

## Citizenship

### Family

He found no joy; so even today, one who is all alone finds no joy. He yearned for a second. He became as large as a man and a woman locked in close embrace. This self he split into two; hence arose husband and wife.

Therefore, as Yajnavalkya used to observe, "Oneself is like half of a split pea." That is why this void is filled by woman. He was united with her, and thence were born human beings.

Brihadaranyaka Upanishad 1.4: 3

In the beginning there was only the Self, one only. He desired, "May I have a wife in order to have offspring; may I have wealth in order to perform a work!"—for desire reaches this far.

Even if one wishes, one cannot obtain more than this.

As long as one does not attain each of these [desires], he thinks himself to be incomplete.

Brihadaranyaka Upanishad 1.4: 17

As a mother her child, protect us, O Life: give us glory and give us wisdom.

Prasna Upanishad 2: 13

"Do not neglect the [sacrificial] works due to the gods and the fathers!

Let your mother be to you like unto a god!

Let your father be to you like unto a god! Let your teacher be to you like unto a god!"

Taittiriya Upanishad 1.11: 2

The union of hearts and minds and freedom from hate I'll bring you.

Love one another as the cow loves the calf that she has borne.

Atharva Veda 3: 30

Let son be loyal to father, and of one mind with his mother; let wife speak to husband words that are honey-sweet and gentle.

Atharva Veda 3: 30

Let not a brother hate a brother, nor a sister hate a sister, unanimous, united in aims, speak you words with friendliness.

Atharva Veda 3: 30

I will make the prayer for that concord among men at home by which the gods do not separate, nor ever hate one another.

Be not parted--growing old, taking thought, thriving together, moving under a common yoke, come speaking sweetly to one another; I'll make you have one aim and be of one mind.

Common be your water-store, common your share of food; I bind you together to a common yoke.

United, gather round the sacrificial fire like spokes around the nave of a wheel.

With your common desire I'll make you all have one aim, be of one mind, following one leader, like the gods who preserve their immortality.

Morn and eve may there be the loving heart in you.

Atharva Veda 3: 30

Sweet be the glances we exchange, our faces showing true concord.

Enshrine me in your heart and let one spirit dwell within us.

Atharva Veda 7: 36

I wrap around you this my robe which came to me from Manu, so that you may be wholly mine and never seek another.

Atharva Veda 7: 37

I am He, you are She; I am Song, you are  
Verse, I am Heaven, you are Earth.  
We two shall here together dwell, becoming  
parents of children.

Atharva Veda 14.2: 71

Rama, "How can I transgress this command  
of my mother and my father? It is for  
thee to occupy the throne in Ayodhya,  
the throne that all revere, and for me to  
live in the Dandaka Forest, wearing  
robes of bark!

Having spoken thus, the great King  
Dasaratha made this division of duties in  
the presence of the people and then  
ascended to heaven.

The word of that virtuous monarch is our  
law! It is for thee to enjoy the kingdom  
given thee by our sire, and, taking refuge  
in the Dandaka Forest for fourteen years,  
I shall carry out the part assigned to me  
by my magnanimous sire.

That which my high-souled father... has  
directed me to do, I regard as my  
supreme felicity, not the dominion of all  
the worlds."

Ramayana, Ayodhya Kanda 101

When women are honored, there the gods  
are pleased; but where they are not  
honored, no sacred rite yields rewards.

When the female relations live in grief, the  
family soon wholly perishes; but that  
family where they are not unhappy ever  
prosper.

Laws of Manu 3: 56-57

Though he may be destitute of virtue, or  
seek his pleasure elsewhere, or devoid of  
good qualities, yet a husband must be  
constantly revered as a god by a faithful  
wife.

Women need perform no sacrifice, no vow,  
no fast; if she obeys her husband, she  
will for that reason alone be exalted in  
heaven.

A faithful wife, who desires to dwell after  
death with her husband, must never do  
anything that might displease him who  
took her hand, whether he be alive or  
dead....

She who, controlling her thoughts, words,  
and deeds, never slights her lord, resides  
after death with her husband in heaven,  
and is called a virtuous wife.

Laws of Manu 5: 153-165

A virtuous wife who, after the death of her  
husband, constantly remains chaste even  
though she have no son, will reach heaven  
just as do men living a life of renunciation....

Laws of Manu 5: 160

The fixtures and furniture of one's house  
may be stolen by thieves; but knowledge,  
the highest treasure, is above all stealing.

Garuda Purana

The parents of a child are but his enemies  
when they fail to educate him properly in his  
boyhood.

Garuda Purana

An illiterate boy, like a heron midst swans,  
cannot shine in the assembly of the learned.

Garuda Purana

Learning imparts a heightened charm to a  
homely face.

Garuda Purana

Knowledge is the best treasure that a man  
can secretly hoard up in life.

Learning is the revered of the revered.

Knowledge makes a man honest, virtuous,  
and endearing to society.

Garuda Purana

The husband who wedded her with sacred texts always gives happiness to his wife, both in season or out of season.

It is learning alone that enables a man to better the condition of his friends and relations.

Knowledge is the holiest of holies, the god of the gods, and commands respect of crowned heads; shorn of it a man is but an animal.

Garuda Purana

### **Career/Work**

Your right is to work only, but never to the fruit thereof.

Let not the fruit of action be your object, nor let your attachment be to inaction.

Bhagavad Gita 2: 47

By devotion to one's own particular duty, everyone can attain perfection. Let me tell you how.

By performing his own work, one worships the Creator who dwells in every creature. Such worship brings that person to fulfillment.

Bhagavad Gita 18: 44-45

It is better to perform one's own duties imperfectly than to master the duties of another.

By fulfilling the obligations he is born with, a person never comes to grief. No one should abandon duties because he sees defects in them.

Bhagavad Gita 18: 46-47

### **Finances/Wealth**

Prosperity forsakes those who always dream of fate and favors those who persevere. One should therefore always be active and alert.

Matsya Purana 221: 2

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