

Styles of Parenting

1. **Authoritarian** The parents' word is law, not to be questioned, and misconduct is punished. Authoritarian parents seem aloof from their children, showing little affection or nurturance. Maturity demands are high, and parent-child communication is rather low.
2. **Permissive** The parents make few demands on their children, hiding any impatience they feel. Discipline is lax. Parents are nurturant, accepting, and communicate well with offspring. They make few maturity demands because they view themselves as available to help their children but not as responsible for shaping how offspring turn out.
3. **Authoritative** The parents in this category are similar in some ways to authoritarian parents, in that they set limits and enforce rules, but they are also willing to listen receptively to the child's requests and questions. Family rule is more democratic than dictatorial. Parents make high maturity demands on offspring, communicate well with them, and are nurturant.

Contrasting Styles of Parenting

	Nurturance	Communi- cation	Control	Demands
Authoritative	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Authoritarian	Low	Low	High	High
Permissive/ Democratic	High	High	Low	Low
Permissive/ Neglecting	Low	Low	Low	Low
Traditional Mother	High	Moderate	Low	Low
Father	Low	Moderate	High	High

Outcome of Particular Parenting Styles

Authoritative	Successful children high in self esteem
Traditional	Successful (if parents cooperate)
Permissive/ Democratic	Self-centered children, successful adults
Authoritarian	Obedient children, unhappy and sometimes rebellious adults
Permissive/ Neglecting	Immature, unhappy children most likely to drug-using adolescents

Note: Outcome depends on many factors, including the gender of the child and temperament, family size and income, parental conflict and cultural values.