

5 Ways To Be Firm But Fair When Your Teen Makes A Mistake

Description



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Parents [dealing with teen troubles](#) is not new. It's not out of the realm of possibility that these issues go *all the way back* to the first men and women who heard their teens slam the cave door after storming off. You *expect* teens to be moody and difficult, but some teenagers can be worse than others. As they find themselves, they may veer too close to dangerous behavior and make a mistake that could ruin their life before it's begun. But it doesn't have to as long as you know how to be firm but fair with your teen when they make a mistake.

Establish Boundaries

As kids grow older, they want more freedom, but you must be careful about how much freedom you allow them. They want to hang out with friends and may go out and come back at unsociable hours. This is nothing to worry about as long as they aren't getting into trouble. However, it becomes a problem when it affects their school work and health. While you can't keep them cooped up forever, you can make sure they get their work finished *before* going out with their friends.

Find The Root of the Issue

Sometimes, it's not just teenage hormones. Instead, there could be a much deeper problem you need to address, so try to discover [why they are acting out](#) and whether you can do anything about it. After your teen has made a mistake, they will be at their most vulnerable, but that might make them more comfortable speaking to you about *what* has happened and *why* they did it so you can have some clarity and fix it.

Stick to Your Guns

While you want to be gentle with your teen after they've made a mistake, you should still stick to your guns. Don't change your parenting approach entirely just because they messed up. They might feel bad enough as it is, and the last thing they want is a lecture, but don't let them use their problems against you to take advantage of them. While they are getting older, they are still your responsibility.

Show Them Support

You will also need to show them support and remind them that you will be there for them no matter what. Depending on *what* they did, you can use your network or the internet to find legal representation. One example is finding [a dedicated lawyer from McCoy & Hiestand](#) to help with driving violations, especially since your teen is such an inexperienced driver and you may need dependable support from professionals.

Let Them Learn From Their Mistakes

If your child is mature enough, they will take this opportunity to learn from their mistake and become better. Many people embrace their missteps as a way of [building resilience](#) and showing them the reality of the world. It may take time for them to accept it, but they will become a better person because

of it.

Tough Love

Many parents find it tricky to get the balance right between treating their kids well but also ensuring they do not roll over to every demand. How you act after they make a mistake is vital, as it will set the tone and hopefully mean they learn their lesson and start taking themselves and the world more seriously.

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