

Dear Dr. Peter Ernest Haiman, PH.D.;

I was cleaning out our basement recently and I found your old business card so I decided to contact you to express my gratitude.

I wanted to thank you setting our family off in the right Direction with the knowledge you shared with us years ago. I took two classes from you in Albany in 1987. The first class I took when I was pregnant and then I took another after my son was born. Thanks to your guidance, I was shown a model that helped to create a wonderful warm loving 19 year old young man.

My husband and I were married 16 years before our son '...' was born and he was precious to our lives long before we saw him. In the beginning years ago there was a hesitation to have children because I had come from an abusive background and I feared being a mother. I never wanted to repeat the patterns that I grew up with. After we wanted children it took us many years, several miscarriages to have a beautiful boy. The arrival of a healthy beautiful boy was momentous in our lives.

Your positive role models were my first direct experiences with a different way of life. I knew what I didn't want to do, but when you said "do you want to eat in the blue bowl or the red bowl?" and talked about giving a child choices, the light went on and I could see more of what I wanted to do. I could see a positive way of dealing with child rearing from your example and it has worked for us. We continued to read and learn as he grew up which has been exciting.

Fortunately, I was very committed to breaking the cycle of violence in my family long before I wanted to have children, and I am happy to say that neither of us has ever been physically or mentally abusive to my son. The cycle stopped with this generation and our son has grown up in an extremely loving supportive environment. He tells me everyday that he loves me even though he has had a steady girl friend for over two years. Your lessons gave me my first tools to help raise a child in a manner that was respectful and I am grateful.

When our son was about 3 months old I remember taking a test that you gave us to determine some of his psychological traits. My husband and I have commented on the fact that this personality has not changed since this test we took about him years ago. The test seemed very accurate to both of us.

I am so very glad that you were here for me to take a class, just a short walking distance from our home, almost 20 years ago. Thank you for being such a kind sharing warm human being. Your influence had a very positive ripple effect in the lives of our family.

Gratefully yours,