



Young Media Australia fact sheet

Should my child have a television in his or her bedroom?

One of the most valuable roles a parent can play in their child's relationship with the media, is to be an informal "media educator".

The evidence is that parents who comment on what children are seeing can minimise the impact of the content. For example a parent can say "What do you think would happen if you did that here in our family?" (say in relation to a violent program), or "Does this look like it did on TV?" (when out shopping?) .

If a child sees something scary or that they don't understand, a parent who is in the same room has the opportunity to see the impact and to take appropriate steps to comfort or distract.

The child who is watching TV, or using the Internet, or playing computer games on their own in their bedroom, is more vulnerable.

Parents miss out on the "teachable moments" that are so important.

Keep public media public!



For more information about Children and the Media, call the
Young Media Australia Helpline

Up to date and reliable information for parents and caregivers about the impact of the media on children.

1800 700 357

Freecall anywhere in Australia, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Or go to the Young Media Australia website

www.youngmedia.org.au

Ordering more fact sheets

Young Media Australia has over sixty printed fact sheets about the impact of media on children.

To get a list of available Young Media Australia fact sheets, or to order your copies call the
Young Media Australia Helpline
1800 700 357

You may also download a fact sheet order form from our web site **www.youngmedia.org.au** or browse the fact sheets in topic format online.

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