

Why Do You Act Like That?

When four-year-old Johnny went to the grocery store with his mommy, Johnny snitched a piece of candy from the bottom shelf and promptly ate it. His mother saw him do it and she took the candy wrapper and hid it behind some cans of beans.

When Johnny was six, he was in the front seat of the car when his daddy was pulled over by a policeman. When his dad gave the officer his driver's license, he also slipped the policeman a twenty dollar bill. When the cop would not take the money, Johnny's dad cussed him out.

When eight-year-old Johnny went to a family reunion picnic, he roasted marshmallows with the other kids while the grown-ups told funny stories about how they had cheated on their taxes over the years.

When Johnny was ten-years-old, he went hunting with his grandpa. They helped each other get through the barbed wire fence and grandpa tore down the "no-trespassing" sign and hid it under some fallen branches.

When twelve-year-old Johnny spent the weekend with his aunt and uncle, Johnny fell and broke his glasses. His aunt called the insurance company and told them that Johnny's glasses had been stolen from their care, and she collected \$115.

When Johnny was thirteen, he mad first string on the Junior High football team. Johnny played right guard, and the coach taught Johnny how to block. He also taught Johnny how to grab the opponent by the shirt in a way that the officials could not see.

When Johnny turned fifteen, he got his first summer job, working at a produce stand on a busy road. The manager taught Johnny how to put the overripe tomatoes in the bottom of the carton and how to set the scale so that it added a couple of ounces to every purchase.

When sixteen-year-old Johnny was sent to the store to pick up some things, his dad told him to pick up some beer while he was out. To make that easier, Johnny's dad fixed him up with some phony ID, just in case.

When Johnny was seventeen and a senior, he found chemistry class to be very difficult and he was failing. His class president, however, sold Johnny the answers to the chemistry test.

It was near midnight when the phone rang at the home of Johnny's mom and dad. His mom answered the call.

"Ma'am," a husky voice said, "we have your son here at the county jail."

After about ninety days of legalities and lawyers' fees, Johnny was on probation for grand theft and was attending weekly meetings of Narcotics Anonymous.

THE FATHER KNOWS BEST

“How could you do this to your mom and me?” his father shouted. And his mom chimed in with “Where did you learn to act like that?” His aunt said, “If there is one thing I can’t stand, it’s a kid that lies.” “John,” said his grandpa, “we must all obey the law.”

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22.6)

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