

Expert has tips

How to cope with problem learners

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important to work with the school."

Ms. Sharp stressed that many professional, highly acclaimed individuals had learning disabilities. Among them were Gen. George Patton, Albert Einstein and Thomas Edison.

According to a study sponsored by the Boys Town Center for the Study of Youth Development and the Association for Children with Learning Disabilities, Adolescent Affairs Committee, learning disabled adolescents report about the same level of delinquent behavior as other teenagers. But the disabled are nearly twice as likely to be judged as delinquent.

Teenagers who display persistent symptoms of learning disabilities need medical and educational evaluation, Ms. Sharp said. But not every learning disabled youth display all symptoms.

Ms. Sharp distributes information from Michigan Association for Children with Learning Disabilities Inc. in home management suggestions for the learning disabled child.

THEY INCLUDE the following:

- Be firm.
- Don't flood the child with petty time-consuming decisions.
- Whenever possible, consider his opinion in some larger matters.

- Do not haggle or negotiate or wheedle about small things.
- Give the child chores.
- Be prepared to accept the absent-mindedness of most limited children.
- Be alert to the limited youngster's absent mindedness in regard to care of tools and other implements.
- Short lists are excellent to help a child remember.
- Many limited youngsters seem to never hear or to ignore parent's directions or commands. Get the child's attention, speak clearly and slowly and ask the child to repeat what was said.
- Don't permit the child to be unduly

loud and noisy in public.

- Routines are helpful for all children and are needed by the limited.

In most instances, parents shouldn't try to tutor their own child. But correct him if he insists on interrupting.

Mira Bakke, parenting and child development counselor, will speak tonight from 7:30 to 9:30 on "What Makes Johnny Love?" in the last workshop at Stevenson Elementary School, 2777 Lahser, south of 12 Mile in Southfield. For more information, call Parent-Youth Guidance at 354-4864.

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