

## A Message to Parents & Teachers.

(Joan L. Maxwell ~ Author jlmaxwell@dodo.com.au ABN 46 266 311 303 )

Today, we often struggle with the injustices we see in our society, so please spare a thought for our children. They are hurting, too.

Our children can become confused and angry when they see or experience, standards of common courtesy, kindness and acceptance, no longer the normal standard of our society.

When a loving hug between two children results in detention, while bullies suffer little punishment until someone takes their life from years of fear or abuse, it is any wonder our children struggle to know what is the standard?

Our children are paying too high a price. Reversed social standards are resulting in brokenness, anger and despair.

This little positive story relates how one elderly woman chose to give back some positive re-enforcement to hurting children, and they are responding. Some children who had lost all hope, are suddenly beginning to live again, because they have found a friend who will give them a hug.

A child's needs are so basic. Teach our children by word and deed, to treat others as they wish to be treated. Then they will not be robbed of the acceptance they need for survival.

**Mrs Rita Howard** who is now 97 years of age and has spent a lot of

the last 17 years, sitting in her lounge chair making Charlie, or her '**Little People**' to put a big smile on little sad faces. That is how she made every day exciting.

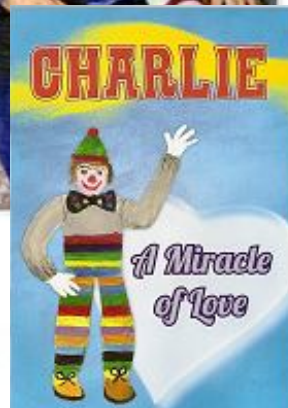
### NOW, THAT IS A MIRACLE OF LOVE, ISN'T IT?

As she grew older, she couldn't drive her car anymore, her husband had died and her children were all grown up. One day she thought, "What can I do at home to help other people?" There was a "Refuge" (or Special Home) near where she lived. The Refuge cares for young people need-ing special care. A lot of the people here were very sad because of their health problems.

One day the lady in charge of the Refuge rang her and asked. "could you make a "Relaxing Doll" to comfort these people when they are sad?"

So this booklet tells all about this wonderful work of Mrs. Howard.

**BOOKLET CONTACT DETAILS ABOVE!**



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