

**WISDOM MORE THAN KNOWLEDGE**  
**FORMATION BETTER THAN INFORMATION**  
**EDUCATION RATHER THAN TRAINING**

**20 Values Educators should on pass on their wards**  
**from**

**A LETTER FROM ABRAHAM LINCOLN**  
**TO HIS SON'S HEAD-MASTER**

Abraham Lincoln, the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America (1861 – 1865), is one of the world's greatest statesmen for all time. Here is a letter written by him to the Headmaster of a school in which his son was studying, a letter so typical of the man who bore malice towards none and had charity for all.

**Intent of the se jottings**

*To emphasize that Education is a transfer of values, attitudes and ways of living from the Teacher to the pupils rather than passing on to them facts, knowledge and information.*

**How to Use these Jottings**

- Give copies of Abraham Lincoln's letter to the participants.
- Take one of its sentences at a time, reflect on it, discuss and share experiences .

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**Extracts of the letter.**

1. “He will have to learn that not all men are true, but teach him also that for every scoundrel there is a hero; and that for every selfish politician, there is a dedicated leader....
2. Teach him that for every enemy there is a friend.
3. It will take time, I know, but teach him, if you can, that a dollar earned, has far more value than five found...
4. Teach him to learn to lose and also to enjoy winning.
5. Steer him away from envy, if you can.
6. Teach him the secret of quiet laughter.
7. Let him learn early that the bullies are the easiest to lick...
8. Teach him, if you can; the wonder of books... but also give him quiet time to ponder over the eternal mystery of birds in the sky, bees in the sunshine and flowers on a green hill-side.”
9. Teach him that in school it is far more honorable to fail than to cheat...
10. Teach him to have faith in his own ideas, even if everyone tells him they are wrong... Teach him to be gentle with gentle, and tough with the tough.
11. Teach my son the strength not to follow the crowd when everyone is getting on the band wagon.

12. Teach him to listen to all, but teach him also to filter all he hears on the screen of truth and take only the good that comes through.”
13. “Teach him, if you can, how to laugh when he is sad...
14. Teach him that there is no shame in tears.
15. Teach him to scoff at cynics and to be aware of too much sweetness...
16. Teach him to sell his brawn and brain to the highest bidders, but never to put a price tag on his heart and soul.
17. Teach him to close his ears to a howling mob... and to stand and fight if he thinks he’s right.”
18. “Treat him gently; but do not cuddle him because only the test of fire makes fine steel. Let him have the courage to be impatient...
19. Let him have the patience to be brave.
20. Teach him always to have sublime faith in mankind.”

**This is a big order’s know, but see what you can do...  
He is such a fine little fellow, my son.”**