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Wathena Man Shames Son with Roadside Sign

(AP) - A Wathena man who made his 9-year-old son stand by a highway with a sign admitting he lied about stealing says he had to take a hard line.

The St. Joseph News-Press reports that the boy's two-hour stint drew strong reactions from people driving along U.S. 36 in Wathena on Friday morning.

Some honked or pulled over to shake the father's hand. Others called it child abuse, and one man pulled the sign from the boy's hand before the father retrieved it.

The sign read, "I like to steal and lie about it!"

The father, Richard Fulton, says he devised the punishment after the boy lied about stealing video games and a console from a neighbor's home. He called his son "a wonderful kid" but says he needed to learn a lesson.

**Associated Press**