

W O N D E R C H I L D

Wonder

Everything is interesting and exciting
Feels with all his senses
Innate need to know, to experiment
to explore, to look at, and to touch
Curiosity leads to the discover of his self
Acquires basic knowledge of the world
Has 'life's spark'

Optimism

Learns trust
Naturally believes the world is friendly
Hope, all is possible
Child like faith
Develops inner strengths
Optimism and trust are soul of intimacy

Dependence

Needy by nature not by choice
Depends on others
Shaped from beginning by caretakers,
at each stage of development,
which have far reaching consequences
A process of maturing, 'ripening,' and
flowering of human life
Dependent all our lives and in need of
love and interaction
Form attachments, make commitments
Become generative...care for life itself
Evolutionary vocation, balance between
dependency and un-dependency

Naiveté

Core of innocence
Lives in the now...oriented to pleasure
Lacks sense of right-wrong, good-bad
Hard to choose any one thing
While exploring gets into things
(child proof house)
Docility – state of being teachable

Emotion

Earliest and greatest natural resource
Cooing creates symbiotic bonding
Sees humor in all sorts of things
Natural joyfulness
Weeping - 'joy is sorrow unmasked'
- elicits our nurturing and compassion
- contributes to health of individual

Resilience

Ability to bounce back
Courageous (cor heart)
Behavior flexibility
Adventurous
Survives

Free play

Freedom and spontaneity
Transcends the repetition of habit
Activity of pure pleasure and delight
Part of our essential nature
Imagination – greatest discoveries
Foundation for later life
To be human is to be playful

Uniqueness

Sense of wholeness-I AMness
Connected and unified within himself
which makes each child special,
unique and wonderful
No one is exactly like him
Every child truly precious and rare
Naturally spiritual which is the deepest
and most authentic in us, our true self
Sense of connection and grounding in
something greater than ourselves
I AMness constitutes our core
God-likeness, one with himself
Self accepting

Love

Naturally predispose to love and affection
Learns to love by being loved
Makes us human
A child's healthy growth depends on loving
and accepting him unconditionally

Summary of Dr John Bradshaw's
"Homecoming" pages 30-40 JM

CO-DEPENDENCY

*Dr. John Bradshaw
"Homecoming" Pg 9*

"Children need security and healthy modeling of emotions in order to understand their own inner signals.

They also need help in separating their thoughts from their feelings.

When the family environment is filled with violence (chemical, emotional, physical, or sexual), the child must focus solely on the outside.

Over time he loses the ability to generate self-esteem from within.

Without a healthy inner life, one is exiled to trying to find fulfillment on the outside.

This is co-dependence, and it is a symptom of a wounded inner child.

Co-dependent behavior indicates that the person's childhood needs were unmet, therefore he cannot know who he is."