

Business Parenting

Parenting as a concept is the best business model that has delivered sustainable and enviable results over 5000 years. A majority of the parents in the last 5000 years did not attend any formal B-school but, delivered over 1000% growth across each generation on health, wealth, intelligence, longevity, quality of life, civility etc. Why is it that we find it difficult to get a CEO with sustainable performance? Even those from the premier business schools seldom make it!

Every parent is a leader in their own family and has ensured holistic growth to their future generations. They have weathered the business cycles, handled stress, absorbed technologies, and many more. The success rate with parenting across boundaries, race, religion etc is over 95%! Is there any learning from the concept of parenting to manage our businesses?

In business we often talk so much about teams to deliver results. Every CEO's job is to put together the best team by bringing people from different parts of the world. On the other hand, in parenting the building the team was never an option or a choice! The challenges were to make the best with what they were dealt with.

Leading by example to become a role model for the organization is a mandate for many CEOs. However, only few have achieved it. On the other hand, over 75% of the parents are revered as role models by many across the world. What made the success rate so high?!

Knowledge management, learning organizations, and formal mental models are few of the emerging trends in the business world for sustenance. Invariably, the investments in money, time, and commitment suffer with other overriding priorities. In the parenting concept, these were the building blocks for generations!

Developing and empowering others is another challenge to the CEOs. Many CEOs have graduated to commit resources for these and only few have committed themselves. The success of empowering is a function of the desire to empower, involvement through learn-practice-perform-lead cycle. This has been the way of life for the parents on the other hand it was a choice for many CEOs!

The lessons from the parenting concept are many that listing them in one article is near-impossible. The fundamental reason for the success of parenting is on account of nurturing, developing, and leveraging the intrinsic strengths of the resources (children) to make them independent to deal with the challenges in the world and be successful.

Mapping & practicing the parenting processes into business may provide the results enjoyed by the parenting.