

PARENTING GAZETTE

Parenting Just Got Easier

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Video Game Violence and Hostile Behavior

A US study shows that children and teens that play video games with violent content are more likely to be physically aggressive - to fight in school and/or be identified by teachers and peers as aggressive, even months after game playing. This finding was supported by two Japanese studies.

American Journal of Pediatrics

Videos for Babies – Do They Create Infant Learning?

A study by researchers at the University of Washington found that infants (between 8 and 16 months) who regularly watched videos for babies, e.g. Baby Einstein, Baby Shakespeare, Baby Galileo, etc., did not show improved development and knew many less words. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children in that age group do not watch TV.

Journal of Pediatrics

Teen Pregnancy and Sex on TV

Recent research conducted by the Rand Corporation suggests that teen pregnancy is more likely to occur among teens that watch a lot of TV with sexual behavior and language, e.g. Sex and the City, Friends, etc., than those who view programs that are not sexual in content. The study speculates that such programs glamorize sexual behavior and do not highlight risk factors.

Pediatrics

Teen Drivers – “It Can’t Happen to Me!”

A recently published study indicates that teens have unrealistic attitudes about their driving abilities, underestimate the potential dangers of using cell phones and text messaging while driving, and believe they will survive crashes through medical care.

Journal of the American College of Surgeons

Guess What, Parents! Your Teens Want to Connect with You!

At a recent youth forum that included Chippewa Valley and Dakota High School students, the consistent theme of youth was that they want parents to be involved in their lives, to act as positive role models, to listen to them, and to be “parents – not friends”.

Chippewa Valley Coalition for Youth and Families