

THE EPOCH TIMES LIFE & TRADITION

5

PITFALLS
HOMESCHOOLERS
MAY ENCOUNTER

Page 4

Political changes
come and go. But
through it all, as
Ells points out,
the family persists
and always
rises again.

TEACHING
YOUR
CHILD TO
WRITE

Page 4

STAYING
COOL IN
SUMMER:

**WHAT
-TO-
WEAR**

Page 6

**Kimberly
Ells** WHY REAL POWER
LIES WITHIN
FAMILIES Page 2

Kimberly Ells

on Why Real Power Lies Within Families

CATHERINE YANG

Families are the fundamental units of society, and families—mothers in particular, who are connected physically with new life and handed babies the moment they are born—are really what govern the private sphere. Yet this isn't a story Kimberly Ells has heard fully told elsewhere, as she explains in her new book "The Invincible Family."

Today, the fight for political power encompasses every issue, so it's not surprising that those set on accumulating power have turned their attention toward taking it from the private realm, Ells says. What did surprise Ells was when she learned about the movement for "children's sexual rights" and its influential base of global supporters.

In 2013, Ells came across a pamphlet online called "Exclaim! Young People's Guide to 'Sexual Rights,'" published by the International Planned Parenthood Foundation (IPPF) and distributed at the United Nations, from which IPPF receives funding.

"It's [written] for young people; it presents to children sex and sexual pleasure as if it is their right to pursue that, unconnected to marriage, unconnected to childbearing, or long-term responsibility on some level," said Ells, who is a policy adviser for Family Watch International. She was troubled by the fact that there was a mainstream movement to promote the "sexual rights" for children and that the U.N. had been developing material to promote this idea for several years already.

"They drape sex for kids in very appealing terms, in the language of rights," she said.

In plain language, this rights movement says children, of any age, should have sex. It's not something most people would support, but it's a core principle that already has made its way into culture and classrooms, where children are told they have rights to life, privacy, health, and so on. But a closer reading reveals the purpose of teaching these rights is to ensure that activists have the right to teach children how to have sex, have an abortion, and obtain contraception—cutting parents out of the process.

In her recent book, Ells details how those vying for power and advocating for socialism have made powerful allies in the U.N. The documents and official goals then developed in U.N. branches trickle through a maze of organizations until they reach your child's school or become part of the mainstream culture. If you've ever wondered why nonprofits, unions, and advocacy groups suddenly start to push in unison for a certain education trend (such as gender equity in education, social and emotional learning, and so on), you can look to the U.N., which probably had something to do with it.

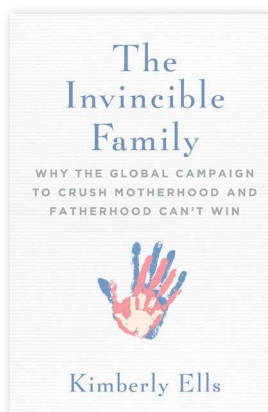
The U.N. isn't a regulatory agency with enforcement power, but it is a forum with wide reach, perfect for organizing ideas like the Sustainable Development Goals and the Incheon Declaration, and it provides relief funding to developing countries around the world. Its affiliate organizations, like the Global Partnership for Education, do some of this on-the-ground work, pouring millions into education



COURTESY OF KIMBERLY ELLS

Kimberly Ells is a policy adviser at Family Watch International.

Who is suggesting or legislating that mothers or fathers are unnecessary to families? Who is working to make the care of young children a government-run endeavor?



Kimberly Ells's new book, "The Invincible Family: Why the Global Campaign to Crush Motherhood and Fatherhood Can't Win."

in dozens of countries, from Albania to Zimbabwe, and dictating curricula that easily include ideological sex education.

But even in places where the U.N. isn't footing the education bill, such as the United States, there is voluntary buy-in to ideas that were originally hashed out in U.N. documents by committees and authors, including those from nonprofits, unions, and other organizations that espouse the same ideas.

"There's all these major players with big money and big influence that are bearing down on the family, particularly from the United Nations—so that can be a little bit daunting," Ells said.

But there is hope, as Ells emphasizes in her new book. "The family has great power, and the woman in the family, the mother in the family particularly, has great power because she is most often entrusted with the care of children and the teaching of children from the time that they are brand new. They are handed right to her," she said.

"There is this great power of guiding and molding children's minds and beliefs from the very earliest ages that lie in the family.

"It's very difficult to stop the family from functioning, and when you try there is a whole lot of trouble. And when you undercut the family, you undercut society itself, because the family is really what sustains society."

The Usurpers

Ells says those who seek to "unseat" the family from its place of power come from many different directions, and there are many (sometimes even contradictory) tactics.

Early in the book, she quotes Friedrich Engels, coauthor of "The Communist Manifesto," who wrote that marriage was invented by egoistic men who wanted to leave their private property to their offspring; and from Shulamith Firestone and her intellectual successor Sophie Lewis, women of a particular brand of feminism,

who insisted the woman's own body is the source of all problems. At first, these works may sound like absurdist theater.

Ells says that though most people wouldn't agree with their radical ideas—to remake society so that no one could tell to whom any child belonged, child-rearing would all be left to professionals, or incest wouldn't be taboo—these ideas have taken root in documents hashed out at the U.N. and are making their way around the world in policy and culture.

She poses a few questions: Who is suggesting or legislating that mothers or fathers are unnecessary to families? Who

is working to make the care of young children a government-run endeavor? What efforts are setting the stage for the state to become the gatekeeper for who is allowed to have children?

Countless studies show that children who grow up with married biological parents have higher levels of well-being than children in any other type of family. Adoption exists to protect children whose biological parents cannot care for them, not so adults can buy parenthood. Ells adds that families create an innate sense of belonging, a unique social bond we compare every other kind to (such as when we talk about loving someone "like family"). Mothers and babies show this even in a physical sense, being literally tied to each other by an umbilical cord, and fathers do so through marriage.

Yet today, children are being commodified and surrogacy is on the rise. U.N. organizations boast of being able to shape children's attitudes through education, and influence societies toward handing over the education of children to the state from earlier and earlier ages. The organization actually has a "Population Award" (which has been given to a China one-child policy architect as well the Guttmacher Institute, once Planned Parenthood's research arm). There are efforts to erase the differences between men and women both physically and in language.

"A lot of people don't see that those influences are coming from the United Nations, they don't see the connections that are woven together," Ells said.

For instance, women from around the world come to the U.N. in New York every spring to finalize the Commission on the Status of Women's outcome document. In 2017, the document contained language promoting "quality care" and recognizing "unpaid work," but in policy terms it meant regulating the private and domestic sphere, wherein "women's work" would be "redistributed." The intentionally vague language makes such goal documents easy to support; only someone familiar with how they are written would worry about who might be doing the redistribution and whether these women would continue to have any say over their domestic work.

Throughout her book, Ells shows how these vague and benign-sounding policies eventually lead to damaging outcomes.

"They convince all these really well-meaning women who come here to really embrace these ideas, and then go home and advocate for them in their countries," she said. These women push these goals through word of mouth, nonprofit organizations, the media, and so on.

"I think feminism has had a huge part to play, ironically, in undercutting women's power, in telling women that there is no power in the family, there is no power in mothering in the home, when really that's where key power in the world resides and actually springs from.

"Feminism has been really effective in telling women that power lies elsewhere, [that] it lies not in being a mom, but really anywhere else."

'Battle for the Babies'

Ells also quotes a long list of wise men and dictators alike who all said that influencing the young, impressionable child is the key to changing a society.

And if the mother is the one who shapes the mind and heart of a new person from his or her earliest years, and these people then go on to fill our schools and legislatures and boardrooms and society at large, her influence is immeasurable.

"It's almost impossible to crush the family entirely, because it's self-regenerating. Governments are not," Ells said.

"Regimes, dynasties, political factions—they come and go, and they have to have funding and supporters and all these things, and they don't regenerate themselves inherently. But the family does. That's how life itself is created. It's the thing that always comes back, it's the constant. It's the thing that persists when other things fall away or fail. The family is regenerative, and it will always rise again."

Her book includes a story of a pregnant woman living under communist China's one-child policy who escaped authorities through a pigpen and hid in a rice paddy for days because she was "ready to fight them to the death for the life of my son." There are also the Hungarian families who brought their children into the cellar every night in secret to teach them the truth, undoing the lies and communist propaganda taught all day in school. Ells believes the usurpers will ultimately fail, because mothers and fathers care about their children.

The state cannot successfully impose values on a society that families refuse to agree with.

"It's difficult to accomplish that if there are families in the world, these little tiny



cells, these pockets in the world that are teaching their kids what they want and what they believe is right," Ells said.

The primary way the U.N. agenda reaches children is through Comprehensive Sexuality Education, an innocuous name that is slowly becoming recognized around the world. It mixes regular sexual education with plenty of gender ideology and the concept of "children's sexual rights," which includes having children understand that parents, culture, or beliefs that say otherwise are "infringing" on their human right to sexual pleasure.

"In my state, which is a very conservative state traditionally, there have been repeated attempts to mandate Comprehensive Sexuality Education in our schools through our legislature," said

“It’s the thing that persists when other things fall away or fail. The family is regenerative, and it will always rise again.”

Kimberly Ells, policy adviser, Family Watch International

Ells, who lives in Utah. More left-leaning states like California have already fully embraced it, she added, but in her state, people have fought back and blocked it. Despite that, similar ideas do make it into the curriculum.

"It's creeping in almost everywhere," said Ells, who is a mother of five. She has two daughters now in college, two daughters in high school, and a young son. Years ago, one of her daughters mentioned that her health teacher had taught that Planned Parenthood was a viable alternative to students' parents for information about sex education.

"We openly and regularly talk about these issues—family, marriage, sex, gender. And we make it a point to talk about them," she said.

"If your kids are taught early about what is right, they are likely to continue to embrace it. If the parent is the one that opens the conversation about sex, then more often the child sees the parent as the safe place to come to talk about sex. But if the parent never broaches the topic, then it's awkward for the child to bring it up. So we parents have to be proactive and persistent, and persistent in making that a comfortable topic for our children.

"Families have power, and parents have power, and it really cannot be permanently crushed. And if we have drifted away, in our personal lives or policies, family-supportive policies, we can come back. We can return to the policies that are going to best uphold society, which are policies that best uphold the family."

A mother's influence is immeasurable, as she shapes the mind and heart of her children from their earliest years.

DEAR JUNE with June Kellum



When Adult Children Turn Away From You Because of Ideology

→ Advice for keeping the family together

QUESTION: Dear June, I believe I represent a large percentage of your readers, as an older, recently retired, conservative American with adult children, who have been persuaded that all we believe in is evil and destructive—the Constitution, the greatness of America,

the traditional family, a free market, equal opportunity not equal result, God and the Church, the condemning of violence to achieve a political end, and the need to reopen the economy and schools if we want to survive as a nation.

Like all those in our shared demographic, we love our children, having sacrificed greatly in raising them, only desiring their happiness and success.

But our children, young and old, are being taught to marginalize and be suspicious of us as enemies of all they have been programmed to believe in—the liberal agenda, which includes... [that] we will live in fear of COVID-19 until we have a vaccine.

We see this in their now guarded conversations, in warnings about not visiting small groups of friends, about not returning to church services even though social distancing and masks are part of these acts. They are terrified that contracting COVID-19 is equal to death, as has been implied by the media.

In this new, "woke" era, we are agonizing about this divide that has been created by the education system and the press.

One important concept they are being taught is that it is "better" if we all think alike. I was told that when I was told not to discuss God with my grandson.

When that does not occur, they begin to distance themselves in sharing their thoughts and lives with us. Much like college campuses shouting down conservative ideas, they are silently closing us off from their lives.

We respond with Christian love, ignoring their rebuffs, praying for the distancing to recede, but would appreciate your perspective on this.

Joyce M. California

ANSWER: Dear Joyce, In my experience, situations like yours are very common these days. Here is what I would suggest, in addition to your prayers:

Make connecting and bonding with them your main priority. This means you must not let ideas—either yours or theirs—get in the way.

Do this in a way that feels right and natural. What fosters good feelings in your family? Perhaps spending quality time together? More hugs? Maybe some verbal appreciation—letting them know what makes you proud of them? Or are they the sort who feel loved and appreciated when they receive thoughtful gifts? Or maybe just helping them around their house brings you closer? In short, do those things that only family does for each other and that make it such an indispensable part of our lives.

So, then, what to do about those highly concerning ideas they espouse?

Just ignore them (I will explain why shortly). From the depths of your heart, forgive your children for believing in them, and allow yourself to be at peace with where your children are. This probably won't be easy. It is, of course, right and natural for parents to be concerned about their children! But when your children are grown, making life decisions out of their own free will, they may feel put off by strong parental concerns. It may be helpful to give over your concerns to divine grace.

Now I will explain why I think it is best to largely ignore these ideas. I am referring here to this class of ideas that contain a grain of truth but remove it from relevant context. These ideas then criticize and denounce, using this small slice of reality as justification. Although these ideas have captured the minds of many, they don't hold up to logical inquiry, and thus they amount to propaganda.

Part of what makes propaganda so powerful is that it grabs ahold of us at a visceral level, hijacking our emotions and thus bypassing logical reasoning. So, even if you present a person with indisputable facts, or they themselves bear witness to a contradictory event, they may still believe the propaganda.

Another element that makes these

ideas so powerful is their ability to polarize us. They decry our most cherished institutions and values because they know that by doing this, they can divide us. And their intent is destruction, with polarization being a key means to this destruction. So this is why I advise not letting these ideas come between you and your family. When they injure your familial bonds, they are succeeding.

I know what I am proposing here is not easy. To remain unmoved by these ideas requires us to practice a saint-like forbearance. But imagine the power that an army of saints has.

I really do think the joy and peace that come with practicing virtue are a big part of the answer. Faith, compassion, and forgiveness are powerful antidotes for bad ideas. What I cannot say is how long it may take to see change.

About the situation with your grandson: For the time being, it may be better to honor his parents' wishes regarding conversations about God. However, this does not mean you should let his moral education go completely. Rather instead of words, let your kind actions, your gentle manner of being, the warm tone of your voice show him a moral path. And hopefully, one day he will ask of his own free will, "Grandma, what makes you so good?" And then I think you have the right to answer him honestly and fully, and he will be impressed with the power of your faith.

Sincerely, June

Do you have a question for our advice columnist, Dear June? Whether it's a frustrating family matter, a social etiquette issue, a minor annoyance, or a big life question, send it to DearJune@EpochTimes.com or Attn: Dear June, The Epoch Times, 229 W. 28th St., Floor 7, New York, NY 10001

June Kellum is a married mother of two and longtime Epoch Times journalist covering family, relationships, and health topics.



ALL PHOTOS BY ANNIE SPRATT/JUNSPASH/UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE



Take advantage of the writing opportunities that already exist. Kids can write blogs about their favorite subjects or comment on their favorite books, for example.

Teaching Your Child to Write

A conversation with Julie Bogart, founder of Brave Writer

BARBARA DANZA

Writing is an essential component of education and, indeed, life. Many homeschooling parents find the task of teaching their children to write a challenging one. I asked author Julie Bogart, a homeschooling veteran and the founder of the writing program Brave Writer for advice.

THE EPOCH TIMES: "Reading, writing, and arithmetic" have long been touted as the fundamental subjects of a solid education. Why, in your opinion, is it so important for a person to learn to write?

JULIE BOGART: Writing is experiencing a beautiful surge as a primary tool of communication. More children (and adults!) are writing for "publication" than in the history of the world! Think of social media, blogging, comments on news articles, text messaging, discussion boards, reviews of products and books, even the writing of a quality YouTube video—human beings crave being read and heard. The internet proves that like nothing I could ever have imagined. As a result, having powerful communication skills is more critical to a child's education than ever. We no longer relegate writing to the halls of academia! Rather, writing lives at the heart of a connected, productive life. The best way to grow that writer,

then, is to take advantage of the myriad natural opportunities that exist for writing. Children love creating blogs that review their favorite online games or that share their passion for fashion or that chronicle their bird-watching habit. They love participating in online discussion about their favorite bands or books. They may even want to join the National Novel Writing Month for Young People, if they secretly harbor a yen for writing the next great novel!

Those who spend a lot of time writing for readers—aka, the internet—grow into the most competent, prolific, and powerful writers. So seize the moment! Teachers of decades past yearned for a chance to see their students value and use writing for its true power—engaging an interested audience. Imagine how far ahead of the game your children will be in any career if they not only know how to write without mechanical errors, but also know how to powerfully hold the attention of readers, too!

THE EPOCH TIMES: Many parents will be homeschooling their children this year. How do you recommend parents approach the subject of writing?

MS. BOGART: The beginning of a writing life is speech. Children access language by imitating their parents and slowly gaining fluency and control over the native tongue. As

children express themselves with passion, catch them in the act!

Stop what you're doing to capture a spontaneous act of self-expression in writing. Jot down their exact words. You may have to stop stir-frying dinner or turn down the TV volume to do it, but do it anyway. When that child tells you about your pet dog chasing a squirrel in the backyard or your teen rants about how lame the new version of a video game is, grab a scratch sheet of paper and jot down that child's exact words. Listen attentively—transcribe as much of their speech as you can.

If they ask what you're doing, say: "This is so good, I don't want to forget it, so I'm writing it down."

Later that night, read back to the family the words you wrote for your child. Talk about the content and enjoy there-reading. You might read it again the next day during a read-aloud time. Let your child discover that the writer lives inside already. Written expression is the recording of the child's or teen's real thoughts. Begin there. See the child as a writer in search of a secretary, first.

Additionally—read together each day, play with writing by using a variety of implements (window markers to write famous quotes on the sliding glass door, text messages to each other, sticky notes left on the bedroom door to wake up to in the morning). If you want a way to get started that helps get kids on board, check out Brave Writer's 7-Day Writing Blitz (BraveWriter.com/blitz). It's free and fun!

THE EPOCH TIMES: You have created a very popular writing program for homeschoolers: Brave Writer. How did that come to be?

MS. BOGART: I grew up around writing. My mother is a published author of over 70 books. I spent my early adulthood working as a ghostwriter, magazine editor, and freelance author.

When I began homeschooling my kids, I discovered that the writing programs available to teach kids to write largely led to resistance from children with very wooden, tedious results. I wanted my kids to feel comfortable with writing, to love self-expression, and to write stuff worth reading.

So I designed a program that would help parents understand how to unleash a child's love of writing, not just get them to perform for school tests. Writing is not merely about accuracy (proper spelling and punctuation), but power (connection to readers). I wanted to help my kids find their powerful writing voices first, then to work on the mechanics separately. Over time, those two come together to create both beauty and power in writing.

THE EPOCH TIMES: You also homeschooled your own, now grown, children. What were some of the most enjoyable writing projects you and your kids took on?

MS. BOGART: I can think of so many enjoyable writing projects we did together!

When my oldest son was studying California history in fourth grade, we put together an entire party to celebrate the Gold Rush era. Noah and I worked together to create handwritten invitations. He drew a map of California for our game we called "Pin the gold nugget on Sutter's Creek," he made signs for the Camp Store for sarsaparilla and

licorice, and he wrote individual notecards for all the famous miners of that era and then handed them out to guests as they arrived. So much writing, all around history and parties!

My daughter Johannah wrote her own version of Jane Austen's "Emma" in seventh grade. She set the scene in the Civil War and retold the story from the perspective of that period in history and in our country rather than England.

I had my kids write their own versions of the "Just So Stories" by Rudyard Kipling and their own Greek myths (made up, following the inspiration of the Greek myths we read regularly). My youngest two kids built their own fairytale collections. We would read every version we could find of a particular tale (plus any Disney movie versions too). Then they would narrate the story to me and create a drawing or art project for it and we'd put their written version of the fairytale into a book. That was an amazing year-long writing project before these two kids were even fluent readers!

And finally, my youngest daughter wrote a fashion blog for a year every day in ninth grade. These are just a few of the enjoyable projects we did together!

THE EPOCH TIMES: What advice would you give a homeschooling parent who dislikes or lacks confidence in writing?

MS. BOGART: The reason so many parents dislike writing is that they were taught in a way that undermined their confidence in their writing voices. They were led to believe that their ideas weren't valuable unless the mechanics were accurate.

The way to start, then, is to shed the attachment to a method of writing instruction that led to your own lack of confidence. Try something new. Use the tools and tactics of professional writers to grow as a writer. Brave Writer teaches an entirely different approach to writing than the schools. Be a learner alongside your child and you will get a brand new experience of writing as well.

THE EPOCH TIMES: Finally, what would you say to the numerous homeschoolers who are suddenly and unexpectedly finding themselves taking their first steps along this path?

MS. BOGART: The best place to begin with homeschooling is to be willing to go on a journey—to recognize that there is a lot to learn and you can't learn it all in a day. The first step to take is a single one. Read a good book on home education (I've written one: "The Brave Learner"). Find local homeschoolers. Become a student of your child, more than of curricula. See your home as a place of learning, not a miniature of school. I have developed a community for home educators called the Brave Learner Home to help them grow and find resources. You can learn more about it at BraveWriter.com/special-offer

Bottom line: you love your kids more than anyone. You are capable of being their instructor. You've taught them everything from how to eat, how to talk and walk, how to tie their shoelaces, and eventually, you'll teach them to drive cars! You are more than able to find the resources you need to teach them the academics too. You are a capable, resourceful adult with passion for your children's well-being. That's all you need.

Parents, Teachers Starting 'Learning Pods' Are Done Waiting for Permission

KERRY MCDONALD

The widespread "pandemic pods" that are emerging as back-to-school alternatives this fall are models of parental ingenuity, educator adaptability, and entrepreneurial agility.

These learning pods, or in-home microschools, involve small groups of families coming together to take turns facilitating a curriculum for their children in their homes, or pooling resources to hire a teacher or college student to lead instruction. They are a creative, spontaneous response to uncertain or undesirable school reopening plans that make at-home learning easier, more practical, and more enjoyable for more families.

These pods are also a prime example of what Adam Thierer calls "permissionless innovation," where new solutions and discoveries are born without explicit regulatory blessings. In his book, Thierer explains: "The best solutions to complex social problems are almost always organic and 'bottom-up' in nature."

The organic and bottom-up nature of the pandemic pod trend has the potential to dramatically reshape American education, now and into the future. Parents are reasserting control of their children's education, opting out of centralized school systems, and challenging regulatory regimes.

New Hampshire Commissioner of Education, Frank Edelblut, sees these pods and microschools as promising signs of education transformation.

"They are decentralizing education, moving away from a central bureaucracy," he told me in a recent interview. "Parents and teachers are creating microschools that are reflective of the goals and aspirations of the families who engage in them."

At a time of such educational turmoil and societal disruption, parents, educators, and policymakers should embrace the idea of "permissionless innovation" regarding pods, encouraging enterprising individuals to experiment and create.

Entrepreneurs are already rising

to the occasion, with startups such as SchoolHouse and Weekdays acting as managed marketplaces to connect educators and parents who are now forming pods and microschools.

Thierer writes: "For innovation and growth to blossom, entrepreneurs need a clear green light from policymakers that signals a general acceptance of risk-taking—especially risk-taking that challenges existing business models and traditional ways of doing things. That's permissionless innovation in a nutshell."

Perhaps not surprisingly, New Hampshire is seeing surging interest in homeschooling this summer.

Pandemic pods show

the remarkable ability of free individuals to self-organize to solve societal problems, without government interference. Lindsey Burke at the Heritage Foundation explains that these pods are civil society's response to the pandemic and its impact on education. Burke recently hosted an online panel discussion to help parents and educators create more of these pods.

"These pods show that parents are ready to and capable of directing their children's education, and that while too many districts are still determining whether or not to reopen schools, parents aren't waiting around any longer," she said.

Jason Bedrick of EdChoice, which co-hosted the pod-building webinar, agrees that these pods are a source of parental empowerment. He believes that pods are here to stay.

"There's a reason that microschooling was already taking off before the pandemic: they're adaptable, affordable, and can provide a great deal of high-quality, personalized instruction," he said. "Most of the new 'podders' wouldn't have considered this form of education but for the pandemic, but I anticipate that a significant portion of them will continue microschooling once the pandemic is over."

Pandemic pods are positioned to dramatically redesign education. As parents realize that they are capable of guiding their children's education, and can collaborate with others toward this end, they will be more skeptical of inefficient, coercive, one-size-fits-all government schooling. They will also demand that education dollars get redistributed more equitably, ensuring that all parents, regardless of income, have the opportunity to take advantage of pods, microschools, and similar educational options.

"States need to work quickly to make sure children from low-income families, in particular, have the same chances to form pods or enroll in microschools, and should work to provide education savings accounts (ESAs) to all families immediately," Burke said.

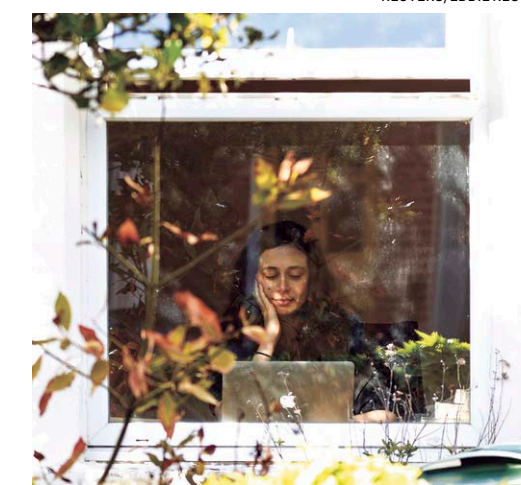
Policymakers should work to expand education choice and encourage innovation, while parents, educators, and entrepreneurs continue to craft new and better education models. When it comes to creating pandemic pods, parents don't need to raise their hands to ask for permission to do what is best for their children.

Kerry McDonald is a senior education fellow at the Foundation for Economic Education and author of "Unschooling: Raising Curious, Well-Educated Children Outside the Conventional Classroom." This article was first published on FEE.org

Andrii Medvedevnikov/Shutterstock



In learning pods, or microschools, small groups of families take turns teaching children, or pool resources to hire a teacher.



A woman works from her computer at home in Oxford, England, on March 31, 2020.

How to Make the Most of a Virtual Internship

NEW YORK—As someone who dreams of a career in the music business, Amanda Montgomery had big plans for her summer internship—working in studios, going on shoots for music videos, maybe taking in some live concerts.

Because of COVID-19, her internship is looking a little different: Stuck in her Boston apartment in sweatpants.

Welcome to the New Normal, circa 2020.

While many employers have scrapped internships altogether, the Berklee College of Music student snared one with NYC-based CAD Management, which handles a roster of artists and helps them with branding and marketing.

But it's virtual, not in-person—and that takes some getting used to.

"Remote working isn't for everyone, and it's definitely not what I thought was going to happen this summer," Montgomery, 20, says. "I'm still gaining a ton of knowledge and experience—it's just very different."

Indeed, while her days aren't spent in a 9-to-5 office environment, they look very familiar to anyone who works on a freelance basis. Lots of calls, emails, and Google meetings, with project-based assignments that she completes at her own pace. One recent task, for instance: Promoting songstress Melanie Iglesias and her new release, "Mr. Magoo."

In a recent survey, careers community Handshake found that 60 percent of companies are offering virtual internships. But it isn't just interns who are having to adjust their career path. Companies are having to throw out their old playbooks, too.

Take brokerage giant Charles Schwab, which has a full slate of summer interns, 232 across the whole company. While the firm kept its commitments to every one, instead of ditching the program altogether, it has meant designing a new experience from scratch.

A few of the items on Schwab's internship menu: Interacting with assigned mentors, participating in executive meet-and-greets, doing personal financial planning, and even arranging virtual volunteer events with Boys & Girls Clubs on the subject of financial literacy.

Most of those interns will return in the fall for their senior year of college, while some graduating students will stay on for full-time work. Elizabeth King, Schwab's senior vice president of enterprise learning and talent management who oversees the internship programs, expects to learn a few key lessons herself after the nine-week program concludes.

"This is all a massive social experiment," Kingsays. "And by the end of it, we should know a whole lot more about how to engage employees

and clients virtually." While this new landscape of virtual internships may not be ideal, you can still embrace the challenge and maximize the opportunity.

Some tips for making the most from this strange internship summer:

Set Up a Professional Workspace

We may all be cooped up in our homes, but you still need to carve out a professional-looking space, because that image will be projected out countless times over the summer. Tidy up your bookshelves, add a low-maintenance plant, and consider putting a ring light near your webcam so that you do not look like a ghost on video calls.

"You are letting your work world into your private space, so the reality is you have to maintain a level of professionalism, and sit up straight and pay attention," advises Brea Giffin, marketing director for corporate wellness platform Sprout.

This is all a massive social experiment. And by the end of it, we should know a whole lot more about how to engage employees and clients virtually.

Elizabeth King, senior vice president of enterprise learning and talent management, Schwab

Maintain Focus

For those not accustomed to working in a home environment, one major challenge is the temptation all around you. Your snacks are in the fridge, your favorite shows are on the DVR, and your bed is calling you for a nap. That in mind, you need to develop a laser-like focus on the tasks that need to be done.

"It's important to carve out dedicated time to meaningfully complete the work, rather than just doing the work piecemeal between other tasks," says Handshake co-founder and CEO Garrett Lord.

Make Time to Recharge One interesting thing King has witnessed, with most Schwab employees working from home the past couple of months: Video events can be even more draining than in-person interaction, especially for introverts.

"Back-to-back video meetings take a lot of energy, and many people find it very tiring," she says. "So make sure to give yourself enough time throughout the day to take breaks and unwind."

By Chris Taylor
From Reuters

5 Pitfalls Homeschoolers May Encounter

Here's what to avoid

BARBARA DANZA

Anytime you take on a responsibility as significant as homeschooling, you're bound to run into some pitfalls. Here are a few common ways homeschooling parents trip themselves up.

Aiming for Perfection

You want only the very best for your children. After making the bold decision to homeschool, you sure aren't going to mess this

up. It has to be perfect.

But wait. Don't aim for perfection. Aim, instead for connection. Walk this new path alongside your children. There will be bumps and falls all along the way, but you'll be learning as you go. The fruits of this journey blossom way down the road. They're incalculable; some are even invisible. Rest assured that you're heading toward them, though, and that the alternatives can't begin to compare.

Being Inflexible

For most homeschoolers, it takes a little while to figure out what works best for them. Sometimes, it can take an entire school year, or more, of learning and adjusting methods, resources, schedules, and rhythms.

While it's great to start out with a plan, that's probably just a rough draft. Be flexible and observant of what's working and what's not, making changes as you go.

Comparing Your Homeschool

You head to Instagram in

search of homeschool ideas and inspiration, and a few minutes (or more, ahem) later, you're beating yourself up for not having a schoolroom that looks like it was designed by Joanna Gaines or for not teaching your 6-year-old Latin or for not establishing a wild and free childhood, homesteading off-the-grid.

The beauty of homeschool is that no two families do it exactly the same way. What's more, in your own family, you'll find each season of life and even each school year looks and feels

different.

If you're teaching your children to be good and kind and you can see academic growth over time—you're knocking it off out of the park. Stop comparing and remember #InstagramIsNotRealLife.

Suffering Through

So, you've chosen the best curriculum the internet said you needed, and you find yourself dreading every time you need to use it. It may be an effective resource for some, but if you hate it, what do you think the experience is like for your kids?

They say, "If mama ain't happy, ain't nobody hap-

py." We need to double that sentiment for homeschooling mamas (and papas).

Consider the difference when you're enthusiastic, curious, or even amazed at what's being learned. Now, you're on an adventure and homeschooling takes on a magical quality.

Of course, not every subject is going to be accompanied by fireworks. But pay attention when it's feeling like a slog or drudgery for you. That's a sign you either need to outsource or shift your approach. Homeschooling's a marathon, not a sprint, and we need to keep Mama happy for the long haul.

Trying to Duplicate School

It often takes homeschoolers a bit of time and experience to understand the vast differences between school and homeschool. There's a term for this process—deschooling—which I wrote about recently.

Homeschooling is wonderful, in part, because it allows for long, deep dives into subjects of interest; it offers each individual child a customized pace for learning; it focuses on family traditions and connections and the individuality of each child; and it affords the utmost freedom—where the world

is your classroom and the sky's the limit.

School is the opposite—subjects are confined to periods and interrupted by bells, curriculum is mass-produced, academics cater to the average, and everything is standardized. School is focused on the collective, inhibits freedom, and caps potential.

While the look, feel, and practices of school may be what's most familiar to you, know that those trappings have little, if anything, to do with education and learning. Those that make the most of homeschooling set the deeply ingrained notions about "schooling" aside.

ALTREND/IMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK



No two families homeschool in exactly the same way. Keep that in mind if you're tempted to compare your homeschool to other families'.

STYLE

What to Wear to Stay Cool in Summer

MANY NGOM

When the temperature inches into the 90s and 100s, it can be difficult to find what to wear. Here's a tip: Fabrics play an important role in keeping your summer fun and breathable, so opt for natural fabrics. Avoid polyester and nylon, as these tend to trap the heat close to your body. Let's go over the natural fabrics you can wear and the looks that will keep you cool—both literally and figuratively.

THE ITEMS FEATURED ARE AVAILABLE AT MATCHESFASHION.COM. ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATCHESFASHION.COM.

DIA DIPASUPLI/GETTY IMAGES FOR NYFW: THE SHOWS



Nicole Miller.



- Bellitude Floral Silk Chiffon Dress by Zimmermann.
- Eclipse Pearl Amazonite Drop Earrings by Sylvia Toledano.
- Tropea Braided Metallic Sandals by Gianvito Rossi.

Chiffon: Light Patchwork

Chiffon fabric is usually sheer and light, and made of silk or synthetic fabrics such as nylon, for instance. For this look, I picked a fun silk chiffon patchwork dress that brings summer vibes to your style. The silk fabric is breathable and will keep you cool during sunny days. Fun fact about silk: Its fibers will also keep you warm during cold nights, so you don't have to worry about carrying a scarf if you plan to be out late. Because patchwork is a busy style, pair your dress with a fun pair of earrings and nude sandals.

ANGELA WEISS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



Zimmermann.



- Eyelet Embroidered Cotton Shirt Dress/Tunic by Solid & Striped.
- Tailored Wool Blend Cigarette Trousers by Alexander McQueen.
- Maya Fringed Woven Tote Bag by Sophia Webster.
- Raffia and Leather Babouche Slippers by Kilometre Paris.

Cotton Eyelet

Broderie Anglaise, French for "English embroidery," is a needlework technique that includes cut-outs and needle lace. It was very popular in the '60s, and designers are in love with it again; it's been trending for several seasons now. Made of cotton, the fabric is also known as "eyelet." The eyelets themselves can vary in size, and can be very wide, like on the model in this runway photo. For an easy breezy look, I picked an eyelet tunic you can wear with a pair of pastel pants. The little holes in the tunic enable the air to flow, and the best part is you don't have to wear a tank top underneath, unless you want to open the tunic and wear it as an overshirt—that's a good look as well.

SLAVEN VLASIC/GETTY IMAGES



Oscar de la Renta.



- Madame Butterfly Lamé-embroidered Silk-blend Dress by Taller Marmo.
- 18K Gold Plated Bronx Onyx Clip Earrings by Aurelie Bidermann.
- Square Toe metallic Leather Mules by Wandler Isa.

Glamorous Silk

Let's talk about silk again; there are different types of silk you can wear during the summer. Even though this silk crepe kaftan is sheer, the fabric is sturdier than the chiffon. It is a nice alternative if you have an outing at night: it will give you the same cooling benefits as chiffon, but it looks more glamorous. Pair the kaftan with metallic sandals and jewelry, which enhance the whole look.

THOMAS LOHNES/GETTY IMAGES FOR ANNETTE GOERTZ



Annette Goertz.



- Capri Button-down Linen Jumpsuit by White Story.
- Logo Plaque Cotton Bonnet hat by Burberry.
- Envelope Quilted Leather Belt Bag by Burberry.

Linen: The Creases Don't Matter

Linen is notorious for wrinkling easily. But this little flaw aside, it has terrific benefits. Made from the fibers of the flax plant, linen drives heat away from the skin. It is a very absorbent fabric that will leave you cool and refreshed in humid weather. It also allows the skin to breathe, and this makes it very comfortable for extended journeys, such as on flights or long errands. This linen jumpsuit is simple and comfortable, with utilitarian pockets that will keep your hands free, and the cool hat will protect your face from the summer sun.

ALBERT URSO/2019 GETTY IMAGES



Dennis Basso.



- Lauren Kyma Printed Voile Shirt Dress by Themis.
- Silicia Beaded Tile Clip Earrings by Rosantica.
- Ellington Elaphe Slides by Gabriela Hearst.

Explore the Voile

"Voile" is the French word for veil. Voile is a fabric that is usually made of cotton and can be blended with linen. When woven with cotton yarn only, the fabric has a soft feel. The weaving is very tight, which also makes the fabric very comfortable and breathable. It is also widely used in home decor. I picked this maxi dress not only for the fabric, but also for its timeless look. The shirt dress style is always relevant, and the pattern is gorgeous.

STYLE

How to Look Sharp Without Breaking a Sweat

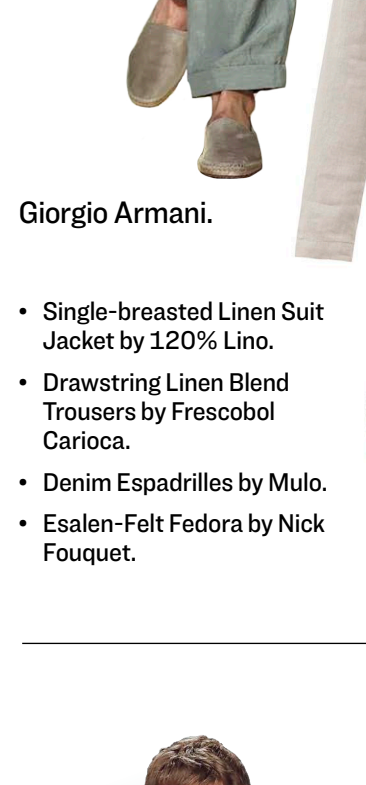
MANY NGOM

Gentlemen, summer is at its peak, and you're wondering what to wear, and how to minimize that constant sweat. Of course, the easiest option is a tank top and a pair of shorts, right?

But what if you have to go to an event, or have to look more presentable? How do you stay elegant and sharp without breaking a sweat? Let's go over three aspects that you should consider: breathable fabrics, light colors, and a more relaxed fit.



Giorgio Armani.



- Single-breasted Linen Suit Jacket by 120% Lino.
- Drawstring Linen Blend Trousers by Frescobol Carioca.
- Denim Espadrilles by Mulo.
- Esalen-Felt Fedora by Nick Fouquet.

Linen: Mediterranean Cool

Designer Giorgio Armani, who understands the Mediterranean weather and humidity well, likes to use linen in his summer collections for men. So when I reviewed his latest collection, I was inspired! Let's call this outfit the Italian style; the look is relaxed and comfortable. Linen quickly absorbs any moisture from your body, keeping you dry all day. The light, natural colors trap less heat from the sunlight than dark colors and keep you comfortable. You can wear this linen suit with a white T-shirt in 100 percent cotton, and you should be good for the day. To prevent sunburn—in addition to sunscreen—you can wear a nice fedora.



Louis Vuitton.

- Silk Crepe Short Sleeves Shirt by Equipment.
- Tailored Satin Back Sharkskin Trousers by Deveaux.
- Suede Belt by Saint Laurent.
- Vintage Leather Penny Loafers by Brunello Cucinelli.

On the Silk Road

Silk is the best fabric year-round; you just have to know how to wear it. In hot weather, silk regulates your temperature, keeping your body cool and comfortable. Avoid dark colors, as they trap heat, and instead opt for pastels and neutrals like white and beige. A relaxed fit will allow air to circulate, which helps if you sweat. This outfit consists of a relaxed-fit silk shirt with nice trousers, and leather loafers with a matching belt. You can wear the shirt tucked in or over the pants. This look is best for going out at the end of the day, for dinner or a nice walk.



BOSS.

- Hayes Cotton And Silk-twill Overshirt by Odyssee.
- Pleated Cotton Twill Trousers by Brunello Cucinelli.
- Gradated-stripe Poplin Shirt by Editions M.R.
- Leather Low-top Trainers by Grenson.

Poplin Layers

Poplin is a fabric usually made with 100 percent cotton yarn. It can also be made with silk or wool yarn, but the cotton makes it lightweight with a nice luster, adding a touch of luxury in men's shirts, for instance. Because the weave of the poplin is tight, the fabric structure prevents creases, which is good if you don't like to iron your shirts.

The Hugo Boss summer collection for men introduced nice relaxed outfits in light colors but also with multiple layers of clothes. That might seem confusing, especially for summer, right? Well, multiple thin layers can be worn during summer and still allow air to flow, and multi-layering can add a touch of both styling and utility. You can finish your outfit with an overshirt, for instance, in case of drastic weather changes such as rain or heavy winds.



Cashmere for Cool Summer Nights

Cashmere is very pricey because the wool has properties that make it wearable all year-round.

The fibers are hollow and airy, giving the fabric a fluffy and soft, silky feel. The fabric also has moisture-wicking properties, which means that when you sweat, the fibers attract moisture away from your body so you can stay comfortable and dry. It's OK to wear cashmere directly next to your skin. Unlike other types of wool, its fibers are so soft, it won't scratch your skin. On a nice, cool summer evening, wear a V-neck cashmere sweater, with short or long sleeves, with a dressy pair of pants.



Berluti.

- Embroidered V-neck Cashmere Sweater by Gucci.
- Soho-fit Wool-blend Fresco Suit Trousers by Paul Smith.
- G-Timeless Stainless Steel Watch by Gucci.
- Gommio Suede Driving Shoes by TOD'S.



World War II Veteran Turns 105

ANDREW THOMAS

Louis DeBiasio was one of the young men from the Greatest Generation who fought honorably during World War II and lived to see the future that their victory ensured.

Out of the 16 million Americans who served during World War II, he's one of only about 389,000 who are alive today, according to statistics from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

He turned 105 years old on Aug. 10. DeBiasio served in the Navy on the USS Piedmont, a repair ship in the Pacific theater. He worked on a boring mill and helped repair destroyers and other ships that had been damaged in combat. He also served as part of a 20-millimeter anti-aircraft gun crew.

In one harrowing incident, he was nearly killed by a Japanese kamikaze plane; the pilot lost his nerve, ejecting from his aircraft, which crashed into the Pacific Ocean. He was serving in the Sea of Japan when Imperial Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, 1945, and he was part of the occupying forces on the Japanese mainland after the war ended.

When he returned from the war in September 1946, a crowd turned out in San Diego to welcome him and the other sailors home. He then took a long bus ride across the country to his home state of New Jersey.

The Greatest Generation

The son of Italian immigrants, DeBiasio was born in Creekside, Pennsylvania. His father came to the United States through Ellis Island and worked in a coal mine in Pittsburgh.

DeBiasio lived through the Great Depression; he was 14 when he quit high school to go work on a farm and then found an opportunity to work at the machine shop at National Rubber in Clifton, New Jersey. According to his son Michael DeBiasio, he worked arduously for minimum



Louis DeBiasio, from New Smyrna Beach, Fla., served in the Pacific theater in World War II.

wage for most of his life before and after the war, and never complained about his circumstances. In 1943, at the age of 27, he was drafted into the Navy.

"That's what made him and his generation so great. They loved and accepted what life gave them and tried to make it better through hard work and doing the right thing in life," Michael DeBiasio wrote in an email.

After returning from the war, DeBiasio married his wife, Helen,

in 1948 and built a house in Lincoln Park, New Jersey, in 1955. He went back to work at National Rubber and performed taxidermy work in the evening to make additional money to support his family. He continued to work at National Rubber until he retired in 1980 at age 65. When he could no longer afford to live in Lincoln Park, he sold the house and moved the family to Milford, Pennsylvania.

Michael recounted how his father enjoyed working on his garden and

DeBiasio served in the Navy on the USS Piedmont, a repair ship in the Pacific theater.

repairing his car on his own. He always kept himself busy and only watched television in the evening. He's lived a simple life and has always maintained a positive and happy attitude, his son says. The most important people in his life are Helen and his family. He also has another son, Gary, and two grandchildren, Meghan, 35, and Nicholas, 33.

Michael recalls the family being incredibly close. Every Friday night, the family would have dinner at his grandmother's home in Clifton, along with his father's three sisters and two brothers. DeBiasio enjoyed hunting with his brothers, and Michael would go hunting with him every weekend during the winter. Summers were spent fishing in places such as Lake Ontario for trout and Quincy Bay, Massachusetts, for flounder. Later in life, DeBiasio would make bows out of tree saplings for archery when he went camping with his grandchildren.

"That was the love of his life: fishing and hunting. That's one of the reasons he moved to Pennsylvania," Michael said.

Birthdays Celebration

A month before his 100th birthday, he broke his hip and has been in a wheelchair since. These days, he keeps himself busy, with a daily routine that involves coloring books, playing solitaire, and sometimes building model airplanes. Michael sometimes takes him to a hangar where World War II-era aircraft are brought for repair near New Smyrna Beach, Florida, where they've lived since September 2018.

Birthdays plans included a birthday celebration hosted by Michael and his wife, Doreen; a parade organized by a group of close neighbors; and honors from the organization Veterans of Foreign Wars.

"He enjoys everything and anything," Michael said. "He just a happy-go-lucky guy."

Knowledge a 'Treasure' for Italy's Oldest Student, Who Graduates at 96

PALERMO, Italy—At 96, Giuseppe Paterno has faced many tests in life—childhood poverty, war and, more recently, the pandemic. Now he has sailed through an exam that makes him Italy's oldest university graduate.

Recently, the former railway worker stepped forward to receive his diploma and the traditional laurel wreath awarded to Italian students when they graduate, applauded by his family, teachers, and fellow students more than 70 years his junior.

"I am a normal person, like many others," he said, when asked what it felt like to be graduating so late. "In terms of age I have surpassed all the others but I didn't do it for this."

Already in his 90s when he enrolled for a degree in history and philosophy at the University of Palermo, Paterno grew up loving books, but he never had the chance to study.

"I said, 'That's it, now or never,' and so in 2017, I decided to enroll," he told Reuters in his apartment in the Sicilian city of Palermo, which he rarely leaves nowadays due to his frailty.

"I understood that it was a little late to get a three-year degree but I said to myself, 'Let's see if I can do it.'"

On July 29, he graduated first in his class with top honors, receiving congratulations from the university Chancellor Fabrizio Micari.

Great Depression, Then War
Growing up in a poor family in Sicily in the years before the Great Depression, Paterno received only basic schooling as a child. He joined the navy and served during World War II before going on to

Paterno grew up loving books, but he never had the chance to study.

work in the railways as he married then brought up two children.

In a society focused on rebuilding after the war, work and family were the priorities, but Paterno wanted to learn and graduated from high school at the age of 31, always harboring a desire to go further.

"Knowledge is like a suitcase that I carry with me, it is a treasure," he said.

As a student, he tapped out his essays on the manual typewriter his mother gave him when he retired from the railways in 1984. He eschewed Google in favor of printed books and wasn't tempted by the late-night student parties of his 20-year-old classmates, who applauded him warmly at the graduation ceremony.

"You are an example for younger students," his sociology professor, Francesca Rizzuto, told him after he passed his final oral examination in June.

Paterno confessed to a little unease with the video calls that replaced classroom teaching during the shutdown, but said he wasn't put off by the disease itself after the war and everything else he had been through.

"All of that strengthened us, all of my peer group, all of those who are still alive," he said. "It didn't really scare us that much."

As for what he planned to do next, he said he wasn't about to stop now he had graduated.

"My project for the future is to devote myself to writing; I want to revisit all the texts I didn't have a chance to explore further. This is my goal."

By *Guglielmo Mangiapane & Antonio Parrinello*
From *Reuters*



Paterno wears a traditional laurel wreath awarded to Italian students when they graduate.



Giuseppe Paterno, 96, Italy's oldest student, celebrates with his family after graduating at the University of Palermo, Italy, on July 29, 2020.



Paterno uses his typewriter as he studies for an exam, at his home in Palermo, Italy, on Nov. 4, 2019. "Knowledge is like a suitcase that I carry with me, it is a treasure," Paterno said.

Correction

The article "Training to Run the New York Marathon on All Fours," published on Aug. 5, 2020 on B10, gave an incorrect location for Performix House. The gym is located near Manhattan's Union Square Park. The Epoch Times regrets the error.



FOR KIDS ONLY

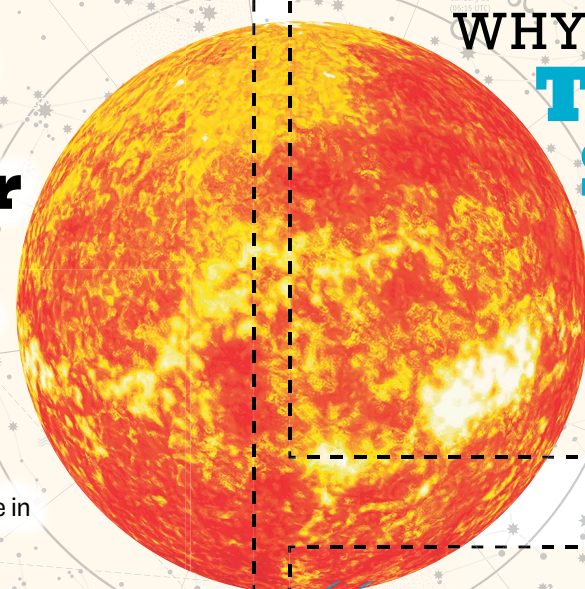
THE EPOCH TIMES



When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer

by Walt Whitman

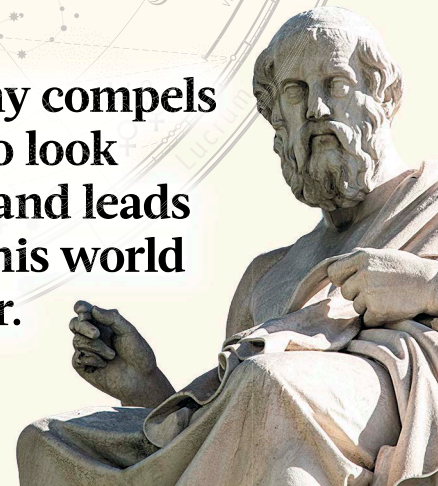
When I heard the learn'd astronomer,
When the proofs, the figures,
Were ranged in columns before me,
When I was shown the charts and
Diagrams, to add, divide,
And measure them,
When I sitting heard the astronomer
Where he lectured with much applause in
The lecture-room,
How soon unaccountable I became
Tired and sick,
Till rising and gliding out I wander'd off by myself,
In the mystical moist night-air, and from time to time,
Look'd up in perfect silence at the stars.



WHY DID THE SUN SKIP COLLEGE?

Astronomy compels the soul to look upwards and leads us from this world to another.

PLATO (APPROX. 428 B.C.-348 B.C.), PHILOSOPHER OF ANCIENT GREECE

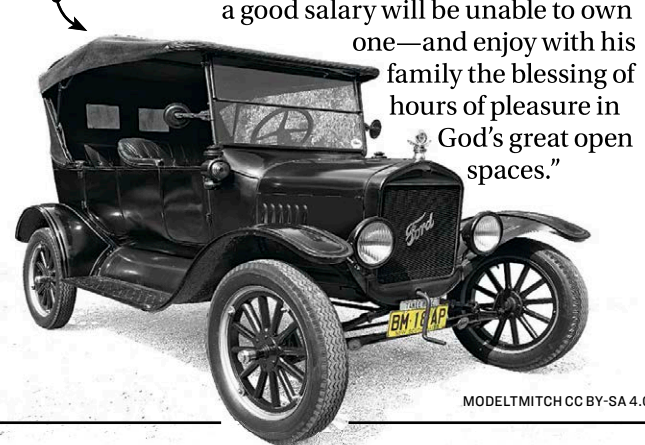


A CAR IS BORN

On Aug. 12, 1908, Henry Ford's company produced the first "Model T" car. It was assembled at the Piquette Avenue Plant in Detroit, Michigan, kicking off a transportation revolution.

The Model T represented Ford's idea of providing affordable automobiles just about anyone could own and operate. He said: "I will build a car for the great multitude. It will be large enough for the family, but small enough for the individual to run and care for. It will be constructed of the best materials, by the best men to be hired, after the simplest designs that modern engineering can devise. But it will be so low in price that no man making a good salary will be unable to own one—and enjoy with his family the blessing of hours of pleasure in God's great open spaces."

A 1925 Ford Model T.



WHALES (PART II)

By Aidan Danza, age 14

Whales are the pride of the seas. By far the most famous whale is the gigantic blue whale, which can reach the length of 98 feet, but of course it isn't the only whale. The humpback whale, and narwhal, in particular, are also very interesting.

Humpback whales can grow to a little more than half the length of the most massive blue whale. Like the blue whale, they have baleen in the place of teeth. The whale eats with baleen by swallowing a swarm of krill or plankton, closing the mouth, and expelling the water through closed lips while the catch is held back by the baleen, like fruit being rinsed in a colander.

The humpback whale has a few markings that make it distinctive. For one, along its mouth and head there are knobs, like an outcropping of rock, each from which one hair protrudes. These are like cat whiskers, providing the whale a sense of touch. They also have enormous pectoral (side) flippers, which can be 16 feet long.

Humpback whales are quite famous for their songs. Males sing remarkable songs, which are very long and complex. It is thought that they are meant to attract mates, but this is an unproven theory.

The narwhal is a very different kind of whale than the humpback. It is much smaller, normally around 13–20 feet long. Narwhals live in the freezing Arctic Ocean, in groups of 15–20, called pods.

Their enormous tusk is actually a tooth that grows through the narwhale's lip to a length of about 10 feet. The tusks are mostly on males only, but females can grow a smaller tusk. The tusk's purpose is unknown—males may use them as lances to do battle, or it could be used to attract females.

Narwhals are white with gray mottling, with the gray disappearing with age. Very old narwhals are almost completely white.

AMAZING ESCAPES!

USE THE FOUR NUMBERS IN THE CORNERS, AND THE OPERANDS (+, - AND X) to build an equation to get the solution in the middle. There may be more than one "unique" solution but, there may also be "equivalent" solutions. For example: 6 + (7 X 3) + 1 = 28 and 1 + (7 X 3) + 6 = 28

Easy puzzle 1

2	8		
1	4		
+	-	x	÷

Solution For Easy 1
1 - 2 x (7 + 8)
1 - 7 x (2 - 8)

Medium puzzle 1

9	18		
2	10		
+	-	x	÷

Solution for Medium 1
01 + 2 x (6 - 8)

Hard puzzle 1

4	31		
1	27		
+	-	x	÷

Solution for Hard 1
1 - 2 - 7 x 18

1 2 3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Down

- Recent addition to the Astrological calendar (9)
- Tenth zodiac sign: Lat. (11)
- Neighbor of Lyra and Pegasus (6)
- Eagle on high (6)
- Star in Orion (5)
- Abe Lincoln's sign (8)
- Antares is its brightest star (8)
- Old Ford model (6)
- NASA project between Mercury and Apollo (6)
- Constellation named for a musical instrument (4)
- Astrological cat (3)

Across

- Pursuer of the Pleiades (5)
- Constellation between Perseus and Gemini (6)
- Bright star in Argo. (7)
- Astrological water sign (6)
- Sign after Aquarius (6)
- Sign of late summer (5)
- Star in Scorpius (7)
- Alpha Orionis (10)
- "The Scales" constellation (5)
- Dog star (6)
- Old Dodge (5)



A media that puts you first

Hello, Epoch VIP—and welcome to this week’s issue of The Epoch Times!

We’re incredibly grateful that you’re holding this paper in your hands right now. In fact, that’s the moment most of us look forward to each week, whether we’re in the field reporting on the latest news or in the bullpen rushing late-night proofs to the presses.

All of our work is done with this fact in mind—the fact that every week, a reader like you will pick up our paper and look both to be informed by the truth and inspired by tradition. It’s a fact that lets us take pride in the work we do, and also a fact that motivates us to push ourselves a little harder every day.

If this is your first time getting our paper in

the mail, that’s wonderful! As this will be the baseline for you to evaluate us by, we hope you can take a good look. From here on out, the hope is that you’ll find us becoming a better read with each week.

To that end, consider us always at your service. As an independent media, we’re not backed by any corporation or multimillion-dollar holding company, so you—our readers—are truly the people to whom we answer. We’re honored to have so many Americans depending on us as an honest window to the world, and it’s a duty we don’t take lightly.

Feel free to contact us for anything from issues with your subscription to a suggestion for a new column. Let our editors know if anything can be even more accurate. Use our social media to post new ideas. Our ears

are open: we’re trying to bring truth and tradition back into vogue again, and we’d love any help we can get.

Aside from “very informed person,” Epoch VIP has a second meaning for us. You are also indeed a very important person—not just to us, but to the rest of the nation. You’re a person who values honesty, freedom of thought, and the goodness humanity has passed down from generation to generation since its oldest days. And for such a person, we’d gladly give our all.

Thank you for reading and for being a subscriber. Most of all, thank you for giving us hope that a media rooted in honesty can thrive in today’s society.

In Truth and Tradition,
The Epoch Times

THE EPOCH TIMES

TRUTH AND TRADITION

Subscriber Resources Guide

IMPORTANT REMINDER

1. DELIVERY
Making sure you get the newspaper ON TIME is important to you and also to us.

If you have any issues with your newspaper delivery, please read below and file delivery complaints without delay.

2. ACTIVATE/SET UP YOUR ACCOUNT
There are two ways to set up your account.

- a. Please click the link in your email, which you received after you signed up the subscription.
- b. Search “Activate account” at ReadEpoch.com/help and follow the steps.

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1. We work with the USPS nationwide and disparities from place to place can exist. **If you don’t receive your print paper by Tuesday** at latest, please contact us at **917-905-2080** and we will immediately investigate.
- 2. If you ever miss an issue of the paper, you **will be granted a subscription extension for the missed issue(s)**.
- 3. Subscriptions, except for gift subscriptions, will **automatically renew every term** (monthly, quarterly, biannually, or annually).

- 4. Read our complete FAQ at ReadEpoch.com/FAQ.
 - What are the fundamental differences between The Epoch Times and other media?
 - Why do I need to subscribe to The Epoch Times?
 - What are the cancellation and refund policies?
 - How much am I going to be charged after my one-month trial? And more...
- 5. Read the complete Terms and Conditions at ReadEpoch.com/Terms.

- 6. Quickly and easily **manage your account** by logging in at TheEpochTimes.com. From there you can view or print your billing history, file delivery complaints and update the following information:
 - Shipping and billing addresses
 - Email address
 - Phone number
 - Credit card details and more



COMMONLY USED RESOURCES

HELP CENTER
Visit our newly launched Help Center at ReadEpoch.com/help to find answers to the most commonly asked questions. You can also find the Help Center buttons on TheEpochTimes.com homepage.

CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE
917-905-2080

CUSTOMER SERVICE BUSINESS HOURS
Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. (EST)
Saturday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. (EST)

SUBMIT A REQUEST
ReadEpoch.com/Help

SELF-SERVICE PORTAL
Manage your subscription by logging in to your account at TheEpochTimes.com. Make subscription changes or update personal information by clicking on the “Log In” button in the page’s upper right corner to enter your username and password. After login, click on the person icon to access your account.

- Once logged in, you can additionally:
- File delivery complaints
 - Change subscription plans
 - Update account information
 - Update payment information
 - Refer a friend
 - Request sample papers

ADDITIONAL LINKS
Subscription: ReadEpoch.com
Referral Program: ReadEpoch.com/friends
Gift a Subscription: ReadEpoch.com/gift
Donation: SupportEpoch.com
Sign a Petition: RejectCCP.com
Online Shop: EpochShop.com
Reader Community: EpochReaders.com

MAILING ADDRESS
 Subscription Department
 The Epoch Times
 229 W. 28th St., Fl. 7
 New York, NY 10001



THE EPOCH TIMES

TRUTH AND TRADITION