

Pro“TECH”ting Purity

Mike McHugh: mikeandannietalk@gmail.com

In the digital world where many of us are just off the boat, our teens are 2nd and 3rd generation citizens. Protecting them against all forms of impurity is impossible but limiting how much your teen sees and guarding them from impure influences is possible. Below are some tried and true, simple steps, to protecting your teen without putting them on a desert island.

Stay up to date or do a little research using the following sites! When in doubt, Google it.

- www.common sense media.org
- www.fai hands safety.org
- www.cnet.com
- www.fight the new drug.com
- www.chastity project.com

For Computers:

Enable SafeSearch in Browsers:



- Google, Bing and Yahoo images often yield results of adult content due to the open source search engines that they are. Therefore, limiting or restricting these can be a simple and effective way to *reduce* the potential of adult content.
- All three of these popular browsers have a SafeSearch option which lowers adult content and filters out certain keywords. Using a Gmail, Yahoo or Bing account, you can restrict the filters on searches to be strict, moderate or light to help filter out adult content from innocent searches. Does not restrict everything but cuts down on the amount slipping through.

Filters, Blockers and Accountability Software for computers:

- Qustodio: www.qustodio.com
 - o Time limits, mobile app options, social network monitoring, content filtering.
- X3: www.x3watch.com
 - o Has free accountability software that emails web activity to an email every two weeks, regardless of erasing internet history. Paid version has more options.
- CyberPatrol: <http://www.cyberpatrol.com/>
 - o Has keyword blocking software as well as website blocking software. This allows you to adjust certain settings and filter out keywords.
- Covenant Eyes: www.covenanteyes.com
 - o Has accountability and filtering software, with customizable settings for different kids, allowing you to check activities of individual kids more specifically.
- K9 Web Protection: www.k9webprotection.com
 - o Blocks websites, enforces SafeSearch across browsers, sets time restrictions, etc.
- iBoss Residential Filtering: http://www.iboss.com/home_integration.html
 - o Keyword blocking, whole-home filtering, different accounts for different levels of filtering.

For Mobile Devices: Smartphones, iPods, tablets

- Disable default browser such as Safari on the iPad or Android Browser
 - o Disable Safari under “Settings”, “General”, “Restrictions” and set a restrictions password. Then download a safe browsing app such as K9 Web Protection or Mobicip.
 - o On Android, you can access content filtering through the Google Play Store Menu User Controls.
- Make sure to set parental controls on downloading apps. Block mature apps (17+). Prohibits downloading additional browsers and unsafe apps.
- Consider protection and filtering on your wireless signal altogether. Products like www.opendns.com and AVG Family Safety at www.avg.com/family-safety allow you to filter and restrict content on the **signal** so that every device is protected, including computers, iPod’s, smart phones, video game systems, etc. Anything pulling the signal has restrictive settings on it.

Mobile Services to check out:

- **AVG Family Safety** - www.avg.com/family-safety
 - o For iOS and windows phones
 - o Content filtering
 - o Manages time and app use
 - o Flags keywords used in cyber-bullying and and cyber-grooming across web and social media sites.
 - o Multiple profiles for different maturities
- **Funamo**
 - o For Android
 - o App blocking
 - o Content filtering
 - o Time blocking
 - o Monitors text and picture messaging
- **My Mobile Watchdog** – www.mymobilewatchdog.com
 - o For Android and iOS, certain features only available on Android
 - o Monitors text and picture messaging
 - o Location GPS tracking
 - o App blocking
 - o Content filtering
 - o Time blocking
- **Qustodio** – www.qustodio.com
 - o For Android, iOS, Windows, Computer, Tablets, Kindle
 - o Monitors social networking
 - o Location GPS Tracking
 - o Content filtering
 - o Time blocking
 - o App blocking/management



Game Systems:

- Modern game consoles like Xbox, Xbox One, PS3, PS4, Wii, certain versions of Nintendo DS, etc, come with internet access and stock browsers.
- Restricting is specific to the console your teen owns, simply google “Parental Controls for console name” for instructions.

Apps to monitor/discuss with teen or prohibit:



SnapChat: Allows the texting of a “self-destructing” photo and message. Users send a photo and message that automatically deletes after a few seconds. Encourages risky and “impermanent” photos that in reality can be captured by a screenshot on other end. SnapChat was recently hacked and 4.6 million usernames and cell numbers were stolen.



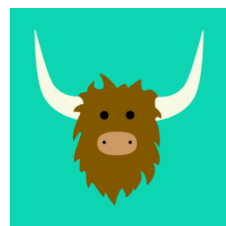
Instagram: A photo-sharing social network that has customizable filters for images taken. Heavy presence of pornography and strong social pressure to post suggestive images.



Twitter: Social network that allows sharing of pictures and statuses as well as messaging between people up to 140 characters. Heavy presence of pornography and a lack of privacy/content controls on Twitter make it dangerous for young people to use without supervision.



Tumblr: Free blog site allowing you to search for and read millions of blogs. Very heavy presence of pornography found on Tumblr.



Yak Yak: Anonymous gossip app that allows users to view anything within 1.5 mile radius. Known to cause massive problems in schools around the country with cyberbullying and slander.



Vine: App owned by Twitter which creates 6 second video loops of anything filmed with camera. Heavy presence of pornography



Kik: Private messaging app using Instagram profile names for contacts. A lot of instances of predators seeking interactions with and pictures of minors.