<u>This is precisely what the children need to learn - more than being “pushed” to always win!</u>

When my daughter returned from her trip to Europe, she told me something that stayed with me for a long time. I realised that this was not just a story — it was a mirror reflecting all of us.

She had visited a Costco store in Amsterdam. It was a little chilly outside, and people were rushing in and out of the store. Near the entrance stood a little boy, barely five years old. He was holding a few packets of chips, and a small sign hung around his neck. Written in a child's untidy handwriting were the words:

“*Buy one for just $20 to support our Scout charity.*”

People walked past him. Some were in a hurry, some were busy on their phones, and some simply chose to ignore him.

But the little boy didn't give up.

With his tiny steps, he approached each person, looked up at them, and innocently asked, “*Would you like to buy a packet?*”

Some people bought one. Others smiled and said, “*No, thank you, sweetheart.*”

I thought to myself, “*He is so little. After hearing so many ‘no’s, surely he will start crying or feel dejected and hide behind his teacher.*”

But no.

After every “*no*,” he smiled, gently nodded his head, and moved on to the next person. There was no embarrassment on his face, no fear, and no disappointment. There was only a remarkable sense of confidence.

My daughter couldn't resist. She bought a packet. The little boy's eyes lit up, and he jumped with joy, exclaiming, “Thank you so much!”

Then my daughter affectionately asked him, “How many more packets do you have to sell? How long will you be standing here?”

His answer left my daughter deeply shaken.

He said:

“*Until 100 people say **NO** to me*!”

My daughter was surprised. She looked at the teacher standing beside him. The teacher smiled and explained:

“*Our goal is not to sell packets. Our goal is to teach this child, at this young age, how to hear the word ‘no.’ We want him to learn to accept rejection and still have the courage to approach the next person.”*

After hearing this, my daughter fell silent.

So did I.

What are we teaching our children?

Study hard. Come first. Win competitions. **Get selected***.

Stay ahead of everyone else.

We teach them how to win.

But we don't teach them how to lose.

We show them the path to success, but we don't give them the courage to navigate failure.

And yet, that is precisely the courage they will need most in life.

Because life will not always say “yes.”

Sometimes, we will miss an examination. Sometimes, we won't clear an interview. Some businesses will fail. Some relationships will fall apart. Some dreams will take longer to come true.

During those moments, the “no” we encounter can either break us or make us stronger.

The difference lies in whether we have learned to befriend rejection or treat it as an enemy.

That five-year-old boy wasn't selling chips outside Costco.

He was selling courage.

He was collecting “no’s.”

He was learning to accept rejection.

*He was preparing himself for life's greatest test — the test of falling down and finding the strength to stand up agai*n.

Think about it. If our child fails in the 10th grade, what do we do? We scold them, taunt them, and make them feel ashamed.

If they get rejected in an interview, we tell them, “You did not try enough”.

But that teacher taught the child that “no” means:

“Not yet. Try again.”

Friends, success brings us happiness, but learning to handle rejection gives us the strength to live on..

Don't raise children who are happy only when they win.

Raise children who are not afraid loose.

Efforts never go waste. You might not always achieve Success, but you will always make Progress.

Source - Anonymous