

Learning from mistakes

Before 1990, it would have been very boring to stand at the end of a cricket pitch all day to decide whether a batsman was out or not out.

But today that role must be a nightmare. Every decision can now be examined in great depth by various camera angles, microphones and computer-enhanced ball tracking. It can only add pressure to an umpire's decision-making, knowing that millions of people in television land could refute his decision within minutes, having all the benefits of technology not available to an umpire.

This caused me to reflect on some of my great-grandchildren's learning during our recent summer holidays.

For example, my 20-month-old great-grandson was learning how to pat a dog. After at first approaching too fast and therefore not receiving a good response from the dog, he learnt from his mistake how to approach and pat the dog properly.

As parents it is so easy to rescue our children both at home and at school and not allow them to learn from their mistakes.

One of God's qualities which I appreciate the most is that he never rejects us because of our mistakes but continues to love us throughout our lives.

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Often the doorway to success is entered through the hallway of failure.

Ken Packer