

PRO-CHOICE PARENTING GAL. 6:2,5

What is at the core of all of this?

A. An understanding of parenting

- Control → self-control
- Helpless & helped → help themselves
- No choices → freedom to choose wisely/biblically/rationally

B. Plus the day-to-day reality!

- What's the easiest for Mom (today, right now)?
- What's quickest for Mom?
- What causes less conflict?
- What makes Jr /Sissy happy → right now, right here!

Pro-choice parenting:

1. No choices

Child comes into life 100% dependent- on mom & dad.

The child has no choices – obviously!

This goes on from 0-3 ~ or maybe as late as 4 / 5.

No choices with regards to:

- Sleep
- Behavior
- Food
- Activities
- Obedience

No choice is attempting to produce:

- Obedience
- Openness / flexibility/ contentment
- Thankfulness / gratefulness

Philippians 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: **for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.**

Philippians 4:12 I know **both** how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Hebrews 13:5 Let your conversation be **without** covetousness; **and be content with such things as ye have:** for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. Hebrews 13:6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Colossians 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; **and be ye thankful.**

Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks **always** for **all** things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

2. Limited choices

Galatians 6:2 Bear ye one another's **burdens** (τὰ βάρη), and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:5 For every man shall bear **his own burden** (τὸ ἴδιον φορτίον).

Romans 14:12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Thoughts:

- This always deals with good, proper, & right choices

- This can start as early as 3~ for some children (4 / 5 for others)
- The child chooses between 3-4 outfits as a whole
- The child chooses the menu - **ahead of time!**

This is **not** throwing, crying, pouting, screaming, fighting, saying no....

- The child chooses between a walk / bike ride / hike
- The child chooses ahead of time what to play

3. **No unlimited choices but choices!**

Parents tend to parent in the extremes and often in response to their own childhood!

A. Total domination by a parent

Child cannot make choices.

Therefore, when the child does make a choice it doesn't make any sense.

It will be emotional, irrational, and apart from considering any other options.

McDonalds:

Often the child is trying to make the perfect, moral choice about choices that are **not** moral & that don't require perfection.

The child will be unable to do triage:

Right → wrong

Good, better, best

Who cares – not significant!

This child takes / invests far too much mental energy in their choice

They make far too many little choices & are unable to make the big choices.

B. Total freedom to make any choices

This child grows up:

- Chaotic
- With no moral compass / amoral
- Making choices without being conscious they are even making choices & with no thought of consequences
- Unable to make good, sound, sane choices

Examples of proper choices:	
Money	Cooking / eating
Personal hygiene	Clothing

4. **Never a choice between right and wrong!**