# Ask Dr. Ryrie



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## Thursday, December 4, 1997

**Subject:** How do I handle fighting between sibling children?

**Dear Dr. Ryrie:** We have two grandsons, ages 7½ and 6, who live with us; and they fight all of the time. The oldest one always picks on the smallest one, and it ends up in a fight. I would like to know how to handle the problem. What should I do? --Lillian M.

**Dear Lillian:** Though I am no expert in parenting, I think a solution to your problem is setting some clear boundaries and rules and then disciplining when they are broken. You might consider writing these rules down and posting them where the kids can see them. You, as the grandparents, control the children, not vice versa. The discipline can take various forms, but I cannot advise about that since I do not know your family.

## Got a Question? -- Ask it

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