



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK

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Leaflet 251



***Parents of Preteens:
Show You Care***

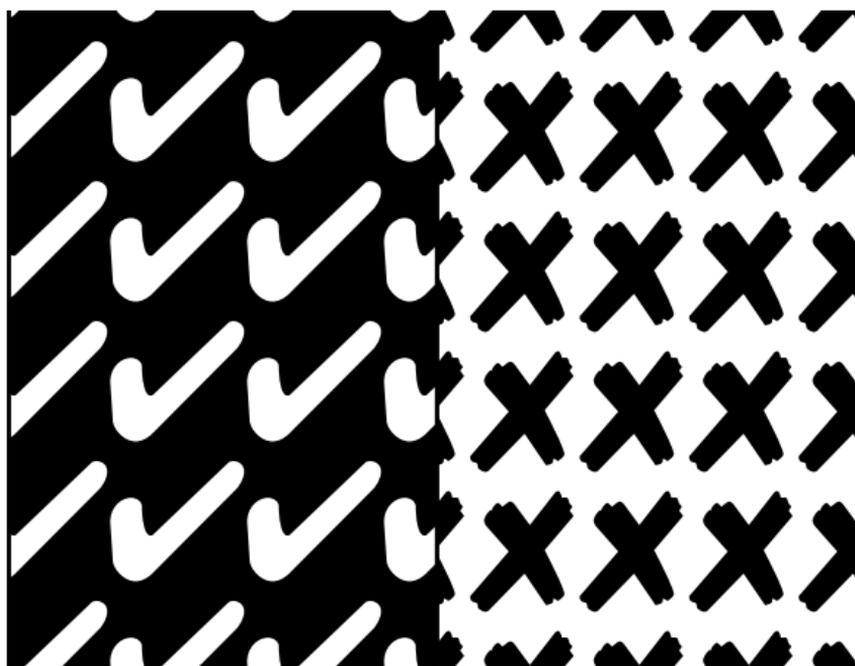


**Help
Your
Preteens**

**Do
What
Is Right**



Parents of Preteens: Show You Care



Help Your Preteens Do What Is Right

It is your job to teach your preteens right from wrong. You also want them to learn how to think for themselves. By the time they are preteens, they should know what is right. Also, they should be able to stick up for it.

Preteens are out more on their own now. They will have to make choices without you. Sometimes it will not be easy. Friends may want them to do things you think are wrong. This is why you must teach your preteens what you think is right. They are more likely to make the right choices when you show them you trust them.

You can tell your preteens how you want them to behave. But you also need to show them by the way you act. They will copy what you do, because they want to be like you.

Ways to Help Preteens Do What Is Right

- Let your preteens know you expect them to do what is right.
- Make it clear to your preteens what you think is right and wrong.
- Tell them why you think something is right or wrong.
- Give your preteens a chance to tell you what they think.
- Talk about how to deal with issues like sex, drugs, alcohol, and violence.
- Discuss peer pressure and what to do about it.
- Praise your preteens for doing what is right.
- Listen to your preteens, and they will listen to you.

Other leaflets in the *Parents of Preteens: Show You Care* series are

- L 249 Tell Your Preteens What You Expect
- L 250 Prepare Your Preteens for Body Changes
- L 252 Help Your Preteens Make Friends
- L 253 Help Your Preteens if You Separate
- L 254 Get Help When You Need It
- L 255 Help Your Preteens Succeed in School
- L 256 Boost Your Preteens' Self-Esteem

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