

Sample Interview Questions

Parenting Is a *Contact Sport*: 8 Ways to Stay Connected to Your Kids for Life

1. What exactly do you mean when you say that parenting is a **contact sport**?
2. You advocate building a strong **relationship** with your kids. Why is that so important?
3. Is there such a thing as being **too close** to your kids—so that you are just friends and they have no parents?
4. What about **peer pressure**? How can you **compete** with that as a parent?
5. You say, “In a crisis, don’t panic. First and foremost secure the relationship.” How can you not **panic** when you hear that your kid is in trouble and has done something really stupid?
6. You talk about being an **open book** with your kids. But how open? If I share my **personal** life with my kids, won’t we destroy my ability to be their parent?
7. So with all of this sharing and talking, how can your kids become **independent**? Don’t they need to get distance between themselves and their parents in order to grow up and become individuals?
8. If you were pretty close to your own parents, isn’t that good enough for your kids? Why do your kids need to be **closer** to you than you were to your parents?
9. What about **discipline**? It seems like all this close relationship and sharing gives you no power and no ability to discipline your kids. Don’t you run the risk of being too permissive?
10. And what about **curfews**? You say you don’t believe in setting curfews. Isn’t that allowing your kids to run wild?
11. **Drugs and alcohol** are so pervasive. There must be more to parenting than teaching them to “just say no.” How do you talk with your kids about drugs and alcohol?
12. **Teenage sex** is rampant. How do you prevent your kids from having sex when they’re too young?
13. What do parents do when they’ve tried every way they know how to build a close relationship with their kids and they still **rebel**, talk back, get into trouble, sneak out of the house, hang out with the wrong crowd, etc.?
14. Some parents don’t have a good relationship with their kids. They didn’t start early enough and things are now out of **control**. Is it too late to start when their kids are teens?
15. What’s the **single most important thing** you can do for your kids?

