



Mini-Thesis: Shakti The Bollywood Movie And ACEs The Childhood Adversity

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My opinion

Ever since reading research about adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) [1], a Bollywood movie titled Shakti (1982) [2] has been revisited and re-experienced multiple times. Even though the movie deserves a full-thesis, this is the mini-thesis dedicated to it for exploring effects of ACEs to the T well before the world awakened to scientifically decipher effects of ACEs. This mini-thesis is in the format of questions raised by the movie so that current parents of children as well as parents of future children can review them before revisiting and re-experiencing the movie because reading the ACEs study and research may not evoke as intense emotional understanding about ACEs as watching the movie from the lens of this mini-thesis.

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â€¢ When grandfather tells his story of his son to his grandson, is it always about watching through the lens of agony in working father (parents) being tested while balancing his (their) work's needs and his (their) ward's interests?

â€¢ When a child enters the family of only two adults (parents), where is the needed village to support those two adults (parents) in raising the child and to guide those two adults (parents) if they are not able to raise the child appropriately?

â€¢ When the child is caught in the crossfire due to father's (parents') work, should the child be saved or sacrificed instead of father's (parents') work?

â€¢ When the child is too immature to understand father's (parents') words and decisions, should the child be left to his/her own devices instead of seeking professional help to overcome child's misinterpretations of life-events so as to understand better and mature sooner to maybe forgive father (parents) well before it becomes too late?

â€¢ When the child is being lost and work is raising the barrier between father (parents) and child, whose responsibility is it, immature child's or mature father's (parents') [3], to see through and thence overcome the barrier being erected by father's (parents') work behind which child is getting lost and left out?

â€¢ However noble and upstanding the work of father (parents) is [4], should the child suffer because father (parents) is (are) too proud to recuse from work and transfer the work to other co-workers when conflicts of interest is precluding father (parents) to fulfill twin roles of noble and upstanding worker as well as understanding and supportive father (parents) concurrently considering that policeperson, physicians, attorneys and similarly others are expected to recuse themselves from professionally managing their kin as their professional clients so as to avoid making critical and catastrophic errors in judgment and decision [5-6]?

â€¢ Even though mother (non-working parent) becomes the confidante of the child and yet still stands by father (working parent) rather than the child, does mother (non-working parent) have to get torn apart, suffer, sacrifice and eventually die when neither child nor father (working parent) understands mother's (non-working parent's) plight and yet expects mother (non-working parent) to be the rock for either of them to fall back on and to even forgive both of them for mother (non-working parent) being torn apart, suffering, sacrificing and even dying due to their relentless conflict?

â€¢ When the lost child seemingly willingly walks away from non-understanding father (parents), why doesn't (don't) father (parents) recognize and then overcome the mishaps in family lives leading to child walking away rather than brooding that child is walking away into uncharted/unwanted waters antagonist to father's (parents') work/way whether it is into the world of crime in fiction or into the world of addiction in reality [7-9]?

â€¢ When the father shoots down his son who is outrunning him to escape, is it because the working father doesn't want the blame for overlooking his work in favor of taking care of his child and hence overdoes the work which his other co-worker may not have overdone if the working father had recused himself from his work to stand by his child without standing for what his child may be standing for?

â€¢ When father (parents) is (are) deciding to choose work even if noble over ward, why is (are) father (parents) bewildering to see child choosing work even if abominable over father (parents)?

â€¢ When child does not hear and feel what the child

wants to hear and feel, how is (are) father (parents) claiming that father (parents) has (have) said and showed umpteenth times what the child should have heard and felt [10]?

â€¢ When every child needs an anchor, why does (do) father (parents) get astonished that child is looking up to someone else as the anchor when father (parents) has (have) failed to provide himself (themselves) as the anchor that the child needs and wants?

â€¢ While living with workaholic father (parents), when if ever does the child feel as if living and dealing with father (parents) rather than just living and dealing with workers who have turned even parenting into just another work though an unwanted one interfering and interrupting the primary one [11]?

â€¢ Although father (parents) complains (complain) that child does not listen to what is being said, does father (parents) ever realize that the child never forgets what is being said while the crucial point of contention missing is if and how either of them learns to forgive each other [12-14]?

â€¢ When there is an unresolvable conflict, should the child be left alone to their own devices rather than the oversight that the child actually needs and wants but is not realized by father (parents) when letting the lost and vulnerable child leave the house and deal with the world all alone?

â€¢ When grandson decides to follow in his grandfather's footsteps, is it not ironic that the lost child is not understood by not only his/her father (parents) but also his own son (progeny) because work being noble supersedes love being abominable?

â€¢ When the father vows to stand by the rules of work, is the child asking too much when expecting father (parents) to stand by the rules of parenting as well?

â€¢ When neither the child nor the father (parents) ever stops loving each other despite their relentless conflict, why are they not able to feel each other's love unless father's (parents') work obstructs their mutual ability to realize, understand and feel their love?

â€¢ When the child begins to resent father's work so much because of how father works, how can father (parents) expect to set an example about nobility in work for the child to follow when workaholic father (parents) is (are) losing the battle well before the first shots are fired?

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In a nutshell, the more one reads about ACEs, the more one re-experiences Shakti because more new questions get raised for the well-being of children and

their parents and more new answers get sought for the well-being of parents and their children when parental workaholicism or even work-engagement may be creating populations of children lost to addiction (substance use disorder) and crime (anti-social behavior). Hereafter, modern-day working parents irrespective of their gender and sexual orientation may have to realize that while choosing work they maybe losing ward unless modern-day mature workaholic adults are expecting understanding and absolution from their immature unsatiated children in case it is proven in the future that helplessly inescapable chemical and structural changes in workaholics' brains may have been induced by modern-day workaholicism as similar to changes induced in brain by modern-day alcoholism and modern-day pathological gambling [15-16]. Â

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