



Artist: Juli, age 6

T. Berry Brazelton, M.D.

Born and raised in Waco, Texas, Dr. T. Berry Brazelton received his B.A. from Princeton University and graduated in 1943 from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City. In 1945 he moved to Boston to serve his medical residency at Massachusetts General Hospital before undertaking pediatric training at Children's Hospital. His interest in child development led to training in child psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital and the James Jackson Putnam Children's Center. He subsequently served as a Fellow at the Center for Cognitive Studies at Harvard University. There, the process of integrating his dual interests—primary care pediatrics and child psychiatry—culminated in 1972 when he established the Child Development Unit, a pediatric training and research center at Children's Hospital Boston.

Among Dr. Brazelton's 40 books on pediatrics and child development are seven titles in the nationally bestselling "Brazelton Way" series (*Sleep, Discipline, Calming Your Fussy Baby, Feeding Your Child, Toilet Training, Understanding Sibling Rivalry, and Mastering Anger and Aggression*—all co-authored by Dr. Joshua Sparrow), *Touchpoints Three to Six* (also co-authored by Dr. Sparrow), and *Touchpoints 0-3*, which has reached nearly a million families and has just been republished in a revised 15th year anniversary edition. Dr. Brazelton has made a three-part videocassette on *Touchpoints*, and his television show, "What Every Baby Knows," ran for twelve years and won two Emmy awards.

Dr. Brazelton was President of the Society for Research in Child Development for the 1987-1989 term and the National Center for Clinical Infant Programs from 1988-1991. He is a parent advocate. In recent years, his growing concern about the pressures and stresses that families face has led to appearances before Congressional committees in support of parental and medical leave bills. Dr. Brazelton has worked to improve childcare support for all working parents. In 1989, Congress appointed him to the National Commission on Children, where he advocated for disadvantaged children.

To further his work, the Brazelton Touchpoints Center (BTC) at Children's Hospital Boston was founded in 1993 to mobilize communities around children and families in order to bring relationships back into healthcare and to transform child care into family care. To date, BTC has supported the development of sixty-nine Touchpoints sites around the country.

One of Dr. Brazelton's foremost achievements in pediatrics is his Neonatal Behavioral Assessment Scale (NBAS), published in 1973. Known as the "Brazelton", this evaluation tool is used worldwide, clinically and in research, to assess not only the physical and neurological responses of newborns but also their emotional well being and individual differences. Increasingly, the NBAS is being used as an intervention to help parents understand and relate to their new babies, and new research is underway to study how it can be used to enhance early discharge from the newborn hospital.

In 1998, a gala event celebrated this work and established Dr. Brazelton's foundation, the Brazelton Touchpoints Project, Inc., a non-profit organization, to support the Center's programs and other work with children and families. In 2002, Dr. Brazelton received the World of Children Award for his achievements in child advocacy.

Dr. Brazelton's current appointments include Clinical Professor of Pediatrics Emeritus at Harvard Medical School and Professor of Psychiatry and Human Development at Brown University. In 1995, Harvard Medical School established the T. Berry Brazelton Chair in Pediatrics.