

# GET OVER YOURSELF

REBELLING AGAINST THE  
CULTURE OF NARCISSISM

## Part 5

### **ENTITLEMENT: The Culture of SPECIAL**

When I look at the television  
I wanna see me starin' right back at me  
We all wanna be big stars  
But we don't know why and we don't know how  
~ Counting Crows

Someone has finally built a vehicle that adjusts to you, not the  
other way around.  
~ Mazda Ad

#### INDIVIDUALITY

Always remember that you are unique. Just like everybody else.  
~ www.despair.com

I'm the boss.  
~ Caption on baby bib sold at Babies R Us

Sorry, girls, I only date supermodels.  
~ Caption on child T-shirt

We are all stars... everyone is special in their own way.  
~ High School Musical

The best thing about Jesus was that he had a mom that believed  
he was the son of God.  
~ Dr. Wayne Dyer, *Live Seminar*

Too many parents have innocently made the mistake of idealizing  
their children instead of truly loving them. Treating children as  
“special” leads to young adults who are self-absorbed but fragile in  
the face of hard work and negative feedback.

~ Polly Young-Eisendrath, *The Self-Esteem Trap: Raising  
Confident and Compassionate Kids in an Age of  
Self-Importance*

[North] American culture is obsessed with getting across the  
message that we are all different and all unique. Why not  
emphasize instead what makes us all *similar* as human beings?

~ Jean M. Twenge, Ph.D. & W. Keith Campbell, Ph.D.,  
*The Narcissism Epidemic: Living in the Age of Entitlement*

Compared to earlier generations, we are emotionally closer to our  
kids, they confide in us more, we have more fun with them. But  
we are too indulgent. We give our kids too much and demand too  
little of them.

~ Dan Kindlon (child psychologist),  
*Too Much of a Good Thing*

This really is the era of the weak parent. Giving this much power  
to children teaches an entitled view of life, with all of the fun and  
choices but none of the responsibility.

~ Karen Hill Scott, Educational Consultant

Much of what parents think raises self-esteem actually leads to  
narcissism. ...

Don't tell your kids that they are special. Tell them that you love  
them.

~ Jean M. Twenge, Ph.D. & W. Keith Campbell, PhD.,  
*The Narcissism Epidemic: Living in the Age of Entitlement*

**Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all  
circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.**  
~ The Apostle Paul