

# TALKING ABOUT RULES



CARMEN

MAR LEE

MAR LEE AND CARMEN GET TOGETHER AFTER WORK FOR COFFEE. TODAY THEY BEGIN TALKING ABOUT HOW THEY DEAL WITH RULES FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

DO YOUR KIDS SOMETIMES ACT AS IF THEY NEVER HEARD YOU?

YES, SOMETIMES THEY DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND.





HERE'S WHERE I HAVE PROBLEMS. I SAY NO YOU CAN'T DO THIS AND THEY GET ANGRY.



I'M GOING TO TRY TO BE POSITIVE. INSTEAD OF SAYING "NO YELLING" I WILL ASK THEM TO TALK QUIETLY WHEN THEY ARE INSIDE.

MAYBE YOU COULD EVEN SHOW THEM WHAT YOU MEAN.



YES, AND WE COULD PRACTICE.

AT TIMES, I DON'T THINK MY KIDS UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING UNLESS I SHOW THEM.

AND I MAY HAVE TO SHOW THEM MORE THAN ONCE, BUT THAT'S OKAY.



BUT WHAT CAN I DO IF THEY STILL DON'T DO WHAT I SAY?

IT SEEMS TO ME YOU WANT TO LET THEM KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY FOLLOW THE RULES AND WHEN THEY DON'T.



OKAY, I'LL TRY THAT.





YES, AND WHEN?

BY FRIDAY NIGHT.

AND WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DON'T?

WE WEAR DIRTY CLOTHES.

NEXT DAY CARMEN AND MAR LEE TALK AT WORK.

WELL I STARTED TRYING TO SET UP SOME POSITIVE RULES WITH MY KIDS.

HOW DID IT GO?

OKAY, I THINK THEY UNDERSTAND. BUT I'M WORRIED WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY DON'T FOLLOW THE RULES.

DID YOU TELL THEM WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

YES, BUT I WANT TO BE FAIR.

FIRST OF ALL, THEY NEED TO KNOW YOU WILL DO AS YOU SAY.



YES, I KNOW THAT.



SO DO WHAT YOU SAID.



IF THE KIDS PICK UP THEIR CLOTHES AND PUT THEM IN THE BASKET, I WASH THEM.



OKAY, AND IF THEY DON'T?



THEN THEY DON'T GET WASHED.



OK, IF THE CLOTHES DON'T GET WASHED, REMIND THEM. THEN LET THEM KNOW THAT NEXT WEEK THEY WILL HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE.



I KNOW THAT BY SETTING RULES AND EXPLAINING THEM, MY KIDS AND I WILL BOTH BE HAPPIER.

