Employers must help instill work ethic

BY VINCE ALFONSO

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Oh, I see your problem. You think I have unfairly placed this responsibility squarely on the shoulders of an overburdened, underfunded educational system. Well, before we get swept away in a wave of emotion, let's speak are more the responsibilities of parents alone in 1992? Statistics show that in the last 20 years the number of children growing up in homes without a male parent has skyrocketed 70 percent. I am not sure just how much we can expect from a single-parent home. In today's culture, it is tough enough to raise children with two parents. It has to be extraordinarily more difficult with even a majority of the qualities I have enumerated, is at best, "Do as I do, not as I say." This short, straightforward little story will illustrate it best:

My daddy caught my youngest brother smoking when, I believe, he was a freshman in high school. Dad really laid into him with all of the reasons why he should not smoke. When he was through, my brother said, "If you'll quit smoking, Dad, I'll quit smoking." My father stood there in stark silence for what seemed like an eternity to my brother. Then Dad spoke. He said only one word, "Done." They shook hands on it and neither my father nor brother ever smoked again. My daddy was and is a wise man.

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