The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care written by Benjamin Spock, is a manual on infant and child care first published in 1946, almost instantly, selling 500,000 copies in its first six months. By Spock’s death in 1998, over 50 million copies of the book had been sold, making it the best-selling book of the twentieth century in America, aside from the Bible. As of 2011, the book had been translated into 39 languages.

Spock and his manual helped revolutionize child-rearing methods for the post-World War II generation. Mothers heavily relied on Spock’s advice and appreciated his friendly, reassuring tone. Spock emphasizes in his book that, above all, parents should have confidence in their abilities and trust their instincts. The famous first line of the book reads, “Trust yourself. You know more than you think you do.”

**HISTORY**

CHILD CARE BEFORE SPOCK
Although Spock’s reputation has changed over time, Spock continued to be a leading authority on child care until his death. In 1990, the widespread move to the suburbs broke up families, increasing parents’ reliance on experts’ advice over grandparents’ advice. Spock’s optimistic book reflects the hopefulness of the post-war period and society’s focus on children. Because post-war parents were giving children more opportunities, parents became more concerned with providing the best for their children. At the same time, the book had so influenced an entire nation’s ideas about babies…His views have brought naturalness, common sense, reassurance, Sigmund Freud and even joy to parents all over the world.”

First, let us look at the INTENT of the book. Spock emphasizes that ultimately, the parents’ “natural loving care” for their children is most important. He reminds parents to have confidence in their abilities and to trust their common sense; his practice as a pediatrician with a psychoanalytic background. Seeking useful ways to implement Freudian philosophy into child-rearing practices, Spock would try out his advice and see what happened.

In the second edition, Spock emphasizes in several new chapters the importance of “firm but gentle” control of children. He reminds parents to have confidence in their abilities and to trust their common sense; his practice as a pediatrician with a psychoanalytic background. Seeking useful ways to implement Freudian philosophy into child-rearing practices, Spock would try out his advice and see what happened.

In the second edition, Spock emphasizes in several new chapters the importance of “firm but gentle” control of children. He reminds parents to have confidence in their abilities and to trust their common sense; his practice as a pediatrician with a psychoanalytic background. Seeking useful ways to implement Freudian philosophy into child-rearing practices, Spock would try out his advice and see what happened.

In the second edition, Spock emphasizes in several new chapters the importance of “firm but gentle” control of children. He reminds parents to have confidence in their abilities and to trust their common sense; his practice as a pediatrician with a psychoanalytic background. Seeking useful ways to implement Freudian philosophy into child-rearing practices, Spock would try out his advice and see what happened.
often referred to simply as Baby and Child Care), written by Dr. Benjamin Spock, was first published on 14 July 1946, and is one of the biggest best sellers of all time. By 1998, it had sold more than 50 million copies. In its most general sense, discipline refers to systematic instruction given to a child. Wikipedia. The Young and the Restless minor characters — The following are characters from the American soap opera The Young and the Restless who are notable for their actions or relationships, but who do not warrant their own articles.

Spock also projects a seductive, aw-shucks pragmatism on every page of Baby and Child Care. He insists his is not the last word, that mothers and fathers always know best and that "natural loving care" is the only way to go. Spock is also profoundly American in outlook. "Your baby is born to be a reasonable, friendly human being," he writes, in words that could have been written by Thomas Jefferson or Benjamin Franklin. Later, reflecting Enlightenment thought, he would argue quite passionately that the growing child is fundamentally and naturally good, sensible, joyful and healthy.
The book was at times controversial; Spock was accused of advocating permissiveness. Others criticized the book’s status as a bible for parents, bemoaning its influence on generations of children. On the other hand, many parents believe that the book increased their confidence; especially for women, Spock’s assertion that it was acceptable to be irritated or impatient on occasion debunked myths about the “perfect parent.” He also urged parents to be active in politics and their communities, to make their children’s world better. We’ll Help Your Grades Soar. Start your 48-hour free trial a The groundbreaking American childcare manual urged parents to trust themselves, but was also accused of being the source of postwar “permissiveness.” Spock also projects a seductive, aw-shucks pragmatism on every page of Baby and Child Care. He insists his is not the last word, that mothers and fathers always know best and that “natural loving care” is the only way to go. Spock is also profoundly American in outlook. “Your baby is born to be a reasonable, friendly human being,” he writes, in words that could have been written by Thomas Jefferson or Benjamin Franklin. Later, reflecting Enlightenment thought, he would argue quite passionately that the growing child is fundamentally and naturally good, sensible, joyful and healthy.