



給孩子舊的就可以了

Used Items for Kids

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我告訴你們，你們有小孩子的人，給他玩具，不要買新的，給他一點舊的就可以了。爲什麼呢？不但玩具不要新的，甚至於他穿的衣服，用的那個搖籃，搖車，或者坐的東西，都給他舊的就可以了，不要給他新的。因爲小孩子一生出來，你不知道他在前生有沒有修行，有沒有善根，有沒有這種福報？假使他有福報，有修行，有善根的話，你也給他慢慢用，不要一下子就吃完了。

所以小孩子給他一點舊的東西用，他會活得長命一點；本來壽命很短的，你盡給他一點舊的東西，他壽命也會長了。說：「這個沒有科學的根據呢！」這個雖然沒有科學的根據，可是有哲學的根據，有哲理在裏頭。小孩子你就給他盡用新的東西，把他這個福報都給消了一些；等他長大了，本來應該有錢，喔！受窮了；本來應該活得命長，啊，壽命也活不那麼長了！所以用舊的，「減衣增福，減食增壽」，你穿的衣服省一點，有舊的衣服穿就好，那麼這就能增加你的福報；你若減食呢？所以我沒有對你們講嗎？我們現在一天吃一餐，將來壽命願意活多長就活多長。因爲我們一天應該吃三餐，普通人都吃三餐，我們吃一餐，吃一餐又吃少一點，所以這省很多的食物，本來活五十歲，夠我們可以活一百五十歲。這個方法是很現實的，是很實在的。

那麼說：「那我不願意活那麼大年紀，我都還是吃三餐了！」這也沒有問題的，無壽者相嘛！那你就一天吃一百餐囉！所以小孩子給他一點舊的衣服穿，舊的房子住，舊的一個搖籃，那麼這也就是說給小孩子東西，給舊的就可以了。

Those of you with kids, listen. Don't give your kids new toys, just used ones. Not only toys, but clothing, baby carriages, walkers or anything else for children, should be secondhand. Why don't we give them new ones? You don't know whether a newborn has had any cultivation, good roots, or blessings in past lives or not. If one has planted seeds of blessings, cultivated in the past, and has good roots, you want to make sure that the child uses these blessings gradually, not all at once.

If you give children secondhand goods, then they will live longer; those with short lives will lengthen their lives on earth. You say, "There's no scientific basis for this at all." Although there's no scientific proof here, there is a philosophical underpinning. If you give children brand new things, they use up all their blessings. Maybe they were supposed to be rich when they grow up, but they become poor instead. Maybe they were supposed to live a long life, but they die an early death instead. Therefore, it's better to use secondhand goods. You increase your blessings by minimizing your wardrobe; you increase your life span by lessening your food intake. If you're more frugal about the kind of clothes you wear, by just wearing old clothes for example, you will increase your blessings. If you decrease your food intake, such as eating one meal a day, you will then live as long as you wish. Most people eat three meals a day believing that's how many they're supposed to consume. We eat only one meal and only a sufficient portion, thus saving a lot of food. Maybe we are supposed to live until we are 50 years old, but now we have enough blessings to live until we are 150 years old. This is a pragmatic approach; it's honest and realistic.

If you say, "I'd rather not live until that age – I might as well eat three meals a day!" No problem. Longevity isn't anything worthwhile especially when you are not attached to the notion of life span. That way you might as well eat 100 meals a day! In short, giving kids secondhand clothing to wear, old dwellings to live in, used rockers and other items, is more than adequate.