

# Q & A Regarding Human Development vs. Technology Advancements Since Education Was Mandated in America

**IT'S TIME FOR QUALITY EARLY LEARNING FOR ALL CHILDREN FROM 0-5 YEARS**  
*It's a logical solution that makes sense... and cents!*

**Q. Why has technology advanced so much, so quickly, since 1850 when formal education was widely mandated in America?**

**A.** Because as a nation, we acknowledged a need for and implemented formal academic education for all children in our nation which is funded from our tax dollars.

**Q. Why has human development NOT improved -- and even declined -- since 1850?**

**A.** Because we have never acknowledged that all families, regardless of circumstances, need help in raising their children and teaching them the personal and interpersonal skills they need so they can become their best selves. In the same way we acknowledged the need for academic education for all, we must put a plan in place to provide quality early learning for every child so they can begin to learn the essential personal life skills they need.

**Q. When should children start to learn about these topics?**

**A.** There have been many studies from scientists and education experts proving that children can start learning these from infancy, and that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of five. Therefore, we should assure that every child has access to quality early learning (birth-5 years) which includes essential personal life skills. This education should continue in grades K-12.

**Q. How can we assure that all children begin to learn critical life skills from birth?**

**A.** By addressing a national crisis that demands a national solution. We should demand that our government spend OUR money wisely and invest in all our children to provide the necessary funds for quality early learning for all children. This would cost approximately 3% of the federal budget. Just as we allocate tax dollars for public school for every child in our nation, we should allocate tax dollars for quality early learning for every child, too. We feel the quickest way to make this happen is through a standing president who acknowledges that the people are the government's customer, and that it's in everyone's interest to help all people in this way, not just the underprivileged or needy.

***It will require a savvy businessperson like to understand how to eliminate wasteful spending and budgeting to not overspend our money, and instead, to use our tax dollars to help all people.***

**Q. When you say "quality early learning for every child", is this another entitlement program you're talking about?**

**A. No! Investing in all our children and families** will yield returns by reducing the need for many current social programs, as it addresses issues that are the result of a lack of essential personal life skills. This proposal makes both economic and practical sense by tackling problems such as insufficient and unaffordable childcare, thus enabling parents to work and ensuring that all children develop necessary life skills. Ultimately, this will save money by decreasing the need for social programs that address issues arising from a lack of these skills. It is crucial to use tax dollars to benefit all children, not just those whose families are poor or cannot afford quality early learning care.

## Ask yourself this:

**Why do we only spend money on programs to try to “repair” broken people, instead of putting it into their foundations, i.e. quality early learning including essential life skills education for all our children, which can prevent some of those problems to begin with?**

### Q. What can we do to make quality early childhood education for all children a priority?

A. First we must all have a change of attitude. We are the government’s customers, and it is our money they spend. We must all insist that the government make this issue a spending priority -- not just for the poor, who are not getting the best services for our tax dollars anyway, but for every American, who are all entitled to receive the same services for their tax dollars.

### Q. Isn't it the job of parents to teach these skills to their children?

A. Most parents clearly want their children to learn and have these skills, but we must acknowledge that just because someone makes a baby, it does not make them a teacher and also doesn't guarantee that they have the skills we are talking about themselves. This does not make them bad people; we simply can't teach something we don't know! We make jokes that babies don't come with an instruction book, but we don't acknowledge that it is in the best interest our nation to help everybody become their best selves; funding quality early learning for all children from birth to 5, just like we do now for K-12<sup>th</sup> grade public education, would help this to become a reality. This investment would be a conservative approach to solve problems that have been ongoing for hundreds of years, and which now cost billions of American tax dollars for the public and social programs we now have -- programs which only put band-aids on the problems that result from a society which is now largely without these skills.

### Q. Isn't it better for children to be at home with a parent for their early years?

A. Economic and family dynamics dictate that most parents must work outside the home, and therefore need somewhere safe for their children to be educated and cared for. For the relatively small percentage of families that do have the financial ability for a parent to be at home raising their children, this is often not the best option for the children. Socialization, interpersonal relationship skills and self-control are learned starting in infancy, and the birth to age 5 years of a child's life are essential for developing skills learned through interaction with other children -- skills they will continue to learn and hone during their K-12<sup>th</sup> grade education. Preschool for every child in a quality setting will provide the solid foundation that is proven to help people academically, behaviorally, financially and even medically.

### Q. Does everyone need these skills in their personal life?

A. Absolutely. Close your eyes and think of how many people just in your immediate family or circle of friends and acquaintances who have issues with self-esteem, mental health or substance abuse, or who deal with bullying, domestic abuse, crime, violence, divorce etc. Learning essential personal life skills beginning as a part of quality early learning would not eliminate all these problems, but it most certainly will minimize them and help people learn to be their best selves.

### Q. This all sounds great, but how can we make it happen?

A. It won't be easy, but today we have some visionary people who get things done, and they do have a lot of followers and people in their spheres of influence. Followers equal votes and votes equal power.

**Q. Can you help me make this happen? You can take the credit.**