

Spoiled Kids

You are going to hear a mother talking about bringing up children well.

The core question of the text is: “Do you answer a child’s cries when he’s supposed to go to sleep, or do you not?”

First, quickly think about what your answer to this question would be, and take a few notes:

Now, study the important vocabulary.

- to appreciate	to be happy about something
- supposed to	must
- the popular opinion	what most people think
- raise (a child)	bring up (a child)
- spoiled	to take everything for granted (<i>verwöhnt</i>)
- the opposite	exactly the other thing
- to cling to someone	to stay with someone at all times
- to trust someone	to know that someone is there for you
- to rely on someone	to know that someone is there for you
- a cardinal sin	the worst thing you can do (<i>Todsünde</i>)

Now, listen to the recording and take notes. After listening to the conversation, answer the following questions in 3-5 sentences each; you may use the vocabulary from above.

1. According to the woman, what is the “popular opinion”?
2. According to the woman, what happens if parents don’t “answer their children’s cries”?
3. Which positive effects of the woman’s ways of bringing up her sons are mentioned in the text?
4. Summarize the text; don’t forget to mention the following points:
 - the “popular opinion”
 - the woman’s own opinion on bringing up children
 - the negative effects of ignoring your children’s cries
 - the positive effects of being there for your children