Modern psychologists and social engineers generally hold that children are born innocent. Any evil they do is learned from those around them. Based upon this notion, they advise that children should not be spanked because all that spanking teaches is violence. This modern teaching contradicts the biblical teaching that we are born in original sin, inherited from Adam. Belief in original sin is accepted in some form by most Christians, Jews and practically everyone who has ever raised children!

Now science has stepped into the debate. Psychologist Richard Tremblay of the Universite de Montreal studied 511 children, all under 18 months old. He found that 70 percent of the children grab things. Forty-six percent push others, 21 percent physically attack others, 23 percent fight, 27 percent bite and 24 percent kick. These evil behaviors were going on long before the children could have learned them from those around them. Psychologist Tremblay concluded from his study that the parents’ real task is not to teach children to be themselves but rather, to teach children to obey moral principles.

This research supports the biblical teaching of original sin, and by implication, supports the Bible's account of Adam and Eve. One theologian pointed out that this explains why parents must daily battle against self-idolatry and must do this for their children until their children learn to do this for themselves. This study simply supports what the Bible has been saying for thousands of years.

Prayer: Father, I praise You for You have given me salvation, which because of original sin, I could not earn myself. Amen.

References: Alberta Report, 8/16/99.

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