

Inside Corporate to Kindergarten

Book Excerpt –

Having worked for one of the world's largest financial institutions for more than twenty-one years and having gone through a number of cultural shifts, the most dramatic shift has been that of going from corporate to kindergarten. Never had my child been in a school setting until he entered kindergarten.

In my quest to manage parenting and working, it became extremely apparent the juggling game was just beginning.

This book will share my personal weekly diary as a corporate mother who daily confronted the thoughts and questions of self-worth and value. This book shares the joys, frustrations, mood swings, and fulfillment felt during the year-long kindergarten experience.

While there is no right or wrong answer, this book will prove helpful to others in their quest to try to do it all—husband, father, worker, volunteer, wife, mother, worker, volunteer. We give it our best.

After giving birth to my first child through a caesarean because my son turned breach during the third trimester, it was a rude awakening to feel that no one shared with me the true details of what I would experience as a result of the birth. No one shared with me what engorged breasts *really* felt like. No one shared with me how hard it would be to bounce back, as a corporate worker, after having a caesarean and a baby. No one shared with me how difficult it would be to find time to perform simple duties, such as washing my hair. No one shared with me that one cannot schedule or be as structured relative to when a baby has a bowel movement. Bottom line: I learned these truths by first-hand experience.

As a result of my caesarean experience, I committed to myself I would share my experience, my reality, with any person seeking advice in the areas of giving birth to parenting. However, each of us is cognizant of the fact that each experience is different. I only wish someone had shared with me how really real it all becomes.

The realization is that no meetings or strategic planning in corporate America can touch the dynamics of child bearing or rearing.

Fast forwarding from the caesarean to the age of kindergarten, I committed to myself that I would share my personal journey with anyone seeking a real-life experience going from corporate to kindergarten. Thus, the genesis of *Corporate to Kindergarten*.