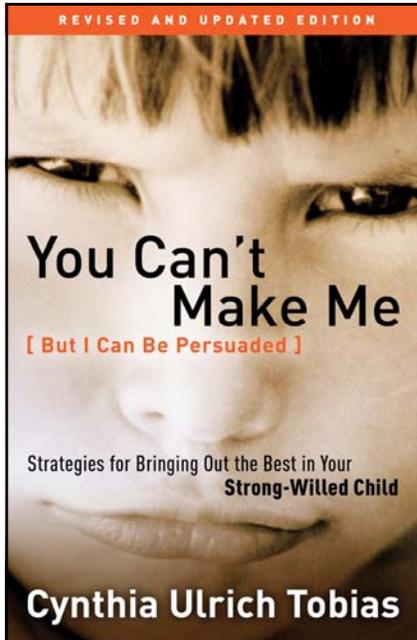


**A book for everyone who wants to  
turn conflict into cooperation**



Packed with immediately useful strategies that can drastically reduce the level of tension in the home or in the classroom!

Featuring:

**The Strong-Willed Child Emergency Kit**  
*Fast help for a melt down*

**Top Ten Tips for Bringing Out the Best**  
*Quick, practical ways to understand and communicate with a strong-willed child of any age*

**This is an invaluable resource for everyone who loves, lives with or works with a strong-willed child of any age!**

Find more important resources at

**CynthiaTobias.com**

**Cynthia's other books include:**

*The Way We Work*

*The Way They Learn*

*Every Child Can Succeed*

*Middle School: The Inside Story*

*A Woman of Strength and Purpose*

*I Hate School! (How to Help Your Child Love Learning)*

# You Can't Make Me! (But I Can Be Persuaded)



**Cynthia Ulrich Tobias**  
M.Ed., D.H.L.



It is clear to us, friends, that God not only loves you very much but also has put his hand on you for something special. When the Message we preached came to you, it wasn't just words. Something happened in you. The Holy Spirit put steel in your convictions.

—I Thessalonians. 1:4-5 (*The Message*)

Apple St.  
(Applied Learning Styles)



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**CynthiaTobias.com**

## Points to Remember

**We don't have trouble with authority—we have trouble with how you *communicate* your authority.**

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**We don't need to control you—we just can't let you take all control away from us.**

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**The quality of the relationship you have determines the effectiveness of your communication strategies.**

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You do not let your child off the hook if you modify your requests. The strength of your convictions as the parent helps your child feel secure. Your enforcement of the rules prevents your children from becoming spoiled brats. But how you choose to communicate your message makes all the difference in the world.

—Cynthia Tobias, *You Can't Make Me! (But I Can Be Persuaded)*

# 5

## Five To Survive

*Key Strategies for Bringing Out the Best in the Strong-Willed Child*

- \*Choose your battles—don't make everything non-negotiable.
- \*Lighten up—but don't let up.
- \*Ask more questions—issue fewer orders.
- \*Hand out more tickets—and give fewer warnings. (more action; less anger)
- \*Make sure your SWC always knows your love is unconditional.

### Questions That Can Build Relationships



- Do you want help with that?
- Are annoying me on purpose?
- Do you know why I want you to do that?

-Is that what you meant to do?

-Is that what you wanted?



### Questions That Can Destroy Relationships

-Why did you do that?

-When are you going to learn?



- What were you thinking?
- Why can't you just do what you're told?
- What's the matter with you?