

Strict Mom

Seila Gomes

BEFORE YOU READ: What does “strict” mean? Were your parents strict with you? How? In what ways are you strict with your children?

I am a strict mom. My father was so strict with us. That is how he showed us that he loved us. And that is why I am a strict mom too.

I have two kids. My son is 12 years old. He is such a smart boy but after he started playing on the iPad, he changed. He didn’t answer me when I called him. He was so distracted. He used to read more books. At school, he was a good student but now I have to push him all the time to do homework and organize his school bag.

I am very strict with him now. I take the iPad away for the school week. I just give it back to him for the weekend.

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Sometimes he does well at school and asks me for it but my answer is no. Later on, he takes his Legos and starts to make things. Or he draws pictures or makes his own

comic book stories. It is better for him to do these activities than to be on his iPad all the time.

I am strict with my son because I love him, the same way my dad loved me. I wish a better future for my son, so I will keep being strict with him.

AFTER YOU READ: How do Indira (p. 26) and Seila limit their children’s time on their devices? What



Seila Gomes with her son.

else could they try? What methods have you tried with your children?

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How Much Do You Use Your Phone?

Track your usage. Use “settings” to look up how much time you spend on your phone. Chart your findings over a period of time on a graph. Compare your graph with others in the class. What did you learn from this process?

