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Focus Letter: Don't point fingers -- it's rude

September 24th, 2003

MORE ON THIS STORY

I was interested in Chuck Raasch's commentary on student behavior in our public schools ("Poll finds common decency skipping class at public schools," Aug. 25). He said teachers spend nearly half their time trying to keep order rather than teaching. He mainly blames the parents. That is, however, a cheap easy shot.

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The problem of parental control has been undermined by both parents having to work. They must farm out their parental responsibilities to either other children or babysitters. At present there is no way to solve it, at least not at home.

I have heard many private schools in this area and now the public schools have been embracing an organization called the Politechild. They set up classes in how to behave, not just in the classroom but in general everyday life.

We in this society have lost sight of common courtesy. Most of us really don't know how to behave. Politechild is restructuring behavior, beginning with the youngest children.

I suggest all of you put-upon parents ask your school if there is a Politechild course yet. If not, have them begin one. We all have had enough of bad behavior. It sounds like Politechild is turning it around without blaming anyone.

Barry DeVault

La Quinta

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