Suzanne Langlois <langlois.suzanne@gmail.com>

to Karen

Hi Karen, I am wondering if Rose does her own laundry. I think Fiona should, but my attempts to teach her have led to various mishaps (one of which I wrote about here: http://bumblehive.com/how-i-value-my-time/)

My neighbors and friends here are mixed on the subject, but mainly don’t have their kids do much domestic stuff in general. John thinks I am stuck in the 70s. I think my kids should be doing more hard labor. Maybe I’m stuck in the 1800s.

xox,
Suzanne

Karen Zukor

to me

Dear Suzanne,

My kids don't do chores because of my own laziness. Yes, you read that right. I found that it takes more effort on my part to get my kids to do things than it takes to do them myself, even in the long run. This was certainly true when they were younger, and is still more true than not. So it isn't a matter of principle with me. I think a better parent would come up with some reasonable set of chores, for which the children earn allowance. Then this parent would supervise the chores, and decide if they merited full pay.

The problem is (the kids and myself) I am all for having a more natural, historical life.