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**New York Times, 1934**  
**“Blow To Home Seen in Child Labor Law”**

The Rev. J.B. Langstaff Fears Mothers' Discipline Will Suffer by Amendment.

Question of Authority

Ideal Government of Children Should Be Vested in the Parents, He Declares.

Fear was expressed yesterday by the Rev. John Brett Langstaff that the Child Labor Amendment might tend to disrupt the discipline of the home. In his sermon at St. Edmund's Protestant Episcopal Church, Morris Avenue and 177<sup>th</sup> Street, the Bronx, he said that the “ideal government of child life should be vested in the home.”

“In any discussion of child labor the voice of the mother should be heard,” Mr. Langford continued. “Politicians and social workers know as well as do advertisers and newspaper men that a child interest has great publicity value. There has been much legislation for good on behalf of children and there promises to be more as long as mothers are willing to bring children into the world.

“Let every voter consider what effect public legislation is having on the private discipline of the home. America does not wish its juveniles to be ignorant and it does desire the to be healthy. If the child becomes intelligent enough to realize, however, that the mother is forced to keep him from work as she is forced to send him to school, what respect for the authority of the home is he likely to retain?

“It is no longer, ‘because mother thinks best,’ but ‘because the law requires it for all children.’ Is there not perhaps some cause here for why in so many cases the bond of love no longer holds the home together and mothers find themselves surrounded by merely companionate children?

“In all the cry for women's rights is there none to voice the mother's rights? There are undoubtedly many ignorant and hard-pressed mothers. Most of them are willing to be guided for the good of the family. Few of them are maliciously inclined toward their own children. All child legislation should be localized as far as possible. The ideal government of child life should be vested in the home.”