



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AT COLLEGE PARK
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

Leaflet 275

PARENTS OF TEENS: SHOW YOU CARE



**HELP
YOUR
TEENS DO**

**WHAT
IS
RIGHT**

PARENTS OF TEENS: SHOW YOU CARE



Help Your Teens Do What Is Right

Teens are on their own much of the time. You cannot always be around when they make decisions. If you teach your teens to think for themselves and do what is right, they will be less likely to follow the crowd in bad decisions.

Teens look to you for help in knowing what is right. Make your feelings and values clear to them. Let them know that fighting and violence are not good ways to solve problems. Teens learn more from what you do, however, than from what you say. You

are their model. If you show respect for laws, rules, property, and people, they will be apt to do the same.

Ways to Help Your Teens Do What Is Right

- Help your teens when they have to make a choice between right and wrong. Listen to what they think is right.
- Give advice when your teens ask for it.
- Praise your teens when they do the right thing.
- Let your teens know when you think they did something wrong.
- Do not shame your teens.
- Do not lecture or preach.
- When you do something wrong, admit it and talk about it with your teens.
- Behave the way you want your teens to behave. They will copy your example.

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

L 269 Talk With and Listen to Your Teens

L 270 Spend Time With Your Teens

L 271 Get to Know Your Teens' Friends

L 272 Show Affection to Your Teens

L 273 Involve Teens in Family Decisions

L 274 Show Confidence in Your Teens

L 276 Talk With Your Teens About Sex

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