

#### **IV. THE ISSUE OF SETTING LIMITS WHEN IT COMES TO TRAINING CHILDREN**

**By Pastor Richard H. Jones**

##### **A. PARENTS WHO LOVE THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD SET SOME RESTRICTIONS REGARDING THOSE WHO TEND TO THEIR CHILDREN (I Tim. 5:22).**

Someone has said, "No one is going to be a mother and treat your children like you would." This is not intended to put a burden of worry upon mothers who have their children in day-care facilities, but the fact is that many little children are abused in various ways by day-care workers or other children.

Children are also abused even by relatives within a family for that matter. To safeguard children parents need to place their children in a Christian day-care center or in a home with a Christian who has a good testimony of caring for children. Workers definitely need to be screened.

Sad to say, having done this, there are still cases where those put in positions of trust to care for little children will betray that trust and commit unbelievable acts against them.

Therefore whenever it is possible mothers should stay home with their children and care for them (Titus 2:4,5).

##### **B. PARENTS WHO LOVE THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD SET SOME RESTRICTIONS REGARDING THEIR FRIENDSHIPS.**

The Bible says that "Bad company corrupts good morals" ( I Cor. 15:33). Numerous examples could be given of what little children have been led and/or pressured to do by a certain crowd they got involved with.

Whom your children have as friends is one of the single most important things in their lives, because children have a tendency to become like those they choose as friends. "Your friends can make you or break you." For these reasons parents should encourage their children to develop friendships with Christian children of good Christian families who serve the Lord faithfully.

##### **C. PARENTS WHO LOVE THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD SET SOME RESTRICTIONS REGARDING THEIR ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENTS (Prov. 29:15).**

Every parent should train his children that some places and some activities are just plainly off-limits. Pool rooms, bar-rooms, dance halls and the like are places where trouble is brewed and served.

In like manner, some involvements are also off-limits. Parties involving unsaved people, cruising especially late at night, courtships with unbelievers, poker games, secret societies and gangs of any kind. Memberships in fraternities and the like are involvements which are questionable.

**D. PARENTS WHO LOVE THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD SET SOME RESTRICTIONS REGARDING HOW THEY DRESS (I Tim. 2:9).**

This is especially needed when it comes to young girls. Oftentimes mommies dress up their little girls in a sensual manner like older girls or adults. This many times makes them very appealing targets to sexual predators and many have been abducted and abused as a result of this costly mistake.

**E. PARENTS WHO LOVE THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD SET SOME RESTRICTIONS REGARDING HOW THEY SHOULD RELATE TO STRANGERS.**

A good hard and fast but safe rule is to teach your little children not to talk to strangers and not to take anything from them.

One of the methods that perverted individuals use is to solicit the help of a young child. One sexual predator abducted a little child by asking her to help him find his dog which he supposedly has just lost. This led to her abduction and being sexually abused.

**F. PARENTS WHO LOVE THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD SET SOME RESTRICTIONS REGARDING THEIR SCHEDULE AND KNOW EXACTLY WHERE THEY ARE AT ALL TIMES.**

The question is often asked, "Do you know where your children are right now?" While most would say "Yes," the truth is many do not really know.

Thanks to today's technology most children today carry a cell-phone and this is a wonderful tool to keep in touch. Therefore, parents should use it to determine where their children are and to verify their children's whereabouts if there's the slightest doubt. Keep in mind that children do lie oftentimes and even this is an issue which can require discipline.

**G. PARENTS WHO LOVE THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD SET SOME RESTRICTIONS REGARDING INTERNET USAGE AND CHAT ROOMS.**

Technology has opened up a new world for people of our day - to access information in moments, to pay bills on line, to communicate with others virtually anywhere around the world and to store a warehouse of information on a handful of small discs.

But with all the upside to the internet there is a wicked downside as well. Many little children have become involved through "chat rooms" with sexual predators and perverted individuals who have led them to meet secretly and this has resulted in all kinds of kidnappings, abuses, and deaths.

To prevent what is all too prevalent, parents need to monitor and know what their children are doing if they are on-line. Don't let them become involved in chat rooms (even with friends) Stay away from all appearances of evil (I Thess. 5:22).

There are also all kinds of pornographic websites which lure young people into them and

pervert their minds concerning sex and immorality.

Concerned parents can install or have installed a program which will block pornographic websites and deny access to them. If you can afford to buy your children a computer then by all means buy a program that will filter out the filth!

Note a few of the software companies which offer these kinds of programs:  
Safeeyes, Kidswatch, and Snitch.