

Homework 7.1. Child Rearing Dimensions

There are central dimensions of child rearing believed to be common to all societies. These dimensions are:

1. **Obedience training:** The degree to which children are trained to obey adults.
2. **Responsibility training:** The degree to which children are trained to take responsibility for subsistence or household tasks.
3. **Nurturance training:** The degree to which children are trained to care for and help younger siblings and other dependent people.
4. **Achievement training:** The degree to which children are trained to strive towards standards of excellence in performance.
5. **Self-reliance training:** The degree to which children are trained to take care of themselves and to be independent of assistance from others in supplying their needs or wants.
6. **General independence training:** The degree to which children are trained (beyond self-reliance as defined above) toward freedom from control, domination, supervision.

Look at the table on the next page and write down your thoughts (feelings, expectations,...) about child rearing.

There are three columns to fill in each section.

First two columns: The first column is for girls and the second is for boys. If you think girls and boys should be raised equally fill only one of the columns and leave the other one blank. Third column: Write down your thoughts about how important each dimension is and how strictly children should be trained to the third column.

After you have finished, share your answers with your partner. Emphasise the things you both agree on and remember: there is not one correct way to raise children, but several different ways.

Dimension	Girls	Boys	Importance
Obedience			
Responsibility			
Nurturance			
Achievement			
General independence			
Self-reliance			