

I read this recently in the book *Fair Isn't Always Equal* by Rick Wormeli, but Rick Wormeli didn't write it. I thought it was fabulous, and I hunted down the original source: Haim Ginott wrote it in his book *Teacher and Child*. Somewhere in there, I figured out that the words applied to different situations, not just the classroom. The underlined words and phrases are those that I thought could be replaced with other words to denote different situations. The paragraph on the third page is one that I modified to suit a home situation instead of the classroom.

Read on.

Be inspired.

Share it with your friends.

Look up the original source:

Ginott, Haim. *Teacher and Child*. Scribner: New York, 1993.

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Decisive Element

I have come to the frightening conclusion that I am the decisive element in my classroom. It is my personal approach that creates the climate. It is my daily mood that makes the weather. As a teacher, I possess tremendous power to make a child's life miserable or joyous. I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration. I can humiliate or humor, hurt or heal. In all situations, it is my response that decides whether or not a crisis will be escalated or de-escalated, and my student humanized or de-humanized. I am part of a team of educators creating a safe, caring, and positive learning environment for students and teaching them in a manner that ensures success because all individuals are capable of learning.

Words in all caps are the replacement words...

I have come to the frightening conclusion that I am the decisive element in my HOME. It is my personal approach that creates the climate. It is my daily mood that makes the weather. As a PARENT, I possess tremendous power to make MY child's life miserable or joyous. I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration. I can humiliate or humor, hurt or heal. In all situations, it is my response that decides whether or not a crisis will be escalated or de-escalated, and my CHILD humanized or de-humanized. I am part of a team of PARENTS creating a safe, caring, and positive HOME environment for MY FAMILY and teaching them in a manner that ensures success because EACH OF US CAN BE HAPPY.