

# **babysitters /1/ the turning point**

We have reached a wonderful \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives as parents. Now that George is 15, he is old enough to take care of his three **younger brothers** when we go out. \_\_\_\_\_ we don't have to bother with and pay too much money for baby-sitters.

I would have been perfectly happy to \_\_\_\_\_ the boys in George's care even a **couple of years ago**. At 13, he was much more \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ with a crisis than any of the Czech or Polish girls whom we \_\_\_\_\_ to hire for the evening to watch TV.

The only thing that persuaded me to pay **£15 or £20** for a baby-sitter was the thought of the \_\_\_\_\_ the next day if something dreadful happened while we were out: "Evil parents leave children alone with mad killer".

I am sure that the boys would have dealt \_\_\_\_\_ better with the **mad killer** on their own, without also \_\_\_\_\_ to cope with a hysterical girl who did not even know the English for "Help!" But it would have looked bad if we had left them to \_\_\_\_\_ themselves.

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**at last » competent » deal » defend »  
having » headlines » leave » much » point**