

SPARE THE ROD...?

Just recently in the news, there was an article about a father that sent his 16 year-old son to Canada to study; costing the father over 27,000 dollars a year.

This is very common in many Asian countries for fathers to give up everything so that his children can get a good education. However, the son did not seem to care how much his family was sacrificing for him.

The boy started skipping class, staying out late with friends, and would not listen to his mother. After repeated warnings by his mother and even after his father traveled all the way to Canada to talk to him.

The son, even though he had promised never to skip class again, five days later, he was once again playing hookey. Forcing the father to return to Canada and punish his son.

For at least three hours, the father caned his son with hundreds of blows and after each hit, the father made the son say that it was his fault and that he was sorry for not being a good son.

You may not agree with what the father did, however, I myself understand his position. He sent his son to Canada and after spending most of his life savings for him to go to school. Yet, only for this ungrateful child not to care about his studies or the sacrifice that the family was going through, just for him. I would want to cane him myself and I'm not even Asian.

Topic Questions:

1. Do you think the father was wrong to hit his son? Why or why not?
2. What are some things you or your children have done wrong?
3. How much do you pay or your parents pay each year for education?

Vocabularies:

1. Cane - a stiff switch used to hit students as punishment
- (Caned) - to hit or beat with a rod
2. Blow - at one stroke
3. Skip - to fail to attend