

Who will ever love us as a child loves us?
We defend ourselves against this love which will pass away,
and we shall never find anything to equal it.
We in our toil say, "I haven't time, I can't,
I have too much to do", and we think in our hearts,
"The child must be taught better, or he will make us his slaves.
What we want is to be free from him to do what we ourselves like doing,
so as not to give up our convenience. It is necessary that a new
creature should stir us and sustain us with a fresh and
living energy that we have long lost.

~ Dr. Marie Montessori
"The secret of childhood"

Christian Marriage

How shall we be able adequately to describe the happiness of that marriage which the church arranges, the sacrifice strengthens, upon which the blessings sets a seal, at which angels are present as witnesses, and to which the Father gives His consent? For not even on earth do children marry properly and legally without their father's permission.

How beautiful then, the marriage of two Christians, two who are one in hope, one in desire, one in the way of life they follow, one in the religion they practice. They are as brother and sister both servants of the same master. Nothing divides them either ~ in flesh or in spirit. They are, in very truth, two in one flesh; and where there is but one flesh there is also but one spirit. They pray together; instructing one another, encouraging one another, strengthening one another, side by side they face difficulties and persecution, share their consolation. They have no secrets from one another; they never shun each other's company; they never bring sorrow to each other's hearts...psalms and hymns they sing to one another, striving to see which one of them will chant more beautifully the praises of their Lord, hearing and seeing this, Christ rejoices, to such as these he gives his peace. Where there are two together, there also he is present, and where he is, there evil is not.

Tertullian Written Between 200-206 A.D.