



# Grandparents Corner

June 2014

## *“Love and Limits: A Powerful Combination”*

---

As a grandparent raising your grandchildren, setting and enforcing limits can be a challenge. This is often true when grandchildren have not been provided guidance for good behavior.

One reason a child misbehaves is because they do not know what is expected.

Below are some guidelines to follow when setting limits for your grandchildren:

- Set as few limits as possible. Too many limits are impossible to enforce.
- Enforce the limits set. If limits are not enforced, children will begin to question whether you really mean them.
- Set clear rules that the children will understand.
- Let the children know beforehand the consequences of breaking the rules. Make the consequences reasonable, respectful, and related to the deed.
- Help children understand why limits are set.
- Have children help set the rules. Remember that some are negotiable and some are not.
- Take into consideration the abilities and skills of the child.
- Once the limits are established, they must be enforced consistently. Limits that are not enforced consistently are ineffective.

When rules and limits are enforced, along with a warm and nurturing environment, children learn about expectations. They also feel safe and secure knowing that someone cares.

**Source: Parenting Again: University of Illinois Extension**  
**[www.urbanext.illinois.edu/grandparents](http://www.urbanext.illinois.edu/grandparents)**

*Caregivers should advise the person in their care to always use caution when offered a “get-rich-quick” scheme or if someone pressures them into acting fast. Tell seniors that a red flag is when they are asked to share personal information with strangers. Read the issue and answer True or False to the questions below.*

1. A common form of elder abuse is “scamming” or tricking an elderly person out of money or property.    T    F
2. Seniors fall for scamming tricks because they dream of being able to help their family or leave something behind.    T    F
3. It is important to make sure the privacy of the person in your care is always protected.    T    F
4. Don’t respond to someone you don’t know who uses your first name to gain your trust.    T    F
5. Physical abuse is action causing bodily injury, pain or impairment. It includes assault, battery, and inappropriate restraint.    T    F
6. Being elderly, seniors are never subjected to sexual abuse.    T    F
7. Most seniors never report abuse because they’re too scared or too ashamed, especially when the bad guy is a family member or caregiver.    T    F
8. Sweepstakes and lottery scams that ask for a “fee” before winnings are sent are not elder abuse.    T    F
9. A scam artist cannot gather other details about a senior’s life if they just have a person’s name.    T    F
10. A common scam is health insurance fraud that asks for personal information and Social Security numbers.    T    F

**KEY:** 1. T 2. T 3. T 4. T 5. T 6. F 7. T 8. F 9. F 10. T