



11th December 2003

Dear Jacqui

I am writing to you on behalf of Feminenza, which is an international women's organisation that looks to encourage and promote the lives of women, their achievements and their future.

Following the programme 'My Family and Autism', featured on the BBC, we wanted to contact you and your family to express our value for what you do, and for the warm, happy and supportive home you have created for your children. Many of our members were prompted to discuss the issues raised and were full of admiration for your energy, good spirits, single mindedness and sheer determination in bringing up your children in for what would be for many people very challenging circumstances.

We in Feminenza have a vision and belief that as women we have a huge part to play in the future of our world and that it all begins with our inner lives and how we see ourselves. Our motto is "In the encouragement of every woman's future" and from time to time we write to women around the world who, because of what they are doing, shine out from the ordinary. We want to add our support and encouragement to people, who in whatever form it takes, add to the uplift and potential of men, women and children.

We believe that good parenting is one of the most important jobs in the world and both your parenting skills and your ability to share your own experiences with others is an example to us all. You also helped us to see, even if only in small, the lives and experience of autistic children, each one so different. Your deep love for your children and your belief in them was very evident. You have championed their welfare and given each child the best chance to realise their potential.

Your tenacity and stance has helped to redefine attitudes and hopefully caused people to take another look at some widely held, but mistaken beliefs.

I enclose the last issue of our Feminenza Magazine, just so that you can get a feel for who we are and what we believe in. Alternatively, you can find us on our website at <http://www.feminenza.org>.

With encouragement and support for you and your children's future

On behalf of Feminenza