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The One Toxic Character Flaw That Results in Most Misbehavior, And How to Deal With it

The biggest hurdle that stands in the way of us building strong character in our kids is... **PRIDE**



THE 9 "FACES" OF PRIDE AND HOW TO RESPOND

- 1 Obstinacy** *Solution:* Give them time and be patient while they realize they are being obstinate and choose to change their obstinate ways.
- 2 Sarcasm** *Solution:* Give the child an opportunity for a do-over, so that they can practice a more respectful response.
- 3 Selfishness** *Solution:* Be patient and say nothing at the moment. Let the natural consequences play out and when they do (sometime later in the day or week), vocalize it, so the child understands the impact of his choices.
- 4 Defensiveness** *Solution:* Feign ignorance and engage in a conversation until the defensiveness fizzles out.
- 5 Entitlement** *Solution:* Intentionally groom a habit of differentiating between earning potential and entitlement, for instance by eliminating allowance and encouraging them to find opportunities to earn money.
- 6 Volatility** *Solution:* Constantly work on building their emotional intelligence and encourage them to remove themselves from situations where they feel like they might lose control.
- 7 Fearfulness** *Solution:* Acknowledge the fear, but don't let them give in by showing them other (positive) ways to view and respond to the situation.
- 8 Deviousness** *Solution:* Return the favor and mimic the deviousness -- openly, intentionally and without malice to make the child aware of how it feels.
- 9 Arrogance** *Solution:* Engage the recipient of the arrogance in explaining the impact to help nudge the child toward not wanting to behave that way anymore.

The one "face" of pride we will learn to handle as a family this week

(Pick any one -- either from your child's pride or your own!)
