

# Why Tseng Shen

## Killed The Pig

# TRUST



One day, when Tseng Shen's wife was going to the market, their son cried and wanted to go with her.

"Go back now!" she wheedled him, "When I get home, we'll kill the pig for you."

Upon her return, she found Tseng Shen about to kill the pig. She hastily stopped him.

"I didn't really mean it," she protested. "I just said that to keep the boy quiet."

"How can you deceive a child like that?" asked Tseng Shen. "Children know nothing to begin with, but they copy their parents and learn from them. When you cheat the boy, you are teaching him to lie and cheat. If a mother deceives her child, he will not trust her, and that is no way to bring him up."

So he killed the pig after all.

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*If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything.*

– Mark Twain