

Answer Back: Children on embarrassing parents

Parents can be SO embarrassing - but usually because they're not thinking, rather than to deliberately show up their children, say reporters from Children's Express.

Jonny McKim, 13, Belfast

My Mum likes to comment on how I look, especially when I'm with my mates. In situations like this I follow my Dad's advice: I just nod, agree and move on. By doing this at least you can reduce the embarrassment factor. My Dad doesn't ever embarrass me - he knows how it feels when you get embarrassed in front of your friends.

My Dad does funny dances when we're walking through the street. We can't walk anywhere without him stopping to talk to total strangers.

Katie Burrell, 16, Sheffield

My Dad does funny dances when we're walking through the street. He also seems to know everyone and we can't walk anywhere without him stopping to talk to total strangers.

Caroline Hobbs, 16, London

I probably embarrass my parents more than they do me. I've also got to the age of being able to "advise" my parents about clothing, so I no longer have to suffer the socks-with-sandals situation in summer. If you're a boy I think it's a bit different. My brother gets annoyed when my parents call him "darling"; it's a subconscious thing for them, but the epitome of embarrassment for him.

Jodie Duke, 9, Plymouth

Once when I thought I was going to have my period, my Mum told her best friend. I was embarrassed because it should have been private. Parents shouldn't treat children like babies.

Perri Wallace, 11, Belfast

My parents don't embarrass me a lot, but they do have their moments. For instance, my Dad falls asleep all the time - even when someone is talking he dozes off. And once when my Mum was sorting through a collection of old baby photographs, she left out one of me naked in the bath for my friends to see as we walked into the room.

Rosie-Marie Rowlands, 14, Birmingham

My parents don't seem to embarrass me really, they're kind of cool in that respect. If they do, it's when they're messing about, or joking; they don't really mean it, though. Some of my friends find their parents embarrassing for the most stupid of things, such as their fashion sense - it's so shallow. Don't they realise that if their parents found out what they were saying, they would probably be upset?

David Burnham, 15, Sheffield

When we used to go into town together, my Dad always used to put on stupid older-person voices, particularly when he saw an older couple. He would say things like: "Haven't the price of sprouts gone up?" My Mum is worse. When I'm on the phone to a friend who's a girl, or even if I just mention a girl's name, she and my sister will say "Is she your girlfriend?" So embarrassing.

About *answer back*

answer back is an occasional column by Children's Express members, published in the Parents pages of [The Times](#).

Comments

Scapegoat.

My mum and step-dad always feel the need to put me down in front of their peers: it's pathetic and embarrassing. They can't deal with social situations so they use me as a scapegoat.

Jess (age 17) from Australia, 14 March 2009 11:31

cool

well, perrie, your freinds were neked to when they were babbys too, so do'nt get so upset about it.

matthew (age 11) from tupelo missippi, 08 September 2007 16:24

- [Add a comment to this page](#)
- [Show all Comments on this page](#)

Related Links

More from Headliners

[We need to know](#)

[Junior Jury: drugs](#)

[Sex lessons fail pregnancy test](#)

[Cosmetic changes](#) The cosmetics business is a multi-million pound industry. Now a Sheffield businesswoman has spotted a gap in the market. Children as young as seven can book into Pure Health & Beauty for a Little Miss Makeover. But young reporters from Children's Express aren't so sure that's a good idea.

[Children s films are just a bore](#) A Children's Express survey of 10 and 11-year-olds reveals that almost all have watched 12, 15 or 18 certificate videos, usually with their parents' help.

Built on [OneStopCMS](#)

©2009 Headliners

Registered Charity Number 1043300. Supported by the [Department for Children, Schools and Families](#)