

Assertive, Yes - Aggressive, No

Every child needs to be taught the skill of being assertive, but no child should be allowed to be aggressive.

An assertive individual is one who *refuses to be pushed by others*. No amount of peer pressure, manipulation, or guilt-making will push them into doing something they regard as harmful or unhealthy.

An aggressive individual is one who *attempts to push others*. Whether by anger, manipulation, or physical coercion, the aggressive child will in some way try to force others into doing something he or she desires.

Assertiveness is a vital ingredient to healthy relationships, while aggression is a horrific virus that destroys relationships.

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817.332.6348