

Negative Consequences

We all know that kids are going to misbehave. When they do, they should receive negative consequences.

Removing Positive Consequences (Privileges)—For example, if your teen comes home an hour late, you may remove part of the privilege (coming home an hour earlier next time she goes out), or if this is a frequent problem, she may lose the privilege of going out altogether.

Adding Work (Chores)—It takes time and effort for your child to correct the problem, time that he could be spending doing something fun. For example, if your son throws his clean clothes in a pile in the corner of his closet, he must fold those clothes as well as help you fold the next load of laundry.

Exercise #3.4

In the following situations, think about how you would correct your child by adding work.

1. Your daughter left a mess on the dining room table.

2. Your son jumped on a chair. It fell over and broke a lamp.

3. Your daughter left a pan of soup on the stove, and it boiled over, making a mess on the stove.

4. Your son tells you that he left his books at school so he can't do his homework.
