My Family Tells All

I have a terrible problem with my family. They tell my business to everyone they know, family, friends, church members neighbors, the mailman-anybody! My mother is probably worse than my father and grandmother. I hate this habit of theirs. They are going to force me to move somewhere on my own before I can afford it. Just because I live at home doesn't mean I don't need privacy. Don't you think the privacy of a 26 yearold woman should be respected by her family?

Dear E.W.

It would be easier for your priacy to be respected by your family if you did live on your own. Age twenty-six is not too young to be fully on your own. However, while you are still with your family, a few small changes may help you now. Share some parts of your life but don't talk about everything. Ask your family, directly, not to discuss your life experiences with others, unless you agree. Your relationship with your family may grow stronger once you have your own space and your family has their own space.

Carole

Dear Carole,

What is the best way to make a 2 year-old child behave? Please give me a fast answer be-

fore I go out of my mind.

Helpless Parent Dear Helpless Parent,

Learn about behavior that is average for 2 year-olds. This infor-

Carole's Corner Carole Ricks

mation will help you to understand behavior that is fair to expect. Time and place can be changed to fit a schedule more suitable to the needs of a 2 yearold. A two hour shopping trip at lunchtime or naptime, is too much to ask of a 2 year-old child. Arrange to get a babysitter, or shorten your shopping time, or shop when your child has eaten and is rested.

The more information about child development you obtain, the greater your tolerance for some of your child's behaviors.

Your tolerance for some of your child's behavior may also increase, if you allow some time for yourself. Plan time for your own rest

The best way to teach and correct the behavior of a 2 year-old child is to teach and increase the knowledge of the parent.

Editor's Note: Carole B. Ricks, A.C. S.W., is a marriage and family therapist with private practice in Charlotte, NC. If you have personal, parent-child, or marriage problems, write to:

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