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# Foreword

Teaching a child how to make good decision will help the child to view things in a better and broader light and this will also help to make the child a more thinking individual as the experience becomes easier each time. Get all the info you need here.



## ***Teaching Good Decision Making Skills***

A Guide To Teaching Your Child Safe Decision Making

# Chapter 1:

## *Good Decision Basics*

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### Synopsis

During the course of trying to teach the child how to make good decision, the parent would have to also help the child look at the issue that requires the decision making from various different angles until the child is completely satisfied with the information available and is able to make an informed decision.



## **The Basics**

The following are some of the areas the child should be taught to consider before making decisions of any sort:

Teaching the child to have an idea of the desired outcome would be a good point to start from as the child will then learn to try and make the decision that will best contribute to the desired outcome.

Having a picture in mind of the desired outcome will also help the child to explore various possibilities until the suitable one is found.

Setting about creating various options before the final decision is made will also help the child to learn how to be flexible in the decision making and it will help the child think out of the box and be more adventurous and open to other thought processes.

Encouraging the child to seek the advice of others is also another good way of learning how to make decisions especially if the decisions made will eventually affect others too.

The child will be taught the value of considering other people's opinions thus teaching them the vital element of being considerate. Getting others involved will also teach the child how to handle outside input in a diplomatic and respectful way.

# Chapter 2:

## *Make Your Child Aware Of What Decision Making Is*

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### Synopsis

During the course of learning how to make good decisions, the child will often encounter various problems and this will give the parent the opportunity to teach the child how to effectively handle these problems without causing further problems for others and themselves.



## **Let Them Know**

Making a child understand the fundamentals of decisions making may not be as easy task but is certainly one that would eventually help the child to be independent and trustworthy when making decisions.

The child should also be taught that not all decisions will be accepted willingly and immediately by all, and that preparations should be made to get those unwilling to follow the decision to understand the decision and why it was made in that particular way.

This can be quite a challenge for a young child but it will nonetheless be a good experience in learning how to argue a point in an intelligent and acceptable way.

The parent should also teach the child the expected consequences of any decisions made. This is especially important for the younger child who may be unable to comprehend why the decision made is not being accepted and welcomed willingly.

Learning that not all decision made by the child are acceptable will allow the child to learn how to work around rejection for the better good of themselves thus effectively learning self preservation.

A child should also be taught that decisions made usually have corresponding consequences and this would also be something that the child would have to consider before any decisions are finalized.

They will learn to understand that there is also a need to consider all consequences derived from the decision and if these are acceptable. Being able to weigh the problem from different angles is definitely something that they will have to realize, is part of decision making.



# Chapter 3:

## *Teach Your Child How To Come Up With Possibilities*

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### Synopsis

Decision making usually involves various different levels and the sooner the child is made to understand all the connecting levels, the better able to cope with the decision and its outcome will be. Understanding that decision making is not to be taken lightly is a very important lesson to impart to the child.



## **Choices**

One of the first things the parent should try to instill in the child is the fact that decision making is not about simply wanting something and going with the first choice or thought to acquire it.

Teaching the child that there is a need to consider a lot of elements before the final decision is made, will help the child make better and well rounded decisions that are more likely to be accepted and followed willingly.

Perhaps conducting a simple exercise where everything is noted down on paper would be a good start to help the child be more aware of the various aspects involved in good decision making.

By putting things down on paper, the child will be able to see clearly all the options and intended desired outcome and thus have a more informed picture of what may be required as part of the decision making process.

This will also help to encourage the child to note down as many possibilities that can contribute to a more effective decision making process.

Insisting that the child learn to approach each decision tack with a few possible options will be one way of encouraging the child to think and explore in depth the elements that would be main

contributing factors to the eventual decision making. There is also the added advantage of the child learning to look out for as many different solutions as possible.



# Chapter 4:

## *Teach Your Child To Weigh Consequences*

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### Synopsis

Decision making can be considered fun for a child given the opportunity to do so, but with this opportunity, comes the need to the child to be aware of the various corresponding consequences of any and all decisions made.



## **What Can Happen**

This part of the decision making exercise may not be as much fun but would have to be considered nonetheless. This is to make the child understand that the decision making task has many connecting facets.

Even at a young age the child should be taught the importance of weighing all the possible consequences of the decision made.

This will help the child look at the eventual decision in a different light as they learn to understand that these decisions have corresponding consequences that they would have to live by.

Ideally the parent should start by teaching the child that any decision made would be solely based on the child's choice thus making the responsibility of the outcome of the decision chosen also the responsibility of the child.

There would also be the need to point out that any decision made without clearly weighing all options would be a bad way to start the decision making exercise, as the probability of a poor outcome would be quite certain.

Teaching a child to consider everyone who would be eventually affected by the decision is also one way of making the child weigh all the consequences adequately.

Being careful to listen to one's needs and yet at the same time consider how these needs would affect others, will teach the child the invaluable lesson or habit of learning how to be considerate always.

It is also a good idea to point out to the child, that a decision that may seem negative presently may evolve into something more positive as the decision is allowed to run its course.



# Chapter 5:

## *Supply The Skills To Weigh Possibilities and Consequences Against Family Values*

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### Synopsis

This can be a rather complicated feat, especially if the child is of a very young age. However a child who is able to appreciate the complexity of learning how to weigh possibilities and consequences against the family values in place, will eventually contribute to the child's ability to make good and sound decision.



## **Provide The Skills**

Before the actual decision making process commences, the child should already be school in the various family values that are currently part of the family makeup as a whole.

Understanding the family values early on in age will also help the child easily adopt decisions that will compliment these values thus creating less problems and friction within the family unit.

Setting good examples, which the child can follow, is also one way of getting the child to make decisions along the line of the family values in place.

Often children run into trouble when the decision they make are totally against the family values, thus causing a lot of problems for all parties involved.

It would be wise and certainly beneficial for the parent if from the very beginning all decisions made are only accepted if they are based on the family values.

Rejecting any decisions that are not in line with the family values will teach the child the boundaries he or she can work within and this will make it a lot easier to accept or reject ideas that will be pivotal in the decision making process.

It would be the responsibility of the parent to clearly outline all the various family values that the child would be expected to follow when it come to decision making. These should be done in a consistent and

repetitive manner, so that the child will not be confused in any way and will be able to make acceptable decisions.



# Chapter 6:

## *Recognize When Your Child Makes A Good Decision*

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### Synopsis

Everyone loves positive recognition as this helps to boost their confidence and also contributes positively to the ability to explore further and learn to make even better decisions consistently. Children are no different, in their need for positive encouragement and in fact any positive recognition that children experience usually spurs them on even more.



## **Pay Attention**

The following are some of the ways a parent can help a child to further cultivate the good decision making habit:

There is never a time when the child will be fed up with compliments and positive recognition, thus extending either of this whenever good decisions are made will help the child gain the confidence needed in life where decision making will almost always be the focal point of anything and everything.

Giving the child credit for the decision made especially on a more public platform will also contribute positively to the child willingness to make more decisions by themselves.

The recognition given on the even wider arena will also make the child understand just how far and wide decision making can affect others, especially when the decisions are well received and accepted.

The level of respect given to the child will also allow the child to successfully build their self esteem, thus enabling them to grow into confident individuals.

When a child is complimented and made to feel proud of a decision, there is every possibility that the child will make an extra effort to explore every angle possible that ensures the trend of good decision

making is maintained indefinitely. This will be a positive characteristic to develop and would certainly create an individual who is more than capable of making other bigger decisions without fear or pressure or bow to popular opinions.



# Chapter 7:

## *The Downfall Of Not Teaching Your Child Good Decision Making*

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### Synopsis

Some parents are so afraid of allowing the children the freedom of making their own decision that they almost always force the children to follow anything and everything dictated to by the parents itself.



## **Final Tips**

The consequences of this damaging habit can be very far reaching and certainly not beneficial to the child eventually. Children who are not exposed to making decision from a young age will usually end up being very dependent on others and totally unable to fend for themselves.

If the children are of a young age, this type of situation or personality trait is acceptable and even desired by some parents, however as the child progresses in age, being too dependent on others is a bad trait to follow.

Besides the negativity of being too dependent on others, there is also the other negative connotation that eventually creates a personality that is happy to go along with anything, even if the idea seem repulsive or unacceptable to the child.

This too is not a good personality trait to develop as the child will never learn to be assertive and would probably be bullied a lot. This bullying can even spill over into the adult life when the child grows to and faces the real world.

Parent should learn to understand and accept that there is some importance is teaching a child how to make good decisions and not always rely on others to make the decision for them.

# Wrapping Up

Children, who have never been given the chance to learn how to make good decisions, will usually end up making a lot of wrong ones when they are left to fend for themselves as they grow older and leave the safety of the family unit.

Hopefully this book has given you a good start with this subject.

