

# Are you a parent or a peer-ent?



## 21st Century Parenting

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You are not your children's friend, you are their parent.

You can be their friend when they have turned 21 but, until then, you are their mother or father – an

authority figure in their lives and they need to know that, unequivocally.

According to psychologist, Dr Dereck Jackson, in his book *Parenting with Panache* (Wordsmiths, 2001), 'There is one rule that is not negotiable – that is that the

parents are in charge and let me tell you that there is a lot of confusion in families today as to who is in charge.

'Parents create this confusion by wanting to be their children's friends. I have these women of 35 saying to me, 'I'm not like my child's mother, I'm more like her best friend!' I think to myself, 'What kind of emotional dwarf of 35 needs a best friend of five, or 10, or 15? What kind of mixed-up child needs a best friend of 35?'

An adult of 35 needs a best friend of 35, and a child of five needs a best friend of five.'

Here are some common characteristics of parents who are acting more like their children's peers (peer-ents):

They struggle to say no to their kids.

They avoid disciplining their kids.

They take on their kids problems, for example, dropping the forgotten lunch off at school. They allow the kids to have too much say – the kids rule the roost.

### Space to solve problems

Interestingly, Australia's number one parenting educator, Michael Grose, says that bigger families behave more like tribes than smaller, modern families and they rarely exhibit the above characteristics because logistically they wouldn't manage if they did.

In bigger families children have to be more resourceful, there is space for them to solve their

own problems and they are often more resilient – this because their parents cannot hover or micro-manage as a result of their time and attention being stretched over more people.

If bigger families don't adhere to the family rules, there would be anarchy. Essentially, there are two questions all children seek answers for on this score:

What are the rules?

Who is in charge?

Before any family rules can be effective, children need to know that you are in charge as their parent and not their peer-ent.

Says, Jackson, 'You should be friendly to your child, without question, you should love and support and comfort your child, but you are not your child's friend.'



# SPORTS WILL MOVE THE COUNTRY FORWARD ONLY WHEN THE PLAYING FIELDS ARE LEVEL

In line with Governments commitment to sports development, especially at grassroots level, the National Lotteries Board (NLB) through National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund (NLDTF) is calling all previous, and currently disadvantaged, Sport Clubs and no-fee Schools (Quintile 1, 2 and 3) to apply for our sports and recreation funding.

### SPORTS CLUBS CAN APPLY FOR:

- New basic facilities,
  - The upgrade of existing facilities,
  - Apparel
  - Training equipment,
  - Sport - Specific capacity building for coaches and technical officials,
  - Athlete support and the coordination of, and participation in, local leagues and provincial competitions.
- Sports Clubs can also apply for an amount of up to **R 200 000** in money.

**No-fee Schools** \*Eligible schools should not have received funding from the NLDTF in the past three years\* can also apply for new basic facilities, the upgrading of existing sport facilities; sports equipment and apparel (maximum amount **R50,000.00**)

Sport Clubs and Schools that meet the criteria can also apply on behalf other schools or sport clubs for mentorship purposes. A signed Memorandum of Understanding and clear motivation is required. Schools may apply up to an amount of **R300 000.00**

To apply, you will need the completed prescribed application form (Form 2010/1) using the current 2014 Guidelines. To get these forms, email [Sport@NLB.org.za](mailto:Sport@NLB.org.za), call 08600 65383 or visit [www.nlb.org.za](http://www.nlb.org.za).

**Closing Date: 21 October 2014 (16h00)**

**Main Office**  
33 Grosvenor Street  
Hatfield, Pretoria  
Tel: 08600 65383

**Limpopo Office**  
5 Landross Mare Street  
Polokwane  
Tel: 015 299 4660

**Eastern Cape Office**  
Short Mill House, Quarry Office  
Park, Selborne  
East London  
Tel: 043 711 5000

**Western Cape Office**  
Wesbank Building, Corner  
Riebeek and Long Streets  
Cape Town  
Tel: 021 421 4313

One is not born, but rather becomes a woman  
- Simone de Beauvoir

## Reflect on this

**S**imone Lucie Ernestine Marie Bertrand de Beauvoir, commonly known as Simone de Beauvoir (9 January 1908 – 14 April 1986), was a French writer, intellectual, existentialist philosopher, political activist, feminist and social theorist.

Though she did not consider herself a philosopher, she had a significant influence on both feminist existentialism and feminist theory. De Beauvoir wrote novels, essays, biographies, an autobiography and monographs on philosophy, politics and social issues.

She is best known for her novels, including *She Came to Stay* and *The Mandarins*, as well as her 1949 treatise *The Second Sex*, a detailed analysis of women's oppression and a foundational tract of contemporary feminism.