THE COMMON SENSE BOOK OF BABY AND CHILD CARE

*The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care* written by Benjamin Spock, is a manual on infant and child care first published in 1946, almost instantly, selling 500,000 copies in its first six months. By Spock's death in 1998, over 50 million copies of the book had been sold, making it the best-selling book of the twentieth century in America, aside from the Bible. As of 2011, the book had been translated into 39 languages.

Spock and his manual helped revolutionize child-rearing methods for the post-World War II generation. Mothers heavily relied on Spock's advice and appreciated his friendly, reassuring tone. "I trust yourself. You know more than you think you do." Spock emphasizes in his book that, above all, parents should have confidence in their abilities and trust their instincts.

**HISTORY**
Although Spock’s reputation has changed over time, Spock continued to be a leading authority on child care until his death. In 1990, "...babies do not arrive with owner’s manuals.... But for three generations of American parents, the next best thing was..."

Furthermore, these experts, whose ideas were embodied in *Infant Care* pamphlets distributed by the U.S. government, warned against “excessive” affection by parents. Children from becoming spoiled or fussy, these experts recommended kissing children only on the forehead and limiting hugs or other displays of affection.

**INTENT**

As a practicing pediatrician in the 1930s, Spock noticed that prevailing methods in pediatric care seemed cruel and ignored the emotional needs of the child. He was concerned about the common problems seen during practices like breastfeeding and toilet training, in order to give less arbitrary advice to mothers who came to his practice. He thus became a pediatrician with a psychoanalytic background. Seeking useful ways to implement Freudian philosophy into child-rearing practices, Spock would try out his advice and respond. He contradicted contemporary norms in child care by supporting flexibility instead of rigidly and encouraging love for children by their parents.

Although Spock was approached to write a child-care manual in 1938 by *Look* magazine, he did not yet feel certain enough of his professional abilities to accept the offer. Spock felt more convinced of his advice and published a paperback copy of *The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care* in 1946 with Pocket Books.

**REVISED EDITIONS**

During Spock's lifetime, seven editions of his book were published. Several co-authors have helped revise the book since the fifth edition. Since Spock's death in 1998, two more editions have been published.

**SYNOPSIS**

*The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care* is arranged by topics corresponding to the child’s age, ranging from infancy to teenage years. Drawn from his career as an academic researcher and relying too heavily on anecdotal evidence in his book.

Unlike leading child care experts prior to the 1940s, Spock supports flexibility in child-rearing, advising parents to treat each child as an individual. Drawing on his own motivations of children at each stage of growth, allowing parents to make their own decisions about how to raise their children. For example, Spock has an entire chapter devoted to "The One-Year-Old," in which he explains that babies at this age like to explore the world around them. He then suggests ways to arrange the house to prevent accidents with a "wandering baby.

Spock emphasizes that in this new edition, the parents’ “natural loving care” for their children is most important. He reminds parents to have confidence in their abilities and to trust their common sense; his practice as a pediatrician had proven to him that parents’ instincts were usually best.

**REACTION**

Within a year of being published, *The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care* had sold only 750,000 copies, mostly by word-of-mouth advertising. Mothers appreciate and instead view Spock's book as a direct challenge to the prevailing rigid methods in child care. The book became a household name in the post-war period. Mothers heavily relied on his advice; by 1990, children were "having a million copies each year."

By the mid-1980s, however, book sales quickly slowed due to Spock’s tarnished reputation after his publicized involvement in protests of the Vietnam War. The book was revised in 1976 and popularity increased, especially among college students and parents.

**REVIEW**

Spock was popularized by mentions in household magazines and famous television shows, such as *The Love Boat*. Spock quickly became a household name in the 1950s and is frequently credited for helping to raise a generation of "Spock babies" in the post-war period. His book became a best-seller, selling millions of copies each year.

By the late 1960s, Spock faced widespread criticism for condoning an overly permissive parenting style. Many commentators blamed Spock for helping to create the counterculture of the 1960s. Critics believed the current youth were rebellious and defiant in part because they had been brought up by Baby and Child Care. Spock, however, continued to defend himself, saying he had always believed in "firm" leadership by parents.

In the 1970s, with the rise of the women’s liberation movement, feminists began to publicly criticize Spock for the sexist philosophy apparent in his book. Spock was thus forced to confront his own beliefs.

Near the end of his life, Spock’s changing ideas on nutrition were reflected in the seventh edition of his book, where he advocated a vegan diet. Spock’s views, however, were criticized by some experts as likely result in nutritional deficiencies for children unless carefully planned.

**LEGACY**

Baby and Child Care popularized new ideas about child care in the years following World War II, encouraging flexibility, common sense, affection, and Freudian philosophy. Spock’s reassuring advice has been influential for entire generation of parents. His views have brought naturalness, common sense, and reassurance, and have helped parents and children communicate better.

Spock’s book has been translated into dozens of languages and sold millions of copies worldwide. It has become a classic in the field of child care, and its ideas continue to influence parents and professionals alike.

Although Spock’s reputation has changed over time, Spock continued to be a leading authority on child care until his death. In 1990, *Life* magazine named Spock one of the 100 most important people in the world. Spock died in 1998, leaving behind a legacy of influential ideas and advice for parents and caregivers.
(often referred to simply as Baby and Child Care), written by Dr. Benjamin Spock, was first published on 14 July 1946, and is one of the biggest best sellers of all time. By 1998, it had sold more than 50 million copies. In its most general sense, discipline refers to systematic instruction given to a ... Wikipedia. The Young and the Restless minor characters — The following are characters from the American soap opera The Young and the Restless who are notable for their actions or relationships, but who do not warrant their own articles. Contents 1 Current Characters 1.1 Genevieve ... Wikipedia. The Last Puritan — The Last Puritan: A Memoir in the Form of a Novel was written by the American philosopher George Santayana. The groundbreaking American childcare manual urged parents to trust themselves, but was also accused of being the source of postwar 'permissiveness'. Spock also projects a seductive, aw-shucks pragmatism on every page of Baby and Child Care. He insists his is not the last word, that mothers and fathers always know best and that "natural loving care" is the only way to go. Spock is also profoundly American in outlook. "Your baby is born to be a reasonable, friendly human being," he writes, in words that could have been written by Thomas Jefferson or Benjamin Franklin. Later, reflecting Enlightenment thought, he would argue quite passionately that the growing child is fundamentally and naturally good, sensible, joyful and healthy.
Completely wrong edition By MSProfessor The product I ordered was the original edition of Dr. Benjamin Spock's 1946 "Common Sense book of baby and. Product Description This is a reprint of the One and Only Original book by Dr. Benjamin Spock on Baby and Child Care. Prior to this reprint, the original book had not been reprinted since 1957. Instead there have been many new books, all bearing Dr. Spock's name, but these have been considerably different books and usually much shorter. No book published after 1957 has been a true reprint of the original book. Starting with Baby and Child Download Teaching Children Common Sense Values: Will Your Child Make The Right Choices In Life?: KennithVosburg. 2:01. Download Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care pdf. kargliojaw0. 0:06. Download Start Here: Breastfeeding and Infant Care with Humor and Common Sense Read Online. Lucillehawkins. 0:28. Read Wilderness First Aid A Folding Pocket Guide to Common Sense Self Care Ebook Free. Alejandreaasterling. 0:30. Kisses for Elizabeth: A Common Sense Approach To Alzheimer's and Dementia Care (Volume 1) Read. Wdqweufyp. 0:16. PDF [DOWNLOAD] Kisses for Elizabeth: A Common Sense Approach To Alzheimer's and Dementia Care (Volume 1) Read. While still providing reassuring advice on age-old topics such as caring for a new baby, as well as accidents, illness, and injuries, this book also contains expanded information in many new areas, including: - Cutting-edge medical opinion on immunizations. - Obesity and nutrition.