

Parenting, Inc.



How We **Are Sold** on **\$800** Strollers,
Fetal Education, Baby Sign Language,
Sleeping **Coaches**, Toddler **Couture**,
and **Diaper Wipe Warmers**—and
What It Means for Our Children

Pamela Paul

AUTHOR OF PORNIFIED AND THE STARTER MARRIAGE

Parenting, Inc.

By Pamela Paul

From page 47:

“Parents tend to throw out their healthy skepticism when it comes to shopping for their children because such decisions are deeply emotional”, said Lisa Spiegel, a developmental psychologist and cofounder of the Soho Parenting Center in New York. “The instinct to nurture one’s child bypasses a lot of logical thinking.”

From page 212:

“At this point, the culture has become so child-centered that it can be stultifying to the family”, she said. “If every moment we as parents spend with our child, if every single little interaction is precious, then that creates an enormous amount of pressure, both for parents and for kids.”

“There’s never going to be a headline that says, ‘Your baby lying down and staring at a plant is great,’” Spiegel noted. “There’s nothing to sell in that. So what parents *aren’t* hearing enough of is the commonsense information about how human beings grow and what they need. They need so much *less* than parents are led to believe they need now.” When moms come to Spiegel consumed with guilt and fear about what they’re potentially not providing, they’re enormously relieved to hear her say, “If your baby is lying on the floor looking at the ceiling fan, happy, *walk away!* That’s important for them. You’re not being neglectful.”