

The Top 5 Dumb Things Teens Say to Their Parents to Get Their Way

1) "You can't stop me!"

Parents' snappy comeback: "You are right, I can't stop you, but here is the consequence if you do [stay out all night] [take the car] [etc]..."

2) "Everyone is already allowed to do this!"

Parent Reply: "That may be true, but we don't think it is safe, we don't have enough information yet, etc."

3) "You are ruining my life!" (social life, friendships etc)

Parent Reply: "That's not my intent, nor within my power, but the rule won't change. I will treat you to a movie, dinner etc. instead of the [unsupervised party etc.], but no matter what, you still do not have permission to go."

4) "Every single kid at my High School smokes weed!"

Parents' reply: "I am sure it seems that way to you, but we both know that is not true. In any event, we want you to stay safe and we will check up on you to make sure you are not smoking weed in HS. When you are in college or grown, you may be able to smoke it without our influence but we don't allow it or want it now."

5) "I hate you!" (when said in response to a "no" regarding an unsafe request)

Parent reply: "I know you are mad, but I love you no matter what and I couldn't bear if something bad happened to you."