

LESSON 4



13 Read the article *Can Violent Movies or TV Programs Harm Children?* on page 22 in the Student's Book again. Then read each statement and check true or false, according to the information in the article.

	true	false
1. It's OK for children to watch violence in animated TV shows and movies.	☐	☐
2. Children who watch a lot of fighting and killing on TV are more likely to act violently as adults.	☐	☐
3. Eight is a safe age for children to start watching violent movies and TV shows.	☐	☐
4. Violence is normal, so children should be exposed to it.	☐	☐
5. Children should learn that there are consequences for doing bad things.	☐	☐
6. Parents should watch and discuss violent TV programs with their very young children.	☐	☐

How can I protect my kids from media violence?

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POST A COMMENT



James F.
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The forecast is for rain all weekend, so I thought I'd rent some movies for the kids to watch. When we looked at the movie list on the television, my nine-year-old son clicked on the new release section. Every movie he picked had a gun or an explosion in the picture. My six-year-old wanted a movie based on one of his favorite toys. He begged me to rent it, "Please, Dad. I have the toys. Why can't I see the movie?" But this movie is not for children. According to the reviews I've read, it's very scary and pretty bloody. We decided to rent a popular animated film I found in the family section, but even that had fighting in it. And the violent scenes were also silly and funny. Frankly, I think that's sending kids a bad message.

I was so upset that I decided to do some research on children and media violence. Did you know that between the ages of four and eighteen, the average child sees 200,000 acts of violence on TV and other media—including 40,000 murders? Also, 60 to 90% of the most popular video games have violent subject matter. Another study found that 61% of television programs show some violence, and 43% of these violent scenes are used to make people laugh!

Why can't the entertainment industry make kids' movies and TV shows that are actually appropriate for kids? And when will they stop selling toys based on violent movies and video games that young children should not see or play? Maybe next time it rains, I'll take my kids to the library instead!

1. What is James F.'s nine-year-old son interested in? _____
2. What does his six-year-old want to see? _____
3. What does James F. rent? _____
4. Why is he upset? _____
5. What does he think the entertainment industry should do? _____
6. Do you agree with James F.? Explain your answer. _____

15 Complete the statements, according to the blog post in Exercise 14. Circle the letter.

1. Between the ages of four and eighteen, the average child sees _____ on TV and in other media.
a. 40,000 television programs b. 200,000 murders c. 40,000 murders
2. _____ of all TV shows contain violent scenes.
a. More than half b. Half c. Less than half
3. Violence on TV is often meant to be seen as _____.
a. unforgettable b. funny c. scary