

# It Takes a Village to Raise a Child

by Hillary Rodham Clinton (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1995)115pp

I first took grave issue with the full title and it was all downhill after that.

The full title is “It Takes A Village To Raise A Child And Other Lessons Children Teach Us.” How saccharine! The implication of “children in charge,” “they can teach us,” and “they have innate goodness” has been proven wrong so many times in fact that one has to be daft to give it much consideration any longer. But what else can one expect from the author?

The book reminds me of Archbishop Fulton Sheen’s story of when he was giving a priest retreat, a young priest asked pointed and aggressive questions about the Church with “all its wealth.” The young priest even barged into the Archbishop’s office during break time to continue on his decrying the so-called wealth of the Church. After several minutes, Sheen interrupted the priest with a firm: “How much did you steal?” And he pressed several times at which point the young priest broke down and proved Sheen’s hunch true — that the reason for his “too much” protest was that the priest himself had taken too much.

It’s the question many of us would wonder about the author of this book: how many abortions did she have any way? How about all of her colleagues at the Children’s Defense Fund? One wonders if any courageous journalists will ask her? No doubt, her response can be filed along with most all else she has to say. Too much.

But above all, this is another “about” book — it is about something and not the something. Actually, a better title would have been: “The Travels of Hillary And Chelsea.”

In the travels, many nice vignettes and feel-good pap chattily please anybody and nobody. In summary: be nice to animals and others and be sure and tell those aborted babies how legally they died, which must have happened to white boys since none were in the crowd of children on the full color book cover. With this book, Hillary gets what she wants: subservient boys, sexualized girls, and liberal good-for-nothing children. The government is not to take over but it should be used more efficiently with the usual old urine in new bottles. I may have overlooked something, but I found nothing on military service consistent with the author’s (and her husband’s) understanding of patriotism: not to die but to lie for one’s country.

Of course this is the problem: how does one listen to the messenger when you know she is a liar? Especially when you have figured out that she is an impudent liar — demanding that she be proved wrong when the burden of proof is on her.

What we have here is a good talk and bedtime story, a lullaby of liberal flattery and appropriation of conservative ideas recited with liberal twists tenaciously held as doomsday cults persist in their ideas even though the doomsday date is passed. This book proves the liberal solutions have failed but their promoters march their ideas on and on.

Opinion

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Leave it to a closet socialist to write a book with its title such that you will end up with a communist style “village” which will be a pagan village filled with sophisticated welfare traps. In fact, this woman has about as much right to write a book about children as 1 do about decorations in the White House. This is an example of the tyranny of manipulative journalism which promotes it and bad books in general which at bottom are nothing more than self-inflated, self promotional pieces.

I read the book in one sitting. If it were better written, it would have taken me half as long. There is enough sweet, slippery stuff to keep an army of cockroaches and welfare caseworkers alive for a long time. The pygmies are judging what is tall.

It takes two committed parents (male and female) following the Ten Commandments with a traditional family under 1 have come to discount all standing to raise a child. And books about the family which do not define the family in an ideal manner. But this is never done because such a family would never be liberal enough.

As G.K. Chesterton wrote: “Even the tyrant never rules by force alone, but mostly by fairy tales,” among which Hillary Clinton and this book can be included.