

THE LIMITS OF PARENTHOOD

I gave you life but cannot live it for you.
I can teach you things but cannot make you learn.
I can give you direction but cannot be there to lead you.
I can allow you freedom but cannot account for it.
I can take you to church but cannot make you believe.
I can teach you right and wrong but cannot decide for you.
I can buy you beautiful clothes but cannot make you beautiful inside.

I can offer you advice but cannot accept it for you.
I can give you love but cannot force it upon you.
I can teach you to share but cannot make you unselfish.
I can teach you respect but cannot force you to show honor.

I can advise you about sex but I cannot keep you pure.
I can tell you about the facts of life but cannot build your reputation.
I can tell you about drink but cannot say "NO" for you.
I can warn you about drugs but cannot prevent you from using them.

I can tell you about magnificent goals but cannot achieve them for you.
I can teach you about kindness but cannot force you to be gracious.
I can warn you about sin but cannot make you moral.
I can tell you about God's love for you but cannot make you accept it.

--Author Unknown