

# social networking

## Here to Stay

- Latest means of connecting people who share common interests
- Natural to kids
- New to adults

## Very Real Dangers

- Safety (Bullying, Predators)
- Morality (Two-Way Negative Influence, surfing profiles)
- Discipline (Laziness, Time Wasting, After Hours)

## Truth for the Child

- Jesus obeyed his parents in spite of the fact that they did not understand him. (Luke 2:49-52)
- It is right for a child to obey their parents. (Ephesians 6:1-4, Colossians 3:20-21)
- The purpose of obedience is to be trained to become an independent, prudent individual. (Proverbs 22:3-6)

## Truth for the Parents

- A parent's job is to train children to be prudent individuals, and equip for ministry (Eph 4:13 Proverbs 22:3-6)
- Parents should not exasperate, embitter, or discourage their children. (Ephesians 6:1-4, Colossians 3:20-21)
- Parents hold their child's heart in their hands. They can form it or break it.
- It breaks a kid's heart when they feel like a parent does not understand them or believes in (trust) them.
- Train your child's behavior by exposing them to the real world, while they are under the safety of your supervision...It's not "If you child will fail, it's when". (IE backing into a mailbox, going over on their minutes, etc.)

## Relational Opportunity

- Calm conversations around scripture
- Build mutual understanding
- Build mutual trust
- Building a Biblical relationship with your child will result in a Bible Behavior

## Principles for Mutual Understanding & Trust

- Parents should be clued-in instead of clueless
- Open access (user name & passwords) instead of secret monitoring
- Consistent inspections instead of constant surveillance
- Conditional, progressive boundaries (when, what, where, how much) instead of unconditional rules
- Calm conversations instead of quick decisions

## Start the Conversation

Open Proverbs 22:3-6 and talk to your kids about social networking.

- I feel/Know this is a natural part of your world. It is not natural for me. Do you understand our different perspectives...parent explain why.
- I recognize dangers of bullying, predators, negative moral influence, surfing profiles and time wasting. Do you see the same dangers?
- It's my job to train you to engage in social networking in a prudent way. Do you understand my role and why I have to play my part?
- I don't want to exasperate, embitter, or discourage you. Will you tell me if I ever make you feel that way?
- I'm going to make the effort on my own to get clued-in.
- I will not monitor in secret but will require open access. Are you willing to be open?
- I will not constantly monitor you but I will consistently check-in on things. Are you okay with regular check-ins?
- I will set fair boundaries that will become increasingly flexible as you mature. They will only remain static or be tightened if broken or pushed. Do you understand?
- I will not make quick decisions about boundaries without a conversation. Are you willing to have conversations?
  - When I notice something, I will categorize the dangers/concerns
  - Not assume but seek to understand by asking you to clarify Who? What? When? How?
  - Ask you to agree with me about dangers/concerns
  - Adjust boundaries in order to protect you from danger

## Parentally Action Steps

- Know Your Child
  - Know what he/she knows: Ask Questions!
  - Know what they are doing, who they are with
  - Know their culture
  - Be Nosy...Push Through awkward moments and conversations
- You As Parents Control the Technology: (Training for marriage, you can't hide these things from your spouse)
  - Have the passwords
  - You have the right to their technology at anytime
  - You decide When, Where, What, and How much technology is appropriate
  - Dad and Mom need to be on the same page regarding...wireless entertainment and mobile technology
- Think Heart, Not Behavior
  - Train their hearts which will inform their behavior
  - Set boundaries and enforce them consistently
  - Take advantage of teachable moments (IE Turn sexual commercials off and talk modesty, respect, self image, ETC)
- Talk Openly About Sex and Purity
  - It's not a one sided conversation
  - Tell the whole truth...Sex is AWESOME in the context of Marriage

## Tools for Inspections

(Do you put tools to inspect your laptop/home Computer in order not to get viruses...AVG Free, Norton? )

[www.mymobilewatchdog.com](http://www.mymobilewatchdog.com)

Filtering and monitoring of SMS, MMS, Internet, Apps etc... Allows some controls for contacts and time-restrictions. Works on Blackberry, Android and Windows Mobile.

[www.internetsafety.com/safe-eyes-mobile-iphone.php](http://www.internetsafety.com/safe-eyes-mobile-iphone.php)

Standard internet filter. Doesn't appear to report usage or address SMS or MMS. The product allows the parent to limit the times of day the internet is accessible as well as the amount of time the user can spend online.

[www.mobicip.com](http://www.mobicip.com)

Another internet filter. Appears to have more features. Has a white list option (only allows approved sites.) Works for Iphone, Ipad, Ipod touch, Windows Mobile 7.

[www.x3watch.com](http://www.x3watch.com)

Internet monitoring system for PC, Mac, Ipad, Iphone, and Android. This does not filter but does provide weekly reports to an accountability partner.

[http://www.netnanny.com/alt6?pid=3&gclid=CLvy\\_Onts6wCFYuc7QodDjjPlg](http://www.netnanny.com/alt6?pid=3&gclid=CLvy_Onts6wCFYuc7QodDjjPlg)

Net Nanny provides filtering systems for home computers and iPhone/Ipod Touch/Ipad and Android

### **Carrier Family Protection...**

T Mobile

<http://family.t-mobile.com/safety-and-security>

Verizon

<http://parentalcontrolcenter.com/>

AT&T

<http://www.att.net/s/s.dll?ep=16594&ch=smct>

Sprint

[http://shop2.sprint.com/en/services/popups/phone\\_access\\_controls\\_popup.shtml](http://shop2.sprint.com/en/services/popups/phone_access_controls_popup.shtml)