• YOU MAY PRINT AND COPY AND USE THIS HANDOUT FOR YOUR PERSONAL OR PROFESSIONAL USE • AS IS • AS FREELY AS YOU WISH •

PICKING A PARTNER - MOM & DAD HERITAGE

UNRESOLVED DEPENDENCY ISSUES GET IN THE WAY OF PEOPLE DOING THEIR OWN GROWN-UP WORK.

Dependent -- Contingent on another -- Subordinate -- Relying on or requiring the aid of another for support: dependent children -- Also one who relies on another especially for financial support.

Independent -- Self-governing -- Free from the influence, guidance, or control of another or others; self-reliant: an independent mind-- Not determined or influenced by someone or something else -- Not relying on others for support, care, or funds; self-supporting.

Interdependent -- Mutually dependent: "Today, the mission of one institution can be accomplished only by recognizing that it lives in an interdependent world with conflicts and overlapping interests" Jacqueline Grennan Wexler

Interdependent -- Healthy, clear, negotiated, flexible, dignified, give-and-take, agreements to get individual and mutual needs met. (LQ) Co-Dependent -- I am OK and you are OK, if that is OK with you ?

A PARENTS JOB IS TO SET THEIR CHILDREN FREE TO ENTER THE WORLD ON THEIR OWN WITH A TOOL KIT CONTAINING RESPECT FOR THEIR BODY, GOOD SELF-ESTEEM, AN INTEREST IN LEARNING AND CHANGING, SKILLS TO GET ALONG WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF PEOPLE AND SITUATIONS, AND A SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION.

THESE HELP A YOUNG PERSON TO HAVE SOME BEGINNING ANSWERS TO THE THREE GREAT QUESTIONS OF LIFE:

WHO AM I ? - WHERE AM I GOING ? - HOW AM I GOING TO GET THERE ?

WITHOUT A FULL TOOL KIT FROM YOUR PARENTS YOU MUST FILL UP YOUR TOOL KIT NOW -- YOURSELF

DID YOUR PARENTS TEACH YOU TO DEPEND UPON THEM AND TO BE DEPENDED UPON FOR THESE ISSUES ?

- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : TELL ME WHEN YOU ARE MAD SAD GLAD SCARED
- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : TREAT ME WITH DIGNITY

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : PROTECT YOURSELF FROM UNNECESSARY HARM

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : BE HONEST WITH ME IN SIGNIFICANT MATTERS

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : KEEP YOUR WORD - MAKE AGREEMENTS AND KEEP THEM

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : CHERISH ME - CHERISH YOURSELF - CHERISH US TOGETHER

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : RESPECT YOURSELF - LOVE YOURSELF - CARE ABOUT YOU

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : TELL ME ABOUT YOUR HISTORY SO THAT I CAN KNOW YOU MORE FULLY

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : LISTEN TO ME WHEN I TALK ABOUT MYSELF

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : NOT TAKE THINGS PERSONALLY WHEN I AM TALKING ABOUT MYSELF

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : BE SUPPORTIVE OF ME WHEN I AM HURT , CONFUSED , LONELY , TIRED , STRESSED

- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : RESPECT THAT WE ARE DIFFERENT AND THAT IT IS OK THAT WE ARE DIFFERENT
- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : BE PATIENT WITH ME WHEN I DO NOT UNDERSTAND FULLY

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : SUPPORT MY EFFORTS TO STRETCH MY GROWTH AND KNOWLEDGE

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : EXPERIENCE DIFFERENCE AS OK , NOT AS RIGHT AND WRONG

Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : ASK WHEN YOU DO NOT KNOW - DO NOT TAKE ME FOR GRANTED

- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF , NOT RELY TOTALLY UPON ME FOR CERTAIN THINGS
- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : PLAY (PHYSICALLY EMOTIONALLY INTELLECTUALLY SOCIALLY SPIRITUALLY)
- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : LEARN BE CURIOUS GROW CHALLENGE STRETCH DO NEW THINGS
- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : REACH-OUT TO ME ON PURPOSE FIND OUT HOW I AM TALK TO ME
- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : BE OPEN ABOUT YOURSELF WITH OUR AGREEMENT TO DO EACH NO HARM
- Y N I DEPEND ON YOU TO : HANG-IN-THERE WITH OUR LIVES TOGETHER FOR THE LONG HAUL



OPINIONS AND FEELINGS ARE FREQUENTLY A PERSONAL TRIUMPH OVER GOOD THINKING YOU DEFINE REALITY BY WHAT YOU KNOW, WHAT YOU BELIEVE, AND WHAT YOU DO ABOUT IT.