

## Why Do Kids Do What They Do?

Why do kids do what they do? Five reasons . . .

1. Parents let them. Kids behave badly because they can. Maybe we need to cut through the excuses and deal with the real issue.
2. Parents do not enforce consequences. When Johnny puts his not-yet hairy toe across the line, nothing happens. Human behavior 101: people do what they can get away with -and kids are fast learners and master manipulators.
3. Parents make their kids the most important part of their life. I'm not saying they aren't important, but they aren't "the most" important. For example, when you sacrifice your marriage on the altar of child worship, the results are predictable. You cheat God, your spouse, and even your child -because they are raised to believe the world revolves around them (and their drama).
4. Parents entitle them. A huge segment of society believe the government owes them everything. We have a generation of young people who believe the same. Why? Maybe it's because they've seen parents max out their credit because the family is "entitled" to have what everyone else has.
5. Parents see medicine as the cure-all. Do some kids need medicine? Yes. Yet sometimes it's just easier to throw a drug at a problem than put in the parent-work to fix it. Ever wonder how the baby-boomers were raised without all the drugs? It's no secret. Our parents applied the "board of education to the seat of our learning" and told us -with a voice of authority- that we had best straighten up. Message delivered.

Some kids are OUT of control because their parents aren't IN control.

***"Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them..." (Heb 12.9a)***

I'm thinking we need more of those kind of fathers (and mothers) - parents who take their cue from Scripture instead of society.

**Wilson Adams**