



CARROT: PARENTS

## Common Mistakes Parents Make

Parents, you play a key role in your child's college search, but keep in mind that this is your child's college search. It is very important that you take a cheerleader role in this process and let your kid take the driver's seat. Even if your kids beg you to take the lead for them you have to back off. Sometimes your actions can cause more harm than good.

### Preparing for College

- Painting the student's room in the colors of the parents alma mater
- Dashing their dreams
- Not planning financially

### Planning for College

- Nonstop, constant college talk
- Creating unnecessary pressure
- Not identifying their parameters around the college search
- Comparing their child with other students
- Planning the college visits without input from student
- Taking over the research

### Applying to College

- Doublespeak: You can apply anywhere, but you're going to this college.
- Not being a team player
- Leading the interview
- Not dealing with procrastination
- Writing the student's essay or personal statement
- Calling colleges for student
- Completing the applications and submitting them

### Deciding on College

- Obsessing on what they think is a "good" college
- Using ranking lists as way to select colleges
- Obsessing over their alma mater