

Parents - PLEASE READ THIS!

Porn on Cell Phones? It's true!

Recently, I talked to a young man whose 'best friend' sent him pornography on his cell phone. I asked him, "Can you take it off?" He replied, "I've tried and can't!" He doesn't understand how to use the features of his phone, according to a customer service agent at a local cell phone service. Another friend of mine has a daughter who received inappropriate material, including pictures, from her text messages!

No content protection on cell phones

At this time there is no protection on cell phones with inappropriate pictures or texting that is sent from phone to phone, according to a local cell phone customer service agent. The agent told me that you can have your child's cell phone blocked from receiving pictures, however. If your child receives indecent material, you can call your cell phone service. Your service will need to know the name, address and phone number, the senders address, the day and time of the message and brief description of the picture, the frequency and quantity and the url contained in the picture message. Some companies credit a bill 25 cents for an inappropriate picture that is sent. When a person receives such a picture, they cannot forward it to any person, but they can take it to a law enforcement agent in the city where they were exposed to that picture. You can also file a report online on cybertipline.com (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children).

Parents need to be informed

For approximately \$5.00/a month a parent can sign their child to get internet access to 'surf the web' or for around \$15/ a month to get video clips, watch games, download music, etc. I went to check this service and saw very indecent music video clips and wallpaper options that I would not want on my child's phone. Parents may be concerned about their children using the internet in a common room in their home, but as soon as they give their child a cell phone with internet access, you have given them a 'mobile' computer with world wide access. There is NO filter for the internet access on the cell phones at this time!!! Your child can then view and receive pornography from anywhere that the internet goes! Parents, be aware of the dangers of subscribing to particular options on the cell phones.

Pornography can be more addictive than drugs

Recent studies show that addiction to pornography is quick and can be more addictive than drugs (Dr. Judith Reisman, *The Psychopharmacology of Pictorial Pornography*). Our Attorney General Mark Shurtleff will be discussing this issue on Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 pm at the Alta High auditorium. Please plan on attending!