

## As A Parent, How Should I Act?



The biggest job as the parent of a child actor is to be supportive. Your unconditional love as a parent should not diminish because your child had a bad audition. Parents must also understand that their child will not be "on" every day. Children are still children, and as much as you may try to control your child's attitude, there will be days when your child won't perform for anyone. That's okay. This is on their terms.

This is not your audition; it's your child's. Once they are in the hall, waiting to audition, it is their time. A parent should never dispute the casting process. Parents aren't agents. So many times parents start to take their children getting jobs too seriously, and it begins to affect the child as well as leave bad impressions with casting directors.

A parental controversy will only hurt your child's chances of getting a part, because as cute, or as talented as your child is, there will always be another cute kid, and you will always end up embarrassing your own. Whether your child is getting a job every week, or has received zero callbacks, it is still your child, and that is more important than any part available.

If your child is getting a lot of work, and starting to make good money, don't spend it on yourself. There are more stories of kid actors turning eighteen, looking for money they made when they were minors, and finding out it was blown years ago by irresponsible parents. You didn't make this money, your child did. But since you are in control of those finances until the child is eighteen, put the money in a savings account for college, or start bonds or smart investments.

Even if your child is making thousands of dollars a month, if he/she doesn't want to act anymore, that is their decision and, you, as a parent **MUST** respect that. You shouldn't pressure your child to start acting, nor should you pressure them to continue going on auditions if they don't want to. Be certain to pay attention to your child during the audition process; if he or she isn't having fun, maybe you should consider asking why.