

- “You say all of the other girls will be there. I’d like to have more information first.”
- “Did you do your piano practice? I hate to do this, but we agreed—no dinner before it is finished. We’ll keep it warm for you.”

THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS IN RAISING CHILDREN:

- _____—establishing clearly defined and understood rules in the home, limits that the children know they cannot violate without some consequence.

PROVERBS 22:6

⁶ Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

- _____—A commitment to love each child in a warm, affectionate, and supportive way.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

¹³ And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

Conclusion: _____



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PSALM 127:3-5

³ Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. ⁴ As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. ⁵ Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Introduction: _____



The DOMINANT Parent

THESE ARE SOME TYPICAL STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS BY DOMINANT PARENTS:

- “You don’t need reasons. Just do what I say.”
- “No child of mine is going to goof off!”
- “How many times have I told you to stop that? Get in there—you’re going to get it!”

2 The **NEGLECTFUL** Parent

A. The high DIVORCE rate

DIVORCE STATISTICS:

- In America, there is one divorce every thirteen seconds.
- The average length of a marriage that ends in divorce is eight years.
- The average age for couples going through their first divorce is thirty years old.
- Forty-three percent of children growing up in America today are being raised without their fathers.
- Seventy-five percent of children with divorced parents live with their mother.
- Twenty-eight percent of children living with a divorced parent live in a household with an income below the poverty line.
- Half of all American children will witness the breakup of a parent's marriage. Of these children, close to half will also see the breakup of a parent's second marriage.
- Living together prior to getting married can increase the chance of getting divorced by as much as forty percent.
- If your parents are happily married, your risk of divorce decreases by fourteen percent.

B. The increase of mothers in the WORK force

C. Excessive TELEVISION Viewing

TELEVISION STATISTICS:

- Ninety-nine percent of American homes have at least one television. Most homes in America have two or three.

- The average person spends more than five hours watching television every day.
- Sixty-eight percent of American homes watch television while eating dinner.
- The average student in America will spend approximately 900 hours a year in school and over 1,200 hours a year watching television.

D. An increasingly _____ society

HERE ARE SOME TYPICAL ACTIONS AND STATEMENTS MADE BY NEGLECTFUL PARENTS:

- “Work it out yourself. Can’t you see I’m busy?”
- “That’s your problem. I’ve got to get to work.”
- “Good grief! Can’t you kids be more careful?”

3 The _____ Parent

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS ARE TYPICAL OF PERMISSIVE PARENTS:

- “Well, okay. You can stay up late this time. I know how much you like this show.”
- I hate to see you under all this stress from school. Why not stay home and rest tomorrow? I’ll say you’re sick.”
- “Please don’t get angry with me. You’re making a scene.”

4 The _____ & _____ Parent

HERE ARE SOME TYPICAL STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS BY LOVING AND FIRM PARENTS:

- “Hey, I wish I could let you stay up later, but we agreed on this time. Remember what you’re like the next day if you miss your sleep?”