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Dating, relationships, living together & marriage Social & cultural history

How to Be a Good Husband

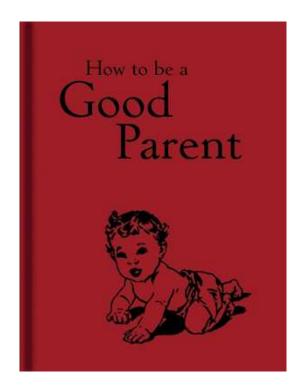
Bodleian Library (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

17 January 2008

The art of being a good husband is not an easy one. This little guide was written in the 1930s for the middle classes - one of the first modern self-help books. Illustrated with contemporary line-drawings, it contains delightfully arcane and timelessly true advice: Don't think that your wife has placed waste-paper baskets in the rooms as ornaments.

The art of being a good husband is not an easy one. This little guide was written for the middle classes of the 1930s who were reading one of the first modern self-help books. Illustrated with contemporary line-drawings, it contains advice by turns delightfully arcane and timelessly true, for example: Don't squeeze the tube of toothpaste from the top instead of from the bottom. This is one of the small things of life that always irritates a careful wife. Don't think that your wife has placed waste-paper baskets in the rooms as ornaments. Don't tell your wife terminological inexactitudes, which are, in plain English, lies. A woman has wonderful intuition for spotting even minor departures from the truth. Do cultivate the habit of coming down to breakfast with a smile. Remember that as the head of the house, it is your duty to see that everyone starts the day in an atmosphere of happiness. Don't criticise the food at your own table when you are entertaining and especially refrain from doing so before the servants.





9781851244386 Hardback | 96 pages | £5.99 10 Line drawings, black and white

Advice on parenting

Jaqueline Mitchell is a freelance writer and editor, and the compiler of 'London in Quotations', 'New York in Quotations' and 'Blitz Spirit'.

How to Be a Good Parent

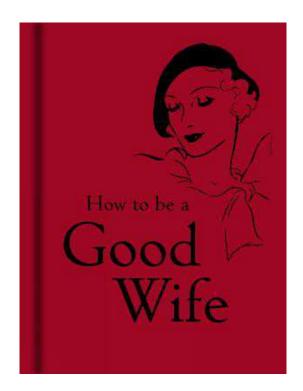
Bodleian Library (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

11 September 2015

Illustrated with charming contemporary line drawings, this little book is full of no-nonsense, old-fashioned parenting advice: a gem of a guide for anyone new to the hardest job in the world.

'To keep children clean is something that should never be attempted. It cannot be done.' 'The mere provision of the vegetable is not sufficient; it must be actually eaten.' 'If there is room enough for somersaults, the child can be satisfied.' Many books of advice for new parents were published during the 1920s and 30s, influenced by the growth of developmental psychology and aimed at the aspirant middle classes who were taking a more hands-on role in the raising of their offspring. This compendium brings together nuggets from the best of these titles in one handy volume. Chapters include good – and bad – behaviour, meals and mealtimes, dress and deportment, children's parties and playtime and storytelling, with sections on the all-important saying 'No!' and good bedtime habits. Illustrated with charming contemporary line drawings, this little book is full of no-nonsense, old-fashioned parenting advice: a gem of a guide for anyone new to the hardest job in the world.





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Dating, relationships, living together & marriage

How to Be a Good Wife

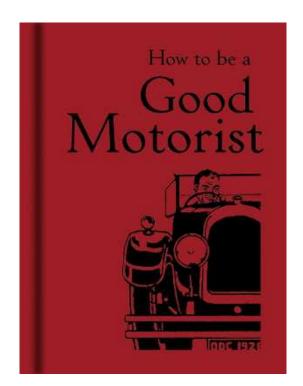
Bodleian Library (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

01 January 2008

The art of being a good wife is not an easy one. This little guide was written in the 1930s for the middle classes - one of the first modern self-help books. Illustrated with contemporary line-drawings, it contains delightfully arcane and timelessly true advice: After all is said and done, husbands are not terribly difficult to manage.

The art of being a good wife is not an easy one. This little guide was written for the middle classes of the 1930s who were reading one of the first modern self-help books. Illustrated with contemporary line-drawings, it contains advice by turns delightfully arcane and timelessly true, for example: It is a wife's duty to look her best. If you don't tidy yourself up, when you have done the bulk of the day's work, don't be surprised if your husband begins to compare you unfavourably with the typist at the office. Don't forget that a wife can always set the standard of behaviour for the home. If she allows laxities of dress or conversation at the table she will soon find that they become a fixed procedure. Don't forget that very true remark that while face powder may catch a man, baking powder is the stuff to hold him. Don't criticise the food at your own table when you are entertaining and especially refrain from doing so before the servants. After all is said and done, husbands are not terribly difficult to manage.





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Gift books Roadcraft, driving & the Highway Code

How to be a Good Motorist

Bodleian Library (John Wiley & Sons Ltd)

30 August 2013

Covering such topics as unscrupulous second-hand car dealers, women drivers and 'dashboard delights', this charming and practical guide provides all the information needed to get maximum enjoyment out of the open road, complete with leisurely picnics and a little light motor-car maintenance.

How should a motorist converse with the police? Should you switch off your headlights when another car approaches? What parts of the engine can you fix with a sheet of emery paper, insulating tape and copper wire? The 1920s heralded the age of motoring with the arrival of the 'affordable' Austin Seven and the increasing popularity of Morris Motors in Britain. Yet the first edition of the Highway Code would not appear for another decade and the rules of the road were rudimentary to say the least. This charming and practical guide provides enduring advice to novice motorists on how to cope with such hazards as skidding, headlight dazzle and sheep on the road, much of which is still instructive on today's car journeys. Many of the author's observations will strike a chord with the modern driver: 'When driving, look on all other drivers as fools...'. Others evoke the style and etiquette of a glamorous bygone era: 'A good chauffeur... will save his employer a great deal of expense'; 'an average speed of twenty miles per hour... allows you and your passengers to see something of the countryside'. Covering such topics as unscrupulous second-hand car dealers, women drivers and 'dashboard delights', this little book provides all the information needed to get maximum enjoyment out of the open road, complete with leisurely picnics and a little light motor-car maintenance.