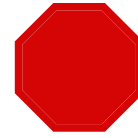


Scripts for Deflecting Unsolicited Advice

Guide



Why You Need This Guide

Let's face it: Unsolicited advice is part of the homeschool journey, especially when you're parenting a neurodivergent child. Whether it's a well-meaning relative, a nosy neighbor, or even a stranger at the grocery store, the comments can feel relentless:

- ***"Why aren't they in school?"***
- ***"Don't they need more friends?"***
- ***"Are you sure you're qualified to teach them?"***



These questions can leave you feeling defensive, frustrated, or even doubting your choices. But here's the truth: You don't owe anyone an explanation. This guide gives you the tools to respond with confidence, kindness, and zero guilt.



10 Ready-to-Use Scripts for Common Scenarios

These scripts are designed to shut down criticism while keeping the conversation respectful. Use them verbatim or adapt them to fit your style.

For the Question:

"Why aren't they in school?"

- "We've found that homeschooling works best for our family right now. I'd like for you to respect our decision"
- "Every child learns differently, and this is what works for us at the moment."

"But they need to socialize and make more friends!"

- "We're focusing on quality over quantity when it comes to friendships. Let me tell you about the online club they love!"
- "Socialization looks differently for every child. We're taking it at their pace."

"Your too soft on them" Judgement

- "I appreciate your concern, but we're following strategies that align with their needs."
 - "Every child is unique, and we're doing what's best for ours."
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"What about college?"

- "We're taking it one step at a time. Right now, we're focused on their emotional and academic growth"
- "Homeschooling actually offers a lot of flexibility for college prep. We've got a plan!"

"But your not a teacher!"

- "I may not be a certified teacher, but I know my child better than anyone else. We're learning together!"
- "There are so many resources available to homeschool parents these days. We're making it work!"

"What about Prom?"

- "We'll cross that bridge when we get there. Right now, we're focused on what's best for them academically and socially."
- "There are plenty of homeschool proms and dances if they're interested. We'll figure it out!"

"You're sheltering them" Comment

- "We're creating a safe space for them to grow and learn at their own pace."
 - "Every family has different priorities. Ours is to support their unique needs right now."
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"But what about their future?"

- "We're taking it one day at a time. Right now, we're focused on helping them thrive in the present."
- "Homeschooling actually opens up a lot of opportunities for their future. We're excited about the possibilities!"

"You're doing too much" Judgement

- "I appreciate your concern, but this is what works for us right now."
- "Every family is different. We are doing what works best for ours."

Pro Tips for Delivering Your Scripts Like a Pro

It's not just "what" you say-it's "how" you say it. These tips will help you deliver your answers with confidence and grace.

1. Smile and Maintain Eye Contact

A warm smile and steady eye contact can disarm even the most persistent critic. It signals confidence and kindness, even if you're feeling defensive inside.

2. Use a Calm, Even Tone

Avoid sounding defensive or confrontational. Practice your answers in front of a mirror until they feel natural.

3. Pivot the Conversation

After delivering your answers, shift the focus to the other person, For example:

- "Anyway, how's your garden doing this year?"
- "I'd love to hear about what's new with you!"

4. Know When to Walk Away

If the conversation becomes too heated or repetitive, it's ok to excuse yourself. A simple "I appreciate your concern, but I need to get going" works wonders.

Blank Templates for Custom Scripts

Not every situation fits a pre-written script. Use these templates to create your own responses:

Template 1. Acknowledging Their Concern

"I appreciate your concern, but we've decided that [X] is what works best for our family right now."

Template 2. Redirecting the Conversation

"That's an interesting point, but we're focusing on [X] at the moment. How's [Y] going for you?"

Template 3. Setting a Boundary

"I'm not comfortable discussing this right now, but I appreciate your understanding"

Bonus Mantras for Tough Days

When the criticism gets to you, repeat these mantras to stay grounded:

1. "I am the expert on my child."
2. "No is a complete sentence."
3. "Progress, not perfection."

How to Use This Guide

Save it to Your Phone:

Keep it handy for quick reference during family gatherings or outings.

Print it Out:

Stick it on your fridge or in your homeschool planner. Or create your own FAQ and give them to concerned family members or friends.

Practice:

Role-play with a friend or partner to build confidence.

Thank you for downloading this guide, I hope you find it helpful!

Remember: YOU ARE ENOUGH!

You know your child better than anyone else, and you're doing an incredible job-even on the days when it doesn't feel like it.

Don't let anyone make you feel inadequate in your ability to do what's best for your child. Being an "Unconventional Mom" means doing things differently than the average mom, and that's going above and beyond to give your child the unforgettable experience of learning at their own pace and in their own unique and special way.

Plus, you will never regret all the time spent making lifelong memories and getting the chance to watch them as they learn new and exciting things about the world around them. You have the ultimate decision in what they learn, keeping them safe from inappropriate influences they might be exposed to in traditional school settings.

So...

You're a force to be reckoned with!
You are doing the most important job in the world
and doing it EXCEPTIONALLY!

Keep going, Don't give up!

YOU'VE GOT THIS!