

Great Articles and Information on Media & Entertainment

Family Life Web Site: Articles / Videos:

<http://www.familylife.com/articles/topics/life-issues/challenges/media-and-entertainment/are-you-believing-lies-about-media>

<http://www.familylife.com/articles/topics/life-issues/challenges/media-and-entertainment/media-entertainment-and-your-family>

http://www.familylife.com/video/topics/life-issues/challenges/media-and-entertainment/wise-media-choices#.VEA9y_IdV8E

http://www.familylife.com/video/topics/life-issues/challenges/media-and-entertainment/addicted-to-electronics#.VEA-u_IdV8E

Family Life Prior Guests and their Books and / or Online resources:

Vicki Courtney:

<http://vickicourtney.com/shop/>

Logged On and Tuned Out

Teen Virtue & Between Bookzines

Book: *5 Conversations You Must Have With Your Sons*

Book: *5 Conversations You Must Have With Your Daughters*

Rebecca Hagelin:

<http://www.howtosaveyourfamily.com/>

Book: *Home Invasion*

Book: *30 Ways in 30 Days to Save Your Family*

Donna Rice Hughes:

<http://www.enough.org/>

Resources for Parents, Guardians, and Educators <http://www.enough.org/inside.php?id=7GUM77WS6#3>

Parents Of Teens:

<http://www.parentsofteens.org/hot-topics/media/>

<http://www.parentsofteens.org/hot-topics/social-media/>

Thoughts Concerning the Cell Phone and Texting:

Cellphone - Convictions to Consider as a Parent:

* Recognize that for your teen to have a phone is a Privilege

- Determine at what age your teen may earn the privilege of a cell phone.
- Type an Agreement / Contract regarding use of the cell phone. Allow your teen to make suggestions and help write it and then sign it together.
- Text Messaging – Determine Age to allow Texting on their phone
- Set Household Rules (i.e. phones off during meals together, phone etiquette when around other people, etc.)
- Set Boundaries and Limits as well as Discuss Parent’s rights/expectations
- Discuss Sexting, what it is, and how to guard against spreading messages from friends that have sexual content.

Top 50 Internet Acronyms Parents Need to Know:

FYI: Many are sexual and/or graphic

<http://www.netlingo.com/top50/acronyms-for-parents.php>

1. 8 - oral sex
2. 182 - I hate you
3. 459 - I love you
4. 420 - marijuana

Resources for understanding text speak-

<http://www.netlingo.com/top50/index.php>

Concerning Movies, Music, etc.

www.screenit.com (not a Christian website but a good one – fee ~\$45/yr.)

<http://www.christiananswers.net/spotlight/> reviews of Movies / DVD’s/ games: written by individuals professing to be Christian. Good selection and ability to search by “morality” or “therapy” (i.e. Integrity, aging, etc.).

<http://www.movieguide.org/> (Ted Baehr has been guest on Family Life)

www.pluggedinonline.com (from *Focus on the Family*...Dr. James Dobson)

<http://www.dove.org/default1.asp>

www.google.com (Google the Artist or song name + the word lyrics)

DVR / TIVO - for television programs (great resource to avoid commercials and to see what you kids are recording and therefore watching)

Concerning Video Games:

http://www.esrb.org/ratings/ratings_guide.jsp (to understand the ratings)

<http://www.christiananswers.net/spotlight/> (see note above)

<http://guide2games.org/> **Christian Spotlight's Guide to Games** exists to assist gamers and parents in making wise decisions in their choice of electronic games.

What resources are available regarding Internet safety?

Filtering & Monitoring Software <http://www.internetsafety101.org/filteringandmonitoring.htm>

Look for software that takes a screen shot every 30 seconds

Parental Controls:

For those with **Cox**: (they have some great controls available) www.cox.com/takecharge/internet_controls.asp

Most Providers have some sort of Parental Controls available

iBoss combines the best in Internet Parental Controls with a powerful built-in Wireless Firewall Router to bring you the ultimate in home network protection for your family. The iBoss allows you to share your Internet connection safely at home with all of your wired and wireless computers while providing powerful Internet filtering technology that puts you in control of your Children's activities on the Internet. http://www.familysafemedia.com/iboss_internet_parental_contro.html

Browser History: Learn how to check internet use through the "history" on the computer. It is normally automatically stored (if kids are deleting the history it may be a red flag to let you know that you need to monitor sites accessed)

Family contracts: (that can be printed up and signed by you and your teen) <http://www.cox.com/myconnection/learn/safe-and-sound.cox>

<http://www.internetsafety101.org/upload/file/Rules%20'N%20Tools%20Youth%20Pledge.pdf>

Rules & Tools: <http://www.internetsafety101.org/upload/file/Rules%20'N%20Tools%20Checklist.pdf>

Websites with valuable information: (may or may not be “Christian” Organizations - but provide good information)

- enough.org/
- <http://www.protectkids.com/tools/index.html>
- <http://www.protectkids.com/parentsafety/socialnetworking.htm>
- <http://www.microsoft.com/security/family-safety/childsafety-steps.aspx>
- [facebook.com/help/?safety=teens](https://www.facebook.com/help/?safety=teens)
- internetsafety101.org
- WiredSafety.org
- Commonsense.com
- <http://notmykid.org/internet-safety/>
- <http://www.connectsafely.org/safety-tips-advice/>
- NetSmartz.org

You Tube: Abuse & Safety

<http://help.youtube.com/support/youtube/bin/answer.py?page=&answer=126262&master=teensafety>

Parent Resources:

https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802272?hl=en&ref_topic=2803240

Start a discussion with your child

<http://www.netsmartz.org/InternetSafety>

What are your favorite things to do online?

What is personal information? Why should you keep it private?

What could you do to be safer online?

What would you do if anyone online asked to meet you face-to-face?

Besides me, who do you feel that you can talk to if you are in a scary or uncomfortable situation?

Discussion Points with Teens:

Think before you post...

- Is what you are filming or posting something you'd want your boss, future employer, parents or future in-laws to see?
- Could your video put you in a potentially dangerous situation?
- When posting videos of yourself or a friend, think about the potential consequences.
- Once a video is online, you never know who might see it. If it is copied or reposted, you might not be able to remove every copy and it could take on a life of its own.

Filtering and Monitoring Software

Enough Is EnoughSM recommends using both filtering and monitoring tools together to provide an effective layer of protection.

Filtering Tools: Allow parents to establish a strong defensive mechanism to prevent children from accidentally encountering or intentionally accessing inappropriate sites and content, such as pornography, vulgar language, and hate sites.

Monitoring Tools: Allow parents to collect "intelligence" and check up on their child's online activities by tracking a child's website visits, emails, instant messaging, and other Internet behavior.

For an independent review of top parental controls, check out:

GetParentalControls.org
The Independent Guide to Online Safety Technology

[Activity Logger](#)

[Bsecure](#)

[Content Watch](#)

[Cyber Sentinel](#)

[FamiLink](#)

[IMSafer](#)

[KidsNet](#)

[McGruff SafeGuard](#)

[American Family Filter by BSecure](#)

[Christian Net](#)

[Covenant Eyes](#)

[CYBERSitter](#)

[Family Cyber Alert](#)

[iShield](#)

[McAfee Internet Security Suite](#)

[Microsoft Windows Parental Controls](#)

[Clean Internet.com](#)

[CyberPatrol](#)

[eBlaster](#)

[IamBigBrother](#)

[K9 Web Protection](#)

<u>MouseMail</u>	<u>NetIntelligence</u>	<u>Netsweeper</u>
<u>Net Nanny</u>	<u>Norton Internet Security</u>	<u>Optenet PC</u>
<u>Parental Control Bar</u>	<u>PC Tattletale</u>	<u>Razzul</u>
<u>Safeeyes</u>	<u>ScreenRetriever</u>	<u>SnoopStick</u>
<u>Spector Pro</u>	<u>Surf On the Safe Side</u>	<u>Webroot Child Safe</u>
<u>WebWatcherKids</u>		

Parental Control Websites

Parental controls are any tools or methods parents might use to restrict, tailor, or manage the media content their children consume. A comprehensive suite of parental controls should include customizable filters, monitoring software, time-managing controls, and IM and chat controls. These tools should be utilized on all Internet-enabled devices (desktops, laptops and gaming, mobile and music devices).

The following Internet Service Providers and sites offer parental control features:

<u>AOL</u>	<u>AT&T</u>	<u>Cablevision</u>	<u>Comcast</u>
<u>Cox</u>	<u>earthLink</u>	<u>Mousemail</u>	<u>Netzero</u>
<u>Sprint</u>	<u>Time Warner</u>	<u>Verizon</u>	

Source: <http://www.internetsafety101.org/filteringandmonitoring.htm>