

Did I Ever Really Come of Age?

by June Richer

I immediately think of a newborn baby cry ... he, she has the right to let the world know that a life in the comfort of the womb has been disturbed. Regardless if it is male or female, we are informed loudly and clearly that things are different out in this world.

Also, this little one will continue to bellow until the needs are satisfied or his crying energy is exhausted.

The age of ownership comes quickly as "mine, mine" becomes important to him or her! Very prevalent in the first "coming of age" the experience is for this little one to demand what he says is his!

Starting school is an interesting "coming of age" time. Some of the cuteness of this miniature adult has disappeared and he, or she, sometimes knows more than Mom and Dad.

Sometimes a twelve-year-old has reached a different "coming of age" stage and thinks he has reached the ultimate in knowledge.

The thirteen-year-old "coming of age" can be one of confusion one day, and sweetness the next. We adults have to be slow to react and remember we were this age at one time. Secrets are very important and we need to allow plenty of space for our new teenager.

Life can be a roller coaster for a teen and friendships are very important. Adults who have gone through this stage of life need to be tolerant and considerate of their teen followers. We all know that we have to experience this time in our lives in order to go forward. It is a must!

All too soon we are stepping into a very important "coming of age" period. It can be delicate and it can be amusing, but it is important. The legal "coming of age." We think we know it all! Beware! We are 21 years old! We are very mature! Do we know it all?

Wait! We reach the age 50 and we find we don't know it all! But why change now? We may take the attitude "Let the young people take over; I have done my share!"

We show a decline in eagerness and expectation "coming of age." Now we are 60 years old and we sit in our rocking chair, and watch the world go by! Somehow, you reach the 80's and you wonder, "Did I ever really come of age?"