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## Leave your work at work: Home time is family time

In response to the April 22 column titled "Teach Children Joys of Owning Small Business":

My immediate response was, "Gosh, I don't need to take my daughters to work. I'm lucky if I can leave my business at the office." It follows me everywhere. I was reminded of several of the joys of owning my own business: the 70- or 80-hour weeks for the past 10 years, the employees who leave the firm without notice right before that big job needs to be installed, the feeling that nobody likes the boss because somebody has to drive the train and I have never been able to find anyone to care about my business like I do. Then there's the constant stress, the never being married because I'm divorced now and cannot be married: I'm already married to my business. There's the desire to make everyone happy all the time and knowing I simply cannot please all the people all the time.

### ONE VIEW

There's the knowing that the most important thing I can spend on my daughters is my time and knowing that I've never had any.

I own a water treatment company and have been a single dad for a long time. This Take Your Daughter to Work Day, I want my daughters to know how much I love them, how proud I am that they turned out to be fine young ladies in spite of the fact that I was self-employed. I want my daughters to know that I have always known real home improvement is loving our children.

We don't need a Take your Daughter or Son to Work Day nearly as much as we need a Leave Your Business at the Office Day. God doesn't have nearly as much trouble getting us to heaven as he does getting a little heaven here on Earth ...

— Mark R. Durham Sr.,  
president, Nature Soft  
International Inc., Rockford