

Parenting Styles

Diane Baumrind identified two key dimensions (demand and responsiveness) of parental behavior.

TABLE 4.2 Parenting Styles		
Parental Behavior	Low Demand	High Demand
Low Responsive	Neglectful Inattentive and uninvolved without clear rules and limits. Indifferent to child's needs.	Authoritarian Strong expectations for children to obey strict rules with limited emotional or psychological support. Punishment for not following rules.
High Responsive	Permissive Very involved but do not set clear rules and limits. Little use of punishment. Indulgent of child's desires.	Authoritative Clear expectations for children to follow rules with emotional and psychological support so child understands the need for rules.

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1. Type of responsiveness (low/high) or type of relationship (Hostility versus Warmth)

- Low responsive parents express rejection and behave as if they do not care about the child.
- High responsive parents communicate love and caring for the child and response with sensitivity to the child's feelings.

2. Demands by parents, or rules by parents (Restrictiveness versus Permissiveness)

- Low to High demand is the extent to which they make and enforce rules, place demands on children, and discipline children.

Parenting Styles

	Low Demand (Permissive)	High Demand (Restrictive)
Low Responsive (Hostility / Rejection)	<p>Neglectful / Indifferent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• These parents provide neither warmth nor rules nor guidance.• They are indifferent and uninvolved with the child	<p>Authoritarian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exerts control, but does so in a cold, unresponsive way, or rejecting relationship.• They assert parental power without warmth
High Responsive (Warmth / Acceptance)	<p>Permissive-Indulgent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They have warm, caring relationships with their children,• but do not provide the guidance and discipline that help children learn responsibility and concern for others. They lack in setting limits for the child	<p>Authoritative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They are demanding, but caring; controlling, but warm.• They establish clear rules, consistently enforce them, and rewards children's compliance with warmth and affection.• They communicate high expectations, caring, and support. they have good child-parent communication

Parenting Styles



	Permissive	Restrictive
Hostility and Rejection	Neglectful / Indifferent	Authoritarian
Warmth and Acceptance	Permissive-Indulgent	Authoritative

How can you apply this information to other areas other than parenting?

Parenting Styles: Examples

Situation: Nine-year-old Jeff wants to stay up late to watch a special program on television

	Permissive	Restrictive
Hostility / Rejection	<p>Neglectful / Indifferent</p> <p>Doesn't notice that Jeff is up late; Jeff has no regular bedtime.</p>	<p>Authoritarian</p> <p>Says, "You know the rules. Bedtime is 9:00.</p> <p>NO EXCEPTIONS</p>
Warmth / Acceptance	<p>Permissive-Indulgent</p> <p>Says, "Fine, if it's that important to you."</p>	<p>Authoritative</p> <p>Asks why the program is so important.</p> <p>Offers to tape the program so Jeff can watch it at a later time, or agrees that Jeff can stay up late tonight if he promises to go to bed early tomorrow night.</p>

Parenting Styles: Relation to Behavior / Thinking

	Permissive	Restrictive
Hostility / Rejection	<p>Neglectful / Indifferent</p> <p>These children are most likely to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be insecurely attached, • have low achievement motivation, and • be impulsive and aggressive. 	<p>Authoritarian</p> <p>These children tend to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have lower self-esteem, • be less popular with peers and • perform more poorly in school than children with authoritative parents • be moody, unhappy, fearful, withdrawn, less spontaneous and more irritable. • be the least cheerful of the four parenting styles.
Warmth / Acceptance	<p>Permissive-Indulgent</p> <p>These children tend to be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more immature and • self-centered. 	<p>Authoritative</p> <p>These children tend to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have more energy, are more cheerful, are friendlier, • have higher self-esteem, • have higher achievement and grades in school, • be socially competent (fewer conduct problems, and more considerate of others) • show higher levels of self reliance and self-control

- Authoritative parenting style is associated with the most positive childhood outcomes
- Neglecting (indifferent) parenting style is associated with the most negative developmental outcomes.