

PARENTAL SUPERVISION & RESPONSIBILITY

The Wyckoff Police Department reminds residents of the need to exercise parental supervision of their children and to be involved in their children's lives, especially with proms, graduation parties and summer approaching.

Important points to remember are:

- Get to know the parents of your child's friends. Knowing what they do for a living is no criteria for allowing your children to build a friendship. Know their schedules, rules and level of supervision in and at their friends' homes.
- Hold your kids accountable for their actions. Let them know there will be consequences if they are involved in inappropriate or improper behavior. Teach them responsibility.
- Listen to what they have to say without being judgmental or critical.
- Show interest in their interests.
- Spend time with your children; money and material goods cannot replace your personal attention.
- Maximize positive influences in their lives and minimize the negative influences and role models.
- Get to know your children.
- Listen to your teens. Really listen. Hear what they are telling you-and not telling you.
- The highest percentage of teenage sex takes place between the hours of 3pm – 6pm at the home of a friend or in your own home. Being home for them is crucial to prevention.
- Money, education and material goods do not prevent drug and alcohol abuse. Statistics show it increases the chances.

Today's children are forced to mature quickly, in a rapidly changing world, and they need stability. Such stability should be provided through the safety of their family and within their home.