

Correct With Dignity

Choose a response that teaches without enlarging the conflict.

Correction works best when it is clear, proportionate, and connected to the behavior. A small, timely response can preserve dignity while giving someone a way to practice a more successful action.

FOUR MOVES TO TRY

01 Check readiness

If the person is overwhelmed, address regulation and safety first.

02 Name the behavior

Be specific without attaching a negative identity label.

03 Choose a proportionate step

Avoid turning a small mistake into a prolonged confrontation.

04 Practice a repair

Offer a redo or another concrete way to make things right.

TWO WAYS TO APPLY IT

YOUNGER CHILD

A child grabs a toy. Stop the grabbing, then practice asking or taking turns.

TEENAGER

A teen speaks harshly. Keep the limit and invite a respectful restatement when ready.

COACH THE CAREGIVER

Help the caregiver choose one response that teaches the expected behavior and fits the situation.

TRY IT THIS WEEK

Review one recent correction. What was the least intense response that could still teach the needed skill?

REFLECTION

Am I responding to the behavior, or making a judgment about the person?

SAFETY AND PRACTICE

A proportionate response can still require immediate protection and clear consequences when safety demands them.

AUTHORSHIP AND CONTEXT

Dr. Charles Pemberton, Ed.D., developed the original Clinical Perspectives materials for the FITT team while serving as Clinical Program Director at Omni Family of Services. This website adaptation is for general education; it does not state current Omni or FITT policy. Publication rights review is pending.