

Clear understanding vital to dealing with disagreements with your child

Question:

How do I get my 4 year old to show his opinions and disagreement in a respectful way?

Answer:

An important prerequisite to changing behaviour is a clear understanding of the cause of the behaviour. The solution can then focus on teaching acceptable alternatives. A good place to start is by acknowledging thoughts and feelings. *I can see that you're upset but...*

Children develop social skills through social experiences — through modeling, direct instruction and recognition. To illustrate, picture Mary grocery shopping with dad. They're in line at the check out as an elderly lady ahead of them struggles to lift her grocery items onto the counter. Dad offers to help and the lady expresses her thanks. At the playground later dad watches as Mary offers to help another child lift a heavy pail of sand out of the sand box. Modeling is learning by example. Direct instruction refers to teaching or coaching, providing clear, concise information as to the behaviour we want to see. So for example, if a child says, *I'm not eating that yucky dinner!* The response could be, *If you don't like the*



Parenting on the Same Page

SUE BRATHWAITE

food it's polite to say, I don't care for any. Recognition refers to giving acknowledgement — highlighting when things are going well or there's been improvement. A positive, nurturing relationship forms the foundation upon which we guide children's behaviour, and with consistency and practice children learn socially acceptable ways of communicating. Sue Brathwaite is the Parent Resource Coordinator and Parenting Educator with the Ontario Early Years Centre, North Halton (www.mcrc.on.ca). The centre provides support and resources to assist parents and caregivers in their roles. It also provides early learning experiences for children up to six years of age.

The Corporation of the Town of Milton

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A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS



Members of the Public Invited to Comment on 2014 Budget

The Town of Milton is inviting members of the community to attend the Council meeting on Monday, May 27 to provide input into the programs, service levels and priorities for the 2014 Operating & Capital budgets. A presentation will be made at the beginning of the meeting to introduce the 2014 budget process.

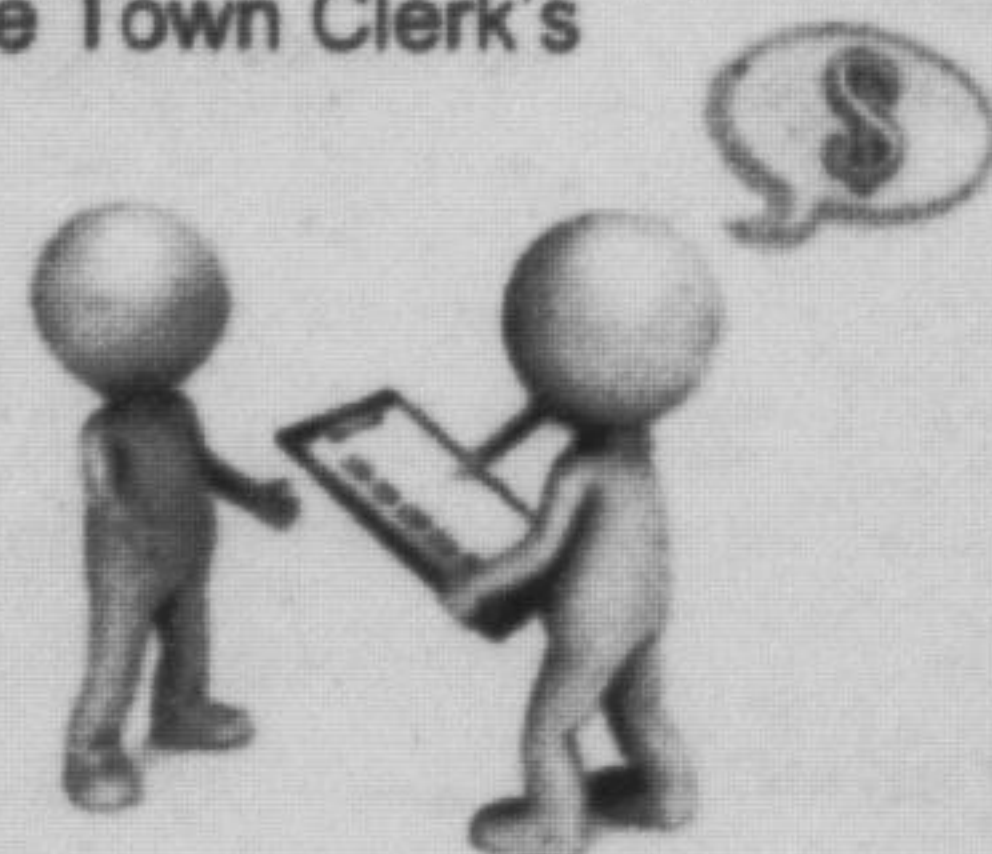
Date: Monday, May 27, 2013

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall West
 150 Mary Street, Milton, L9T 6Z5

To provide input in person, please register as a delegation by filling out a Delegate Request Form, available at the Town Clerk's office (Town Hall West, 150 Mary Street, Milton, L9T 6Z5) or on the Town's website, www.milton.ca. Completed forms must be submitted to the Town Clerk's office or faxed to 905-876-5022 by 10 a.m. on May 27.

Comments may also be provided by completing a short online survey. The survey will be available at www.milton.ca from May 28 to June 28, 2013.



For more information, visit www.milton.ca.

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