



[HOME](#)::[Home-and-Family/Parenting](#) 

"Meanest Mom" Takes Tough Love Approach

By [Joe Herzanek](#)

Article Word Count: 398 [[View Summary](#)] [[Comments \(0\)](#)]

Many of you may have seen the story in the news. Apparently a mother bought her nineteen-year-old son a car. The story says that she asked only two things of her son as part of the deal. The son was told to not drink and drive, and to keep the car locked when he was not using it.

Three weeks later, Mom finds a bottle of liquor under the front seat and promptly puts an ad in the paper to sell the car.

OLDS 1999 Intrigue.

Totally uncool parents who obviously don't love teenage son, selling his car.

Only driven for three weeks before snoop mom who needs to get a life found booze under front seat.

\$3,700/or best offer.

Call meanest mom on the planet.

I would assume that the son was shocked by what she did. I have raised three children myself and went through that challenging phase with each one--Adolescence!

Did Mom do the right thing? Did she overreact? Should she have been snooping around in "his" car?

What I would like to say to this Mom is BRAVO! How many of us, myself included, have made agreements with our teens and then not followed through? First of all, Mom did not overreact. She simply acted on her son's disregard for her previously stated and agreed-upon rules.

If any parent has reason to suspect that their teen is drinking or using drugs, they should "snoop." This goes for "their" bedroom, bathroom, or backpack as well.

Let's keep things in perspective here--the car was "their" car, not "his" car. Mom probably helped with the insurance as well as the purchase. Parents or guardians are liable for consequences of their adolescent's behavior and often for their children's bad choices as they

go through this challenging stage of life.

Regarding this particular story, none of us know the whole story, or "the rest of the story" or how this will all play out in the long run. But one thing is certain. People's choices have consequences.

Sooner or later we all learn from the choices and decisions we make.

I hope that her son not only benefited from this incident, but that he is in the process of regaining his mother's trust. Fortunately, this mom didn't cave into his pleading to not sell the car.

I'm glad that she did not rob him of this very valuable learning experience.

Joe Herzanek, a man who battled his own demons of addiction over twenty-five years ago, says, "I know people can change. If I can do it, anyone can!"

A recovering person himself, Joe is the president and founder of Changing Lives Foundation and author of the new book "Why Don't They Just Quit?" As an addiction counselor in Colorado he has spent thirteen years working in the criminal justice system.

His passion for helping men and women struggling with addiction, as well as their family members and friends, inspire him to offer hope and solutions.

Joe offers words of encouragement: "Addiction is not a hopeless situation," he writes. "Addicts and alcoholics aren't crazy, and they can quit."

Joe and his wife Judy have three children, Jami, Jake, and Jessica, and enjoy the beautiful Colorado outdoors with their two Cairn Terriers, Lewis and Clark.

<http://www.whydonttheyjustquit.com>

<http://www.changinglivesfoundation.org>

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Joe_Herzanek



This article has been viewed 182 time(s).
Article Submitted On: May 07, 2008