

Two Children Hear “You’re a Failure” Only One Believes It

A child’s sense of self-worth can determine whether hurtful words leave a temporary wound or become a lasting belief

TDT | Manama
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When a child comes home from school, drops his bag and retreats to his room, a parent may assume he simply had a bad day. But when the tears come, the real story often emerges: someone called him stupid, or no one wanted to play with him.

At that moment, certified parenting coach Tuqa Marhoon says many parents focus on the same questions: Who said it? How should they be punished? Should the child change schools?

But she says a more important question is often overlooked: What happened inside the child after he heard those words?

Children gradually build their understanding of who they are through the messages they re-

peatedly hear and the relationships and experiences they have each day.

A child who regularly hears, “I love you,” “I see you,” and “your place with me does not change even when you make a mistake” can develop a stronger and more stable sense of self-worth.

But when a child’s value becomes linked to grades, behaviour, comparisons with others or approval from other people, hurtful comments can have a much deeper impact.

Marhoon illustrates the difference with a simple thought experiment: Two children hear the same sentence—“You are a failure.”

The first child is hurt but tells himself: “He is wrong. I am not a failure.”

The second thinks: “Yes, I am a failure.”

According to Marhoon, the

difference is not necessarily one child being stronger than the other. Rather, one child has a secure sense of self-worth to return to, while the other may depend heavily on what others say about him.

This means the problem is not simply the words themselves, but where those words land.

A hurtful comment may upset a child who knows his worth, but it does not necessarily define him. For a child who is still searching for a sense of worth, however, the same comment can become a belief that shapes how he sees himself.

Marhoon stresses that psychological resilience does not mean a child will never be hurt, cry or be affected by bullying. Instead, it means painful experiences do not become a permanent definition of who the child is.



The difference is not strength; it is having a strong sense of self-worth to return to.

TUQA MARHOON, CERTIFIED PARENTING COACH

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Salman City to Get Central Market, Supermarket and Sports Facilities



New projects aim to provide residents with shopping, dining and recreation within the growing city.

Salman City is set to receive a central market, a large supermarket and new sports facilities as part of the second phase of construction and development works on three commercial and service plots.

The central market on Plot 11 will cover 1,478.72 square metres and include dedicated sections for meat, fish

and vegetables, along with small shops and restaurants.

Plot 16 has been allocated for a supermarket with a built-up area of 3,534.66 square metres, while Plot 17 will feature two football pitches and two drive-through restaurants.

Together, the three projects account for about 5,230.72 square metres of built-up area and intend to provide essential commercial, social and recreational facilities as Salman City continues to expand.

Unlicensed Building Demolished in East Riffa



Southern Municipality continues crackdown on building and land-use violations.

The Southern Municipality has demolished an unlicensed building in Block 919, East Riffa, as part of ongoing efforts to remove violations and enforce municipal regulations.

The campaign was carried out under the Municipalities Law No. 35 of 2001, Building Regulation Law No. 13 of 1977 and Public Roads Occupation Law No. 2 of 1996.

The municipality said the campaign aims to remove en-

croachments, improve compliance, preserve the appearance of residential areas and protect public safety.

Similar enforcement operations are also under way in the Northern Governorate. In Al Ramli, authorities have removed 47 of 61 illegal structures identified along Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Street and Shaikh Zayed Street, with further sites targeted in the next phase.

According to the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, construction without a permit accounts for 68 per cent of building violations.

Call to Move Hamad Town Speed Bump Closer to Mosque Entrance



Speed bump on Road 5 in Hamad Town's Block 1205



Abdulla Al Qubaisi,
Nothern Councillor

Councillor says current location allows drivers to accelerate near busy pedestrian areas.

A councillor has called for a speed bump on Road 5 in Hamad Town's Block 1205 to be moved closer to the entrance of Hafsa bint Omar Mosque, citing ongoing risks to pedes-

trians.

Councillor Abdulla Al Qubaisi said Road 5 carries heavy traffic and serves a busy area with a mosque and shops, making traffic speeds a serious safety concern.

He said the current location of the speed bump allows drivers to accelerate soon after

passing it, creating risks for pedestrians, particularly elderly worshippers and children.

Al Qubaisi also recalled a fatal accident at the location during Ramadan in previous years and urged the Ministry of Works and relevant authorities to relocate the bump directly in front of the mosque entrance.

Young Bahrainis explore Shura Council Visit introduces participants to legislative work and careers



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The General Secretariat of the Shura Council hosted participants in the summer camp organised by Injaz Bahrain and Bapco Energies. This was part of a community partnership aimed at introducing young people to national institutions and enhancing their understanding of legislative work and the Shura Council's role in Bahrain's development.

During the visit, participants learned about the Shura Council's responsibilities and legislative procedures through an introductory presentation by Legal Researcher Ali Al Asfour.

The presentation also covered coordination between the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives, as well as cooperation between the leg-

islative and executive authorities, highlighting parliamentary work's role in supporting Bahrain's comprehensive development.

The visit was held as part of the “Job Shadowing” programme of the Injaz Bahrain summer camp, which gives young participants an opportunity to explore different workplaces, learn about professions and career paths, develop practical skills and identify their future interests.

The Shura Council's General Secretariat continues to organise and host programmes and visits for young people to strengthen awareness of the legislative institution, promote values of participation and national responsibility, and provide interactive opportunities to learn about parliamentary work and democratic practice in Bahrain.

International guests applaud Bahrain's youth development model



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Minister of Youth Affairs Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi attended the Ministry of Youth Affairs' celebration of International Youth Day at Youth City 2030, in the presence of ambassadors and representatives of several embassies.

The minister said the support and attention provided to Bahrain's youth sector by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa have strengthened the role of young people as key players in national development and in shaping the future.

She also highlighted the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to advance youth initiatives and provide young people with quality opportunities for training and practical experience.

The minister also praised the role of His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, in supporting and empowering Bahraini youth.

Tawfiqi said the celebration highlights the achievements, creativity and potential of Bahraini youth, while promoting international cooperation and the exchange of experiences and expertise among young people.

She noted that Youth City 2030 represents an advanced model for investing in youth potential by providing an integrated training environment across a range of fields and benefiting from international partnerships and global expertise.

As part of the celebration, the guests toured various centres and exhibitions at Youth City 2030, where young participants showcased their projects, talents and innovative experiences. They also attended musical and sporting performances.

The ambassadors and embassy representatives praised the comprehensive programmes offered by Youth City 2030, saying the initiative reflects Bahrain's progress in youth development and its commitment to creating an enabling environment where young people can develop their skills, nurture their talents and transform their ideas into promising projects.