

1 Resolution #53SC (98) – 1998 Annual Chapter Forum

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4 TITLE: Evaluating Infant Management Programs

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7 SUBMITTED BY: District IV

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9 DATE: February 5, 1998

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11 DISPOSITION: ADOPTED AS AMENDED

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13 Whereas, the infant management program developed by Gary and Anne
14 Marie Ezzo and promoted in the books *Preparation for Parenting*
15 and *On Becoming BABYWISE* is used by over half a million
16 parents; and

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18 Whereas, this program outlines an infant feeding schedule inconsistent with
19 AAP recommendations; and

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21 Whereas, over 100 health care professionals across the country including
22 19 AAP fellows have asked the Academy for feedback on this
23 potentially harmful program; therefore be it

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25 RESOLVED, that the Academy continually evaluate the infant management
26 programs such as *Preparation for Parenting* and *On*
27 *Becoming BABYWISE* and regularly report its findings.

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34 REFER TO: 1998 Annual Chapter Forum

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36 AUTHOR/CONTACT

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47 BACKGROUND
48 INFORMATION:

Background from the Office of Executive Director (OED) 7/13/98

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50 The Academy has published pro and a con opinions in April and
51 May issues of *AAP News*. The following is taken from the July
52 issue of *AAP News*:

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54 Dear Members:

55 *AAP News* recently (April, May 1998) presented both sides of a
56 discussion on a controversial parental style promoted in the book
57 *On Becoming Babywise*, published by Growing Families
58 International. The Commentaries evoked many impassioned
59 responses from members and nonmembers alike, particularly
60 regarding demand feedings vs. scheduled feedings.

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62 While the: Academy has allowed this discussion in its membership
63 publication, it nonetheless stands by its latest policy statement
64 (December 1997, *Pediatrics*), which states: “Newborns should
65 be nursed whenever they show signs of hunger, such as increased
66 alertness or activity, mouthing or rooting. Crying is a late
67 indicator of hunger. Newborns should be nursed approximately
68 eight to 12 times every 24 hours until satiety... In the early weeks
69 after birth, nondemanding babies should be aroused to feed if 4
70 hours have elapsed since the last nursing.”

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72 The Academy further recommends parents seek medical advice
73 from their pediatricians to ensure the healthy and safe
74 development of their infants, children and adolescents.

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76 With the publication of this sample of members’ responses, *AAP*
77 *News* concludes its print discussion of the issue. However,
78 additional comments can be sent electronically to the AAP Task
79 force on the Family: FamilyTaskForce@aap.organization.
80 Joe M. Sanders Jr., MD, AAP Executive Director

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82 Background from the Committee on Nutrition (CON) and the
83 Committee on Fetus and Newborn (COFN) 3/37/98

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85 Neither the Committee on Nutrition nor the Committee on Fetus
86 and Newborn are addressing the resolved portion(s) of this
87 resolution at this time.
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92 ACBOM

93 REFERRAL: Committee on Early Childhood, Adoption, & Dependent Care
94 (COECADC)

95 Committee on Practice & Ambulatory Medicine (COPAM)

96 Committee on Nutrition (Continued)

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98 **Underscored language in the RESOLVED was added, language in parentheses was**
99 **deleted.**