



KEEPING PORNOGRAPHY OUT OF THE HOUSE

The Internet

Rule # 1

Have your computer in a pass through room – someplace where at any moment you can walk up behind your child and see what they're looking at.

That means:

No computer in the downstairs / upstairs family room

No computer in the bedroom

No computer in any room with a door that can be closed!

Rule #2

Have some kind of filter or tracking device on your computer. We recommend BSecure for blocking and an accountability program called Covenant Eyes.

One is good. Both are better.

If your teen has a laptop, you want it on this kind of a plan.

(Husbands – your wife can receive an automatic update of every web site you've been to in the last week, or vice versa. Instant accountability)

If your staff and pastors here aren't on something like this they need to be. I would also recommend having it at your office or place of business.

Television

Rule #1

Same as for the Internet. Keep all your TVs in pass through rooms.

Rule #2

Block undesirable channels. Depending on which cable or satellite system you have the process may be different -- but all systems can be parentally controlled. If yours can't be -- get rid of it.

Rule#3

Watch less television. TV is all about advertising and sex is used to sell EVERYTHING. The content is just so you'll stay until the next commercial. If you must watch, choose wisely.

Rule #4

What TV you do watch, watch together -- as a family. That way if something objectionable comes up you are there to comment upon it and talk about it with your kids.

Rule #5

Don't use the TV as a babysitter. Do not trust the Disney channel. Walt is no longer in charge.

Rule #6

Mute commercials.

Magazines

You can't trust them. Take a good look at the magazine rack at any supermarket and you'll see what I mean.

Even if you can trust the cover, you can't trust the advertisers. Especially for those of you with teen boys you can't trust the Sports magazines or computer game magazines.

For those of you with teen girls you can't trust the fashion magazines.

Mailbox

Be aware of the catalogues that are coming in to your home. The Victoria's Secret and Abercrombie & Fitch Catalogues are soft core porn and there are many others just as bad.

Devices

Do not buy your teenager a video – ipod. An ipod is a great investment for your teen music fan but pornographers are targeting video –ipods. This just gives your teen a way to be portable with stuff where you can't keep an eye on it.

Use the most rudimentary cell phone available.

Talking About it with Your Teens

Pornography is not about sex. It is about capitalism.

Advertisers are trying to manipulate teen's natural urges to get them to behave in ways detrimental to their own well being.

Help your teenager to see how the advertisers are trying to manipulate them and they may just resent it.

With younger kids

Just because you keep it out of your home doesn't mean they aren't going to see it somewhere else – which means you have to talk with them

Think of it this way. You wouldn't let your kids play in the yard without teaching them to look both ways and hold hands before they cross the street. If you don't prepare them they are going to be blindsided.

See: Talking to Your Kids about Sex by Dr. Mark Laaser