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ISSUE 15 JUNE 09

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VALUED LPS MEMBERS,

By now, all of you must have felt the vibes of the 7th National Convention as the buzz builds across the US. Everyone is talking and working towards our upcoming convention. This year our convention is going to be a fantastic and a memorable one!

Over 750 LPS members have already registered and the number is increasing daily. In the history of LPS, this is a record breaker. We have never these many registrations this early in the lead up to the convention. Also, we have already met our room commitment to Opryland Hotel. What's more, they have assured us that they will honor the same rate until our cut-off date of June 8. So if you have not booked your rooms as yet, please do so immediately.

Our volunteer teams are working diligently to provide a convention that will not only educate our youth and build network across the states, but will also be a memorable one for many years to come. Our pool of excellent guest speakers includes the award winning sociology professor, life strategist and author of *Pinch Yourself and Touch Someone*, Dr Narsi Patel of Gaam Vagech and Krish Dhanam from Zig Zigar who wrote *The American Dream from an Indian Heart*. Our keynote speaker is 'Happyness Hero' Chris Gardner, whose incredible autobiography *The Pursuit of Happyness* became a *New York Times* and *Washington Post* number one bestseller, and was the inspiration for the acclaimed film of the same name starring popular actor Will Smith.

Our entertainment committee has an excellent agenda for attendees of all ages. The cultural program will rock the night away with youth performances of raas, garba, Bollywood dance and youth recognition. Also lined up is Bollywood entertainment with *Sunhare Pal* and *Heartbeats* fame Vinod Rathod, Bollywood actress and television host Mandira Bedi and actress Roshni Chopra of the television soap *Kasam*, amongst others.

The youth entertainment is on the General Jackson Cruise with performances from *The Bilz and Khasif*, *Bobby Moon* and *DJ Vicious*. These are but a few highlights of the upcoming convention that is filled with lots of cultural, educational and entertainment for attendees of all ages. To avoid late registration fees, please register before the deadline. You can also register online at www.lpsofusa.com

See ya'll in Nashville, TN!

Thank You

Jai Shree Krishna
Jai Swaminaryan



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Dear Respected Leuva Members and LPS Board of Directors,
 Jai Shree Krishna
 HOWDY everyone!

I hope that this issue of Leuva Connection finds everyone in the best of health.

The wheels are turning and burning here in Nashville, TN as preparations are underway to host the 7th annual LPS convention at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel on July 8th, 9th, 10th. All we need from our Leuva brothers and sisters is to come on down and make sure to bring the entire family. We have two fun filled days for everyone to kick back and enjoy the spectacular speakers, beautiful Bollywood entertainment and delicious food.

As this term is about to come to an end you will be asked to submit names from your areas to send to the National Board. Please don't take this important decision lightly. LPS has come a long way, we are in search for vibrant young individuals who are willing to face the challenges that LPS has. With all due respect to our older board members it's time to move up or make way for change.

If you are serving on our board please make sure and attend Dahyabhai's last board meeting. We are in the process of making certain changes to the By- Laws and need a quorum



to do so.

I've taken up too much of your time: make sure and read the rest of the mag. That's it from me enjoy the magazine and hope to see 'yall' in July if not sooner.

Jai Shree Krishna
Sunil B Patel
 Publisher

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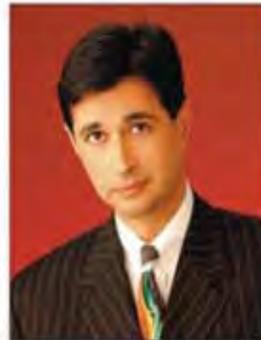
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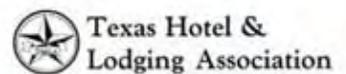
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7th National LPS Convention & Trade Show

Wednesday, July 8th to Friday, July 10th, 2009

“Tentative Schedule for Convention”

Wednesday, July 8th, 2009

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Golf Tournament
1:00 PM - 7:00 PM Attendee Registration
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Lifetime Member Reception & Entertainment

Thursday, July 9th, 2009

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Meditation
7:00 AM - 9:30 AM Continental Breakfast
7:00 AM - 5:00 PM Attendee Registration
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Opening General Session
9:30 AM - 5:30 PM Youth Activities
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Lunch in Ryman Exhibit Hall
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Trade Show
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Gala Seat Assignments (Life Time Members)
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM Senior Citizens Activities
2:30 PM - 6:00 PM Concurrent Matrimonial & Youth Sessions
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Women's Session
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Social Hour in Ryman Exhibit Hall
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dinner
8:00 PM - 11:59 PM Leuva Cultural Program and Entertainment
10:00 PM - 11:59 PM Youth Entertainment

Friday, July 10th, 2009

6:00 AM - 10:00 AM Medical Camp
7:00 AM - 10:00 AM Continental Breakfast
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Gala Seat Assignments
10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Closing General Session & LPS Business
9:45 AM - 5:30 PM Youth Activities
12:00 PM - 2:30 PM Lunch in Ryman Exhibit Hall
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Trade Show
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM Concurrent Matrimonial and Youth Sessions
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Women's Session
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM Senior Citizens Activities
4:15 PM - 6:00 PM Panel Discussion
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dinner
8:00 PM onwards Gala Night and Bollywood Entertainment
10:00 PM onwards Youth Cruise on General Jackson Showboat



HOTEL INFORMATION

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center

2800 Opryland Drive • Nashville, TN 37214

Call 1-888-777-6779 to make reservations.

Please ask for the LPS of USA National Convention

Rates: Single/Double: \$105.00

Premium Rooms: \$169.00

Rate: LPS Rate Code : S-LPS09

Youth Agenda

AGES 9 and UNDER

Thursday, July 9th, 2009

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Puppet Show
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Little Leuva's Lunch
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Magic Show/General Discussion

Friday, July 10th, 2009

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Premi Mohan: Yoga
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM American Redcross
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM Priest Ravindra Dave
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Little Leuva's Lunch
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Craft Activities
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Movie

AGES 16-20

Thursday, July 9th, 2009

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Chris Gardner "Pursuit of Happyness"
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Ice Breaker
2:30 PM - 4:45 PM Concurrent Seminars: M.A.D.D.
Kaplan Class What is Leuva?

Friday, July 10th, 2009

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM General Session
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Lunch
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Krish Dhanam
"The American Dream from an India Heart"
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Teen Life
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Self Defense
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM 20's, 40's, and 60's Interactive Discussion

AGES 10-15

Thursday, July 9th, 2009

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Chris Gardner "Pursuit of Happyness"
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Luau Lunch
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM Arts and Crafts/Jewelery Making
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Game Show

Friday, July 10th, 2009

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Urban Active
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Health and Diet Seminar
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Seminar on Leuva
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM 20's, 40's, and 60's Interactive Discussion

AGES 21 and UP

Thursday, July 9th, 2009

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Chris Gardner "Pursuit of Happyness"
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Matrimonial
3:15 PM - 4:45 PM Krish Dhanam
"American Dream Has No Snooze Button"
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Social Hour for Matrimonial

Friday, July 10th, 2009

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM General Session
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch
1:30 PM - 2:45 PM Matrimonial Follow Up
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM LPS at Work
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM 20's, 40's, and 60's Interactive Discussion

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Ages 21 and UP

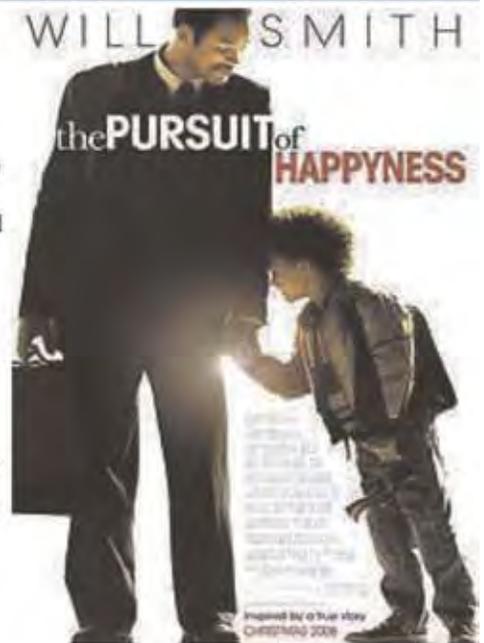
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KEYNOTE and GUEST SPEAKERS



"CHRIS GARDNER"

Christopher Paul Gardner (born February 9, 1954 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin) is a self-made millionaire, entrepreneur, motivational speaker, and philanthropist who, during the early 1980s, struggled with homelessness while raising his toddler son, Christopher, Jr. Gardner's book of memoirs was published in May 2006. As of 2006, he is CEO of his own stockbrokerage firm, Gardner Rich & Co, based in Chicago, Illinois where he resides when he is not living in New York City. Gardner credits his tenacity and success to his "spiritual genetics" handed down to him by his mother, Bettye Jean Triplett, née Gardner, and to the high expectations placed on him by his children, Chris Jr. (born 1981) and his daughter, Jacintha (born 1985). Gardner's personal struggle of establishing himself as a stockbroker while managing fatherhood and homelessness is portrayed in the 2006 motion picture *The Pursuit of Happyness*, starring Will Smith.

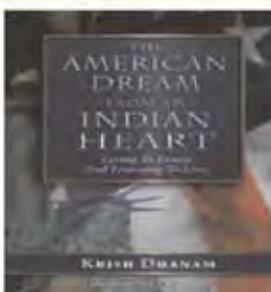


"THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS"

The Pursuit of Happyness is a 2006 American biographical drama film, directed by Gabriele Muccino and based on the true story of Chris Gardner. The film stars Will Smith as Gardner, an on-and-off-homeless salesman-turned stockbroker. The screenplay by Steven Conrad is based on the eponymous best-selling memoir written by Gardner with Quincy Troupe. For his performance, Smith got an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor and a Golden Globe nomination. The title is intentionally misspelled, as it also appears as graffiti in a scene in the film. The misspelled phrase is actually taken from an essay written in 1776 that argued that whites and blacks were created equal. The essay, which was written by Lemuel Haynes, a biracial man living in New England during the Revolution, quoted Thomas Jefferson's well-known sentence from the United States Declaration of Independence, but spelled the last word of the sentence with a y. The sentence, as it appears in Lemuel's essay, is as follows: "We hold these truths to be self-Evident, that all men are created Equal, that they are Endowed By their Creator with Ceertain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happyyness."



Krish Dhanam joined the Zig Ziglar Corporation in the sales department in October of 1991. Through speaking and teaching the timeless principles of its legendary founder Zig Ziglar, Krish soon embarked on a career that has seen him facilitate workshops and conduct seminars all over the world. His current assignments include functioning as Vice President of Consulting and Business Development for Ziglar True Performance and Co-founder of Krish Dhanam Training International. As a writer he has authored articles on a range of topics spanning from personal relationships to corporate change. Recognized by his peers as a dynamic personality, Krish says that sharing a stage with a President pales in comparison to watching a movie with his son.



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BY **DR. NARSI PATEL**

AWARD-WINNING SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR AND LIFE STRATEGIST

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 Gaylord Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN - July 8th, 9th & 10th, 2009 (Wed, Thur & Fri)

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Mail To: LPS of USA, Inc., Attn : Ravi Dave, 716 Sweetwater Circle, Old Hickory, TN 37138

Ph: (615) 739-5088 Fax: (615) 739-5266 Email: ravileuvapatidar@yahoo.com or ravidave12@comcast.net

First Name _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____

Address: _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Village _____

Ph (H) _____ Ph (C) _____ Email _____

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 Annual Member
 Non-Member (Leuva)

Attendees 18 & Over	\$ AMT	AGE	Email Address
<i>Subtotal A</i>			
Ages 10-17	\$ AMT	AGE	Email Address
Age 9 & Under (Free)	\$ 0	AGE	
<i>Subtotal B</i>			

C.) LPS Membership is \$60.00(1 yr) or \$100.00 (2 yr) _____ D.) Lifetime Membership \$1001.00 _____

E.) I wish to donate towards this convention \$ _____

F.) I wish to donate towards the LPS Scholarship Foundation \$ _____

TOTAL (A) + (B) +(C or D) + (E) + (F) = \$ _____

Pmt Options: Ck# _____ MC _____ VI _____ AX _____ DS _____

Credit Card# _____ Name on CC _____

Exp. _____ CVV# (Card ID) _____ Amount \$ _____

Signature _____

Membership Status:	Early Registration Fee Deadline 06/18/2009	On Site Registration After 06/18/2009
2009 LPS Member (18 & Over)	\$129.00 per person	\$189.00 per person
Lifetime Member	\$99.00 per person	\$129.00 per person
Children Ages 10-17	\$79.00 per person	\$99.00 per person
Senior Citizen (65 and over)	\$99.00 per person	\$129.00 per person
Non-Member (Leuva Only)	\$189.00 per person	\$219.00 per person

NOTE: * Unmarried children 18 & above of Lifetime Members will be charged \$99.00 for early registration.

**Married children of a Lifetime Member will be considered as a regular annual member.

***All family membership must have current valid membership or will be charged the non-member (Leuva) fee.

**** Registration fees are non-refundable

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Leuva Patidar Samaj of USA

(Surat, Navsari & valsad District)

FIN# 20-5846705

Membership Application Form

Each Married child needs to fill out separate form

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- Print your old Address
- New Member
- Life Member
- Membership Renewal

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Enclose \$60 for one year and \$100 for two years
Or \$1001 for Life time membership
Mail to: Ravindra Dave
LPS of USA
716 Sweetwater Cir, Old Hickory TN 37138-2063

Web: www.leuvapatidarsamaj.com

(Ph) 615-739-5088 Fax: 615-739-5266 Email: ravidave12@comcast.net

APPLICANT INFORMATION
SPOUSE INFORMATION

Full Name _____ Village _____ Father and Grandfather's full name _____ _____ Mother's name _____ Father and Grandfather's name _____ _____ Village _____ Name of Business _____ Home Address/ Street Name _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____ Fax () _____ Email _____ Old Address: (For change of address only) Street Name _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Full Name _____ Village _____ Father and Grandfather's full name _____ _____ Mother's name _____ Father and Grandfather's name _____ _____ Village _____ Profession _____ Home Address/ Street Name _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____ Fax () _____ Email _____ Old Address: (For change of address only) Street Name _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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Unmarried Children First name only	Date of birth Month/ Year	Unmarried Children First name only	Date of birth Month/Year

Married Children First name only

1. _____	3. _____	5. _____	7. _____
2. _____	4. _____	6. _____	8. _____

Payment Option: Check # _____ Dt: _____

Credit Card Type Visa Master Amex Discover

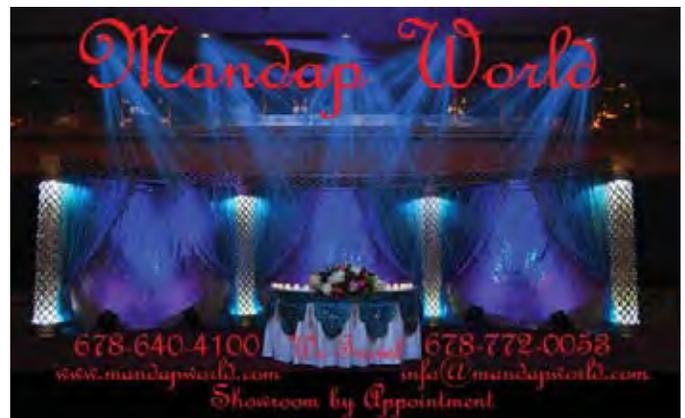
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- May 11 – Temple, TX
- May 15 - Chattanooga, TN
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GALA NIGHT

LPS 2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW
JULY 10th, 2009 - 8:00 PM
Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Nashville, TN
National Promoter: Natwar Thakkar of 999 Ent. Inc. 732-803-8756

LEUVA PATIDAR SAMAJ OF USA
presents

Sunhare Pal
Live in Concert

HITS FROM THE YESTERYEARS & TODAY
with Musicians & Dancers from Bollywood

LPS 2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW
JULY 8th, 2009 - 8:00 PM
Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Nashville, TN
National Promoter: Natwar Thakkar of 999 Ent. Inc. 732-803-8756

Cultural and Variety Show
performed by LPS members from across the nation.

As the deadline has approached, there are a few time slots available.

With high request of **youth** requesting performance of **smaller groups**, we will allow two or more youths performing on stage. No repeat songs will be accepted (**Jai Ho** is taken).

Contact:
Lina Patel (513-257-6700)
Heena Patel (615-496-4628)

Time to ring in the new and ring out the old

Viren Patel, 21+ youth convention chairman, calls out to all young Leuvas to take the reins of the community's future in their hands...

Take a step back, close your eyes, and imagine yourself as your parent. Think about where they came from, what they have been through and what they have accomplished. Amazing, isn't it? Now bring yourself back to reality and tell me you can do it as well? Of course you can!

"Preserving Our Culture For Future Generations". Our parents and grandparents have done just that and as tradition would have it, the LPS youth need to continue to prosper. What better a venue than the 7th Annual LPS Convention at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel & Resort in Nashville, TN. The focus of the convention will primarily target the next generations of young adult Leuva's to step in to promote our culture and heritage, thus building a stronger foundation for our future



generations. This three-day event will be an open forum for you to meet new and old friends and bring families together. Special

dedication has been made to the matrimonial session with a twist and this is one event that should not be missed.

The convention will be host to numerous seminars and events. Our line-up of speakers is well renowned and we guarantee that you will walk away with something special. Each day will be filled with intuitive and educational seminars and sessions that will be of interest to all LPS participants including our hard working volunteers, fellow guests and vendors. Seminars and topics of discussion will be those that relate to all and will allow room for interaction, Q&A and solutions.

Evening events will consist of dancing and music at one of Nashville's premier nightclubs 'Fuse' inside the Gaylord Opryland Hotel. Friday (July 10) night, the youth will be entertained with a cruise down the Cumberland River on the General Jackson Showboat. So, whether you're old school or just getting your feet wet, bring yourself to the convention and you will take with you a new level of LPS!



Real Estate Corner

Q: Is this the right time to sell your hotel?

A: This depends—bet you thought I, as a broker, would say YES. The current market is a Buyer's Market and what this means is that qualified buyers or investors prepared with cash and the ability to get financing are driving prices down as they have many opportunities and options available to them. The properties in all real estate segments that are currently being marketed and are trading are either in a distressed situation where motivation is strong to meet the market price or include the upper brands in hotel assets that continue to be in high demand from investors and from guests (thus keeping their numbers stronger than their competitive hotels in their respective markets). As the economy, however, continues its slow cycle at the bottom, more and more owners are feeling the pressures of a tremendous decrease in top line revenues and are struggling to keep expenses as low as possible. This is the time, though, to work with your lender, franchisor, vendors and hold on till the cycle comes back. As a buyer, this is a great time to purchase hotels. Although this year will be a struggle, the hotel industry is cyclical and will eventually come back. Opportunities are abundant, but a plan to acquire, rebrand (if needed), and hold on through the rough times will put these buyers on top when the economy returns.

By Harshvina "Helen" Zaver
 Email your commercial real estate questions to:
helen.zaver@marcusmillichap.com

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Activities for youth 10-15 years

The annual convention will offer two days of activities for the youth, to keep them interested and entertained. Activities have been grouped into five major categories: educational, cultural, health, arts and craft, and entertainment.

Educational	A seminar on health and diet
Cultural	Seminar on family values - Mukesh Mowji Seminar on culture - Dhansukhbhai A quiz with a prize
Health	Fitness class presented by Urban Active
Arts & craft	Plane making, jewelery making, card stamping, ice- breaker
Entertainment	Leuva party/Pizza lunch Inflatables Video games

We are also planning to hand out goody bags to all the kids which will also include a custom designed T-shirt



Schedule for youth 16-20 years

Thursday 9th July 2009 1:30 - 4:45PM		
Introduction of committee		1:30 - 1:45
Welcome Ice breaker		1:45 - 2:30
Concurrent seminars	M.A.D.D Kaplan What is Leuva?	2:30 - 4:45 2:30 - 4:00 2:30 - 4:45
Friday 10th July 2009 1:30 - 4:45PM		
Krish Dhanam		1:00 - 2:00
Self Defense		TBA
Tenn Life		2:00 - 3:00
Panel Discussion 20 40 60		3:00 - onwards
Contact: Youth Chairman PJ Morar on 931 209 1213		



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Is your teen driving you crazy?

Bill Knell on how you can make the parenting tightrope a bit easier, both for yourself and your children...

Teens test the limits of any parent's sanity. It's easy for parents to overreact and find fault with their teen, but there's plenty of blame to go around. Start with nature. A recent series of tests have shown that all teenagers experience a certain amount of electrical disarray in their brain functions. This may account for what parents notice as unusual or irrational behavior at times. A parent's overreaction to their teen's annoying behavioral swings can add insult to injury and bring out the worst in any child. Don't worry, you are still in charge! A teen's assertiveness is what prepares them for life apart from their parents. How you deal with them during those troublesome years is likely to set the tone for any relationship you hope to maintain with your child when they become adults. Reacting to their behavior strictly on emotion or as a challenge to your authority is unlikely to produce the results you want. It will also produce a wall between you and your teen which will end any useful communication.



As a dad with seven kids, it's been my experience that parenting requires walking a tightrope. You have to balance a desire for your children to grow into responsible and fulfilled adults, with a need to allow them to develop their own personality and be who they want to be. Fortunately for me, none of them have taken up guitar and started playing ear-shattering music, while biting the heads off of canaries, hoping to be the next Ozzie Osbourne. But what happens if they do? Growing up in the 1960s and 1970s, I had more than a few friends who had garage bands and wanted fame. Their parents tolerated what they considered to be a brief fling with music, but kept the pressure on for their kids to stay in school and pursue other career avenues while waiting for their big break. Most of those teens ended up as adults with other careers and appreciated the guidance their parents provided. This tells me that the way their parents handled things was reasonable and worked.

If your teen has a desire to move in a path that doesn't suit you, it's time for some serious decision making. If you shut off their opportunity to express themselves, you may shut them out. So you might have to tolerate some loud guitar playing from time to time in order to retain a certain level of influence over them. In other cases, you might have to make a few trips to the doctor because your teen loves skating or skateboarding and has sustained an injury or three. Make them understand that their ability to enjoy personal interests, which may or may not lead to a career, hinges on your ability to be allowed input into their choices.

It's one thing to encourage self-expression, but another to

provide negative influence. Many parents allow underage teens to drink alcoholic beverages or smoke in the home. Sometimes it has to do with the culture they come from, in other cases it's allowed because the parents did it when they were teens. Before you allow your child to do something which is, essentially illegal, consider the ramifications. When you allow teens to break the law, for whatever reason, you are teaching them situation ethics. This means that they can obey or disobey the law, depending on the situation. But that's not the only consequence.

A family with a teen who is the star of their school sports team is likely to host a victory party at one time or another. Some parents tolerate and even encourage the consumption of alcoholic beverages at such an event. They buy a keg of beer for everyone and balk at the idea that one beer is going to hurt anyone. But think of the precedent that sets? The lesson learned by teens will be that anytime anything exciting or good happens, it's time for a



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beer or several. The old, "Do as I say, don't do as I do" defense doesn't hold water. Children learn by example and always have. Even self-expression must have its limits. I met a family not long ago with two teen boys that were fourteen and sixteen years old. They moved into a home around the corner from where we lived. While talking with their father, I found out that the boys were completely obsessed with backyard wrestling. Their parents had even purchased an old boxing ring, fixed it up and allowed the kids to use it for wrestling matches. But after a friend of one of their teens had seriously injured himself while backyard wrestling at someone else's house, the parents were having second thoughts. So what do you do when you said YES and now need to say NO?

As a youth, I had my own experiences with wrestling and got an idea. Most injuries that occur during backyard wrestling matches happen because there is no adult supervision. I suggested that the parents hit the books and find out everything possible about the Greco-Roman style of wrestling. What most kids watch on TV in the way of pro wrestling is a perversion of that. Real wrestling can be just as satisfying from the standpoint of a physical challenge as two people trying to hit each other with folding chairs or throw the other person out of the ring. They drew up a list of rules and made it so that neighborhood kids could take part in matches and practice only when they agreed to abide by the rules. Responsible adults would need to be present to referee matches or practice sessions. Taking these steps was a better choice than simply cutting the kids off from something they have grown to love.

Giving your teens room to stretch is very important. Treating a teen like a little kid is a terrible mistake. The key is to make them understand that having more personal freedom involves showing more personal responsibility. If you decide to extend a curfew for example, give your teen a cell phone or insist on preset check in times. Make sure they are ready, willing and able to tell you where they are at all times. Set reasonable limits. Teens left to themselves to cruise around aimlessly are accidents looking to happen. Help them learn the importance of time use and being able to focus on things by insisting they create an itinerary. Explain that their new freedoms are entirely dependent on their ability to use them without putting themselves at risk or getting in trouble. If they violate your trust, send a message by cutting back their privileges.

Things usually get ugly in most families when a teen doesn't get what they want, but stand your ground! Giving in to their whims, reducing punishments or restoring privileges before the preset time will send a bad message. Instead, take the sting out of their time to reflect by going out with your teen. See a movie together, go bowling or participate in any sport you have a common interest in. Spending time with your

teen is important. As much as they want to get away from you, they also need to know that you still love them. Nothing sends that message better than being involved in their life. Most parents will spend the better part of a teen's years trying to protect them from themselves. Body piercing and tattoos are a good example. When it comes to doing things that have permanent consequences, parents have an important decision to make. Even if parents have tattoos or body piercing, that doesn't mean that allowing a teen to do it is a wise move. I cannot tell you how many times I have come

across people whose children said to them later in life, "Why in the world did you let me do that?" Due to the many physical and mental changes they're undergoing, what seems to them like a rational decision today may prove regrettable later in life. I recommend that parents urge their teens to put off any decisions that involve the permanent alteration of their personal appearance until after they move

out on their own or reach their twenty-first birthday. What about out and out rebellion? That goes much deeper than just self expression. In my view the real question is, "How much rebellion is too much?" Your kid decides that they want to go gothic, what do you do? To make a long story short, going Gothic usually means looking kind of like, well, a vampire! As bad as it sounds, it's probably no worse than the pompadour haircuts and leather jackets, flower power tie dyed stuff, punk or disco looks from other generations.

Ever seen a vintage 1940's Zoot Suit? What might be a problem is that some gothic teens cut each other and actually drink blood. Your best response to a teen's request to make any major changes to their wardrobe is probably, "Why?"

Most teens make major changes in their lives because they feel left out. This can be an invitation for cults and negative influences to step in and take over. Help your child to step back and take a look at why they might want to

associate with one group or another. Give them options. The worst case scenario and the biggest cause of teen suicides is when a teen feels they have no options. For teens, today is far more important than yesterday or tomorrow. It's all they can see. Show them that things will get better and involve them in an alternative activity with more positive aspects. Being a parent isn't a spectator sport, especially when it comes to teens. The more involved you are in your teenager's life, the less likely it is that they will fall into the common teenage traps of drug abuse or teen pregnancy. The problems begin when you allow them to fall off of your radar screen. Allowing teens more freedom means watching what they do more closely. Talk to your teens, don't preach, but explain the consequences of poor choices. If you did things that were less than desirable as a teen, never make light of or brag about your choices. The message you send is the message your teen will receive, so make it a positive one!



A trip back in time in St Louis



LPS of USA had a Town hall meeting in St Louis, Mo, on April 4 at the Best Western hotel. Over 150 people attended this meeting. Ramanbhai Patel, Mahendrabhai Patel, Sanjay Patel, Jitubhai Patel and other local leaders did a great job in organizing this meeting. In a thoughtful and inspiring gesture, Ramanbhai Patel showed us LPS's first magazines, a handwritten copy of the Samaj Darpan as well as its first printed version. It was an excellent and informative experience.

The St Louis Leuva community offered us great hospitality and delectable food. The entertainment was excellent and we received a fantastic response from the members.

Thanks to all the members who traveled with our President DV Patel to this meet - Jayesh Patel, Gary Prema, CM Patel, Dhansukh Patel and Dinesh Lala from Nashville, TN; Nagindas Patel from Atlanta, GA; and Steve Hari, Satish Patel, Minesh Patel, Shailesh Patel, Suresh Patel and Mahesh Patel from Memphis, TN. It is because of these dedicated leaders that LPS's town hall meetings have proved to be such a success.

LPS of USA made 18 new lifetime members, 12 annual members and received 25 registrations for the upcoming annual convention. Ramanbhai, Mahendrabhai and others paid for all the expenses including food and entertainment for this meeting which was held at no cost to LPS.

We also held a town hall meeting in Paducah, KY on the same day (April 4) at the Inn By The Creek hotel. Ajay Patel, Jitu Patel, Ishwarbhai and Pranav Patel did a great job in organizing this meeting at a very short notice. Over 75 people gathered for the meet and even though it was a small crowd, it was a very productive meeting. Highlights include an interesting Q&A round, excellent food and great entertainment by Dinesh Lala and Dhansukh Patel. LPS made 12 new lifetime members, five annual members and received 10 registrations for the annual convention.



LEUVA YOUTH IN THE NEWS!

Focused!

Message from Sonya Patel, Smyrna, GA...



It is my parents - Naginbhai and Sudhaben Patel - and their hard work and dedication that has inspired me to set high goals for myself and put forth maximum effort to achieve my goals.

In high school, I made it a point to get involved. I was the founder of the high school Indian Club and was president of the club for four years. Not only did I plan community

service events for the club to participate in, but I also helped organize an annual international festival to share my culture with other students.

I was also a member of the student council and had the opportunity to help plan senior prom when I was class vice president. The activity I enjoyed most in high school, however, was being on the mock trial team.

Another goal I have is to excel academically. I was in the International Baccalaureate magnet program in high school and graduated with a 4.0. I am now a first year student in the honors program at the University of Georgia. My major is microbiology with a minor in Spanish. I aspire to be able to speak the Spanish language fluently one day and to study abroad in Spain for a semester.

At the university, I am a member of University Judiciary, an organization that proactively educates and conducts hearings for students charged with violating conduct regulations. In addition to this, I am a member of Gamma Sigma Sigma, a national service sorority whose purpose is to gather in the spirit of helping others.

Determined!

Message from Tejal Bhikha, Alpharetta, GA...



Take a look at an average Indian mother with a graduating senior about to leave the bird's nest. She pulls her hair out from worry...will he eat properly? Get straight A's? Fall into peer pressure? Lose touch with friends and family? Do you want to know the truth? Honestly, your 18-year-old teenager will and will not suffer from all of your worries.

My first semester in college was horrible...no, dreadful. I was literally sprinting around with school on one hand and work on the other. While my friends were eating out and partying, I was at a breaking point where I almost quit it all.

After my frightful first semester, I realized the key to success: time-management. It has been two years into my college career and despite my rocky start, I have successfully transformed into the well-rounded student I never thought I could become. I cannot believe how fast my college experience has been, but I am very excited to apply to Pharmacy School this summer. I do not want other students to despise college the way I first did, so with the help of two other students, we founded the Association of Pre-Pharmacy Students at Mercer University. As Vice-President and President-Elect, I help provide pre-pharmacy students with the resources and guidance they need to succeed.

To all you worrying parents: As difficult as it may be, be courageous and let your child soar...on their own. If you have raised them well, they will not let you down. To all you high school seniors: First, study hard. Our parents have worked incredibly hard to provide us with the most important tool to a successful future: education. Seize the opportunity! My second piece of advice to you is to not only study hard, but to play harder. College is about expanding one's horizons, so make friends with all different types of people, and do not be close-minded. It is the people that are different from us that we learn the most from.

In essence, college is honestly the best time of one's life. Do whatever it takes to achieve your dreams but most importantly do not forget about the people that are there for you through the thick and thin.

P.S: College takes sweat, tears, and a Grande Mint Mocha Chip Frappuccino with an extra shot of espresso.

Tejal is the daughter of Sunil and Bharti Bhikha

Inspiring effort: *Members of the Bay Area Gujarati Youth Association (BAGYA) recently handed out especially put-together care packages*



for the needy in San Francisco in a unique initiative. Here's what Kishan, a BAGYA member, had to say: 'We believe in helping others who are less fortunate. We strive to contribute to our community through charitable events, community service and social gatherings. Furthermore, we would like to serve and improve our local Gujarati community in hopes of fostering interests in our culture.'

Memories from the LPS of Florida picnic



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Negotiating Hotel Franchise Agreements

In the hospitality industry, a franchise is a commercial relationship where the franchisor grants a right or license to a franchisee to operate its hotel property under the franchisor's trademark. The franchise agreement is generally framed so as to permit the franchisor to exert operational control over the franchisee (such as quality and marketing standards) and, in exchange, the franchisee is granted the right to conduct its hotel operations under a brand name or "flag". As the franchise agreement is the main source of legal rights and responsibilities in a franchise relationship, it is imperative that it be drafted and negotiated carefully as it can have significant implications on the franchisee's ability to sell or mortgage its hotel property. The following are considerations for franchisees to take into account to ensure that they negotiate hotel franchise agreements effectively with franchisors:

- **Term** – shorter term for non delivering brand and renewal rights for performing brand
- **Fees & Royalties** – modify the usual fee structure and/or reduce royalties
- **Territorial Protection** - Franchisees should try to obtain some reasonable limitation on the franchisors' ability to license or operate competing hotels (not only of the same brand, but also of related brands) in the same vicinity which will have a negative impact on the franchisee's occupancy.
- **Termination & Liquidation damages** – Franchisees should seek early termination provisions in franchise agreements, such as on specified dates in the event that their hotels fail to achieve certain occupancy levels. Franchisors will most likely require the payment of liquidated damages before permitting the franchisee to avail itself of such a provision. In other cases, franchisors may seek a reciprocal right of early termination of the franchise agreement, without cause. In the competitive hospitality industry, some franchisors are slowly moving away from such a provision or reducing liquidated damages in order to be more attractive to franchisees.
- **Property Improvement Programs** – where a hotel property is converted from one brand to another, there may be upgrading requirements. Franchisees need to carefully consider the terms of, and properly evaluate the costs associated with, such programs.
- **Management Companies** – Where the hotel property will be operated by a third party manager, the franchisee will want flexibility in the right to retain new managers.
- **Dispute Resolution** – Many franchise agreements seek to limit the location where franchisees may assert claims, limiting them to the franchisor's location. Others may stipulate the right to arbitrate or, even better, the right to mediate, in the hotel's location.

*Prepared by Nancy Patel – Hotel Motel Broker
 Fickling & Company Full Service Real Estate Company
 Email Questions to npatel@fickling.com*

Community power on display at AAHOA



***'Tere Jaisa Yaar Kahan?'* Kirit Patidar with Suresh Patel**

Congratulations to our own hard working and dedicated Leuva, Kirit Patidar, Gaam Afva, and a resident of Jacksonville, FL, for winning the Florida Regional Director position of AAHOA for 2009-2012.

This, by far, was the most emotional election that we at Leuva Samaj have encountered. Kirit won by 58 per cent vote after an ethical election campaign with the help of his campaign manager, Suresh Patel, from St Augustine, FL, and friends and family supporters.

Kirit has dedicated his volunteer time with LPS for past several years and is already taking his AAHOA position to heart by meeting with US small business administration within 500 miles of Jacksonville to negotiate loan issues. Florida is lucky to have such a vibrant soul. Thank you, Kiritbhai for all your heartfelt dedication to the community across the nation.



AAHOA board members felicitate Raman 'RP' Rama

Dedicated LPS member Raman 'RP' Rama was conferred the 'Family Hotelier of the Year' award by the Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA) during the premier industry group's annual convention in April.

The award recognizes and honors 'a shared commitment to values central to a successful family business: a strong work ethic as well as high levels of skill and passion in business'. RP was presented with a plaque and a check for \$10,000.

RP, the vice-president and director of technology and telecommunications for JHM Hotels, is known in LPS and AAHOA circles for his genuine humility and heartfelt spirituality. Along with his brothers, RP is part of a family business that is one of the most successful independent multi-brand hotel operators in the US, with 35 properties and more than 5,000 rooms.



Leuva Women in the news.... Focused!

Daughter, wife, achiever and mother: Ketal Makan's life embodies the many roles Leuva women don with ease...

From the hotel business to the corporate world to starting up a restaurant franchise to being a stay-at-home mom, my life has been about moving in the fast lane. My focus shifted from business to family in 2007 after giving birth to twins: a boy and a girl.



I never knew the true worth of a mother until I became one. You wear so many hats at this job. My week is filled with taking the twins to art class, playdates, Gymboree class, story time and Kindermusik. And then weekends are packed with family time. In between all these activities, I focus on their nutrition and continue my share of the business at home. This job does not come with any fancy trophies or plaques to put up on the wall, but raising my twins

is the single most significant achievement in my life thus far.

Raising children is like an investment: your return is based on how much time you put in. Your children will only let you withdraw the amount deposited. I was raised in a family who ate together, laughed together and traveled together. The focus that my parents put on us then and now has resulted in a close knit family, a bond of a lifetime. And that is what I want to pass on to my children. I feel strongly that my investment in my children will pay the best dividends!

My dad told me over and over that life is like a school. You never stop learning. Only now, my role has temporarily

changed to teaching. I am learning everyday through the day to day activities of teaching my children. You can actually learn more when you are teaching. There is always an opportunity to learn, whether you are a teacher or a student.

The unity and value of an Indian family has been embedded within us from several generations. We think of our samaj as being one big family and helping out where needed and our community does a really good job of this. I

had the opportunity to speak at the LPS convention in Dallas. My speech was tailored around 'stepping out of your comfort zone'. Our parents raised the bar for all of us by literally stepping out of their comfort level by moving into a foreign country and making a living. Their outstanding drive inspired me and my husband to start up a restaurant franchise. After my speech, a father came up to me and asked if I could keep email communications with his daughter. That is when I realized that our samaj is a powerful source for generations to connect.



Congratulations to Kalpesh (Kal) Makan!

Kal finished the Little Rock Marathon of 26.2 miles in 4:58:45. This was his first marathon and Kal trained for only three months for it!

Little Rock, Arkansas, is one of the top 10 hardest marathons in the US.



"LPS LITTLE LEUVA'S YOUTH CLUB" 2009 LPS CONVENTION



Hello LPS Parents! We would like to personally invite all the children to the Little Leuva's Kids Club. The convention is to be held on July 9 & 10 at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN. We have an exciting and enthusiastic program planned for kids nine years and under. Our unique and original curriculum will provide children with the opportunity to build confidence through participation in intellectual and challenging discussions. The benefits include decision making, greater self-discipline, self-sufficient, being responsible, increased concentration and higher patience levels. Of course the majority of children won't recognize these benefits for what they are, but you as parents will. Children participate because of a simple three-letter word – FUN. That's what we are here for!

We have set out to build an educational, fun, friendly, clean, and well-managed kids club with high standard volunteers and a curriculum that will enlighten your children. A very exciting and diverse range of speakers and activities are lined up and all age attendees will participate equally and fully in all events! We have yoga to boost dharma so we can teach children the meaning of union of mind, body and spirits. The Little Leuva's Kids club will also give them the opportunity to explore and express their own individuality in a variety of artistically enriching events. We have religion discussion that will talk to our children about Dharma and culture and explain them about who we are and how our religion is different from other religions. Fun activities such as an unbelievable magic show, balloonist and puppet show are but a few of the many more reasons why you should attend the LPS convention. The two day program will seek to inspire and discover new ways of stimulating dedication and progressing the physical, social, emotional and intellectual growth of your child. The best part is that the kids will have a lot of fun, making new friends and strengthening existing friendships and learning about their culture and heritage. Hopefully, the kids club will start a new tradition for all of LPS conventions for the future. We are tremendously excited and hope to see EVERYONE there. Have a wonderful, hot summer.

CO-CHAIRS of YOUTH CLUB

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Knowledge is the best donation amongst all others.



Best Wishes to:
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From AAHOA

Asian American Hotel Owners Association

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www.aahoa.com

The Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA) is THE voice of owners in the hospitality industry. AAHOA is dedicated to promoting and protecting the interests of its members by inspiring excellence through programs and initiatives in advocacy, industry leadership, professional development, member benefits, and community involvement. Founded in 1989, it is one of the fastest-growing hospitality organizations in the industry. AAHOA has over 8,700 members owning more than 22,000 hotels that total \$60 billion in property value.



In Loving Memory



We are shocked at the unexpected news of the demise of **Jinabhai Premabhai Patel**. He was **75 years** of age. Hailing from the village Gunaswel, of Surat District, he was a resident of Richmond, VA. He is survived by his wife Taraben, sons Mahendrabhai and Hemantbhai, daughters Ranjanben and Miraben. He was a great leader, a selfless and dedicated member of the Leuva Patidar Samaj.

It is difficult to fill the vacuum created by his sad, unexpected demise. But we have to accept this rude reality as we are helpless in face of this act of God.

We express our heartfelt sympathy and convey condolences to members of his family to bear this irreparable loss.

May his Soul rest in peace.

We love you we miss you and you will always live in our heart.

We are shocked at the unexpected news of the demise of **Pratulbhai Patel** on April 28. He was **36 years** old and was the son of Jayantibhai Khushalbai Patel hailing from the village Khadsupa, of Surat District and a resident of Berea, KY. He was a great leader, and a selfless and dedicated lifetime member of the Leuva Patidar Samaj. It is difficult to fill the vacuum created by his sad, unexpected demise. But we have to accept this rude reality as we are helpless in the face of destiny. He is survived by his wife Bhavisha and two sons Akash and Aman.

We express our heartfelt sympathy and convey condolences to the members of his family to bear this irreparable loss. May his Soul rest in peace.

We love you we miss you and you will always live in our heart.

Shri Vanmalibhai N Patel of



Siyod (Puni), a resident of Siyod, passed away on May 10, 2009 at Dumas, AR. He was **75 years** old. He is survived by his wife

Deviben, sons Dilipbhai, Bipinbhai, and Mukeshbhai, daughter Sadhnaben, brother Narsinhbhai, sister Diwaliben, and seven grandchildren. Affectionately known to his family and friends as "Daaji", he was a very jovial, caring person and a hard worker.

May his soul rest in peace.

We love you. We miss you. You will remain in our hearts forever.

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Fuelled by ambition, driven by greatness

Anand Patel, 22, secretary of Georgia Leuva Patidar Samaj and youth president, on fame and money...

Pursuing greatness is what fuels me. I don't like being average and as a result, I strive to be great in everything I do - whether it's for my family, for a client or for the community. I never lose sight of my goals and the vision I have for myself, I work very hard (maybe even too hard!), I maintain a positive attitude and I also surround myself with people that are looking to help make me better. As a result, one day I want to be known as someone who really left his fingerprints on this world.

I grew up in a family that was far from well-off; in fact, we struggled for a long time and my brother and I were told at a young age that we'd have to pave our own ways in life. That was my biggest motivation knowing that I could either accept my fate or do something about my family's circumstances. At the age of 15, I started teaching myself basic computer programming, which eventually led to a deal I made with my father. He promised to buy me an X-box if I proved to him I could learn how to develop websites. I did and seven years later, in September of 2008, I launched my own hotel marketing company, Myriann—complete with a board of investors and advisors and a clientele that exceeds 200 hotels! Part of pursuing greatness is to continue getting better and that's why I'm looking to improve, regardless of



what I've accomplished at such a young age. I have a long list of goals that most would consider lofty but these goals drive me to work hard and maintain my focus. Because of my commitment to my goals, I've learned to make good decisions - as a result, I don't drink or smoke and I've really learned to choose my friends wisely.

The goal I look forward to the most is getting married and becoming a father. I can't think of any challenge in life that could be more rewarding - bringing a life into this world and seeing it grow. To me, being a father would pose a different challenge every day but would also reap the greatest rewards. My ultimate dream is to be the father of three (or four!) daughters. I think I can handle the chaos. At a community level, the people in my samaj are my family and I'll do anything for my family. I get tremendous joy in serving others because oftentimes, it helps me put my own successes and shortcomings in a different perspective. I also strive to get more youth involved because the future of LPS USA lies squarely in their hands. When I die, I don't want to be known for how much money I was worth because that means I only impacted myself in the end. Instead, I want to be known for the lives I touched through my efforts and my vision. I want to go down as one of the greatest.



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શું તમારા ટીનેજર બાળકો તમારી ધીરજની કસોટી કરે છે?

ટીનેજર બાળકો કોઈપણ વાલીના શાણપણની પરીક્ષા લેતા હોય છે. આ માટે ઓવર રીએક્ટ કરીને ટીનેજરનો જ વાંક કાઢવાનું પેન્ટસ માટે સહેલું છે. પરંતુ તેમાં બીજાં ઘણાં કારણો પણ હોય છે. કુદરતથી શરૂ કરીએ. તાજેતરમાં થયેલા અભ્યાસ મુજબ મોટાભાગના ટીનેજરોના મગજમાં અમુક પ્રમાણમાં ઇલેક્ટ્રિકલ ઉથલપથલ થાય છે. વાલીઓએ ટીનેજરોના અજુગતા અને વિચિત્ર વર્તન માટે આને જવાબદાર ગણવું જોઈએ. ટીનેજરના વિચિત્ર વર્તન પર વાલીઓના ઓવર રીએકશનથી બાળકના બગડવાની શક્યતા વધી જાય છે અને બાળક વધુ ખરાબ વર્તન કરે છે.



બાળકને મોબાઈલ આપો અથવા ઘરે આવવાનો નિશ્ચિત સમય નક્કી કરો. સ્પષ્ટ કરો કે તેઓ તૈયાર હોય અને કહેવા તૈયાર હોય કે તેઓ ક્યા સમયે ક્યાં છે. યોગ્ય મર્યાદા નક્કી કરો. કોઈ કારણ વગર ફરવાની છૂટ આપી હોય એવા ટીનેજરો અકસ્માત કરે એવી શક્યતા વધારે હોય છે. સમયના ઉપયોગનું અને વસ્તુઓ પર ધ્યાન આપવાનું મહત્વ મહત્વ તેમને સમજાવો જેથી તેઓ યોગ્ય રસ્તો નક્કી કરી શકે. તેમને સમજાવો કે તેમને મળેલી છૂટ એ છૂટનો

ચિંતા ન કરશો, તમે હજી પરિસ્થિતિને સંભાળી શકો છો. વાલીઓથી દૂર રહીને ટીનેજરો કેવી રીતે જીવન ગાળશે એ તેમની આદતો પર આધાર રાખે છે. તમારા બાળક જ્યારે મોટા થશે ત્યારે તેમની સાથે તમારો કેવો સંબંધ રહેશે એનો આધાર તેમના મુશ્કેલ વર્ષોમાં તમે તેમની સાથે કેવું વર્તન કરો છો એની પર છે. તેમના વર્તન પર ભાવુક થઈને કે તેમના વર્તનને તમારી સત્તા સામે લલકાર સમજીને રીએક્ટ કરવાથી તમને જોઈએ છે એવું પરિણામ નહીં મળે. એને કારણે તમારી અને તમારા બાળકની વચ્ચે એક દિવાલ ઊભી થશે પરિણામે કોઈપણ ઉપયોગી વાતચીત નહીં થઈ શકે.

૭ બાળકોના પિતા તરીકેનો મારો અનુભવ જણાવે છે કે પેરેન્ટિંગ એક કડક દોરડાં પર ચાલવા સમાન છે. તમારે તમારું બાળક જવાબદાર અને સંપૂર્ણ વ્યક્તિ બને એ માટેની આશા સાથે તમારા બાળકને તે સ્વતંત્ર વ્યક્તિ બને અને તેઓ જે બનવા ઇચ્છતા હોય એ બની શકે એ વચ્ચે સંતલન જાળવવું પડે છે. મારા નસીબ સારા છે કે બીજા ઓઝી ઓસબોર્ન બનવાની આશા સાથે તેમનામાંથી કોઈએ ગીટાર ન પકડ્યું અને કર્કશ અવાજ ના ઊભો કર્યો. જો તેઓ એમ કરે તો શું થાય?

જો તમારા ટીનેજર બાળકની ઇચ્છા એવા રસ્તા પર જવાની હોય જે તમને ન ગમતો હોય, તો એ સમય ગંભીર નિર્ણય લેવાનો છે. જો તમે તમારા બાળકો પોતાને રજૂ કરી શકે એ રસ્તો બંધ કરતા હો તો તમે તેમને ચૂપ કરી રહ્યા છો. તમારે તેમની પર અસરકારકતા જાળવી રાખવા ઊંચા અવાજવાળા ગિટાર સહન કરવા પડશે. બીજા કિસ્સાઓમાં તમારે કેટલીકવાર તમારા બાળકોને ડૉક્ટરો પાસે લઈ જવા પડે કારણકે તેમને સ્ટ્રેટિંગ કે સ્ટ્રેટબોર્ડિંગનો શોખ હશે અને તેમને ઈજા થશે. તેમને સમજાવો કે તેમના શોખ અને તેને માણવાની ક્ષમતા કારકિર્દીમાં ફેરવાય પણ શકે અને એમ ન પણ થાય.

પોતાને રજૂ કરે એ વાત શીખવવી ખૂબ જરૂરી છે, પરંતુ નકારાત્મક અસર ટાળવી. ઘણા વાલીઓ અંડરએજ ટીનેજરોને આલ્કોહોલ અને સીગારેટ પીવાની છૂટ આપતા હોય છે. ઘણીવાર જે સંસ્કૃતિમાંથી આવ્યા હોય એની પણ અસર થતી હોય છે, ઘણા કિસ્સાઓમાં એવું બનતું હોય છે કે વાલીઓ પોતે ટીનેજર હોય ત્યારે તેઓ આલ્કોહોલ અને સીગારેટ પીતા હોય તેથી તેઓ તેમના બાળકોને પણ એ કરવા દે છે. તમે તમારા બાળકોને કોઈ ગેરકાયદેસર કામ કરવાની છૂટ આપો એ પહેલાં તેના ગંભીર પરિણામ અંગે વિચારો. એક પરિવાર જેનું ટીનેજર બાળક શાળાની સ્પોર્ટ્સ ટીમનો સ્ટાર છે એ પરિવાર એક કે બીજા સમયે વિકટરી પાર્ટીમાં ભાગ લઈ શકે છે. ઘણા વાલીઓ આવા પ્રસંગે આલ્કોહોલ પીવાની છૂટ આપે છે. તેઓ બધા માટે બીયરના કેગ ખરીદે છે પરંતુ તેમને ખબર નથી હોતી કે એ બીયર કોઈને નુકસાન કરશે.

તમારા ટીનેજર બાળકોને તેમનું સ્થાન આપવું પણ એટલું જ જરૂરી છે. ટીનેજરો સાથે બાળકને સંભાળતા હોય એ પ્રકારનું વર્તન કરવું ખૂબ મોટી ભૂલ છે. તેમને સમજાવવું જોઈએ કે વધુ સ્વતંત્રતા સાથે વધુ જવાબદારીઓ પણ સંકળાયેલી છે. ઉદાહરણ તરીકે જો તમે કરફ્યૂ લંબાવવા માગતા હો તો તમારા

ઉપયોગથી તેઓ પોતાના માટે કોઈપણ પ્રકારનો ખતરો ઊભો ન કરે એની પર આધાર રાખે છે. જો તેઓ તમારો વિશ્વાસ તોડે તો તેમને જણાવો કે તેમને મળેલા લાભ પાછા તમે પાછા લઈ લીધા છે.

મોટાભાગના ટીનેજરો તેમના જીવનમાં મોટા પરિવર્તન કરતા હોય છે કારણકે તેઓ એકલતા અનુભવે છે. આ કારણ ખોટી અને નકારાત્મક અસર તરફ પગલું અને એની અસર હેઠળ આવી જવા માટે જવાબદાર છે. તમારા બાળકને મદદ કરો અને તેમને એ વિચારવા પ્રેરો કે તેઓ કેમ કોઈ એક કે બીજા ગૃપ સાથે જોડાવા માગે છે. તેમને વિકલ્પો આપો. જ્યારે ટીનેજરોને કોઈ વિકલ્પ નથી સૂઝતો ત્યારનું સૌથી ખરાબ પરિણામ ટીન સુસાઈડ છે. ટીનેજરો માટે આજનો સમય ભૂતકાળ અને ભવિષ્યકાળ કરતાં ખૂબ મહત્વનો છે. તેઓ માત્ર એટલું જ જોઈ શકે છે. તેમને જણાવો કે પરિસ્થિતિ સુધરશે અને તેમને હકારાત્મક પરિણામો આપે એવી બીજી પ્રવૃત્તિઓમાં વ્યસ્ત રાખો.

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St Louis regional meet



St Louis regional meet



St Louis regional meet



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Georgia regional meet



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Georgia regional meet



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Sia and Zia



Akansas regional meet



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Sunil B Patel with Nashville, TN, friends



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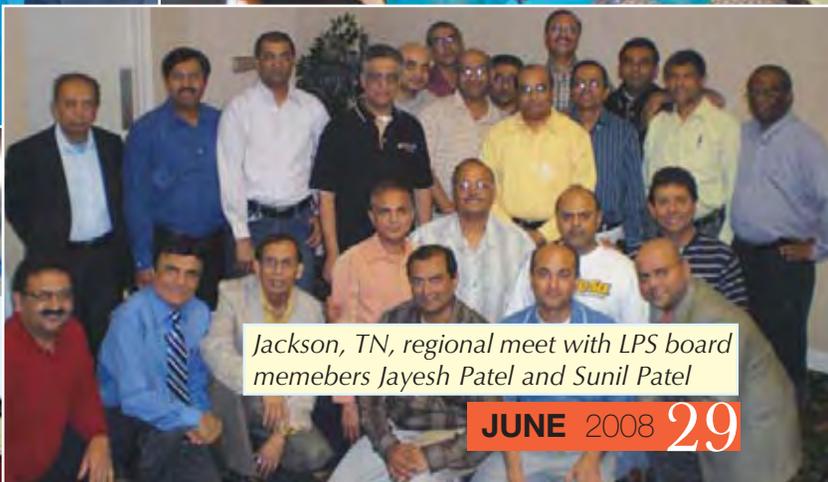
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LPS OF Georgia board members. Congratulations to Nayana Patel for coming on board with LPS of USA. Also present are Anil Patel, Nagin Patel and Dharmesh Patel.



Jackson, TN, regional meet with LPS board members Jayesh Patel and Sunil Patel



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