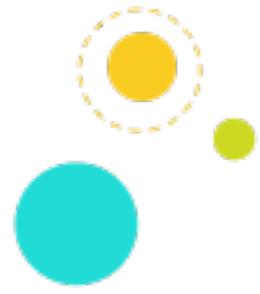
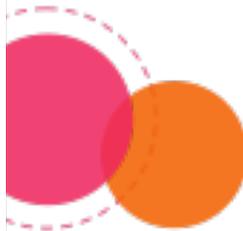


# Discipline

**Presentation by: Lauren B. Quetsch, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor  
University of Arkansas  
Department of Psychological Science  
[quetsch@uark.edu](mailto:quetsch@uark.edu)



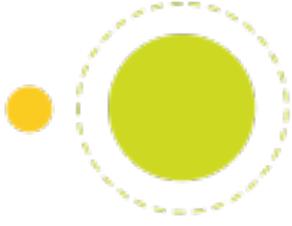
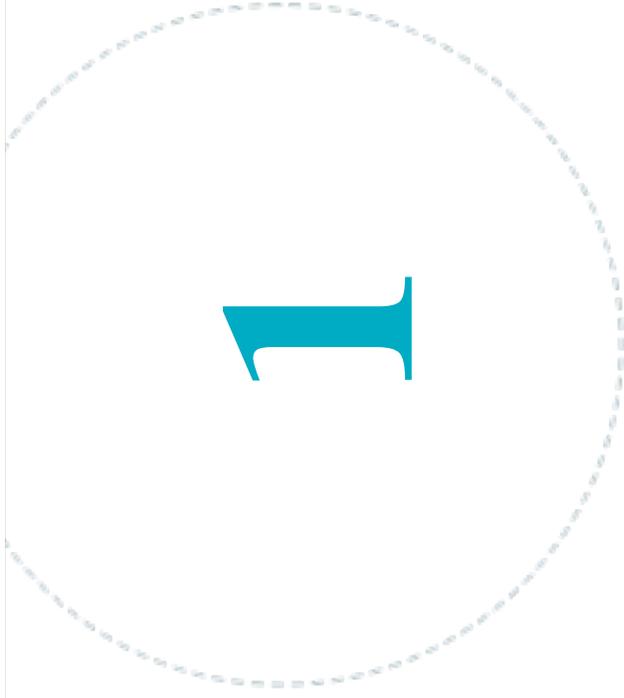
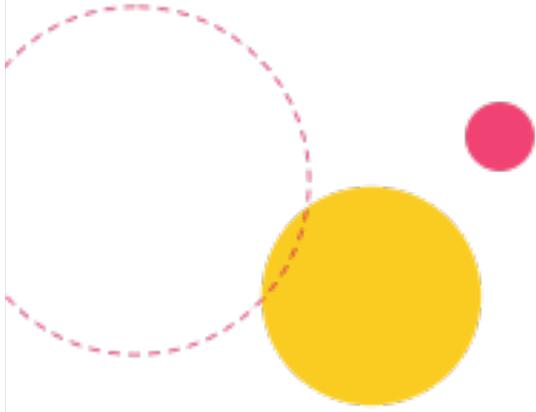


## Outline

- Pick Your Battles
- Consistency
- Alternatives to Physical Discipline
- Time-out

**You can do this!**





## Pick Your Battles

When to follow-through and when to let  
it go



# What do I do?



Annoying/Bothersome  
Dangerous/Destructive



We are all stressed. How do we know when to handle disruptive behavior and when to ignore it?

# Annoying or Bothersome?

## Examples

- ☉ Whining
- ☉ Yelling
- ☉ Crying/tantrum/fit
- ☉ “Dragging their feet”

## First Ask:

How do I feel?

Do I feel capable of handling this calmly?

Do I have enough energy to handle this?

I can do this!



Discipline (room, time-out, remove privilege)

I just can't do this right now...



Ignore and/or Redirect

# Dangerous or Destructive?

## Examples

Should **ALWAYS** be addressed:

How do I make sure I am calm and composed?

Hitting

Kicking

Biting

Breaking things

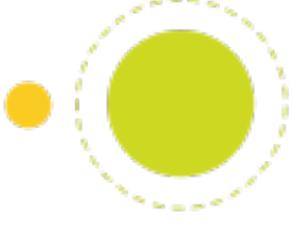
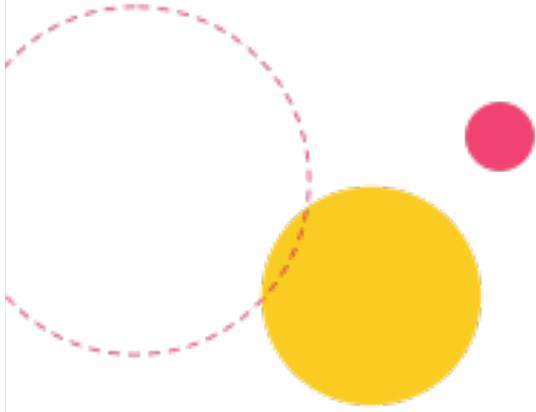


Create a routine and stick to it!

Remove item/child from room

Get help from a spouse/partner/other adult if needed/available

Everyone on the same page



# Consistency

Transforming from a rubber band to a brick wall





## Am I a Rubber Band?

Bend and flex depending on mood

For a certain behavior sometimes:



Calm vs. Upset



Follow-through vs. Let it go



## Am I a Brick Wall?

Always/Majority of the time:

Calm

Follow-through

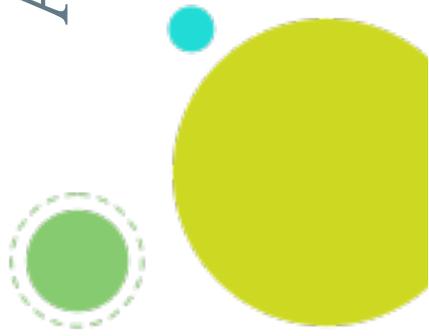
**NO ONE** is perfect – but trying for consistency is a good goal!

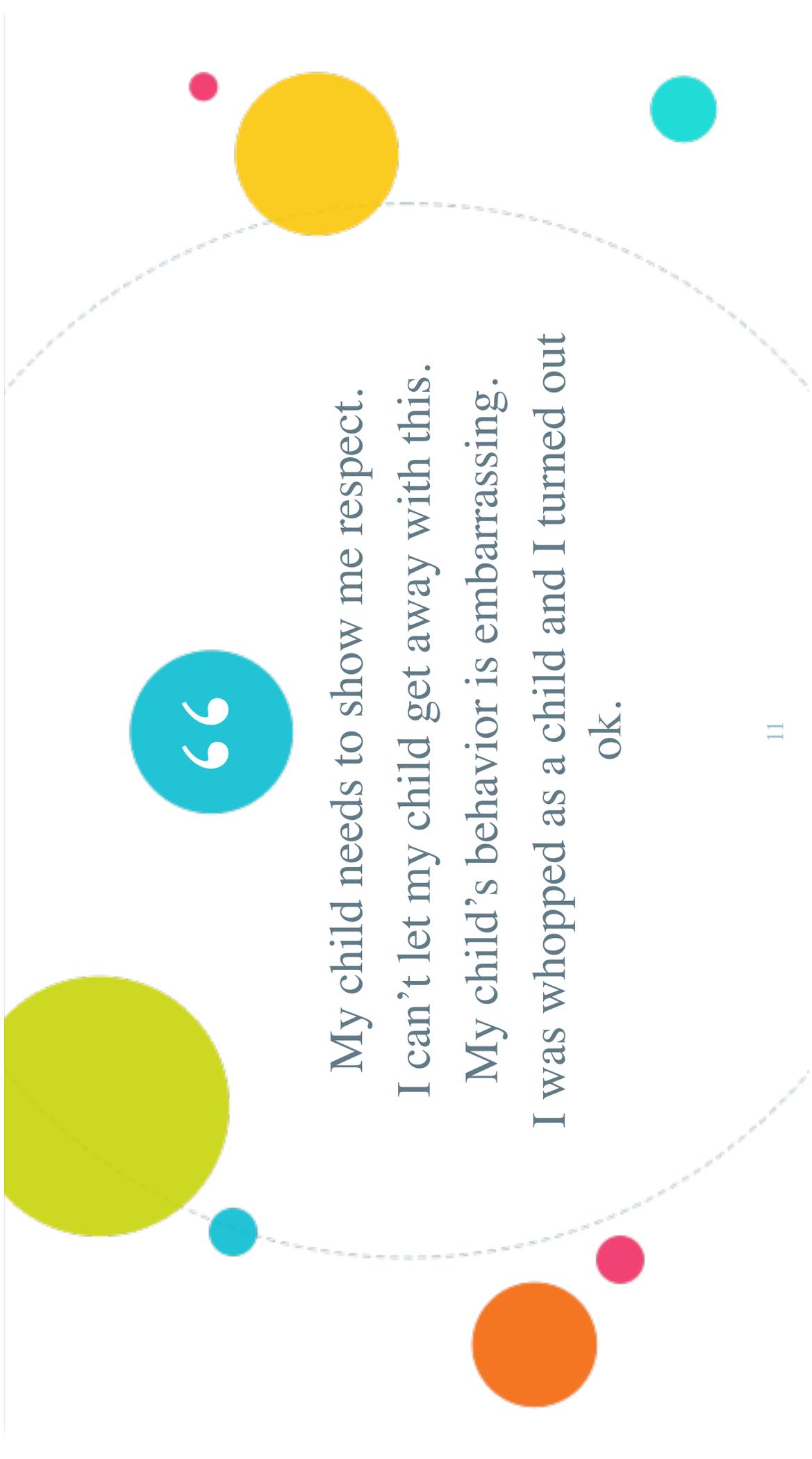
Either: give in right away or go all the way.



# Alternatives to Physical Discipline

Showing strength by remaining calm



A decorative graphic featuring a large lime green circle on the left, a large yellow circle on the right, and several smaller circles in teal, orange, and pink. A dashed grey line curves across the page, passing behind the text.

“

My child needs to show me respect.  
I can't let my child get away with this.  
My child's behavior is embarrassing.  
I was whopped as a child and I turned out  
ok.

## Things to Consider...

### **Mood**

When we are stressed, we may have bigger emotional and physical reactions

### **Effects on Parent-Child Relationship**

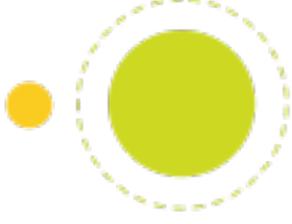
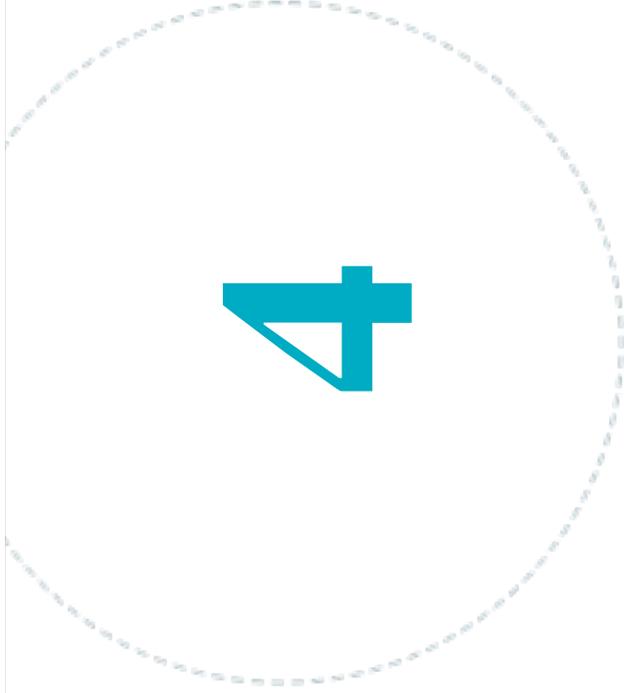
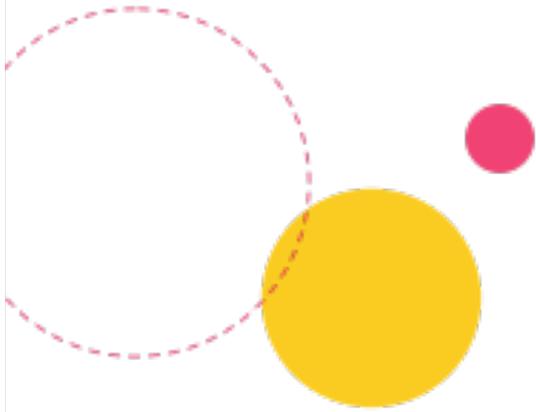
Children are more disrespectful, avoidant, less responsive to parents efforts to teach them how to behave properly

### **Long-term Outcomes**

Physical punishment leads to more problem behaviors (not less)

### **Modeling**

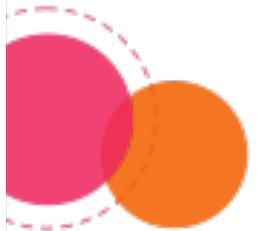
Teaches child that using force is the way to handle frustration



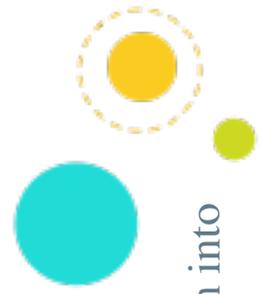
# Time-out

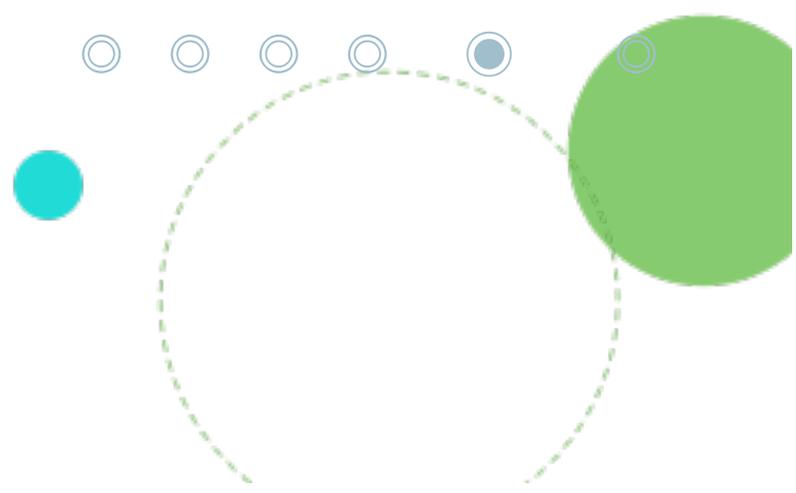
Taking a break from the fun





## How to Conduct Time-out



- If child does not listen to a command you have issued, place them into time-out
  - Safe time-out chair (wooden, without handles, not easily tipped over)
  - Time-out chair in a quiet place (without distractions/away from tv)
  - Have child sit for 1-3 minutes + 5 seconds of silence
  - If child is too upset/unable to stay in seat, have them go to a safe room for 1 minute + 5 seconds of silence (e.g., their room) while you wait
    - Always return to the time-out chair when child has calmed down in room
  - Once time on the chair is successfully completed, child completes original command
- 

# Thanks!

## Any questions?

You can find me at [quetsch@uark.edu](mailto:quetsch@uark.edu)



UNIVERSITY OF  
**ARKANSAS**

**J. William Fulbright**  
**College of Arts & Sciences**