



What Advocacy IS NOT

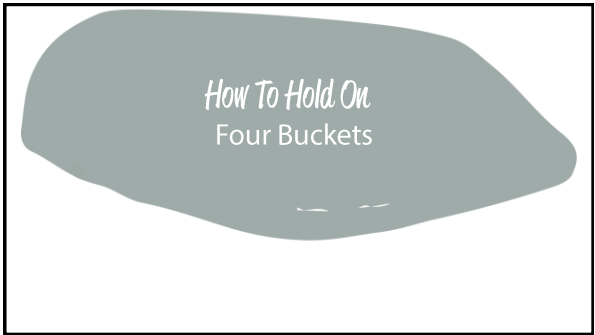
- Neediness
- Weakness
- Selfishness
- Aggressive

What Advocacy IS


- Assertively meeting needs
- A display of your values
- A way to serve longer and better
- Modeled by Jesus

Check Engine Lights

- Behavior and/or mental health concerns in the adopted/foster youth
- Harm or potential harm to other children in the home
- Anxiety/depression in the caregivers
- Loss of empathy/compassion fatigue
- Excessive marriage or other relationship problems
- Spiritual problems




The First Bucket: Relationships




- Your Marriage
- Other Adoptive/Foster Parents
- Your Church
- Your Other Children

The Second Bucket: Counseling




- Expectations vs. Reality
- Types of Therapists
- Individual vs. Family vs. Group
- Therapy vs. Psychoeducation
- The Value of Values
- When to Switch Counselors

The Third Bucket: Professional/Legal



- Foster Care Workers: Advocacy in Partnership
- Post Adoption Support
- Law Enforcement: When and How
- Courts/Lawyers: Accessing Services

The Fourth Bucket: Self-care



Self-Care Is The Application Of Appropriate Boundaries

- Physical
- Emotional
- Relational
- Spiritual

How To Let Go

Some Gentle Reminders


This Is God's Child

*You Are Not
Your Child's Savior*

Enabling Vs. Advocating

*Some Of Us
Care Too Much*

*Beware Of The
"Red-headed Stepchild"
Syndrome*

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What keeps you from advocating for your needs or the needs of your child?2. Of the "Four Buckets" mentioned, which do you use most and why? Which bucket do you wish you would use more?	<p><i>Discussion</i></p> 
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