Name

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You Live and You Learn

**Give and Take**

Galvin, Braithwaite, Schrodt, and Bylund (2016, p.97) mentioned that, “Parents may realize the need to respect the child’s need of new experiences; at the same time, they want the child to be open about what they are doing.” This quote is interesting because parents’ desire to protect their children often causes them to miss out on many experiences. As a result of this, children often do things without their parents’ knowledge. If parents allow their children to have more freedom, children would be more willing to keep their parents involved in their lives.

**Story of My Life**

I believe that it is equally important for parents to give children the freedom to control their own lives as it is for children to keep their parents informed. My dad was always overprotective of me and when I moved away to college, he continued tocontrol what I could and could not do. As a result of this, I often went out with friends or short-distance vacations without him knowing.When my dad slowly started giving me more freedom to control my own life,I began to involve him in more of my whereabouts, rather than keep it as a secret from him.

**Let Them Learnfrom Experience**

As a future family life educator, it is important that I emphasize the importance of letting children learn from their own experiences and mistakes. I will encourage parents to give their children more opportunities to participate in desired activities and children to openly discuss, with their parents,their experiences to slowly increase the trust and freedom between both parties. Moreover, I willremind parents that mistakes arelearning opportunities, rather thanreasons for punishment. I will emphasize to families that parents need to let children experiment, but children should also keep parents informed to ease their worries.

Reference

Galvin, K. M., Braithwaite, D. O., Schrodt, P., &Bylund, C. L. (2016). *Family communication:*

*Cohesion and change* (10th edition). New York, NY: Routledge.