

VINCE'S ESSAY ON SOAP DISCIPLINE TECHNIQUES

Oral behavior problems like sassing, swearing and smoking are the reason why bathrooms have sinks, and why there should always be plenty of bar soap handy. Imagine you are on a search and destroy mission. You're looking for every swearword, rude remark, cigarette or other drug that's been on his lips or tongue. And you're not stopping until you've gotten that mouth squeaky clean!

Have your boy undress in front of you in the bathroom. Then make him kneel before the sink, with his legs spread apart. His chest should be touching, and his errant mouth easily accessible for your task. Fill the sink with a forceful flow of hot water, and drop in the soap.

(Avoid Ivory soap, which is wholly inadequate, having neither a strong fragrance nor rich lather. Instead, we recommend Lever 2000, particularly for novices, with its lemony flavor and thick suds. More hardened delinquents may require Irish Spring and/or Coast, which are the nastiest tasting, and burn the most.) Proceed deliberately and slowly, always in control.

Reach into the water for the soap and roll it in the folds of a thick wet washcloth. Remember to take your time, as the anticipation will do your boy a world of good.

Make him watch from a very close distance as you work the soap and washcloth into masses of suds.

Raise the washcloth piled with lather to his face so that he may inhale the fragrant clean scent. Hold the cake of soap in the washcloth and trace it around his lips slowly, then squeeze his nose. And watch as he trembles with anticipation.

Introduce the soapsuds with enticing controlled deliberateness.

Soon the rich lather will be flooding his mouth, but not until you know he is ready. The more you delay the dreaded moment when the soap penetrates his lips, the more he will want to get to that point. When you are ready, part his lips, and press the washcloth inside with a full load of lather. It won't take too much effort to feel his jaw slacken.

Once you have your washcloth inside his mouth, move it at varying tempos through the entire space. Refresh the washcloth from time to time in the sink, keeping it hot, wet and foamy. Rather than attempting to do the entire job at once, pause between applications, allow him to catch his breath. The longer you can keep him from holding his breath and

panicking, the longer you can continue his discipline. Assure him there is more to come. Hold him securely. Apply more suds to the outside of his face, keeping his nostrils thoroughly inundated with it, between the invasive scrubbings of his mouth.

Don't worry about him accidentally swallowing some soapsuds; a gulp or two won't hurt him. But be considerate of his feelings! That burning in his throat greatly enhances his suffering, and it's also going to prolong the aftereffects of the soaping.

Encourage him to repeat an apology or pledge of obedience. Get him to feel the sensation of lather filling his mouth as he attempts to speak. Make sure he is very responsive, speaking up clearly and enthusiastically.

A less-than-perfect pledge, or hesitation during reciting that pledge, ought to mean that he has to be rinsed out completely, and start a new application of soap. He may need to learn just how unpleasant this is, before he can perform for you in the way you would prefer. This is a situation which may call for you to use the bar of soap directly to paint his tongue, piercing his parted lips with a firm in and out method. Inevitably, his attitude will begin to show a noticeable improvement at this point, if it hasn't already!

Let him know he can expect to be tasting the soap for 2 or 3 days, and don't be surprised if the boy is clearing his throat a lot afterwards. It is unlikely that he will require any other corrective measures during his lesson.

But just in case, keep your paddle or strap handy!