

11 Things to Keep in Mind with your Kids

1. Stay Consistent. You can't count on others. You can count on yourself. Consistent consequences provide a real world with security and direction.
2. Listen. Parents desiring respect but who don't give it in return demonstrate their teen has nothing worthwhile to say.
3. Punishing in anger causes a "shut down." It creates a wall that is hard to tear down.
4. Irrelevant punishing has no reflection on wrong down. Crime should always fit the punishment and the offense and the behavior should and behavior corresponds. Therefore, what is inappropriate and what should be punished with more severity in an older child might be taken care of in a much different manner with a younger child.
4. Using Guilt rather than reason usually comes back to haunt us. Teens need to move to logical thinking with long term results.
5. Parents don't need to assume the role of a friend with their children. Parents are, and always will be, their children's parents.
6. It is important to attack illogical behavior and not stupid moves.
7. Don't become the enemy of your children.
8. Don't lose your sense of humor.
9. Pick them up – whenever and wherever they fall.