

## *A Tidy Business*

*"a strong natural turn for this sort of thing" [CHAS]*

*In The Hound of the Baskervilles, Watson tells us that Sherlock Holmes had a "cat-like love of personal cleanliness."*

*Could that penchant for tidiness have overlapped into his professional dealings? It seems most likely.*

*Take this commentary from "The Adventure of the Red Circle":*

*"Why should you go further in it? What have you to gain from it?"*

*"What, indeed? It is art for art's sake, Watson. I suppose when you doctored you found yourself studying cases without thought of a fee?"*

*"For my education, Holmes."*

*"Education never ends, Watson. It is a series of lessons with the greatest for the last. This is an instructive case.*

*There is neither money nor credit in it, and yet one would wish to tidy it up.*

*When dusk comes, we should find ourselves one stage advanced in our investigation."*

*How fascinating that Holmes couldn't stand to allow a little conundrum like this stand without busying himself with it.*

*Certainly, consistent with his need to have things just so.*

*Of course, when we find the mention of Watson finding "himself once more in the untidy room of the first floor of Baker Street," in "The Mazarin Stone," it's a clear indication that the story was written by an imposter.*

*Meanwhile, it seems that John is learning a little something about psychology at Baker Street Elementary...*

# WHAT DID YOU DO AT YOUR PARENT'S HOUSE THIS WEEKEND ?

I TRIED A NEW MIND TRICK ON THEM...



WHAT DID YOU DO ?

MY MOTHER WOULD NOT  
LET ME PLAY OUTSIDE  
UNTIL I CLEANED MY  
ROOM...



**SUCH TORTURE !!**

**IT TOOK ME ALL  
WEEKEND, SO I NEVER  
WAS ABLE TO GO  
OUTSIDE...**



**I TOLD MY PARENTS THAT THOUGH I WAS DEPRIVED OF ONE OF THE BASIC RIGHTS OF A CHILD, THE IMPORTANT THING WAS THEY WERE HAPPY...**



**MOM RESPONDED, 'OF COURSE WE ARE HAPPY. WE WANTED YOUR ROOM CLEAN, WHICH IT NOW IS.'**



**OBVIOUSLY MY 'GUILT TRIP' TECHNIQUE  
NEEDS SOME IMPROVEMENT...**

**ACTUALLY, MOMS  
INVENTED THE  
TECHNIQUE... YOU WERE  
UP AGAINST A MASTER...**

