



Top 10 Ways Teens Trick Their Parents

1. When the Cat is Away the Mice Will Play: Your teen insists on going to a friend's house for the night when you're going out for the evening. Once you've left, your teen returns home to your unsupervised house with a group of friends. (Watch out for: holidays, anniversaries and other special occasions.)

2. The Cameo Appearance: When attending a school dance, your teen is allowed to leave the dance at any point in the evening. Why is this a problem? Many couples will take their picture at the dance to prove that they attended and then go to an empty house to party.

3. Wide Open Spaces: Community festivals are not highly patrolled events, and teens can leave the premises at any time to use substances in nearby woods, parking lots, or behind nearby buildings. Also, be aware that your teen might start their night at one event, but be taken to a different party by an older student who can drive.

4. After-School Freedom: After school when you are still at work, your child and his friend might congregate at your empty house and do as they please until you arrive home. A few hours is plenty of time to experiment.

5. The Deserted Forest: When walking to a nearby friend's house, your teen can meet up with friends on their way in deserted or secluded areas (and use substances or engage in sexual behavior. (This can take place in broad daylight!))

6. School Functions Gone Wrong: Your teen might say they're attending a school functions (such as sports games, plays, concerts or club meetings), which seems perfectly safe and reasonable, however your teen might have other plans, and can easily sneak away to go use substances in the unsupervised areas with other kids

7. Sleep-Over Sneak Outs: Although you may be home when you teen has friends sleep-over, it's possible that while you're sound asleep your "guests" are sneaking out of your house to either walk somewhere else or be picked up in a car down the street to go to a party.

8. Turning Water into Wine: An old trick – your teen steals alcohol from your liquor cabinet and then, if necessary, makes up the difference in the bottle's volume by adding water.

9. Not Your Usual Math Homework: Although you might be pleased when your teen goes to a friend's house to do homework, this may not actually be what your teen will be doing once she leaves the house. (When she leaves, check and see if she's actually carrying books.)

10. A Change of Plans: Your teen says that he is going to a friend's house to spend the night and then ends up elsewhere at the last minute –forgetting to fill you in on his changing plans.