



Mums, you aren't imagining it - your teenagers really aren't listening to you!

A new study out of Stanford University confirms what mothers have suspected for generations - teens don't listen to their mums.

Researchers say it's nothing you've done and teens aren't doing it intentionally - it's just part of growing up.

Researchers scanned children's brains and found explosive reactions to a mother's voice - in children 12 and under.

But, at age 13, things change.

The same scans show that mum's voice no longer causes the same neurological reaction.

Sciencealert.com reports that the changes are so apparent that researchers were able to guess a child's age simply by how their brain responded to hearing their mother's voice.

Researchers suspect this is just the teenage brain developing social skills.

While infants instinctively tune into their mum's voice - teens are increasingly interested in new voices.

"When teens appear to be rebelling by not listening to their parents, it is because they are wired to pay more attention to voices outside their home," says neuroscientist Vinod Menon.

Happy Mother's Day.....

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Among younger children, researchers found those with autism do not show as strong a response to their mother's voice.

The findings of the current study are the first to suggest that as we get older, our hearing is focused less on our mother and more on the voices of a whole variety of people.

The idea is supported by other behavioural and neural studies, which also suggest reward centres in the adolescent brain are marked by heightened sensitivity to novelty in general.

"A child becomes independent at some point, and that has to be precipitated by an underlying biological signal."

These changes could be parts of healthy social development, allowing teenagers to understand the perspective and intentions of others.



It Won't Help