

FAMILY TIES VS. PSYCHIATRY LIES

I was listening to the radio the other day and was tuned in to a station airing a psychiatrist/talk show host. The host had a caller sharing what seemed to be a very big concern in his life. He resided in Denver and he discovered that his mother from the midwest was coming here to live. He had moved from the midwest to get away from family and to be on his own.

He gave some details of how his mother had been in an accident and had suffered some brain damage. She would probably need a conservator to help her with her money and decisions she needed to make. Her husband divorced her and she was pretty much on her own. She was lonely, discouraged and in need of help. She thought that a move to Denver would be good for her.

As things unraveled, it became clear that the caller did not want to take the time to watch after his mother. He did not want her any where near him or his family because it would detract from the things they wanted to do. He was looking for someone to justify his selfishness and self-centeredness. I could tell from his voice he felt horribly guilty, and rightfully so.

To make matters worse, the psychiatrist explained how important it was to contact his mother and tell her to stay put. The radio host explained that he needed to live his own life and that telling his mother to keep her distance was the right thing to do. He was told that if she came anyway he should explain that he and his family might only be able to see her for an hour or two each month. She was suppose to understand that there was no help and no interest to help from her son.

The whole conversation made me ill. How diametrically opposed to everything we have been taught in the Church, the scriptures and in our families! What an absolute travesty that someone would suggest to another that they abandon their mother in a moment of true need. How self-centered. How absolutely heart-breaking this must be to our Heavenly Father.

Contrast the above to the great love and concern shown by Grandpa McKay's family when all the brothers and sisters took turns caring for their mother when she could not fend for herself. Think of how Grandpa and Grandma McKay took care of Grandpa Biesinger. You don't remember, but, my parents took in my grandmother for many years after her husband passed away and she was unable to take care of herself. If you asked anyone involved with those acts of love and devotion, you'd quickly find out what a great blessing it was. It helped us all understand love better and to appreciate the great lives that these people had lived.

What greater way to repay those that cared for you when you could not do for yourself - changed your diapers, feed you, clothed you and helped raised you to the person you are now!