

PARENTING BY THE BOOK
APPLICATIONS OF PEACEMAKING RESPONSES TO CONFLICT

1. THREE BASIC RESPONSES TO CONFLICT FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN:

A. ESCAPE RESPONSES = FLIGHT = PEACE FAKING

1. WALKING AWAY FROM THE CONFLICT... AND THE RELATIONSHIP.

a. PEOPLE USE ESCAPE RESPONSES WHEN THEY ARE MORE INTERESTED IN AVOIDING CONFLICT THAN IN RESOLVING CONFLICT.

b. ESCAPE RESPONSES NEVER RESOLVE CONFLICTS.

B. ATTACK RESPONSES = FIGHT = PEACE BREAKING

1. PEOPLE USE ATTACK RESPONSES WHEN THEY ARE MORE INTERESTED IN WINNING A CONFLICT THAN IN PRESERVING A RELATIONSHIP.

a. ATTACK RESPONSES ARE DIRECTED AT BRINGING AS MUCH PRESSURE TO BEAR ON OPPONENTS AS IS NECESSARY TO ELIMINATE THEIR OPPOSITION.

C. PEACEMAKING RESPONSES = PEACE MAKING

1. PEACEMAKING RESPONSES THAT ARE DIRECTED TOWARD FINDING:

a. JUST

b. MUTUALLY AGREEABLE SOLUTIONS TO CONFLICT.

2. PEACEMAKING RESPONSES TO CONFLICT SITUATIONS

A. OVERLOOK AN OFFENSE = "LETTING AN OFFENSE GO" (70+ % OF THE TIME THIS SOLUTION WILL END A CONFLICT BEFORE IT BEGINS)

1. **Proverbs 19:11 (NASB)** A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, And it is his glory to overlook a transgression.

2. **OVERLOOKING ("LETTING IT GO") AN OFFENSE IS A FORM OF FORGIVENESS THAT INVOLVES A DELIBERATE DECISION NOT TO:**

a. TALK ABOUT IT,

b. GOSSIP ABOUT IT,

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- c. **DWELL** ON IT, AND LET IT **GROW** INTO **PENT-UP BITTERNESS** OR **ANGER**.
- B. **RECONCILLATION... TALK IT OUT** BETWEEN THE **TWO** OF YOU... **“GO”** TO THE PERSON WHO HAS OFFENDED YOU... DON'T WAIT FOR THEM TO COME TO YOU. 50%+ OF THE TIME THIS WILL **END** **CONFLICT...**
1. **“IF”** WE ARE SEEKING **SOLUTIONS** THAT ARE:
 - a. **JUST**
 - b. **MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL**
- C. **GET HELP TO TALK TOGETHER (MEDIATION)**
1. WHEN YOU **CANNOT RESOLVE THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU... ASK SOMEONE TO MEET WITH BOTH OF YOU** TO HELP YOU **TALK TOGETHER TO WORK OUT YOUR DIFFERENCES**.
 - a. PARENTS, FRIEND, OR TEACHER
 2. REMEMBER THAT THE SOLUTION NEEDS TO BE:
 - a. **FAIR**
 - b. **MUTUALLY AGREEABLE**.
- D. IF YOU **CANNOT SOLVE A CONFLICT BY TALKING WITH EACH OTHER... THEN YOU CAN BOTH TELL YOUR SIDE OF THE STORY TO A PERSON IN AUTHORITY WHO WILL DECIDE ON A SOLUTION. (ARBITRATION)**.
1. PARENT
 2. TEACHER
 3. SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR
 4. PASTOR
2. **DISCUSS: PEACEMAKING IN REAL LIFE CONFLICTS**

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3. **DISCUSS: PROACTIVE PEACEMAKING ROLE PLAYING IN TYPICAL CONFLICT SITUATIONS:**

