

### Kids Gone Wild

Based on an article by JUDITH WARNER

- 1 “CHILDREN should be seen and not heard” may be due for a comeback. After decades of indulgence, American society seems to have reached some kind of tipping point, as far as tolerance for wild and woolly kid behavior is concerned. Last month, an Associated Press-Ipsos poll found that nearly 70 percent of Americans said they believed that people are ruder now than they were 20 or 30 years ago, and that children are among the worst offenders. Only 9 percent of adults were able to say that the children they saw in public were “respectful toward adults,” according to surveys done by Public Agenda, a nonpartisan and nonprofit public opinion research group.



- 2 Whether children are actually any worse behaved now than they ever have been before is, of course, debatable. Children have always been considered, basically, savages. But what really seems to have changed recently, according to childrearing experts, is parental behavior along with the kinds of behavior parents expect from their kids. The pressure to do well is up. The demand to do good is down, way down, particularly if it's the kind of do-gooding that doesn't show up on a college application.
- 3 Once upon a time, parenting was largely about training children to take their proper place in the community, which, in large measure, meant learning to play by the rules and cooperate, said Alvin Rosenfeld, a child psychiatrist. Rude behavior, particularly toward adults, was something for which children had to be chastised, even punished. That has also now changed, said Dan Kindlon, a child psychologist. “Most parents,” Dr. Kindlon said, “would like their children to be polite, considerate and well behaved. But they're too tired and worn down by work to take up the task of teaching them proper behavior at home. What gets thrown out the window is limits. It's a lot easier to pick children's towels up off the floor than to get them away from the PlayStation to do it. Besides, children are the bright spot in their parents' day. They don't want to muck up that one moment by getting yelled at.”
- 4 Parenting today is also largely about training children to compete — in school and on the soccer field — and the kinds of attributes they need to be competitive are precisely those that help break down society's civility. Parents who want their children to succeed more than anything, Dr. Kindlon said, teach them to value and prioritize achievement above all else — including other people. “Parents are out of control,” Dr. Rosenfeld agreed. “We always want to blame

the kids, but if there's something wrong with their behavior, it's the way their parents model for them."

- 5 If stress and strain, self-centeredness and competition are the root of all the trouble underlying the outbreak of rudeness among children in America today, then the cure, some experts said, has to be found in changing the system. Stop blaming the children, they said. Stop focusing on the surface level of behavior and start curing instead the social, educational and parental ills that feed it. This may mean less "quality" time with children and more time getting them to do things they don't want to do, like sitting for meals, making polite conversation and picking their clothes up off the floor.

*<http://www.nytimes.com>, 2005*

## Tekst 3 Kids gone wild

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- 1p 5 What becomes clear from paragraph 1?  
Americans  
A are more interested in getting good jobs than in showing good manners.  
B are willing to change the law to make their society safer for children.  
C have come to accept the ever-growing number of juvenile criminals.  
D have probably had enough of children behaving in an unruly way.
- 1p 6 Welk woordpaar geeft de belangrijkste functies van de alinea's 1 en 2 weer?  
**alinea 1**      **alinea 2**  
A constatering - toelichting  
B constatering - verwerping  
C voorbeeld - generalisatie  
D voorbeeld - tegenvoorbeeld
- 2p 7 "What ... limits." (alinea 3)  
Welke **twee** redenen noemt Dr Kindlon als verklaring waarom dit gebeurt?
- 1p 8 "Parenting ... compete" (eerste regel alinea 4)  
Dit punt is in een eerdere alinea al aan de orde geweest.  
Citeer uit die eerdere alinea de eerste twee woorden van de zin die het bovenstaande citaat kernachtig weergeeft.
- 1p 9 What becomes clear from paragraph 4?  
A Children usually want to impress their friends rather than please their parents.  
B Children who are expected always to outdo others will develop unpleasant character traits.  
C Parents feel that setting a good example to their children has become outdated.  
D Parents who are too soft on their children run the risk of seeing them become failures.
- Een auteur kan verschillende middelen hanteren om zijn/haar standpunt(en) kracht bij te zetten, zoals:  
1 de eigen deskundigheid met betrekking tot het onderwerp benadrukken  
2 de mening van deskundigen aanhalen
- 1p 10 Geef voor elk van de bovenstaande middelen aan of de auteur dit middel in het artikel wel of niet gebruikt.  
Noteer het nummer van elk middel, gevolgd door "wel" of "niet".

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### Bronvermelding

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