



FINDING HUMOR IN MOTHERHOOD

Kathlyn Q. Barrozo
Class of 1991, University of Santo Tomas
B.S. Medical Technology

My life as a mother is filled with numerous funny moments that never fail to bring a smile to my lips when I go back to them in reverie. It just goes to show how much I love being a mother to seven unique children who can be funny and heartbreaking at the same time.

A few weeks ago, my fourth child had to go to school for two hours less than his usual daily schedule. He had to show up in school at 9 am. His lunch pack had already been prepared in the morning, and this was aside from an afternoon snack pack. Because it had been raining that morning, I reminded him to take an umbrella. He brought the umbrella, but forgot his lunch bag. Of course, not a few hours later, he came running back home to eat lunch with me. I knew he was saving his allowance for emergency expenses, so the transportation fare he had to spend going home for lunch was a loss. This particular son of mine is a very forgetful one, probably because of the fact that he had been operated on when he was just two or three years old.

My youngest daughter often fell asleep while eating when she was three to four years old. She still eats so slowly that I often get exasperated trying to get her to finish her breakfast before she goes off to school. She even has a video stored on my brother's cellular phone which shows her struggling for wakefulness while eating. She also has a video that shows her asleep with an ice cream in her hand on an amusement ride in a mall. There's another one showing her blowing the candles off her cake when she was about three years old. It took her a full minute to blow the candles off, and we were all laughing at her futile attempts in doing so. We made fun of how bursts of her saliva went in places while she was in the process of blowing the candles off.

My second child recently made a video of himself singing a pop song, which he has refused to post at his social networking page to this day. He was singing along to the popular song using an improvised microphone, an old, cloth-covered golf club. He also has a video showing him doing air boxing (he was an MMA fanatic), which made him look like a total dork aiming his blows and boxing no one in particular.

There are many more of such instances, and I can only wish that I could be able to retain them all in videos or photos. However, such moments are as unexpected as they are spontaneous. Thank God for such humorous moments. They are what make my life complete.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Can you recall a specific humorous moment in your life? Talk about it in class.
2. Your generation has multiple means of storing funny memories. Will you try to store your own family's humorous escapades whenever you can? Why or why not?
3. What makes humorous family moments extra special?
4. Why is humor necessary in life?
5. How can we continue to have humor in life? Elaborate your answer/s.