

Safe Environment of the Archdiocese

Archdiocese of Oklahoma

May, 2018



Go Make Disciples



We Have Moved!

As you may know, the Office of Safe Environment was temporarily located on the top floor of the Catholic Pastoral Center while the main floor was being renovated. As of today, May 7th, the office is now located back on the main floor in the Office of Ministries. That office is immediately across the hall from Archbishop Coakley's office. If you are in the building at any time stop in and see all of the new offices in the Office of Ministries. The Safe Environment Office is the first one on the left side.



You may have seen in the Sooner Catholic that the Archdiocese is seeking an Assistant Coordinator of Safe Environment. This is something that, for several years, I have hoped for. That person will be full-time while I will remain part-time. With the next

fiscal year, we will be working towards putting every aspect of Safe Environment under the same office. When we are ready to implement the changes, we will let you know. In the meantime, all will proceed as usual until further notice.



The Parish Compliance Surveys have been sent to all facilitators along with the instructions for completing the survey. Although these are not due until **June 15th**, please feel free to send them earlier as long as you do not anticipate having any new data before June 30th. **Remember** the survey accounts for the audit year **July 1st, 2017** to this coming **June 30, 2018**. This document is a very important part of our USCCB audit.

Thank you to all those who participated in the **Blue Ribbon Tree Project** for Child Abuse Prevention Month. You can access the State Blue Ribbon Tree Slideshow by clicking on the following link:

<https://youtu.be/Ay7s1flUdHo>

Be sure to hold down the "Control" key on your keyboard and then double click on the link above.



April In-Service Day

Our April 19th day with Father Sean Kilcawley was a great success. We had 118 participants at the morning session in the Conference Center. In the afternoon members of the Secretariat for Evangelization and Catechesis and some parish representatives met with Father Kilcawley and Ryan Foley of Covenant Eyes. This was the beginning of a comprehensive effort to combat pornography across all ministries of the Archdiocese. Therefore, we will be continuing this theme for the next academic year.

There were two evening sessions this year. At the Catholic Pastoral Center we had Ryan Foley of Covenant Eyes who presented to parents. We had a total of 44 attend that session. At the same time Father Kilcawley presented to the "Theology On Tap" group of young adults. There were ap-

proximately 50 at "Theology on Tap".

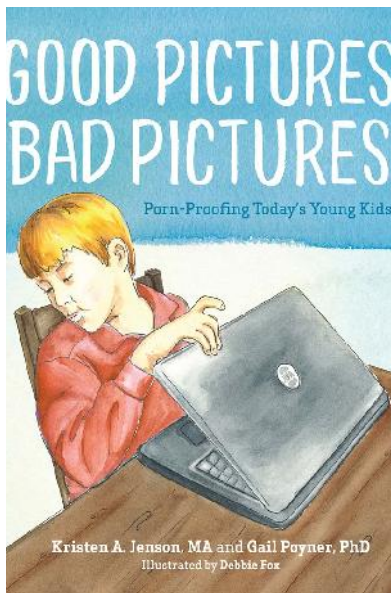
Pornography is a serious threat to family life, marriages, our youth and children. The more we can educate ourselves the more equipped we will

be to fight this problem in our Church and in our society.



With that said, again, I beg pastors, facilitators, principals, DRE's, youth ministers and any others who work in ministry to do whatever you

can to get the monthly parent articles of this newsletter to parents. Let's all be a part of the solution to this problem.



Recommended Resource for Parents to use with children ages 3-6

Recommended Books

Father Kilcawley mentioned several books that may help parents. I have had a few parents call to ask the names and publishers of these books. Therefore, I thought I would share with them all.

[Good Pictures, Bad Pictures, Porn-Proofing Today's Young Kids](#) by Kristen Jenson and Gail Poyner

[Pandora's Box is Open, Now What Do I Do? A Parent's Guide](#)

for Helping Children Who Have Been Exposed to Pornography by Gail Poyner

[Wonderfully Made! Babies, A Catholic Perspective on How and Why God Makes Babies \(ages 9 & up\)](#)

All of these can be found on Amazon.com

Covenant Eyes software and materials can be found at: CovenantEyes.com

Summertime Danger!



This article for parents is my made-up title! During summer break our children will have more time than ever to spend on their various gadgets. I thought this article from the site: faithandtechnology.com would be helpful to parents. They have a great challenge in monitoring the on-line activity of children and youth.

What Do I Need to Secure?

Media is increasingly being consumed through online services. These services offer a wide range of content—from kids to adult. Parental controls, which allow you to filter content, are often available but need to be activated. Parental controls need to be enabled on each device or service: from TVs to tablets. If a device has access to multiple services, then parental controls will need to be activated for each service.

Overview:

How we consume media such as TV shows, movies, and music has changed radically. We're now watching through online services such as Netflix, iTunes, or Hulu. A number of streaming media devices or set top boxes are now available that pull content from the Internet. You can watch that content on your computer, TV, tablet, or phone.

As a parent, this explosion of media channels may seem overwhelming and daunting. Where do you begin? The good news is that parental controls available for many of these channels.

Parental controls help moderate the kinds of movies, TV shows, and music that can be played or accessed on certain devices. The bad news is that you need to enable parental controls for them to work. A password is normally required to disable or bypass parental controls after they are activated. The kinds of devices that have built-in parental controls are TVs, computers, cell phones (like the iPhone), streaming media services (like iTunes or Netflix), and music players. Some parental control solutions work better than others. Its best to think of parental control solutions like your helper. They're never a substitute for you and they are never a substitute for involved parenting; so never consider them a foolproof solution.

Devices to Secure:

Thinking about where to start is daunting. To help, we've prepared a list of things to be aware of in your home (and at the home of friends and neighbors). We'll then note options you may or may not have when it comes to parental controls for that specific kind of device or service.

Looking at this list, you'll start to be amazed at all the different devices that you may need to be attentive to. We suggest you create a written inventory of the specific things you find in your home. Write down the manufacturer or vendor along with the specific model of the device to help you stay organized. If you want to enable parental controls, please refer to each item's user manual for for specific details. If you don't have a user manual, don't worry. Most companies now have all their user manuals available online. You can also call their support number for more information.

- **Televisions:** All new TVs have parental controls, which will allow you to block programming that exceeds the rating level you set. Parental controls on TVs are handled by something called a "VChip". The V-Chip in the TVs uses the Parental Guidelines rating system (TV-Y, TV-Y7, TV-G, etc.) for TV shows and the MPAA ratings system (G, PG, PG-13, R, etc.) for movies.
- **Smart Televisions:** A "Smart TV" refers to a category of TV that is connected to the Internet. A Smart TV allows you to surf the Internet, install apps, watch online content, and even conduct video chats. All Smart TVs use the same parental control V-Chip of a traditional TV, but the chip does not work with any of the "smart" or "network" features. There is no built-in filtering for web site browsing on the TV. You must use an additional solution like OpenDNS or a router with parental controls built-in to control web content. You also can't manage parental control options for apps and streaming services through the TV.

- **Cable and Satellite:** Most providers have parental controls available through their set top boxes. Normally, you can block programs by rating, channel or time period. Check your provider's web site for specific instructions on enabling parental controls. Cable and satellite parental controls are independent of your TVs parental control feature.
- **Streaming Services:** Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Video, and Crackle are all examples of online streaming services that make movies and TV shows available. These services are available via a web browser, through streaming media boxes, or as an app on your smart phone, tablet, or Smart TV. Some services have parental controls and others do not. Check the options available for the service you wish to use. For those services without parental controls your only option is to completely remove access to the service.
- **Streaming Media Boxes:** AppleTV, Roku, Boxee, and Vudu are examples of streaming media boxes that will pull content from the Internet and show it on your television. Each of these devices offers parental controls. In some cases, you will need to enable parental controls in two places: both on the hardware device itself and the content service you are using.
- **Bluray and DVD players:** Today's players allow you to set parental control options for both DVDs and Bluray discs. For protection to work on DVD and Blurays, the discs must be properly encoded and rated (G, PG, PG-13, R, etc). The best way to moderate content through these players is to be selective with the movies and TV shows that you choose to rent or purchase.
- **Smart Phones/Tablets:** All smart phones and tablets have some basic parental control options. Parental controls should be set for apps to be downloaded and content that can be purchased. Parental control options for streaming services and Internet access must be done through additional parental control options specifically for that device, through the mobile carrier's parental controls, and through services like OpenDNS.
- **Computers:** All new Macintosh and Windows computers offer basic, built-in parental control options. You must enable them to work and in most cases, parents will find that these basic controls need to be supplemented with other software solutions like NetNanny,

CyberPatrol, and OpenDNS.

- **Gaming Consoles:** Gaming consoles like Xbox, Playstation, PSP, and the Wii all have parental control options that will allow you set a rating limit for the games (using ESRB ratings), DVDs, Blurays, and that can be played on the device and will also allow you to turn the web browser off. Online content and apps can only be secured using solutions like OpenDNS and through the specific services enabled on the device.

Parental Controls: To enable or Not

Ok, let's be up-front: parental controls aren't always convenient. Not all parental controls are user friendly. In many instances (like a TVs V-Chip) parental controls are so annoying that many don't use them.

However, even though some parental control options are far from perfect, we still suggest that you secure all child-accessible media devices. Enabling parental controls gives you additional peace of mind and might prevent your child from coming into contact with pornographic content or strangers online. Always remember, if a device is able to connect to the Internet, then it has access to web sites, social networks, chat rooms, and other services that you may not be aware of. Your child's safety is worth a little inconvenience



***A safe and blessed summer
to all!***