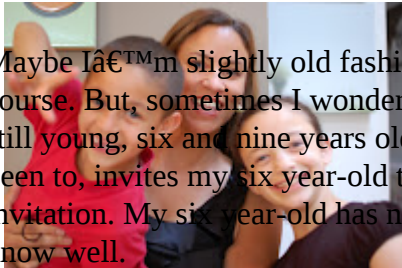


Sleepover birthday parties and 14 hour playdates

Description



Maybe Iâ€™m slightly old fashioned. Not the old fashioned parenting style of reality TV mom Kate Gosselin, of course. But, sometimes I wonder, despite the fact that I consider myself to be a liberal, modern mom. My kids are still young, six and nine years old. So when a parent at our school who I barely know, whose house Iâ€™ve never been to, invites my six year-old to a sleepover birthday party that lasts almost two entire days, I decline the invitation. My six year-old has never had a sleepover. My nine year-old has sleepovers at the homes of families I know well.

When a celebrity mom who pretends not to know who I am and routinely walks by me at school without as much as â€œhelloâ€• calls to request my daughter accompany her family to Disneyland (and spend the night there) I decline the request. Our kids arenâ€™t friends. Weâ€™ve never been to her house and sheâ€™s never been to our house. Maybe itâ€™s because we donâ€™t know each other?

When parents complain about bad behavior among kids at sleepover parties, Iâ€™m not surprised. Theyâ€™ve invited kids they barely know.

At private elementary schools, there are plenty of opportunities to drop off your kids with the nannies or babysitters of families that you donâ€™t really know. Even on the weekends. Theyâ€™ll take them on elaborate, all day outings that end late at night. I opt out of these type of invitations for my kids, no matter how generous they seem.

Sometimes I can tell a parent is annoyed that Iâ€™ve said â€œno thanksâ€• to their invitation. Thatâ€™s ok. **Iâ€™m a modern mom.**

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1. Beyond The Brochure

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