

The Golden Rule For Moms To Help Dads Be More Involved With The Kids

Ladies Give Your Attitudes A Makeover. Are you still stuck in 1950's ideas of parenting? If so, it's time for a makeover. In this day and age, dads are more involved than ever before. And if you fail to update your attitude, you'll have a partner who will be less involved with their kids. So, if you want your partner *involved*, start changing your attitude. Just remember – other than breastfeeding – dads can do everything that moms can do too!

By Invitation Only. So, you like the idea of your partner being more involved with the kids so you can have some quality time with yourself. But are you sure about that? A lot of women like the concept, but when it comes down to it, they've clearly staked their claim on the home front. And if your partner thinks that home is mom's turf, chances are, he's not going to want to step on your toes – and he'll have you take the lead. So, if you really want him involved, you're going to have to invite him in.

Don't "Hop On Pop." It might be a fun Dr. Seuss book to read to your kids, but jumping on dad isn't a good approach with your partner. In fact, the worst thing you can do is jump on your kids' dad every time he doesn't do the things the way you'd like them done. Which leads to the next tip...

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Joke Of The Month...

(Use This One On Your Kids!)

KNOCK KNOCK

WHO'S THERE

CARGOES

CARGOES WHO?

CARGOES BEEP BEEP !

Thank You For Telling Your Family And Friends About Us!

The highest complement you could give our law firm is the referral of your loved ones and friends. Over the years our practice has been built upon the trust you place in our ability to take care of those you care the most about. Our major purpose is to provide OUTSTANDING legal service to everyone who comes to us in need. We would like to thank you in advanced for all your support, and trust you place in our firm. Thank YOU – Franks & Rechenberg,P.C.

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How To Childproof Your Kitchen

Because parents spend so much time in the kitchen, small children will want to be there with them. To keep your little one safe, take the following steps.

- Step 1** - Store matches, lighters, sharp utensils and household cleaners in a cabinet accessible only to adults.
- Step 2** - Put child-safety latches on all lower-level cabinet.
- Step 3** - Unplug appliances when not in use and keep cords out of reach of children.
- Step 4** - Never pour hot liquid near a child and never leave hot drinks within reach.
- Step 5** - Use the back burners of the stove and turn pot handles toward the back.
- Step 6** - Purchase safety features that secure free-standing ovens to the wall.
- Step 7** - Watch out for tablecloths - since small children enjoy pulling on the cloth, glasses and plates can fall off.

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INJURED ON THE JOB ? Need to get your Bills PAID? Want to Know what your Case is Worth? CALL David N. Rechenberg at (847) 854-7700 for answers to your questions and so he can start working on your case right away!!

www.IllinoisWorkInjuryLawyer.com

Golden Rules For Moms To Help Dads Be More Involved With The Kids

Gag The Nag. The three things women do that are guaranteed to turn every men OFF (Big Time) – and turn them away from their families – is nag, nag, then nag some more!

No one likes to be reminded of the things he SHOULD do that he hasn't done yet. Your partner is no exception.

Accessorize Your Feedback. You may have a lot more experience handling the kids than your partner. Chances are, he can benefit from your day to day experience. But when you're giving him feedback, be careful: criticism is like silk and it's easy to slip into. So, instead, remember to dress up your observations. You'll always get more done with positive feed-back than by saying something negative.

Give Credit When Credit's Due. Admit it; he doesn't do everything wrong. *Right?* So, what's wrong with telling him what he does right? Try to acknowledge what your partner does well. It's so very true that a little word of encouragement and praise will go a long way to help build the confidence that's necessary for a dad to be more involved with his kids.

Make Sure That You Believe In Him. And speaking of confidence, he needs your confidence. Dads who have partners who are confident in their ability to be good fathers are more involved with their kids. So, make sure that you go out of your way to give him your official mom's seal of approval.

Back Off. Okay, so now you're all set to have a father who's really involved with his kids. One last thing: you've got to get out of his way. Women who are reluctant to give up responsibility to their partners, have fathers who are less involved with their kids. So, step back and simply let him step in. And remember "NOT" to judge what he does.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Special thanks go out to all of our clients and friends who graciously referred our law firm to their friends and neighbors last month! Our practice is built based on positive comments and referrals from people just like you. We just couldn't do it without you.

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How To Open A Day Spa...

As more people lose their jobs, more and more people are looking for ways to become self employed and start a small business. Before you start any new business make sure you do your homework first! Opening a day spa is becoming popular these days with the increase of certain fields like cosmetology and massage therapy. The demand is certainly there as many people like going to day spas to reduce the day to day stress. Here are some quick tips on how to open a day spa.

Step 1

When you open a day spa you have to follow very strict guidelines because state laws are very strict in terms of cleanliness and proper certification and licenses of those who are cosmetologists or work in any field that requires you to touch or treat customers physically. Most day spas are requiring those who are nail technicians, massage therapists and hair stylists to be licensed by the state and have graduated from a recognized trade program.

Step 2

Opening an actual day spa takes a lot of time because of the zoning laws and other things you have to go through in order to opening a new business. Make sure you have the location planned out and inspected not only by someone private, but by the city before they issue permits for construction or any type of building to take place. This is to ensure when you apply for insurance that any flaws or damage won't drive your premiums up. Many new businesses often suffer huge financial set-backs because of insurance costs.

Step 3

Once you have established a day spa, you have to stay on top of things. Credentials must be current and anyone you hire must have their stuff current as well because it's a liability to not have licenses and certifications up to date and current on the books.

Know a friend who was arrested for **DUI**? Offer them great advice! Tell them to call David Franks at (847) 854-7700 NOW! Learn about the **Monitoring Device Drivers Permit (MDDP)**. www.McHenryCountyDUILawyer.com

How to Childproof a Kitchen

- Step 8** - Keep stools and chairs away from counters and stoves.
- Step 9** - Be sure to keep alcohol locked away from children.
- Step 10** - Cook meat, eggs, poultry and shellfish thoroughly to prevent food poisoning.
- Step 11** - Always wash your hands with soap after handling meat or poultry.
- Step 12** - Use a child-safety gate, if possible, in the doorway to keep children out of the kitchen completely when you are in another room.
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Sports Trivia Questions & Answers...

What sport used the term "home run" long before baseball? Answer: **Cricket**.

Who was the first U.S. volleyball player to win three Olympic gold medals?
Answer: **Karch Kiraly**.

What was the only team to win two World Series in the 1980's?
Answer: **The Los Angeles Dodgers**.

What NFL team is known as the "ain'ts" when on a losing streak?
Answer: **The New Orleans Saints**.

What's an NBA player deemed to be if he's received the Maurice Podoloff Trophy?
Answer: **The most valuable player**.

What Washington Capitals goalie earned the nicknames "Ace" and "Net Detective"?
Answer: **Jim Carey**.

What NBA team plays home games in the Alamo dome?
Answer: **The San Antonio Spurs**.

What company's logo is called the "swoosh"?
Answer: **Nike's**

Tips For Divorced Dads: Problems & Solutions During The Summer and other Holidays

DISCLAIMER: *The following is NOT legal advice, nor is it a substitute for legal advice. If you are in Family Court you will need legal advice, so please see a lawyer.*

Divorced dads face many challenges during the school vacations during the summer and other holidays with their children. However, there are solutions. Let me share some sound advice with you dads.

Fathers who are successful with holiday and birthday visitation issues don't sit around waiting to take legal action for the last minute. To ensure the holiday schedule goes as planned, and without a hook (especially if problems are anticipated), you may need police enforcement of your access.

In my opinion, "early" for summer vacation means getting an early start in May or before. Whatever you do, don't put this off till the last minute. In May and June, the court system slows down to a near standstill. Faced with the prospect of not seeing your children for the summer, slow paced legal proceedings make the stress factor even worse.

During this process the best thing to do in court, is NOT to wage war; but make peace. Remember, judges simply don't care about what is good for you. Present evidence to the judge in terms of how your suggestions will benefit your children and a GREAT compromise focused on calming their holiday anxiety. That's what judges want to hear.

Most courts order that summer time with dad, birthdays and Christmas be equally divided. But put yourself in your kids' shoes for a moment. It's not good for the kids to chop a special day in half.

If you don't get your kids for the holidays, buy them a present anyway. Wrap it and put it away. When you finally see your kids, even if it's March or June, put on your Santa hat and pull out the present. Your kids will appreciate that you didn't forget them.

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Involved in an automobile accident and the Insurance Adjuster is asking to take your recorded statement and requesting you to sign an authorization? Find out what to do by ordering our free Audio CD and learn the 7 questions you must ask the Claims Adjuster when he calls demanding answers from you. Call today (847) 854-7700.

The Cookin' Corner...For May 2009 "Dream Coffee Cake Recipe"

Ingredients:

- 1 (18-ounce) package yellow cake mix
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup sour cream
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons ground cinnamon
- $1\frac{3}{4}$ cups chopped walnuts

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350F. Grease a 13 x 9-inch baking pan.
2. Combine cake mix, vegetable oil, eggs and sour cream in a large bowl. Beat 2 minutes with a mixer at low speed, scraping sides of bowl frequently.
3. Mix sugar, cinnamon and walnuts in a medium bowl.
4. Spread half the batter in pan. Sprinkle half the walnut mixture over top. Repeat with remaining batter and walnut mixture.
5. Bake 40 minutes, or until a wooden toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Serves 20.

Tips from the Test Kitchen:

Tip From Our Test Kitchen: This coffee cake tastes of homemade comfort, and it only takes a few minutes to prepare. That's why it's a dream. It also can be frozen and served later.

Getting to Know the Lawyers at Franks & Rechenberg, P.C. Kevin Goes to College!

Kevin, son of David and Andrea Franks, will graduate from the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, in Aurora, in May, where he has been active in Student Council and various activities. Several universities accepted Kevin: the University of Chicago, Northwestern, University of Illinois, Washington University in St. Louis, and Boston University. Boston University offered Kevin a half academic scholarship. Kevin recently returned from spring break in Alabama, where he and several of his classmates helped build a home for Habitat for Humanity. Kevin is a typical teenager, staying up late on weekends, and seldom getting up before noon. Kevin is making noises about studying to be a medical doctor, which is a pretty good idea considering the rising costs of health care.....maybe he can offer his parents health care when they are old....!

Inspirational Thoughts For May – Positive Thinking Every Day!

"You create your thoughts, your thoughts create your intentions, your intentions create your reality."

- Wayne Dyer

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe."

– Anatole France

"Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young."

– Henry Ford

Tips For Divorced Dads: Problems & Solutions During Summer and other Holidays

Whatever you do, *DON'T* bad-mouth their mother! Trust me, kids are very smart. One day your kids will figure out what really happened if you are non-confrontational.

Ultimately, you might have to get creative. You might have to celebrate two birthdays and holidays; one with each parent.

A great idea is celebrating Christmas by surprising your kids days early with a full out celebration. You'll have a great time because you won't be stuck on celebrating on a certain day.

Whatever you do, DON'T ever give up and don't ever lose your faith and hope that things will turn out for the best. Most judges understand how sad a time summer holidays can be without your kids.

If you come across angry, you do your kids and yourself an enormous disservice.

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ARRESTED FOR A CRIME? Worried about what will happen? Need Answers? Call David Franks at (847) 854-7700!

15 Tips To Avoid Getting Taken For A Ride By An Internet Scammer

TIP #1: It just makes good sense to listen to your gut. If you have a bad feeling that something isn't legit, you're probably right.

TIP #2: Make sure the company has a phone number and physical mailing address. Call the company back. Check with Information to see if the phone number actually belongs to that company.

TIP #3: Always ask for references and check them carefully. A reputable company will be pleased to send you additional information such as real people they use as testimonials and give you as many references from satisfied customers as you want.

TIP #4: Ask on-line promoters where their company is incorporated. If you're suspicious, call that state's secretary of state and ask if the company is incorporated with them and if it has a current annual report on file.

TIP #5: Check with the state's Attorney General's Office to see if the company has ever received a series of complaints.

TIP #6: Check with the National Fraud Information Center at: www.fraud.org or 1-800-876-7060. NFIC provides lots of valuable resources about telephone, mail, and online scams.

TIP #7: Always make sure that you get a strong guarantee. Ask the company what will happen if you want to return the product or service. This is a great idea, you might even ask for references of people who have returned the product and received refunds.

TIP #8: Avoid falling for high pressure sales tactics. Scammers always want your money right now. They don't want to give you time to think about your decision. If you are pressured to decide right now, just decide to say "NO!"

What You Should Do In Case Of A Car Accident - Safety Tips To Remember!

If you're ever in a car accident here are some safety tips that can save your life and protect your family.

1. **DON'T** make any sudden moves to your head and neck. You may have sustained a serious injury that could be aggravated by sudden movements.
2. **TURN** the engine off **IMMEDIATELY!**
3. **MAKE** sure that everyone in your car is conscious and hasn't sustained any cuts or lacerations.
4. **IF** you have small children in the car make sure that they're OK.
5. **IF** you have a cell phone **call 911** for help.
6. **IF** you smell gas fumes get out of your car at once.
7. **BEFORE** getting out of your car make sure that no other car is coming.
8. **IF** you're OK to get out of your car check on the other driver.
9. **IF** you don't have an auto accident handbook, please contact our office and we'll send you a **FREE** copy! Make sure to call **TODAY!**

TIP #9: Always pay by credit card. This will give you the recourses if you have a problem. If you pay by credit card and have a problem, you can call your bank and do a "charge back." What that means is that you have the credit card company "charge back" your purchase to the vendor and give you a credit. But do be careful giving out your credit card number (especially by e-mail).

TIP #10: Make sure that you NEVER respond to bulk e-mails. Be skeptical of offers that use LOTS OF CAPITAL LETTERS and punctuation!!! E-mails that shout at you are often bogus, such as "Discover how you can make BIG \$\$\$\$ MONEY in NO TIME AT FLAT!"

TIP #11: Always print a hard copy of any on-line offer that you're considering. Make sure you keep the e-mail address, Internet address (URL), and any other information, as well as the date and time that you saw the offer. Save this information in case you need it later.

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Tips For Divorced Dads Continued:

Be the man you claim to be by example: Be a man of peace and extend goodwill to all. This is the best overall approach and strategy successful divorced dads use to maintain a close relationship with their children. Remember this above all else: Your example of love, peace and fatherly wisdom is the best present you can give your children as a legacy of who you really are.

Look, if you've lost in Family Court, don't ever give up. There is always a solution through patience and hope. You've likely lost because you didn't understand that winning requires effectively "waging peace" for your children.

If you base your new game – plan strategies upon those of becoming a successful dad, you'll improve your chances of success immeasurably. ***If you or someone you know needs some help before the summer vacation – please give us a call so we can see what we can do to help you become the dad you're meant to be!***

FREE...FREE...FREE!!! Do You Have Questions To Certain Legal Issues That You Need Answered?

We love to hear from all our good friends and clients who enjoy reading our monthly newsletter. If you have a question regarding *car accidents, on the job injuries, DUI or criminal defense* please give us a call at (847) 854-7700. We've published several Reports on these topics that you can request for FREE by simply calling our office and asking for Marlo. She'll send you or a friend one of our informative Special Reports for FREE!

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A Word Of Thanks...And A Great BIG Welcome To Our Family!

We would like to welcome all our new new clients to our firm and say "Thank You" for being our client. If you would like to receive a FREE Auto Accident Handbook just call our office at (847) 854-7700. When you call for your glove compartment guide, make sure to get one for each car in your family. It's a great idea to have one in every car.

How to Build A Family Emergency Kit For Your Home

We all know we should be prepared and most of us think we are, having some extra water in the house, or some extra cans of tuna around. But it's simply NOT enough these days. Here are the basic things you will need to set up an emergency supply kit which should get you prepared sufficiently in case of an emergency.

Step 1 Water: Experts recommend setting aside one gallon of water per person per day for drinking and sanitation. Have enough water on hand for 4-7 days. You may want to adjust this number up if you have children, nursing mothers, or anyone chronically ill as they may need more water. In addition, if you live in a warmer climate, you may want more water on hand.

Step 2 Food: You will want at least three to seven days of food on hand. Collect non-perishable, easy to prepare food that can be eaten warm or cold as you may not be able to cook. Don't just assume you can eat what's left in your cabinets as what's usually left are things you don't like. An emergency is a stressful time. Pack food that is healthy, comforting, and liked. Canned meats, fruits and veggies are a great start. Snack bars, granola, peanut butter and nuts, canned juices and milk are all great. Comfort foods like chocolate and cookies can be a good extra. If you have a baby or someone with special dietary needs, don't forget to pack for them. Also include cups, plates and plastic utensils for eating. And of course pack your manual can opener!

Step 3 First Aid Kit: Every household has some sort of first aid kit. Create one for your emergency kit and keep this up to date. Go through your first aid kit monthly to replace items you have used or that have expired. The basics you should have are: A first aid manual, a few pairs of sterile gloves, gauze pads, soap and antibiotic spray or ointment, burn ointment, bandages, eye wash, an Ace bandage or two, aspirin or other pain reliever, anti-diarrhea medicine, laxatives and scissors. Also include a small supply of the prescription medication and medical supplies you and/or your household members take everyday along with an extra copy of the prescription. Make sure to also include personal hygiene products such as women's sanitary napkins or tampons.

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Do you have a friend who was injured in a car crash, hurt at a construction site, or hurt as a result of a defective product, and they are wondering how to hire a personal injury attorney, and what questions to ask? Give that friend great advice. Ask them to order the FREE audio CD "How to Choose an Illinois Personal Injury Attorney" by calling (847) 854-7700 and ask for Marlo, who will mail out the CD.

How to Build A Family Emergency Kit For Your Home

Step 4: For securing your home, pack plastic tarps and duct tape, dust masks, a wrench and a pliers for turning off utilities. (As a note, some utility companies recommend pre-setting your wrench or pliers to the bolt sizes and hanging them near the utilities you will need to shut off so there is no confusion.)

Step 5: You should also have in your home a fire extinguisher, waterproof matches, a set of basic tools, and a whistle to signal for help. Household chlorine bleach to be used as a disinfectant if needed (9 parts water to one part bleach). Battery-powered radio with extra batteries, lanterns and flashlights with extra batteries

Step 6: To keep clean and for use in personal sanitation, some moist towel-lets, plastic bags and tires or rubber bands should be kept on hand.

Step 7: Clothing and bedding: At the very least, keep one complete change of clothing AND sturdy shoes for every person in the household. A coat, long pants/jeans, a long sleeve shirt, hat and gloves are the absolute basics. Add sleeping bags or blankets as available.

If you live somewhere colder, add additional clothing items just to be safe.

Step 8: Money & Important Information: Have some cash in small bills, and ATM or credit cards available. Banks and electronics may be unavailable for a few days so have cash on hand to get you through.

Have a copy of all important family documents such as ID's, insurance policies, bank account information stored in a waterproof, portable container. You can drop a set of spare keys in the same container.

Step 9: Don't Forget Your Pets: Make sure to have their ID's, records, medications, leash and carrier, and sufficient food and water for them too!

Congratulations To Our "Client Of The Month!"

Every month, we choose a very SPECIAL client. It's our way of acknowledging our great clients and saying thanks to those who support our firm by telling others about us.

This month's Client of the Month is **Benjamin Hurtado**. We're treating Benjamin and his wife to the movies!

15 Tips To Avoid Getting Taken For A Ride By An Internet Scammer

TIP #12: Beware of promoters who try to sell things using an anonymous e-mail address such as anon12345@anon.company.com, user@domain.com or a post office box.

TIP #13: Never participate in a pyramid scheme. If you are asked to send money to ten people, who each send money to ten other people, who then each send money to ten more people, etc., this is an illegal pyramid scheme. Don't do it.

TIP #14: If you're told that you have won a prize, be skeptical. If you are told you have won a prize and have to pay money, always refuse the prize.

TIP #15: To help your family members and friends avoid getting ripped off by consumer fraud they can subscribe to **TidBits for Today for FREE!** We'll be more than happy to keep them posted.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of Franks & Rechenberg, P.C. to continuously earn our reputation as a pre-eminent local law firm by always providing our clients with responsive, zealous, cost-effective and highly competent legal service and representation, in a professional, courteous and respectful manner.

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The Answers To These And Many Other
Questions Are Inside The May 2009 Issue!