

Teach Your Child to Respect Authority



Experts say that until children can accept parents' authority at home, they are unlikely to accept authority anywhere. Here are some steps for establishing your authority at home:

- **Make sure your child knows** that you love and respect him.
- **Explain that you have rules** because you care. Children should know that they must obey you, not because you are bigger or stronger than they are, but because you care about them.
- **Follow up and follow through.** Just because parents establish their authority and set up rules doesn't mean children will just fall into line.
- **Be consistent with consequences.** Letting your child experience the results of his choices is very important. It's the only way children learn that



their actions have consequences—both good and bad. And consequences show your authority.