



Strategies for parents to help their teens handle peer pressure







Chat them up

Have a judgment-free conversation. Let them know they can talk to you about anything.







NO

Teach them to say "No"

Equip them to refuse in a non-negotiable & non-confrontational way.

E.g. No thanks. I'm not into it.



Help them with alternatives

PPIFST

Hesitation to say no is understandable. Let them know there are other ways; "I must be home early for an event. But I'll meet up later for basketball."







Find teachable moments

Act out situations or use an example from TV. Ask them how they would respond to a similar situation when a teachable moment presents itself.





Lead by example

Make positive choices with your own body language, choice of words, and the company of healthy peers.







Build confidence

Self-esteem helps teens handle peer pressure and avoid pleasing people. Praise achievements and interests to boost confidence.





HAPPIEST

Allow them to blame parents

If all else fails, be that excuse!

Let them know that you are okay with them using you as an out.

E.g. No, I can't. My mom/dad waits up for me and they will be worried.







Life's pressures are better managed by prioritizing wellbeing.



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