behaviour.

Chapter 4 Summary: Financial constraints at home can lead to a range of negative consequences, including theft, embezzlement, and other vices. Poverty can limit access to education and opportunities, affecting children's mental health and well-being. Countries need social support systems to mitigate the effects of poverty. Breaking the cycle of poverty requires strategies that promote positive values among disadvantaged children.

Chapter 5 Summary: Parents have abandoned their responsibilities, leading to a lack of guidance and discipline. Society's indifference and lack of moral fibre contribute to the erosion of values in young people.

Parents must take an active role in shaping their children's values and morals. Collective responsibility is necessary to address societal issues and promote positive values.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lawson Sunday Fasakin is a dynamic educational historian, teacher, prolific writer and best-selling author. A Ph.D. scholar of History and Policy of Education. He is widely regarded to be amongst the best in the field of history and policy of education. He has published more than ten books on issues concerning education.

His mission, which is a recurring message in his books, is to challenge the individual to make the most of his or her educational attainment by pursuing the best education for his or her success.