

APRIL 12, 2016

JUDGE'S MESSAGE TO AT-RISK TEENS A HIT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Superior Court Judge Brings a Courtroom to Tears By Giving Life Lessons

Bibb County Superior Court Judge Verda Colvin brings a courtroom full of at-risk teens to tears and all she does is tell the truth. While the teens met in a courtroom with Judge Colvin, she asks...

"What do you want to do?" The judge goes on to tell them in the courtroom "You're special. Stop being disrespectful to your parents. Care about your future. Be somebody. Anybody can be nothing. Be something. Care about yourselves. Do it. The only person stopping you is you. Do you understand me?"

[VIEW POWERFUL VIDEO](#)



"I HATE SCHOOL!"

What to Say When Kids With Learning and Attention Issues Don't Want to Go to School

By Bob Cunningham

It's not unusual for a child to want to stay home from school once in a while. But it becomes problematic when he frequently doesn't want to go to school, even if the reason he gives you changes. For kids with learning and attention issues, this can be a common situation. Here are some ways you can respond when your child says he doesn't want to go to school.

[HOW TO RESPOND TO COMPLAINTS ABOUT SCHOOL](#)

PREPARING CHILDREN FOR TRANSITIONS

The Touchpoints - Preparing Children for Transitions guide is designed for people who are involved in key transition points for a child in out-of-home care: ongoing workers, foster parents, relative caregivers, adoption workers, CASA volunteers, therapists, tribal workers.

We hope you use this as a tool to talk with children and youth beginning with the transition to out-of-home care and continuing until a child reaches permanency.

Each chapter identifies a key discussion time, and includes an activity, tools, and resource materials to help open the conversation and encourage the child or youth to express the questions they might be afraid to ask.

Transition Topics Included in this Booklet:

- Entering Out-of-Home Care
- Birth Parent Visitation/Interactions
- Sibling Visitation
- Court Events - Reviews, TPR, Appeals
- Change of Placement/Families
- Return Home to Birth Family
- Decision to Change from "Return Home" to "Adoption"
- Identification of Adoptive Family
- Introduction to Adoptive Family
- When the Adoption Plan Doesn't Work Out
- Pre-Placement Visits
- Move Date
- Finalization Day

[VIEW TRANSITIONS GUIDE](#)

[7 THINGS YOUR FOSTER OR ADOPTED CHILD NEEDS TO HEAR FROM YOU](#)

UPCOMING TRAININGS

Sat., Apr. 16, 2016 CPR & First Aid
(1:15pm-5:30pm) ([Register & Pay Here](#))
CEDAR FALLS

Sat., Apr. 16, 2016 [Family Matters - Working with Birth Families in the 21st Century](#) (Mike McGuire)
(9am-4:30pm)
DAVENPORT

Sat., Apr. 16, 2016 [Utilizing the Nurtured Heart Approach in Helping Children with Challenging Behaviors](#) (Kim Combes, LBSW, M.Ed.)
(9am-4:30pm)
DUBUQUE

Sat., Apr. 23, 2016 [Putting a Stop to Elimination Disorders - Enuresis \(Wetting\) & Encopresis \(Soiling\)](#) (Joann Seeman Smith, Ph.D.)
(9am-12:15pm)
ANKENY

Sat., Apr. 23, 2016 [Growing Relationships Through Play](#) (Tony Raymer, LISW)
(1:15pm-4:30pm)
ANKENY

TO REGISTER - CALL 800-277-8145 OR [REGISTER ONLINE](#)

Is Your Teen Ready for Adulthood?

A Free Mini Conference for Parents, Youth (13+) & Professionals

Planning for Successful Transitions - Preparing Youth for Adult Living, Learning and Working

Five Training Dates/Locations:

Saturday, April 16 SIOUX CITY

Saturday, May 7 DES MOINES

Saturday, June 4 WATERLOO

Saturday, June 11 DUBUQUE

Saturday, June 18 CEDAR RAPIDS

[VIEW SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS FLYER](#)

Beyond Consequences Live

Saturday, May 14 DES MOINES

(APPROVED FOR 5 HOURS OF FOSTER PARENT CREDIT)

Learn How You Will Transform Your Parenting Skills:

- Learn how to connect with even the most difficult and resistant child.
- See the fear behind statements like, "You can't make me" or "You're not my real mom/dad."
- Learn how to help a child at his core emotional level during times of defiance, aggression, and disrespect.
- See why children with trauma histories are sensitive to stress.
- Reclaim your own self-love and understand why you can become overly reactive when your child acts out and disrespects you.



The Life-Changing Phrase to Calm an Upset Child

What Every Parent Needs to Know About Nutrition and Their Foster and Adoptive Children

While foster and adopted children may appear healthy on the outside, they may very well be deficient in key nutrients that could impact future growth and brain development. These deficiencies develop because many vulnerable children do not receive proper nutrition in their early years. Unfortunately, foster and adoptive parents can't go back in time and nourish their children starting from the time they were conceived. But parents can provide optimal nutrition once their children are home to boost their children's development and overall health.

[LEARN MORE](#)

YOUR FIRST OBLIGATION
AS A PARENT IS TO NOT
BRING CHAOS INTO YOUR
KIDS' LIVES.

--Dr. Laura Markham