

# The Kids and Our Marriage

There are as many different styles of parenting as there are parents. Each parent brings a unique perspective on raising the children and relating to them based on their own experiences growing up.

These differing perspectives can cause conflict within the relationship no matter the age of your children. The fact is this...if you have kids, then how you each relate to them matters in how you relate to one another and the impact that the kids have on your marriage.

*The best thing that parents can do is to love each other. Kids need that.  
~Anonymous*

1. Growing up I saw my parents relate to us kids by:

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2. After having our children I found myself doing these things, just like my parents:

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3. I feel my parenting style is:

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4. Question for your spouse: How would you describe my parenting style?

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5. I feel it is the role of the parent to:

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6. Knowing that I am raising my children to be productive adults, I want my children to have the following skills:

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7. In looking at my relationship with my children and my spouse, I see the following patterns:

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8. Question for your spouse: How do you see me prioritize you and the kids?

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9. If your spouse does not feel that they are a higher priority than your kids what action steps can you take to make that change?

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10. Sometimes, I find it easier to talk to my kids instead of talking to my spouse. I have shared the following with my kids instead of my spouse first:

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11. How has this decision impacted my marriage?

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12. Question for your spouse: What actions can I take to make you feel like a priority over the kids?

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*Loving a child doesn't mean giving in to all his whims; to love him is to bring out the best in him, to teach him to love what is difficult.*

*~Nadia Boulanger*