

# A PARENT'S LETTER TO HIS SON'S TEACHER

*He will have to learn, I know,  
that all men are not just,  
all men are not true.*

*But teach him also that  
for every scoundrel there is a hero,  
that for every selfish politician,  
there is a dedicated leader...  
Teach him for every enemy there is a  
friend,*

*Steer him away from envy,  
if you can,  
teach him the secret of  
quiet laughter.  
Let him learn early that  
the bullies are the easiest to lick...*

*Teach him, if you can,  
the wonder of books...  
But also give him quiet time  
to ponder the eternal mystery of birds in the  
sky,  
bees in the sun,  
and the flowers on a green hillside.*

*In the school teach him  
it is far honourable to fail  
than to cheat...  
Teach him to have faith  
in his own ideas,  
even if everyone tells him  
they are wrong...  
Teach him to be gentle  
with gentle people,  
and tough with the tough.*

*Try to give my son  
the strength not to follow the crowd  
when everyone is getting on the band  
wagon...*

*Teach him to listen to all men...  
but teach him also to filter  
all he hears on a screen of truth,  
and take only the good  
that comes through.*

*Teach him if you can,  
how to laugh when he is sad...  
Teach him there is no shame in tears,  
Teach him to scoff at cynics  
and to beware of too much sweetness...*

*Teach him to sell his brawn  
and brain to the highest bidders  
but never to put a price-tag  
on his heart and soul.*

*Teach him to close his ears  
to a howling mob  
and to stand and fight  
if he thinks he's right.  
Treat him gently,  
but do not cuddle him,  
because only the test  
of fire makes fine steel.*

*Let him have the courage  
to be impatient...  
let him have the patience to be brave.  
Teach him always  
to have sublime faith in himself,  
because then he will have  
sublime faith in mankind.*

*This is a big order,  
but see what you can do...  
He is such a fine little fellow,  
my son!*

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that all men are not just,  
all men are not true.*

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that for every selfish politician,  
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# A Parent's letter to his son's Teacher



*Courtesy: I.N.D.I.A. TRUST*