



**MR., MRS. MICHAEL SPOCK RELAX FOR MOMENT IN MUSEUM WORK ROOM**  
Spock, Son Of Child Expert, Is Antioch College Co-Op Student.—Nelson Photo.

# Life With Famous Dr. Spock Pleasant, Son Declares Here

By BETTY A. DIETZ

Daily News Woman's Page Editor  
THE IDEA of growing up under the eagle eye of a famous child-psychoanalyst like Dr. Benjamin Spock might sound formidable. But to Dr. Spock's elder son, Michael, it was nothing of the sort.

"I got spanked once or twice," 22-year-old Spock admits ruefully,

"but ours was a perfectly normal, happy family. I just hope I do as well bringing up my own children when the time comes."

Spock and his wife, Judy, come to see their home in Yellow Springs and Dayton. They were married last April in the Antioch college chapel. An Antioch co-op student (he's a biology major), Spock is now working at the Dayton Public museum. Mrs. Spock who graduated last year from Antioch does art work for the public library.

"DISCIPLINE? Ah, now that's a curved ball," the tall young man says. "I was allowed to do anything that was reasonable and I suppose, like every other kid, there were times when I played one parent against the other. Never got my knuckles cracked but I did get

some severe talkings to some times. And a spanking once or twice," he adds with a chuckle.

"Most of the time things were serious but there are always days when everything goes wrong, the roast burns, the kids disobey—well, you know how it is. You can't help losing your temper occasionally."

The penalty for the usual misdemeanor, Spock says, was taking away some privilege, "like going to a parade that I'd looked forward to."

WHEN DR. SPOCK and his wife were interviewed the other day in New York, Mrs. Spock cheerfully admitted that she, like most other mothers, had gone through the "don't touch — there might be germs" phase with her first son, John, who's 11 years younger than the Antioch student student, had an easier time of it, she said.

But Michael says he doesn't think he suffered much.

"Anyway, that's dangerous ground," he adds with a grin.

Spock says when he was small his father was in private practice in New York and, as a result, wasn't able to spend much time at home with his family. His work now—even with traveling to Cleveland as a visiting professor at Western Reserve university — allows him a little more freedom.

He has added a network television show to his schedule. The younger Spocks saw the doctor's show last Sunday but the sound was out on the set they watched. Mighty frustrating, they admit.

JUDY SPOCK, who also did a stint at the Public museum where she created some modern displays, says her mother is a psychologist. "And she always agreed with Dr. Spock's teachings," she explains with a delighted smile. "All our friends read him, too."

Parents go through phases, Judy says, "but somehow the kids always seem to survive."

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# Parenthood Role Requires Training

## Dr. Spock Advises Early Association With Children

NEW YORK, Oct. 26.—(AP)—The hero of the American nursery, Dr. Benjamin Spock, says the trouble with parents is they are not educated—to be parents, that is.

"Academic education instills in young women (and men too) that a career is more important than a family," the widely known pediatrician says. "Young people graduate with an absorbing philosophy that all good is accomplished outside the home."

The author of the perennial best seller "Baby and Child Care" suggested in an interview:

"Why not connect nursery schools with high schools and colleges, making students aware of their primary role in life and getting them in the mood for it by everyday contact with children? As it is now the spirit of education tends to divorce them from the idea."

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DR. SPOCK, a visiting professor at Western Reserve university, Cleveland, O., has just started a Sunday afternoon TV program for mothers (NBC 3-3:30.) A tall, pleasant, bespectacled man, he says the joy of life should be in doing things—not just reading about them.

"All knowledge," he contends, "gets in the way of easy doing, one reason why it is difficult for a nurse, pediatrician or psychologist to become an easy-going parent."

"A medical student friend of mine," he relates, "told me she could not visualize happiness in a home with a lot of children. When I reminded her that some psychologists make child development their every day work, she said 'Oh, but they're trying to accomplish something.'"

That is modern woman's philosophy, he says, an impact left



DR. BENJAMIN SPOCK  
... tells views

from higher learning.

\* \* \*

DR. SPOCK MAINTAINS there is no substitute for motherly love in the home and adds:

"The working mother might find excuses for maintaining a career—more money, bigger house and car, private schools for the youngsters—all things her children can do without in exchange for her devotion at home. But these are not the real reasons women work anyway. They've been schooled to work and it is emotionally essential to them."

"Easy does it" should be the rule of thumb in child-rearing, says the doctor, "but Americans cannot accept child-raising traditions the way Europeans do. We see-saw our beliefs because there are so many theories, shifts and technical advances that we are thrown off balance. We rely on books, and when the books change we go along."

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YEARS AGO some psychologists pronounced the "don't pick them up when crying" and "it's unhygienic to kiss" theories and other rules that created tension and conflicts in parents who communicated their restlessness to the children.

The Spocks went through this period and Mrs. Spock recalls that "our younger son, John, had a much easier time of it than the older boy, Michael, now 22, who was part of the 'don't touch' era before the doctor became interested in this phase of pediatrics."

It is still important to thwart spoiling, Spock says, and many working mothers spoil because they have a feeling of guilt.

"The wise working girl," he says "should not give up leisure time and recreation entirely to the children because she is away from them so much. It is better for her to relax and have fun so that later in life she will not expect too much from her children for the sacrifices she has made."



## Mothers' Helper

By HEIMANN and PEARSON  
WHEN it's time for your small moppet to get into the finger paints, start him off with only one or two colors. As his technique improves, add others. His runny masterpieces should be spread flat to dry—the bathroom floor or tub is a good spot.

## New Officers Elected By Ruskin PTA Group

NEW OFFICERS of the Ruskin PTA have been announced.

They are Mrs. Bernard Milthaler, president; Mrs. Corbett Elliott, first vice president; Miss Ella B. King, second vice president; Mrs. Fred Hollandsworth, recording secretary; Mrs. Clifford Kirk, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Dwight Gibson, treasurer.

## Bland No More!

When next you plan to serve an avocado salad, add some chili powder to the French dressing. It adds a pungency that tastes delicious.