

Raising Children to be Respectful

By Jodie Hopkins

Teaching respect to our kids

Step 1: Model it yourself

- In your relationship with your spouse or child's parent
- In your interactions with your friends and family
- In your interactions with school and household staff
- In your interactions with your child

Step 2: Spending time together

1 | When your child spends time with you

They begin to see a higher value in people than material things.

2 | When your child spends time with you

They begin to hear what is important to you and what you respect.

3 | When your child spends time with you

You have opportunities in public to point out when other people are being respectful or disrespectful. The reactions of people to a disrespectful person are a good learning tool.

Step 3: Reinforce Respectful Relationships with Friends

Spending time with other families who value respect will give your student another opportunity to experience and practice being respectful.



Step 4: Stay involved in your student's friendships



- Some students will emulate disrespectful behavior they see in their friends or in someone they admire
- Discuss balancing respect of self and others as relationships mature
- Discuss your respectful expectations for your child within his own relationships

Step 5: Setting and Enforcing Expectations

1 | Set your expectations for respectful behavior

Be very clear from the earliest ages what kinds of behaviors you want to enforce.

I.e. - In our family we always greet people when they talk to us. We always say thank you and please. etc.

2 | Correct your child when the behaviors are not followed

If your child shows disrespect, privately take her aside and tell her what she did was disrespectful and not acceptable behavior. If the child can make amends, then do so. If not, then state your expectations for the future.

3 | Notice and respond when your child is showing respect

Your positive reinforcement for good behavior is the most powerful tool you have. The pride you show in your child is far more valuable than material items, however material items in addition can be effective.



Your corrective message can be lost quite easily if the conversation is not handled in a respectful and private way.

Step 6: Teach your child about resolving conflict in a respectful manner

Children do not naturally respect their peers in conflict. We have to teach them about how to respectfully confront a peer and stand up for themselves without causing more harm.



Teaching Respect

One of the hardest things to teach a child, and yet one of the most rewarding when you see your child interact with others in a respectful manner.



Sources to learn more information

1. <http://www.smartparenting.com.ph/life/home/6-tips-for-raising-respectful-kids/page/2?>
2. <http://drrobysilverman.com/parenting-tips/10-tips-on-teaching-respect-to-children-you-cant-get-it-if-you-dont-give-it/>
3. <http://www.pbs.org/parents/inclusivecommunities/differences.html>
4. <https://www.empoweringparents.com/article/do-your-kids-respect-you-9-ways-to-change-their-attitude/>

Books available through
Amazon.com

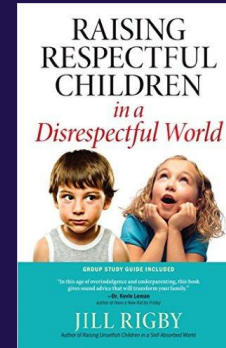
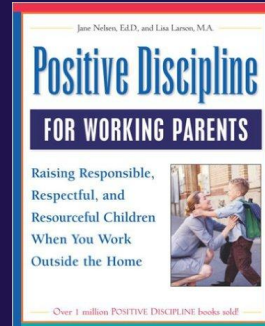
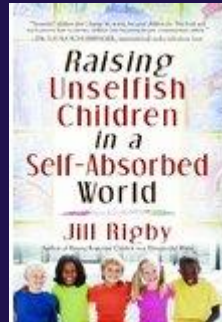


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Early Childhood and Elementary

Middle School and High School