



Parents told to kick out adult kids

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PARENTS should declare "Independence Day" and turn their children out of the nest by the time they hit 20.

Life skills coach Michele Jones thinks a failure to "set a date for kids to vacate the premises" can lead to major problems down the track.

Ms Jones said a growing number of parents were seeking professional help to persuade their adult children to leave home.

She said children should live independently by age 20.

"Parents convince themselves the child staying at home longer will help them save for the purchase of their own home, some even going as far as building a granny flat to accommodate their child, keeping them safe and tending to their every need," Ms Jones said.

"In reality, parents are simply sending the message to their child that they are not resourceful or capable to live out in the world on their own, and they won't be successful enough to afford a house without their help."

Nearly 25 per cent of people aged 20 to 34 continue to live in the parental home, though in Sydney and Melbourne this figure is 27 per cent.

"A recent Household, Income and Labour Dynamics survey of 17,000 found those who left home after the age of 25 earned \$6000 less than those who fled the nest earlier," Ms Jones said.