

**AS A TEENAGER WHO USES THE INTERNET YOU HAVE BEEN
INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE TO AN ARTICLE 'IS THE INTERNET
GOOD OR BAD FOR KIDS?' IN NEXT MONTH'S
'GOOD PARENTING MAGAZINE'**

Are your children spending too much time online? Worried about what your children has access to on the internet? Read on to find out if it is suitable for them.

I disagree with the point that the internet is bad for children as I am a user; however lets look at the 'dark' side of the internet which makes parents worried.

Many parents are concerned about what their children go on, on the internet. For eg. pornography or other websites which are not suitable for children, as most of the content is for 18 years or older. One of the main and most occurring problems of the internet is that children go on pornography websites. As more young people go on pornography websites and other websites then they are more worried about their personal life with their girlfriend/boyfriend instead of schoolwork and homework. Another problem which parents are worried about is of kidnapping perverts who talk to our children on chat websites, eg. MSN etc. You never know who they are talking to a pervert and asking our children to meet them? They might be kidnapped or raped by the pervert.

One of the key nuisance are viruses which come onto our computer by our children downloading illegal contents of music and videos from programs like Kazaa, Bearshare etc. What our children don't know is about the fine that we parents get if our children are caught downloading illegal contents. We can even be put in gaol. Now, I will come across the opposite side, which I am in agreement with. The side of 'The internet is good.' As I am a user of the internet and I use it habitually. I would say the internet is efficient for a lot of stuff. Its greatest use is searching for information quicker, easier and faster which makes it the kids feel like they have the World's Biggest Library at the tip of their fingers and instead of writing it all out, you can print it out which is saves the kids time.

As I said in the first half of the article people go on pornography but if parents are worried that much then they you can block pornographic websites.

Another good item about the internet is that you can have instant access to friends, family and business associates through e-mail, instant messaging, so if our children were stuck with homework then they an ask friends for help through e-mail.