

## MISCELLANEOUS PARENTING FACTS

- Parents repeat the same command, instruction 7-10 times using the same words; 10-15 times in some form. This usually takes 10+ minutes.  
    “pick up your toys” (7-10 times)  
    “did you hear me? Pic’em up” (3-5 more times)  
Then the threats start and repeat 1-3 times. If they comply we are okay, but we hold a grudge.\* If they do not comply, the situation worsens. (\*this grudge can turn into guilt. Two biggest weapons a kid has: guilt and doubt.)  
Conclusion: (from child’s point of view) “why should I listen to the first command? My parents don’t really mean it.”
- With threats, we parents DO NOT FOLLOW THROUGH **66% OF THE TIME**. Yet we expect them to learn to obey us when we speak to them the first time, even though the consequences are a long way off, or never.
- When we as people, parents, get angry, our IQ drops 50 points. In other words we lose our ability to think clearly. Kid wins.
- Parents are spending 38% less time with their children. Many recognize this and then feel guilty. Results: attempts to relieve guilt, e.g., buying them things, supplying entertainment,...
- Play with your kids. Sit on the floor, play dolls, trucks..., laugh with them. It is a better investment than any IRA. Kids have a lot of influences on them, therefore we parents had better be the best influence.
- Make 2 lists: 1. what makes for a good boss? 2. what makes for a bad boss? The same qualities can apply for parents. Which are you?
- Lectures are demoralizing, as are too many “constructive criticisms,” “teaching efforts.” Lectures=demoralizing/discouraging=“why try?” “What’s the use?”
- A parent’s job: to prepare the child for the world as it exists. Not some fantasy world where there is only success, praise and great rewards for everything you do.
- 90,000 7-12 graders were surveyed; 12,000 had 2 interviews. Outcome: 2 biggest factors in kid’s success:
  1. connected at home: relationship with parent(s)
  2. connected at school: relationship with teachers (adults), peers