

PARENTING GAZETTE

Parenting Just Got Easier



Top Fears for Children and Teens

April 2009

A recent study of more than 1,000 children and teens in grades 2 through 12 by researchers at the University of Alabama found that youth form fears based on what is reported in the news. For children of all ages, terrorism, kidnapping, getting AIDS, being threatened by a gun, and not being able to breathe were consistently reported fears. Youth, ages 11 to 18 years, also reported fears of being raped.

The need for parents to limit TV viewing of news reports and other programming, particularly the viewing of preteen children, is recommended.

Journal of Counseling and Development

Video Games Can Be Addictive for Children and Teens

The first national research on video games addiction found that, of those children and teens studied, 9% showed signs of addiction. This study conducted by Iowa State University also found that boys were 4 times more likely to become addicted than girls. Signs of addiction included becoming irritable and restless when video game use was restricted; lying about the amount of time spent playing; and skipping homework. Children and teens that were addicted were far more likely to do poorly in school, to be hyperactive, and to have problems concentrating.

Parental limits on the use of video games are suggested.

Journal of Psychological Science

NFL Ads Feature Sex, Drugs, and Alcohol

Common Sense Media, an organization that monitors the media, viewed over 5,000 commercials aired during 50 NFL games. They found that 40 percent of the games showed ads with some sexual content, 300 ads promoted alcohol use, and 500 ads included some level of violence.

The need for parents to monitor their children's viewing of advertisements during football games is recommended.

Join Together

Brain Research Confirms that Young Children Need Praise

Brain research using MRIs discovered that the brains of the 8 and 9 year olds studied became active when the children were praised for their performance on tasks and that their brains were not activated by negative comments. The conclusion was that young children need a great deal of positive feedback to learn.

Parents – Praise Often!!

Science Daily

The Chippewa Valley Coalition for Youth and Families joins parents, school and community in promoting safe, healthy and drug-free youth and supporting families. For more information, please call 586/723-2360.