

The birth chart of your child

by Katherine O'Brien

The birth of a child is a special time; so much anticipation, apprehension, joy - a life-changing event. It is one of the most significant events that happens in the life of the parents. Having a child at home makes it all the more special and unique for the new life coming into the world.

Being in labour is stressful on the mother, but also on the child. The child who has spent 9 months in a warm, safe, enclosed space is now about to enter a completely new environment to what it has been used to. It is a new beginning for all concerned – the child who has come into the world, and the parents taking on the role of parenthood.

There are many options. What is the best way to treat the child? Should I have a strict routine? Should I be flexible? What is the best way to nurture the talents and abilities of the child? There are endless possibilities and endless advice from other parents, books, schools of thought on parenting, all of which can become overwhelming. There are numerous theories on the best way to raise a child. Some more structured, some more liberal. These are all based on a model of dealing with different aspects and stages of a child's development. These are generally based on research, empirical data and studies over long periods of time.

But what about for the child? How much is the child "aware" of at birth? The child is a conscious being when it enters the world, regardless of being undeveloped, and is a bundle of potential. It is said that the soul of the child chooses the moment it is to enter the world. It chooses the moment based on the circumstances in space and time. The child is extremely open and vulnerable as it enters the world and is affected strongly by the environment.

The "environment" it enters into can be seen at many levels. One of which is the planetary energetic environment. The basis for astrology is that everything is essentially energy and the myriad forms of energy have certain meanings. Each of the planets are essentially energy and have particular meanings, including the relationships they have to each other.

In astrological terms, when a child enters the world, they are strongly impacted by the planetary energies of the moment. That moment sets a blueprint or pattern that the child works with throughout their life.

It is said that human development is governed by certain archetypes and principles which are represented by the qualities of the planets in the solar system symbolising these archetypes and principles. For example, Mars in astronomy may be known as the "red planet" and has various elements that astronomers try to discover in terms of whether there was water there and whether someday human beings could inhabit the planet. This is all a focus on the physical components and the observable elements of this planet in our solar system. However, from an astrological perspective, Mars' essential energy or quality represents "the warrior" archetype, the ego, drive, ambition, the masculine component of ourselves, etc. Therefore, depending on what sign and house Mars occupies in a person's chart indicates the quality and nature of their ego, drive, ambition etc, and so on for the rest of the planets.

Likewise, a child has a physical body, but also is a psychological being with characteristics and different aspects making up the nature of the child. By looking at a child's birth chart this can be an indication of the natural tendencies and by being aware of these attributes, the child can be encouraged along natural lines of development and helped in areas that are not so strong in his or her make-up. Some children are more structure oriented and need routine and more discipline. Other children are more liberal and don't need so much structure. The birth chart can be a helpful insight into the natural tendencies of the child.

The benefits to the parents are that they can be helping the child to develop along natural lines and maximise on all the potential the child holds – as we all hold potential. This enables the child to grow up to be comfortable with and express who they are.

If you are interested in having a chart done for your child, please contact Katherine O'Brien on 356-0295 or mercury2000@clear.net.nz.

