

The Hand That Rocks The Cradle Is The Hand That Rules The World

is a poem that praises mothers as the preeminent force for change in the world - it was also a very popular slogan of the women's Klan of the 1920's era.

Blessings on the hand of women!

Angels guard its strength and grace,

In the palace, cottage, hovel,

Oh, no matter where the place;

Would that never storms assailed it,

Rainbows ever gently curled;

For the hand that rocks the cradle

Is the hand that rules the world.

Infancy's the tender fountain,

Power may with beauty flow,

Mother's first to guide the streamlets,

From them souls unresting grow--

Grow on for the good or evil,

Sunshine streamed or evil hurled;

For the hand that rocks the cradle

Is the hand that rules the world.

Woman, how divine your mission

Here upon our natal sod!

Keep, oh, keep the young heart open

Always to the breath of God!

All true trophies of the ages
Are from mother-love impearled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world.

Blessings on the hand of women!
Fathers, sons, and daughters cry,
And the sacred song is mingled
With the worship in the sky--

Mingles where no tempest darkens,
Rainbows evermore are hurled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world.

The title itself is an oft-quoted passage, which has over time been reinterpreted in various ways, particularly in recent times, as a kind of perennial example of a social norm gone awry.

The poem was written from a popular saying and a commonly held principle, when mothers were home not just at the beginning of their child's lives, but to finish the job of nurturing, clear into adulthood. Women were not wanting to leave their homes or children in the care of others. Women were honored and respected because of the job they held in the home. At a time when "the hand that rocks the cradle" maxim was understood, this role was regarded as the greatest mission on earth--a mission that not even a man could really fulfill. The home was the mission field and the women were the teachers and builders of future society.

The most stable families, with mothers who care for their own children, will have a great impact on your country. This may be hard to understand, but to explain briefly: A child brought up in the home, where the mother is free to train him, teach him, and care for him in the home, will have a strong sense of his purpose in life. These children will have a stability that will enable them to be consistent in whatever they do. They will be able to see beyond impairments and beyond limitations. They will be possibility thinkers who can use problems as stepping stones to success. These mothers have the power to make their children productive in their business, honest in their dealings, morally straight, able to have long marriages and non-rebellious children, look after property and have respect for the home and the church and the nation.

It is important that the phrase "the hand that rocks the cradle, " be understood. It was a common expression, before women went into the workforce full time. It does not mean that the "cradle stage" or infant stage of the mother/child relationship ends when the child is no longer in the cradle. The phrase meant that women would have their hand on the upbringing of the child, and see the task to the end.

Whose hand does "rock the cradle" these days? Should anyone be worried that so many women are seeing the wisdom in staying home and guiding their children to the age of adulthood? No, they should be worried that so many young girls are convinced, from an early age, that homemaking is demeaning and unmeaningful, and that mothers at home are second-rate. I remember many girls my age as teenagers. They were in an era where the parents thought it best to send them away during teen years, to fend for themselves. Many of these girls expressed severe loneliness and poverty, from having left home at such an early age.

Teens need their parents almost more than babies. Anyone can change a diaper and bathe a baby, but it takes a mother to counsel a teenager and guide his life rightly. I remember that feeling, at say, 16, when I realized I needed the familiar company of my own parents and family, not the fickle friendships my own age. (Babies need their mother's physical presence: important bonding takes place even in the acts of bathing, changing, and feeding!) Teens need the stability of their families more than they need independence, more than they need money, more than they need education. The hand that rocks the cradle means that the mother will start out rocking the cradle, and raise up a great generation of children who are honoring to their parents and who have a strong sense of duty.

The feminist, the Marxist, the Communist all know this "hand that rocks the cradle" maxim to be true. That is one reason they vie for control of the children at an early age in the child's life. They want to educate them their way and produce people of the same beliefs, to further their agendas - thus they have sought to remove the influence of women from children by making their job seem insignificant and meaningless.