

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

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**Parent Training and
Information (PTI) Offices are
located throughout the State.
Call our main office toll-free at
1-800-572-7368 (v/tty)
for the office closest to you.**



Parent Training and Information Program

Tips for Parents of Children with **Oppositional Defiance Disorder (ODD)**

Statewide Parent Training and Information Center

6316 So. 12th St.
Tacoma, WA 98465
(253) 565-2266 (v/tty)
1-800-5-PARENT (v/tty)
Fax: (253) 566-8052
E-mail: pave@wapave.org
Website: www.wapave.org

Third Decade of Service

*Children and youth with disabilities have the right
to a free appropriate public education.
IDEA 2004*

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What is Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD)?

A person with Oppositional Defiant Disorder is someone who shows a pattern for 6 months or more of negative, hostile and defiant behavior. The old saying, “you can’t make me”, coupled with hostile behavior is usually how people describe a child with ODD.

These are some identifying characteristics of ODD.

- Often loses temper.
- Often argues with adults.
- Actively defies, refuses to comply.
- Deliberately annoys others.
- Blames others for his/hers mistakes.
- Touchy, easily annoyed by others.
- Often angry and resentful.
- Often spiteful and vindictive.

Some other possible identifying characteristics are:

- Does not follow through/fails to finish tasks.
- Difficulty sustaining attention, seems to be not listening.
- Bullies, threatens or intimidates.
- Lies or “cons” to get his/her way or to avoid doing something or receiving consequences.

Who can diagnosis ODD?

A health care provider or psychologists can diagnosis ODD.

Can my child with ODD qualify for Special Education Services?

Yes, if the ODD adversely affects the ability to learn, he/she can qualify under the category of Health Impaired or Emotionally/Behaviorally disabled, depending on the severity of the ODD and how it affects the child’s learning. Examples of some characteristics that may be used to qualify a student for Special Education are:

- An increased alertness to surroundings which results in limited alertness to education.
- An inability to learn which cannot be explained by intellectual, sensory or health factors.
- An inability to build or maintain interpersonal relationships with peers, teachers, etc.
- Always seems to be generally unhappy, angry, depressed, etc.
- Inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances.

What if my child does not qualify for Special Education?

He/she may qualify for a Section 504 plan. Section 504 states that any child who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activity, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment shall be provided a Free and Appropriate Public Education designed to meet his/her individual needs.

What can I do to help my child with ODD?

There are medications that can help with some of the symptoms. Therapies such as anger management, Social Skills Training, Individual or Family Therapy services, may also be helpful.

There are many more services available to families and children to assist them in coping with ODD.