Tyrannized by experts. Obsessed with perfection. Harried and anxious to the point of misery. Columnist and commentator Betsy Hart sees these traits in what she calls today's parenting culture—that is, a nation of parents who refrain from making moral judgments, who put their kids on a pedestal whether they deserve it or not, who shy away from disciplining or even criticizing when kids misbehave, and who generally cede the responsibility
for making decisions, large and small, to their children. Hart argues that the consequences of this hands-off approach can be seen on the faces of dependent, wayward, and even violent children and teens—not to mention miserable moms and dads.

A mother of four, Hart presents a smart, passionate, and provocative argument for the crucial—and currently unfashionable—role of parents who lead rather than follow. From parents who insist on giving their kids a choice about everything and make excuses for their bad behavior, to those who drive their kids to excel at any endeavor and who turn to trained professionals for every problem, It Takes a Parent questions some tightly held cultural assumptions, and sheds light on the everyday concerns of parents across the nation.

This insightful, commonsense book will help shift the focus back to the role and responsibilities of parents— for guiding the character and hearts of their children, so they will grow up to be responsible adults themselves.

**Personal Review:**  *It Takes a Parent: How the Culture of Pushover Parenting Is Hurting Our Kids—and What to Do About It* by Betsy Hart

Betsy Hart has written an enjoyable, common-sense, and very informative primer on parenting in a `parenting culture' of so-called experts who often contradict themselves and who seem to think they (and not parents) know what is best for raising healthy, well-adjusted kids.

Hart's main point for me was that parents must be prepared and willing to fight and persevere in their `rescue mission' for their kids' hearts. She presented many well-documented examples of how today's mostly well-intentioned parenting culture has often led parents away from their traditional role in raising their kids, and how too many well-intentioned but misled parents have too often abdicated their parental leadership responsibilities by blindly relying on the advice of the so-called parenting experts. Hart repeatedly made compelling arguments for parents to assert themselves in ways that they can effectively influence their kids' hearts:

"Parents cannot determine good outcomes for their children. What we can determine is whether we will persevere to the best of our ability in training and guiding them toward the right end...My wise friends helped me to understand that my mission couldn't just be stopping the backtalk, ending the tantrums, or getting my kids to quit squabbling. My mission was to go much further than that. I had to understand my children's hearts were in danger, from themselves even more than from the world, and I had to be on a rescue mission for those hearts. Understanding that, I'm in a much better position to make use of the experts' advice when it's helpful...I like to
say that my goal for my children is heaven, not Harvard. If they go to Harvard on their way to heaven, I suppose that's great. But if I'm so focused on getting them into Harvard that I don't think about the much larger goal of helping their hearts become ready for heaven, then I have failed them. What a tragedy that would be. The parenting culture does not have heaven as its goal for my children...It's parents who aren't intimidated by the parenting culture who will typically be in the best position to be a help to their kids."

If you are a confused or hesitant parent because of the parenting culture's experts' (authors, doctors, counselors, etc.) advice conflicting with your parental instincts and experiences, this book can help give you confidence when it comes to making decisions about what is best for your kids. If you are a dedicated parent who enjoys sharing and exploring parental tips and experiences with other dedicated parents, this book will make you smile, laugh, and possibly see your parenting role and responsibility in a whole new context - like it did for me.

For More 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price:
It Takes a Parent : How the Culture of Pushover Parenting Is Hurting Our Kids--and What to Do AboutIt by Betsy Hart 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!