

I Am Not Your Pal

Dear Girls,

As long as you live in this house, you will follow the rules. When you have your own house, you can make you own rules. In this house we do not have a democracy. I did not campaign to be your father. You did not vote for me. We are father and daughters by the grace of God, and I accept that privilege and awesome responsibility. In accepting it, I have an obligation to perform the role of a father. I am not your pal. Our ages are too different. We can share many things, but we are not pals. I am your father. This is 100 times more important than being a pal. I hope someday to be your close friend, but right now I am happy to be your dad. You will do, in this house, as I say. I welcome your opinions and will always give them consideration in making decisions. I will occasionally change my mind when you approach me in kindness and in humility and with a well reasoned argument. But, ultimately, you will do what I say because whatever I ask of you is motivated by love. This will be hard for you to understand until you have children of your own. Until then, trust me. Your biggest fan, Dad

