



# Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character?

*David B. Cohen*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character?

David B. Cohen

## Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character?

David B. Cohen

For decades, millions of parents have been told that they are primarily responsible for things gone wrong with their children. Mothers and fathers have internalized this message, producing an unrealistic and damaging sense of guilt, and even betrayal. Parents do affect their children, but how much? Our children are not born as blank slates. They come to us encrypted with their own predilections, biases, strengths, and weaknesses, many of which are as beyond the control of parents as determining their child's gender or eye color. Here, for the first time, is a scientifically grounded examination of the controversial idea that nature—in the form of genetic blueprints—may have far more influence on how children develop than a particular style of parenting. Parents reeling from the idea that they don't have much impact on how their children think, feel, and behave, will find both surprise and comfort in psychologist David Cohen's riveting account of the importance, and limits, of inborn traits.

Dr. Cohen weaves together a rich tapestry of research in behavioral genetics to illustrate the degree to which biology, rather than parenting, can impact a child's personality, values, and aptitudes. Identical twins separated at birth are reunited in mid-life to discover that they both drive the same car, have held the same jobs, named their sons James, and married women with the same first name not once—but twice. Yet siblings reared together in the same family environment often grow up to have very different interests, abilities, and beliefs. The nurture correlation between good parenting and child development fails to explain how, of two children raised in a loving and supportive home, one grows up to be a pillar of the community, while the other becomes a drug abuser. Parents have been blamed for problems ranging from antisocial behavior to autism to schizophrenia—disorders which Dr. Cohen reveals have a strong genetic component. On the flip side, parents who weren't able to give their offspring a consistently safe and supportive home environment have happily taken the credit when their children grow up to be well-adjusted, hard-working members of society.

The truth of the matter is that, if sufficiently strong, inborn potentials can trump parental influence, no matter how positive or negative. Some traits manifest themselves in such unexpected and uncontrollable ways that, for better or for worse, one's child may indeed seem like a perfect stranger.

*Stranger in the Nest* puts a human face on the ages—old nature—nurture debate, providing a gripping, scientifically grounded examination of parental influence on children's development. Any parent who has ever questioned what he or she did wrong—or right—must read this book.

PRAISE FOR STRANGER IN THE NEST..."...rich with fascinating facts and excellent examples of how children develop more in obedience to their genetic steersman than to the influence of their parents. Scholarly, yet beautifully written and a joy to read." —David T. Lykken, University of Minnesota and author of *Happiness For decades*, "... a book that turns its own pages. I could not put it down. Elegantly written, erudite, witty, informative, and bursting with new ideas, it challenges many of the core assumptions of modern psychology." —Thomas J. Bouchard, Jr., University of Minnesota.

"A delightfully written book filled with new insights about relations between parents and their children. [Dr.] Cohen has a unique ability to blend new scientific findings with a writing style that deeply engages the

reader. No one will come away thinking about families in the same way." —David M. Buss, University of Texas at Austin, — and author of *The Evolution of Desire*.

"A scientific revolution has begun in our understanding of what makes us what we are. Genes

 [Download Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Thei ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Th ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? David B. Cohen**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Nathan Kelly:**

This Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is actually information inside this e-book incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? without we know teach the one who studying it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't end up being worry Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? can bring once you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even telephone. This Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? having great arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

#### **Richard Dutton:**

The particular book Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? will bring you to the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book you just read, this book very ideal to you. The book Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

#### **Anita Rodriguez:**

Do you have something that you prefer such as book? The reserve lovers usually prefer to choose book like comic, quick story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not trying Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied by means of reading this book. Reading behavior all over the world can be said as the method for people to know world a great deal better then how they react toward the world. It can't be mentioned constantly that reading behavior only for the geeky man or woman but for all of you who wants to end up being success person. So , for all you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you are able to pick Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? become your own starter.

#### **Walter Dion:**

Many people spending their moment by playing outside having friends, fun activity together with family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to shell out your whole day by studying a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book can actually hard because you have to use the book everywhere? It ok you

can have the e-book, getting everywhere you want in your Cell phone. Like Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? which is keeping the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's view.

**Download and Read Online Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? David B. Cohen #I8L3TES5VKU**

## **Read Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? by David B. Cohen for online ebook**

Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? by David B. Cohen Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? by David B. Cohen books to read online.

### **Online Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? by David B. Cohen ebook PDF download**

**Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? by David B. Cohen Doc**

**Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? by David B. Cohen Mobipocket**

**Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character? by David B. Cohen EPub**