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БОРЬБА С ПОДРОСТКОВОЙ ПРЕСТУПНОСТЬЮ: ЧТО МОГУТ СДЕЛАТЬ РОДИТЕЛИ, ЧТОБЫ ИХ ДЕТИ НЕ СТАЛИ ПРЕСТУПНИКАМИ?

В работе рассматриваются вопросы воспитательной работы, проводимой родителями, в качестве превентивной меры по борьбе с подростковой преступностью. Предлагаются советы, которые, возможно, помогут родителям воспитать ребенка законопослушным гражданином. Доклад основан на научных исследованиях Американской Педиатрической Академии и Американской Ассоциации Психологов.

The report is intended to describe and assess the significance of a child-parent relationship and the necessity to carry out simple preventive measures that will eliminate the risk of children becoming criminals. It is based on the information made available by the American Psychological Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Some people say that a certain percentage of the world's population is born to become criminals and under no circumstances will they manage to escape their criminal fate. On the contrary, others share the opinion that it is a number of factors influencing an individual that pervert his nature and cause a person's tendency to violate the law.

The problem raised by the report is a burning one since the success of our efforts to protect our children from violence and make children less prone to commit a crime depends on the methods we use to bring them up. Here are some suggestions that can help the adults to bring up a mature obedient citizen:

Give your children consistent love and attention. Every child needs a strong, loving, relationship with a parent or other adult to feel safe and secure and to develop a sense of trust. Without a steady bond to a caring adult, a child is at risk for becoming hostile, difficult, and hard to manage. Patience and willingness to view the situation through the children's eyes, before reacting, can help you deal with your emotions. Do your best to avoid responding to your children with hostile words or actions.

Make sure your children are supervised. Children depend on their parents and family members for encouragement, protection, and support as they learn to think for themselves. Without proper supervision, children do not receive the guidance they need. Studies report that unsupervised children often have behavior problems.

Insist on knowing where your children are at all times and who their friends are. Encourage your children to participate in supervised after-school activities such as sports teams, tutoring programs, or organized recreation. Enroll them in local community programs, especially those run by adults whose values you respect. Accompany your children to supervised play activities and watch how they get along with others. Teach your children how to respond appropriately when others use insults or threats or deal with anger by hitting.

Show your children appropriate behaviors by the way you act. Values of respect, honesty, and pride in your family and heritage can be important sources of strength for children, especially if they are confronted with negative peer pressure, live in a violent neighborhood, or attend a rough school. Most children sometimes act aggressively and may hit another person. Be firm with your children about the possible dangers of violent behavior. Remember also to praise your children when they solve problems constructively without violence. Children are more likely to repeat good behaviors when they are rewarded with attention and praise.

Don't hit your children. Hitting, slapping, or spanking children as punishment shows them that it's okay to hit others to solve problems and can train them to punish others in the same way they were punished.

Be consistent about rules and discipline. When you make a rule, stick to it. Children need structure with clear expectations for their behavior. Setting rules and then not enforcing them is confusing and sets up children to 'see what they can get away with.'

Try to keep your children from seeing violence in the home or community. Violence in the home can be frightening and harmful to children. Children need a safe and loving home where they do not have to grow up in fear. A child who has seen violence at home does not always become violent, but he or she may be more likely to try to resolve conflicts with violence.

Try to keep your children from seeing too much violence in the media. Seeing a lot of violence on television, in the movies, and in video games can lead children to behave aggressively. As a parent, you can control the amount of violence your children see in the media.

Teach your children ways to avoid becoming victims of violence. Teach your children safe routes for walking in your neighborhood. Encourage them to walk with a friend at all times and only in well-lighted, busy areas. Stress how important it is for them to report any crimes or suspicious activities they see to you, a teacher, another trustworthy adult, or the police. Make sure they know what to do if anyone tries to hurt them: Say 'no,' run away, and tell a reliable adult. Stress the dangers of talking to strangers. Tell them never to open the door to or go anywhere with someone they don't know and trust.

Help your children resist violence. Support your children in standing up against violence. Teach them to respond with calm but firm words when others insult, threaten, or hit another person. Help them understand that it takes more courage and leadership to resist violence than to go along with it.

To summarise, even if everybody provides a loving home for their children, we won't be able to completely get rid of juvenile crime, however, it will obviously help to achieve the desired effect or reducing crime levels.