TRAITS OF A SPOILED CHILD

No parent sets out to raise a spoiled child. But without meaning to, it’s so easy to fall into the trap of overindulging and not setting limits. A spoiled child may have one or more of the following traits:

• A huge sense of entitlement
• Can't stand to hear "no"
• Can't deal with frustration
• Lacks kindness, empathy or compassion
• Has no conscience - can do something hurtful without feeling guilty
• Doesn't really care how you feel
• Blames others for his/her own misdeeds. (It's not my fault)
• Suffers from an advanced case of the "gimmies"

TOP TEN SPOILING TRAPS

• Running to the rescue and not allowing kids to experience consequences.
• Being unwilling to see your children frustrated, angry, or unhappy.
• Always putting your child first instead of you and/or your marriage.
• Living for your child and sacrificing everything for him or her.
• Indulging the “gimmies” and having trouble saying “no”.
• Over-explaining, negotiating, making “deals” and endlessly reasoning.
• Bribing to get children to do what they're supposed to do anyway.
• Giving in to tantrums or whining so your “no” turns into a “yes”.
• Allowing your child to be rude and offensive by not curbing freshness or backtalk.
• Not holding kids accountable for misbehavior or making excuses for them.

More information can be found in Nancy’s new book, **LOVING WITHOUT SPOILING: And 100 Other Timeless Tips For Raising Terrific Kids** (McGraw-Hill, 2002)