

# Parenting Gone Very Wrong

✘ I'm not saying that Sarah Burge is a horrible mother like Casey Anthony who, at best, failed to contact the police for thirty days after her little girl went missing, or, at worst, murdered her child (which I believe) or Susan Smith who put her two children in the car and then allowed the car to sink and drown her little boys, but Sarah Burge isn't going to win any Mother of Year Award from me.

I'll start by telling you who Sarah Burge is. She's England's self-proclaimed "Human Barbie" who's spent almost \$1 million on plastic surgery. I have no problem if that's what she wants to do with her own money. What I do have a problem with is her poisoning the mind of her little girl, Poppy, with her idea of what beauty should be.

For her daughter's recent birthday, she gave her a 6,000 pound voucher (roughly \$9252) for breast augmentation. And for Christmas, the little girl's stocking was stuffed with a gift certificate of \$11,000 for liposuction.

According to Burge, she's investing in the girl's future – "like saving money for her education." Then why isn't she saving that money for her education and not emphasizing the child's physical beauty.

And if there's anyone who thinks the child doesn't know what's going on, here's what young Poppy has to say. "I wanted a new computer, a holiday and a voucher for surgery. When I got it all, it was a dream come true. All my friends were jealous. I can't wait to be like Mummy with big boobs. They're pretty."

This is just plain wrong on so many levels.

I have a seven-year old grand niece and I'd be surprised if she even knew about boob jobs or liposuction. She's a

beautiful little girl and is told that by many people, but she is also told how smart she is and her parents are particularly focused on her education, not her looks. She and her friends are more concerned about Justin Beiber than how big their mothers' breasts are.

How exactly does Burge see her daughter's future? She taught her how to pole dance when the child was six years old. Is that the career she sees for her? Or maybe by ensuring her daughter has a hot body she's hoping she'll become some sugar daddy's eye candy for all the other old farts to drool over.

With all the advancements made by women in the last fifty years, it's difficult to imagine any good mother focusing so much on her child's physical attributes rather than placing greater value on the child's intellectual, emotional and spiritual well being. With her own obsession with plastic surgery, I'm sure Burge lacks any self awareness other than what is reflected in her mirror.

Whatever her plans for her daughter, to say her priorities are all wrong is an understatement. According to Burge, her daughter asks for surgery all the time. How can this be?

When I read about people being obsessed with their looks, I often wonder what these people would do if something really serious happened to them. With so much emphasis on their outer appearance, do they even have the internal stamina to cope with disfigurement or even the slightest imperfection?

Experts have weighed in on Burge's plastic surgery addiction and the permanent damage being done to Poppy. Shari Miles-Cohen, senior director of women's programs for the American Psychological Association, said, "Childhood is a time to learn about the world, explore, pretend, imagine and create in a safe vacuum of innocence. By bypassing those critical life experiences and developmental stages by trying to dress, act and be treated like an adult leaves these children lacking

important life skills that help them be confident and successful adults.”

On the other hand, I’m a simple woman and follow Judge Judy’s (I want to be Judge Judy when I grow up) advice: “Beauty fades, dumb is forever.”

I don’t get it, but if you do, God bless you.