

14 Read the online blog post. Then answer the questions.



James F.
[view profile](#)

How can I protect my kids from media violence?

08 APR 2014 10:05 PM POST A COMMENT

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

GRAMMAR BOOSTER

D Complete the sentences. Circle the correct words.

1. I (prefer / would rather) see a silly movie than a violent movie.
2. Annabelle (likes / would rather) classic films.
3. We (prefer / would rather) to order tickets online.
4. She would (like / rather) to watch a romantic comedy.
5. Would you (prefer / rather) sit in the middle or on the aisle?
6. No soda for me. I (prefer / would rather) water.
7. Oscar (prefers / would rather) not go to the movies tonight.