



PARENT TO PARENT

Parent to Parent is a program by Bill Oliver containing a book, videos, workbook. etc. Chris White was introduced to Parent to Parent when their youngest son went through drug and alcohol addiction during adolescence. The program was one of the better efforts the Whites used in their parenting. Below are a few excerpts from Parent to Parent...

Today's Toxic Culture

Every day our kids are inundated with messages promoting violence as fun, sexual promiscuity, drug and alcohol use, and lack of accountability. These messages are trumpeted in a variety of places including music, media, the web, movies, and social media. Parents can no longer parent in isolation and must be prepared to monitor their child's exposure to the culture. Here are seven principles for parenting using the acrostic "PARENT".

P Put Yourself In the Way

Get involved in your child's life. Know their friends, interests, habits and feelings. Parenting today must be proactive. This session introduces an outlier for the prevention process used through out the workshop and provides an early warning system for parents.

A Awareness Is Your Friend

Listen to your intuition. If you note changes in your child's behavior—a sudden drop in academic interest, a new set of troublesome friends—don't ignore the situation. This session outlines significant, observable lifestyle indicators which would signal positive or negative changes.

R Remember the Difference

Just because your 17-year-old stands 6 foot 2 inches and weighs 250 pounds doesn't mean that he's either physically or mentally grown up. Adolescence is a middle ground where the difference between children and adults is not so clear. This session focuses attention on three character traits which must be developed in the early teen years. It trains parents to use the child's drive for independence as the vehicle for developing these traits.

E Expect and Inspect

It is legitimate for you to have high expectations for your kids. Insisting that they be drug free, responsible and respectful is your right. Furthermore, it is okay to supervise. We show love through inspection. This session trains parents on how to communicate a family belief system clearly as well as turn unfulfilled expectations into an opportunity rather than a problem.

N Never Cry Alone

Out of misguided affection, we sometimes spare our children the pain of life. Protecting them is one thing, but insulating them from life's everyday stresses can be dangerous. Real families have real concerns—about health, finances, each other's well being. Genuinely sharing the bad times as well as the good will help them deal with feelings rather than mask them through the use of alcohol or drugs.

T Traps to Avoid

In addition to promoting many dangerous and destructive behaviors, the toxic culture also sends messages which can prevent a child from becoming a productive, responsible adult. This session explores the seven traps which parents must help children to avoid:

1. Wealth without work.
2. Entertainment without consequence.
3. Education without character.
4. Love without limits.
5. Freedom without accountability.
6. Adulthood without childhood.
7. Life without a vision.

Building a Family Vision

Companies do it. Organizations do it. Even individuals do it. The question is how many parents actually sit down and develop a mission statement or vision for their child? This session provides a time-tested planning model that can help them organize a game plan for raising their child. By developing a "Vision - Strategies - Projects - Tactics" outline, parents can work with their children to help them reach their goals and dreams.

If you want to know more, Google "Bill Oliver Parent to Parent".

Additional resources are available at leadadmin.org/resources.