

Violence ★

The media teaches kids that violence is acceptable. In video games, the way to beat an opponent is to punch, kick or knock him out. In some video games, you might even kill your opponent. In movies, the good guy wins when he violently defeats his enemy.

Stereotypes ★

Unfortunately, most of the media you are exposed to do not show people in a realistic way. Characters on TV are often shown with unrealistic "perfect" bodies. Women are shown as too thin and men are shown with larger-than-life muscles. Photographs in magazines or billboards are edited on the computer to erase flaws and imperfections. Even if you know that what you see is not normal or not real, it can still impact you.



Gone are the days of children coming home from school, eating homemade chocolate chip cookies and then going outside to play with their friends until it's time to do homework. Today, older children are often home alone after school. As a result, they sometimes are tempted to spend their time being entertained with video games, watching television, downloading music and chatting on the Internet instead of doing their homework and more active leisure activities. These temptations are all competing for children's time at the expense of their education, health and well being. They've opened doors to knowledge, but the Internet can be a dangerous place for kids. If at all possible, have your home computer in a public space in your home. Children will be less likely to venture into dangerous online territory if they know you can look over their shoulder at any time.

Media Influence on Teenagers



Phone #:713-897-3582

Cyber Bullies ★

Technology has given bullies a new weapon in their arsenal, and unsuspecting teens receive electronic harassment, a silent persecution sent by e-mail, text messaging, cell phones and Web pages. According to experts, however, cyber bullying is harmful – whether or not it leads to actual physical confrontations. "Unlike traditional bullying where teens can come home and be safe, cyber bullying occurs 24/7." "Individuals who would never bully anyone face to face now are bullying using technology," he says. "It is an easy way to bully: no confrontation, very little chance of being caught and you don't have to see anyone's face."



Positive Media Effects on Teenagers ★

In addition to this, media has also resulted in enhanced overall knowledge and understanding of curriculum subjects owing to the vast information resources that the media has to offer. If managed properly, media can be effectively used to generate awareness amongst teenagers about issues like sex, sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy, drugs, alcohol and smoking.

Negative Media Effects on Teenagers ★

There are several negative media effects on teenagers as well. Media is responsible for creating ideals about body image, owing to which several teenagers (especially girls) suffer from inferiority complex and resort to unhealthy practices to lose weight and get skinny. The amount of celebrity hype created by the media causes many children to make irrational demands for designer clothing, accessories and other perks of the celebrity life that they are exposed to.



School ★

According to Common Sense Media, kids who watch a lot of TV have smaller vocabularies and lower test scores in school. Also these kids do not read as well as kids who watch less TV and usually are tired in school.

