MARSHALL ISLANDS BEHAVIOR

	Traditional	Contemporary
What kinds of discipline are used for different behaviors?	 Children were scolded and given special tasks for bad behavior Children were given more responsibilities to force adult behavior Fathers spanked children so hard that sometimes medical treatment was needed 	 Parents and older siblings scold children for misbehavior Rewards are given as incentives for good behavior The same reward may not be acceptable for/effective to all Spanking is not always effective
What are acceptable and unacceptable behaviors for males and females?	 Unacceptable to stand among those seated Younger males and females looked up to the eldest without question Males respected and took care of family members Eldest male made decisions in parents' absence Females never joked with brothers and uncles, walked close to males, wore shorts or pants, or dated before brothers 	 Unacceptable to stand among those seated Some families allow daughters to joke in front of males Females date before their brothers and may wear shorts or pants Females do not raise their voices
Who has the responsibility of disciplining children?	 Mothers and grandmothers were responsible for care of children Fathers, grandfathers, and uncles were responsible for disciplining children 	 Same as traditional, though parents have more responsibility Churches and schools play roles
How is children's	Adult used scolding	Parents receive better
behavior controlled and	first, then corporal	education so are more

misconduct eliminated?	punishment (spanking and hard/heavy work around homes)	open to children, listen and talk to children to help solve problems, and use scolding as their primary form of discipline • Spanking is not effective with many children • Some parents and children are friends
What role does language or dialect play in social control?	 Brothers and uncles listened to females Everyone listened to leaders and royals Children must be silent Strong jokes were not allowed in public or at social gatherings 	 Appropriate language must be used during social gatherings Friends, young people, and older people tell jokes among themselves at social occasions
What are the stories/proverbs associated with behavior control?	 Edik ak ekemetak: Small but mighty Jeblab dejlok applies to stingy people who do not want to share but like to take from others Jede ak eo: We always have to be on the lookout (never let your guard down; usually applies to sailing) 	Same as traditional