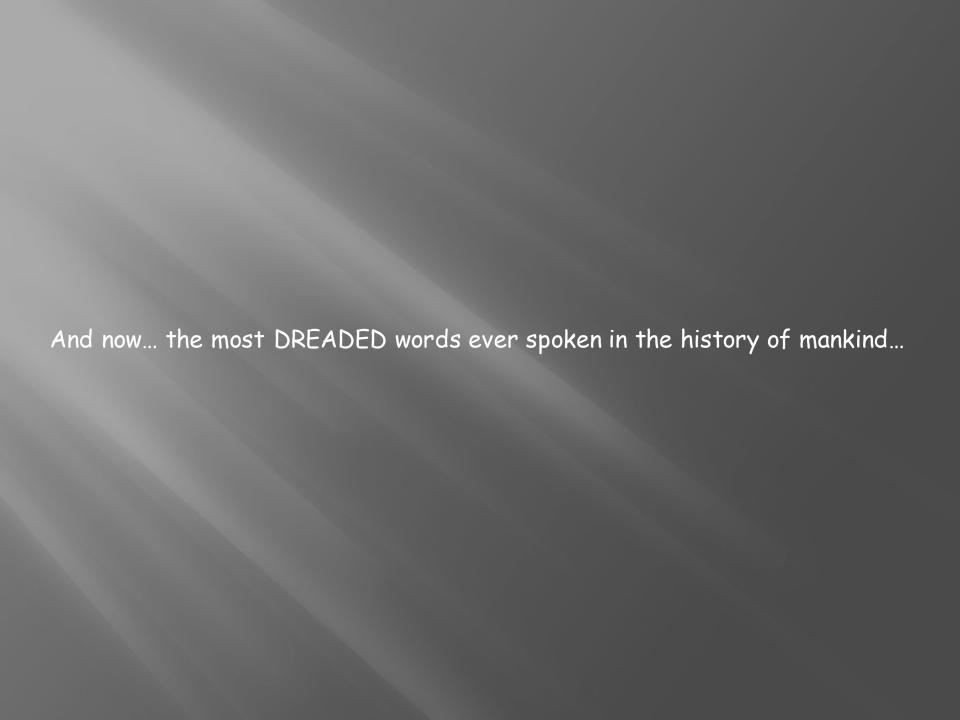


TETHERED TO TECHNOLOGY:

The Good, The Bad, & The (Potentially) Ugly





PLEASE TURN YOUR PHONES EITHER OFF OR TO VIBRATE...



the good



WARNING:

(QUASI)IMMERSION THERAPY APPROACHING...

FIRST SOME INPUT FROM THE EXPERTS....

- $\sqrt{}$ According to the CDC,1 in 68 children in the U.S. has Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD);1 in 42 for boys & 1 in 189 for girls
- $\sqrt{}$ For most with ASD, communicating with others is difficult
- $ec{ec{ec{v}}}$ Many struggle with anticipating the responses of others and have a hard time reading emotions
- $\sqrt{}$ An individual's ability to communicate is tantamount to their success
- $\sqrt{}$ Face-To-Face (F2F) communication can be a problem when you cannot read what someone else is feeling, or anticipate what they will say
- $\sqrt{\text{Awkward pauses are common.}}$ Stuttering is common
- √ Many individuals with ASD are more comfortable interacting with inanimate objects such as a computer, Smartphone, or iPad
- $\sqrt{}$ Children with ASD are visual learners

SOME SUPER FUN FACTS!!!

- 1. American youth spend an average of 7.5 hours per day EVERY day-engaged with media; Most spent multi-tasking
- 2. 24% of teens self-report going online almost constantly
- 3. Heavy media multitaskers significantly demonstrate poorer memories, increased impulsivity, higher social anxiety and depression, lower perceived social success, neuroticism, and reduced volume in the anterior cingulate cortex
- 4. Two types of assistive technology currently exist for ASD students: Teaching Technologies & Communication Technologies

SO... how can TECHNOLOGY Be HELPFUL FOR PEOPLE WITH asd? (AKA: "THE GOOD"

SUPER GLAD YOU ASKED!!! ('CAUSE HERE ARE A FEW-LIKE 9!-POTENTIAL

REASONS...)

1. Many people with autism are visual thinkers. They think in pictures instead of language. Thoughts are like videotapes running in their imagination. Pictures are their first language, and words are their second (Grandin). As concrete visual thinkers, people with ASD process information well when they can look at a picture or words to help them visualize information.

Technology makes pictures more accessible – they can search exactly what they are looking for whenever needed. Computer graphics also capture and maintain the attention of autism. This can improve behavior, and be reinforced into routine with operant conditioning to increase learning and memory.

2. Some autistic children will learn reading more easily with phonics (auditory), and others will learn best by memorizing whole words (visual).

Technology offers the best of both worlds – voice output can be used for auditory reinforcement for those who learn better by hearing, and graphics can reinforce visualize what is being learned through sight.

3. Some children & adults with ASD have sound sensitivity & are able to respond best with low whisper sounds.

With a computer, autistic children can adjust the volume to where they are comfortable. Frequencies can also be edited for further needs – learning how to edit these also does not benefit education, but benefits children through the education of technology use as well.

- 4. Some people with ASD have problems remembering sequences to carry out tasks.
 - Technology can reduce the number of steps required for completion of certain tasks.
- 5. Often people with ASD have difficulty with fine motor skills.

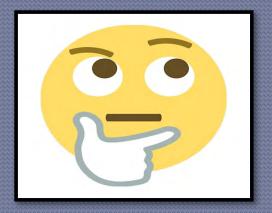
Technology helps reduce the frustration involved with handwriting or drawing. Using a keyboard or touch screen reduces difficulty and helps students enjoy learning.

(...and the "Back four!")

- 6. It is thought that some non-verbal children and adults are mono-channel meaning they can only process one of their senses at a time. Their immature nervous system is not able to process simultaneous visual and auditory input and so they should be given either a visual or auditory task.

 Using technology, they can gradually increase their ability or save their work to proceed step by step and can even alternate between visual and auditory input
- 7. Some autistic individuals do not use speech for communication. Language learning can be taught if language exercises promote communication.

 They can use technology to produce words and learn the cause and effect of using appropriate speech.
- 8. ASD may make verbal communication difficult, technology can increase communication by helping someone express themselves more fluently or by helping them learn how to express themselves.
- 9. Technology also increases communication by allowing us to communicate using the sensory skills someone with autism prefers (e.g. using symbols and pictures, video email, etc.)



IN

Digital tools can promote CONFIDENCE.

(The Aspect Hunter School in Australia uses Sphero robots to encourage ASD children to explore outside of their comfort zones-and outside of the classroom! #COOL!



There are devices, and tools, programs, & apps that promote STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics) abilities.



STEM abilities can improve social skills. Of students with ASD that went to college, 34% of them chose to pursue a STEM major!

- A. Time spent with social digital media is beneficial
- B. Non-social digital media provides a "safe space" for kids with ASD
- C. Three primary connections between computer technology & ASD:
 - 1. Computers involve no social factors
 - 2. Computers are consistent and predictable
 - 3. Children can take control & determine the pace of the activity
- D. Technology commonly exercises visual-spacial skills
- E. Technology may enhance the drive for learning

SOME COOL TECHNOLOGY-BASED ASSIST TOOLS (a.k.a. more o' "THE GOOD")

- (A) VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENTS (VE & CVEs)
 - (B) ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (AT)
- (C) AUGMENTATIVE & ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION (AAC)

VE: A computer-generated three-dimensional simulation of a real or imaginary environment. Two forms are available, a single user VE and a multiuser, collaborative (CVE). Both use self-selected avatars. There is optimism that CVEs can be used effectively as an assistive technology, as an educational technology, & as a means of helping address potential theory-of-mind impairments.

AT: Any item that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities. AT Service is any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.

AAC: These strategies assist those with severe communication disabilities to participate more fully in their social roles, including interpersonal interaction, learning, education, and community activities. AAC entails learning to communicate by typing on a keyboard or pointing at letters, images, or other symbols to represent messages. Devices utilized include iPads or other tablets with communication apps such as an AAC tool.

These new advances in technology hold great potential for people with ASD.

HOWEVER ...



7 FEARS RELATED TO ADOLESCENTS' USE OF TECHNOLOGY

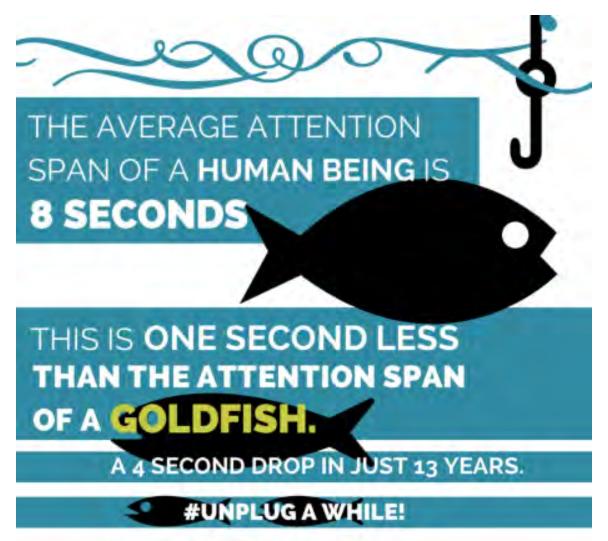
1. Parents worry about Who adolescents are interacting with online & What type of information they are sharing with others.

(Not to worry on THIS one at least...

Research has consistently shown that online versus offline networks look very familiar)

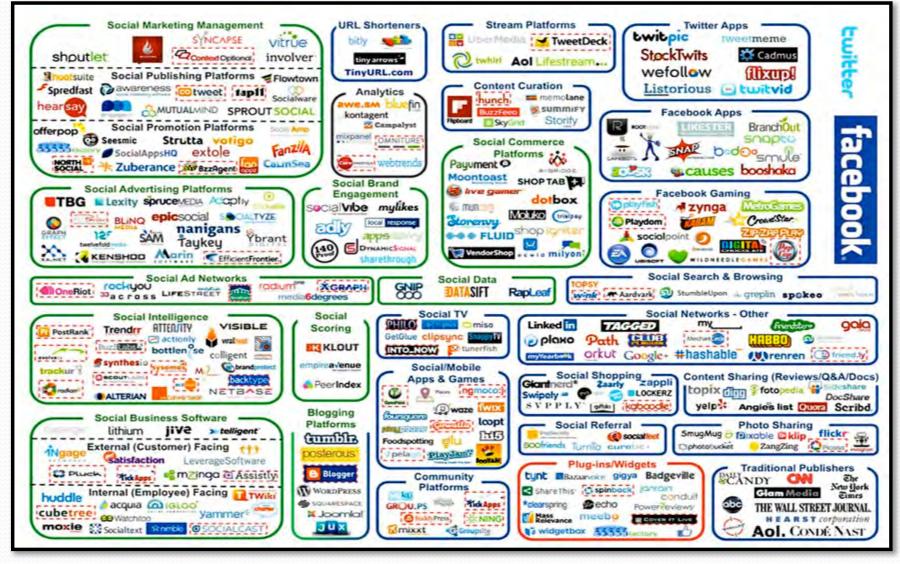
- 2. Parents fear that their children will be victims of cyberbullying or be solicited by strangers online.
- 3. Adolescents' constant connectivity prevents them from being present in "real life" and interferes with offline socialization experiences and friendships.
- 4. Smartphones are creating a "digital divide" between parents and their children.
- 5. Adolescents are experimenting with alternative identities online while leaving a "Digital Dossier" archive of data that may damage their sense of self and future
- 6. Constant multitasking on smartphones is impairing adolescents' cognitive performance.
- 7. Adolescents are losing sleep due to their devices.

lives.





Media Saturation Overwhelm Syndrome



TECHNOLOGY/INTERNET ADDICTION

Any online-related, compulsive behavior which compromises biological, psychological, and/or sociological balance, interferes with normal living, and causes severe stress on self, family, friends, and loved ones

*Not included in the DSM-5 as a diagnosable condition, but Internet Gaming Disorder HAS been listed under "Conditions For Further Study"

TECHNOLOGY/INTERNET ADDICTION SIGNS

No single behavioral pattern defines Internet addiction. If your Internet/technology use pattern interferes with your life in any way (i.e. impacts your work, family life. relationships, school, etc., you *may* have a problem.

Symptomatic behaviors include:

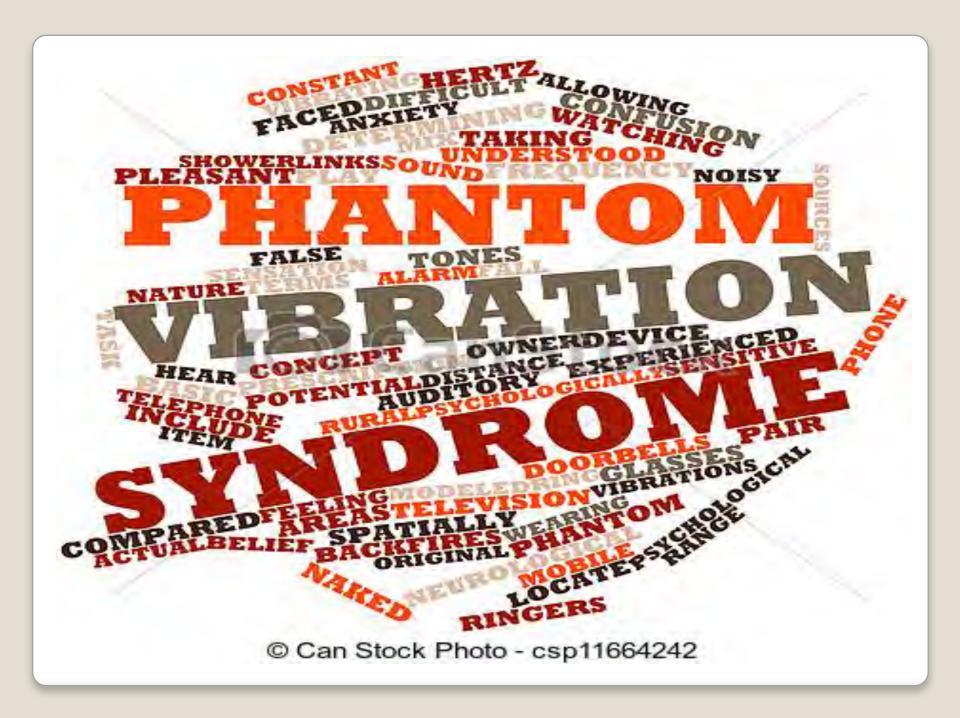
- Compulsive use of the Internet and the platforms it supports
- A preoccupation with being online
- Lying or hiding the extent or nature of your online behavior
- An inability to control or curb your online behavior
- In addition to demonstrating other criteria, it has been proposed that a diagnosis of internet addiction must include symptoms for at least 3 months and at least 6 hours of non-essential internet use per day

OTHER SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:

- Keeping devices near or at easy access 24/7
- Inability to "unplug" or turn off computer, phone, tablets, gaming devices
- Failed attempts to control behavior
- Neglecting friends and family
- Neglecting sleep to stay online
- Being dishonest with others
- Feeling guilty, ashamed, anxious, or depressed as a result of online behavior
- Withdrawing from other pleasurable activities
- Loss of interest in hobbies and social interactions
- Physical issues before, during or after use: carpal tunnel syndrome, headaches,
 sleep disorders, weight gain or loss, backaches, vision problems
- Getting a "rush" (dopamine "squirt") from "using" or anticipation of "using"
- R.I.D. when denied use
- Focused more on posting where/with whom, than the ACTUAL where/with whom
- Compulsive use
- Lying about or hiding extent or nature of online behavior
- Choosing to be online posting/texting/gaming over commitments/relationships

SPINNING WHEEL OF DOOM





WITHDRAWAL

No biological per se. Psychological however can be profound: depression, anhedonia, anxiety, irritability, sleep disturbances, & LOTS of screaming!

NEUROLOGICAL



Frontal lobe, executive functioning affected. Arrested development-especially happens in early adolescence with substance abuse. Now we are seeing it with overuse of technology



Affected regions: dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, rostial anterior cinguate cortex, supplementary motor area, parts of the cerebellum



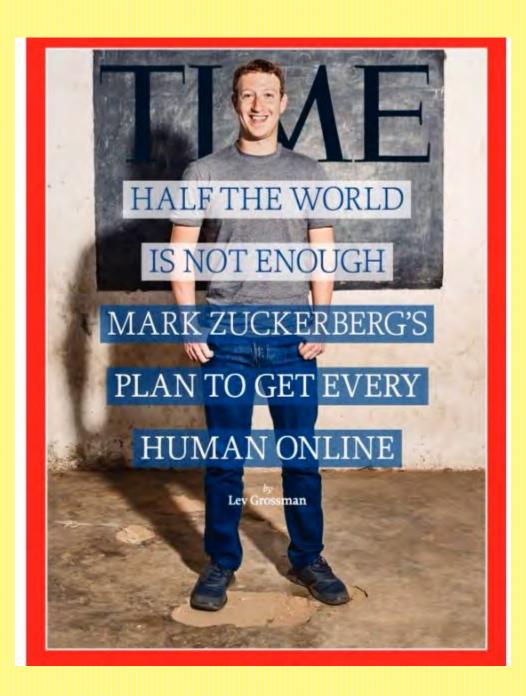
Can cause the brain to shrink 10-20%



The longer the "addictive" use, the more pronounced the tissue reduction, which can cause reduced inhibition of inappropriate behavior/filtering & diminished goal orientation



Achieving a goal or anticipating the reward for a task can excite neurons in the ventral tegmental area of the midbrain, releasing dopamine into the brain's pleasure centers. The brain "Likes" & seeks it. As with amphetamine abuse, the dopamine is blocked from being "uptaked" & remains in the brain's "pleasure centers," causing pleasurable feelings. Organic dopamine production can be significantly altered or cease completely.





ADOLESCENTS, TEENS, & YOUNG ADULTS ARE GREATER RISK:

- How they were "raised"
- How they socialize
- Brains developing and pruning until age 25

And Furthermore...

- A correlation exists between excessive Internet use, ADHD, depression, social phobia, & hostility, with a pattern reminiscent of correlates with alcohol & drug addiction
- Excessive, long-term exposure to electronic environments is reconfiguring young people's neural networks and possibly diminishing their ability to develop empathy, interpersonal relationships, and nonverbal communication skills
- Struggle with reading social cues in corporeal co-presence
- 70% of those suffering with Internet addiction also struggle with (or have a history of) other addictions & emotional dysregulation such as depression, mood disorders, social disorders, anxiety disorders, relationship problems, sexuality-based disorders.
- Technology and Internet use, like other drugs, and alcohol, are reinforcing, stimulating, and rewarding.

OKAY, OKAY... BLAH, BLAH, HASHTAG BLAH... WE ALL TOTALLY GET IT!

So what do we DO about it?

HUFFPOST



Chinese Teen Hacks Off His Own Hand To 'Cure' Internet Addiction

Thomas Tamblyn (i)



The Huffington Post UK

Posted: 04/02/15 10:19

Updated: 04/02/15 10:59

HOLY EXTREME MEASURES,

VIRTUAL SMELLS LIKE TEEN SPIRIT...

(don't DO that!)



SOME STRATEGIES ARE COMING

BUT FIRST...

#TBT



SMARTPHONES

According to a 2015 study, we check them an average of 110 times a day, set them beside our plates at the dinner table, use them in the bathroom, and even while...

(What?! Who DOES that?! That's NASTY!)

Arguably the most popular drug of choice today

Wait a minute...

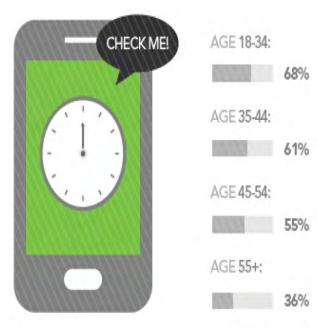
Phones aren't DRUGS!

That's just ri-DONK-ulous!!!

WE'RE ADDICTED TO CHECKING OUR PHONES

58%
OF SMARTPHONE USERS

DON'T GO
1 HOUR
WITHOUT CHECKING
THEIR PHONES





SMARTPHONE NOT JUST LIKE A DRUG?

- Always have to have it on/near you; ALWAYS know where it is
- Compulsively pat your pocket, check your pocketbook over and over; fuels anxiety
- Leave it somewhere and panic
- Don't have it and FREAK OUT!
- If misplaced, EVERYTHING STOPS and anxiety escalates until it has been found
- Don't want anyone to touch it or (G-d forbid!) ask to use it
- Even keep it with near you and on while you sleep. Like a newborn baby, always listening-even in your sleep-for that ring or "ping." Then have to decide whether or not to check it
- No more structured work days or even weeks. No more vacations. It is a 24/7/365 thing
- You will overextend finances in favor of maintaining/improving your "user" experience
- You will go back home-even risking being late-to retrieve it
- A dopamine "squirt" rush comes from using or the anticipation of using
- Relationships, responsibilities, academics & social events become supplanted or even demoted secondary to its use
- Battery starts to die, conserve your stash and priority becomes hunting down the dealer (charger)
- Phantom vibration syndrome...
- Attempts to "sneak" use even against better judgment become the norm and ever more "justifiable"
- Lack of ability to use generates restlessness, irritability, and discontent
- Attempts to control or cut back prove unsuccessful
- Overuse or misuse is invariably followed by guilt, shame, decreased self-esteem (especially after a session stalking social media or "sexting"), and a self-promise not to fall so far the next time

You fail.

In the Chinese city of Chongqing, cell phone addicts have their own sidewalk lane.







#RecipeForDisasterOrViralMeme?

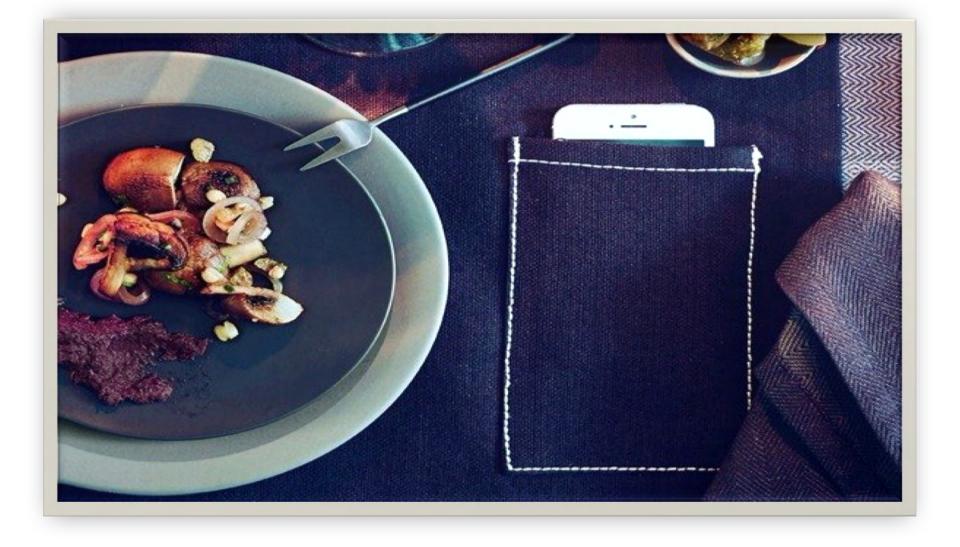


#really?

STOP LOUKING AT YOUR PHONE.







Well... isn't THAT convenient...
Thanks, IKEA!
(#WTH?)

And then there's this new weird phenom I like to call...

FOUC

(Fear Of Unknown Callers)



THE 7 DAY SMARTPHONE "DETOX" DIET

MONDAY:

Unfollow/delete people who aren't your REAL friends, (be honest: you must have at least a couple... DOZEN!), unsubscribe from unwanted email lists, and delete apps you don't use (awww c'mon - we ALL have at least a few of THOSE!)

TUESDAY:

Turn off any "push" notifications

WEDNESDAY:

Resist the urge to look at your phone first thing in the morning

THURSDAY:

Set up a charging station OUTSIDE of your bedroom, put the phone in it, and don't look at your phone an hour before bed

FRIDAY:

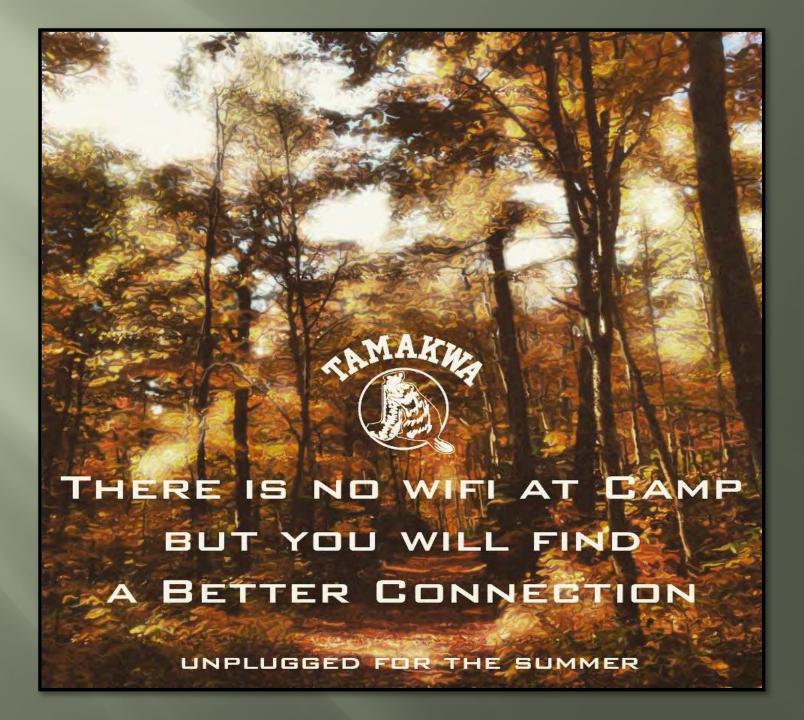
Go out to dinner and leave your phone... at home!

SATURDAY:

Spend the day not looking at, or posting to, social media

SUNDAY:

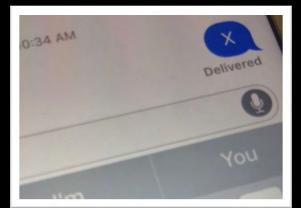
Turn off your smartphone for THE ENTIRE DAY #WHAAAA????











MONDAY

Unfollow people who aren't your real friends, delete apps you don't use.

TUESDAY

Furn off push notifications.

NEDNESDAY

Resist the urge to look at your phone first thing in the morning.

THURSDAY

Charge your phone outside your room and don't look at your phone an hour before bedtime.

FRIDAY

DETOX

Go out to dinner and leave your phone at home.

SATURDAY

Do not look at or post to social media

SUNDAY

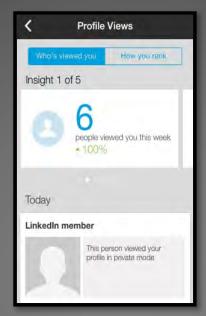
Turn off your phone for the whole day.



good...







SECRET TEXTING CODES YOUR KIDS COULD BE USING

LMIRL - Let's Meet In Regi Life WYCM - Will You Call Me? Broken - Hung Over WYRN - What's Your Real Name? CU46 - See you for sex Q2C - Quick To Cum DOC - Drug Of Choice RU/18 - Are You Over 18? RUMORF - Are You Male OR Female? NIFOC - Naked in front of computer GNOC - Get Naked On Cam RUH - Are You Hornu? GYPO - Get Your Pants Off 52R - Send To Receive IWSN - I Want Sex Now MPFB - My Personal F*** Buddy 53X - Sex NALOPKT - Not A Lot Of People Know That MOOS - Member Of The Opposite Sex LH6 - Let's have sex TDTM - Talk Dirty To Me MOSS - Member(s) Of The Same Sex MorF - Male or Female 8 - Oral sex SUGARPIC - Suggestive or erotic photograph C-P - Sleepy IPN - I'm posting naked F2F - Face-to-Face, a.k.a. FaceTime HAK - Hugs And Kisses PAL - Parents Are Listening PAW or PRW - Parents Are Wotching ILU - I Love You PIR - Parents in Room IWSN - I Want Sex Now POS - Parents Over Shoulder J/O - Jerking Off 9 and CD9 or "Code 9" - parents are nearbu KOTL - Kiss On The Lips KFY -or- K4Y - Kiss For You 99 - Parents are gone 459 - I love you **KPC** - Keeping Parents Clueless MOS - Mom Over Shoulder ADR - Address P911 - Parent Alert or Parent Emergency AEAP - As Early As Possible WTTP - Want to trade pictures? ALAP - As Lote As Possible KOTL - Kiss on the lips ASL - Age/Sex/Location 143 - I love you PRON - Porn 420 - Marijuana 182 - I hate you

1174 - Nude club

KMS - Kill Muself

KYS - Kill Yourself

1337 or L337 - Leet, a coded alphabet

ZERG - To gang up on someone

WUF - Where You From

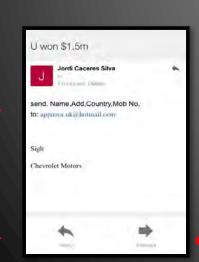
AF - As F"k WTF - What The F***





iPhone Decoy Apps



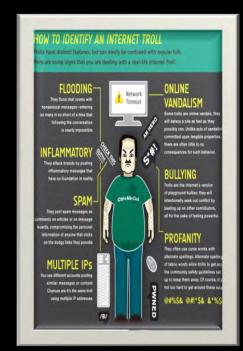


cyberbullyin





THE UGLY





I. D. THEFT



digital burn

CYBERBULLYING / CYBERAGGRESSION

DEFINITION: "Behavior aimed at harming another person using electronic communications, and perceived by the target as aversive"

- From 10%-40% of adolescents reported having been the victims of cyberbullying
- 23% of youth reported being the victim of any type of bullying (physical, verbal, relational, and cyberbullying)
- 50% of youth reported having been victims of ALL four types of bullying
- Only 4.6% reported having been ONLY the victim of cyberbullying
- Prevalence rates for PERPETUATION of cyberbullying range from 1%-79%; Most self-report rates hover around 10%
- 32.7% of youth reported that the harmful digital communication came from someone they thought was their friend; 27.7% said it was from someone in their school

Being a victim of cyberbullying is routinely associated with negative outcomes, such as...

Embarrassment Worry Fear
Depression Loneliness Betrayal
Anger

The severity of both "offline" & online bullying events has been shown to predict future psychopathology including:



Suicidal ideation (cyberbullying relates more strongly than traditional bullying)



Self-harm

Already marginalized adolescents, teens, and young adults (such as those with ASD) report more frequent online attacks (Finn, 2004) than other populations.

Perpetuating cyberbullying has been found to be associated with multiple forms of maladjustment including:

DEPRESSION LOW SELF-ESTEEM LOW ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT LONELINESS

0000

ANXIETY SUBSTANCE USE LOW LIFE SATISFACTION



Cybervictimization was associated with risk factors, including:

POOR LIFE SATISFACTION TRADITIONAL BULLYING AGE LOW SELF-ESTEEM

FREQUENCY OF INTERNET USE LONELINESS

RISKY ONLINE BEHAVIOR **DEPRESSION**

SOCIAL STRUGGLES SUBSTANCE USE

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES SOMATIC SYMPTOMS

LOW ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT STRESS

SUICIDAL IDEATION

E

R

E

E

EXPERTS BELIEVE THAT ...

CYBERVICTIMS ARE LIKELY TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT MENTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL PROBLEMS

and also that...

CYBERAGGRESSION HURTS DIFFERENTLY & MORE DEEPLY THAN FACE-TO-FACE BULLYING

(I personally believe it is because whether true or not, the assumption is that "everyone" sees it online, as opposed to F2F bullying which is usually more contained)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EDUCATION, PREVENTATIVE MEASURES, & HELP, VISIT: www.Cyberbully411.com

PROTECTIVE FACTORS TO PREVENT CYBERVICTIMIZATION:

- SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE
- @ PARENTAL MONITORING
- PARENTAL CONTROL OF TECHNOLOGY
- Q AVOIDANCE OF RISKY CYBER BEHAVIOR
- AVOIDANCE OF RISKY CYBER PLATFORMS
- PERCEIVED SUPPORT FROM PEERS & OTHERS
- PRACTICING GOOD "DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP"

SOCIAL MEDIA RULES!

(Um... just to clarify, I mean the actual "RULES" of social media, not that it ACTUALLY "rules." Then again...)

DO NOT

CONFESS

TO

MURDERI

NG

YOUR

BOYFRIEN

D



JhNoSheDINNIT

WHY AM I SO DARN TIRED A









...and chill...





BTW: OVER 20 MILLION MINORS GLOBALLY USE FACEBOOK; 7.5 MILLION OF WHOM ARE UNDER THE (REQUIRED) AGE OF 13 (Consumer Reports, 2011)

"LIKES" (& their "like") RULE; They are the SOCIAL CURRENCY of MILLENIALS & GEN Z

5 TYPES OF STRESS RELATED TO FACEBOOK

- 1. Dealing with annoying content
- 2. Lack of privacy
- 3. Social comparison (FOMO/JOMO)
- 4. Jealousy
- 5. Relationship conflict

... in addition, frequency of using Facebook were related to elevated levels of psychological distress both directed and via increased communication overload and decreased selfesteem (Chen & Lee, 2013)



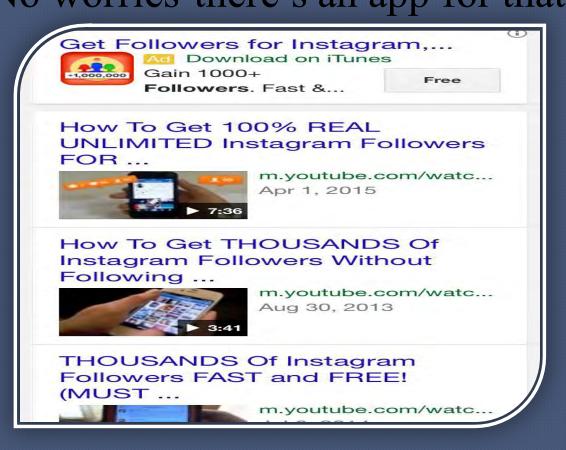
#TB80's



INSTA(or FINSTA)GRAM

(now the "preferred" social media plaform for 76% of adolescents & teens)

2017: Wanna be "Liked?" No worries-there's an app for that!



Social Media Explained

www.theAdaptiveMarketer.com



I'm at the donut shop - again!



Instagram

Here is a vintage picture of a donut



My donut recipe



I like donuts



Hey! I am eating a donut



Listening to 'Donuts'



This is how you eat a donut



Hotmail

Click for the secret to stop overeating donuts



I'm a Google employee and I like Donuts



Funny donut eating videos



I want to work at a donut shop



Ti validicifiyal

Saw the donut? It's gone



The sounds of eating a Donut



Call me from the donut shop



WIKIPEDIA

Who invented the donut?



My donut photo collection

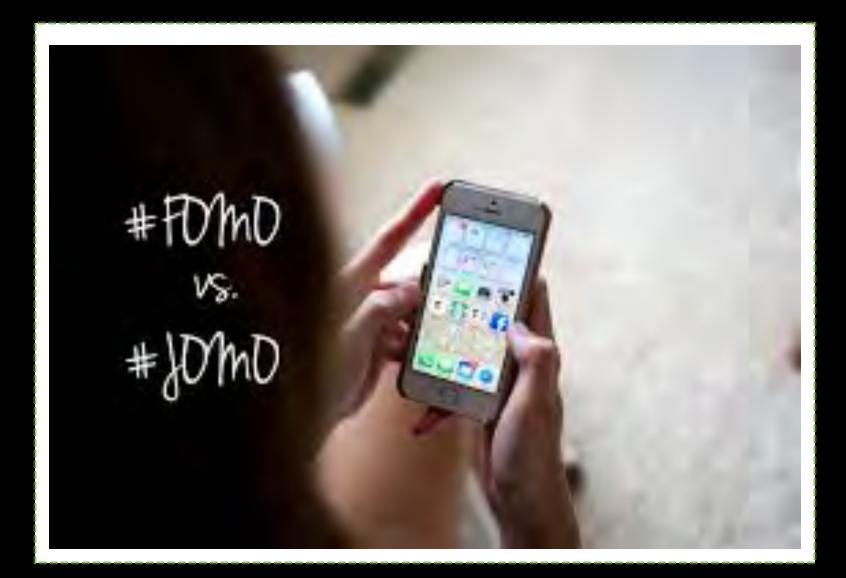


Is it Donut or Doughnut?



Join us for Donut Tuesdays!





#iwannabelikekimkourtneykhloekylie #NOT! #sorrynotsorry

- ✓ In F2F we are subjects of our relationships, communication, interplay; Online we are objects which are self-created, curated, compared, managed & maintained
- Self-presentation becomes key
- ➤ Reviewing the "lives" of others decreases our own feelings of value, self-worth & happiness. "Everyone else is having such a better time." #FML
- **У** We post/tweet everywhere we go, everything we do
- ▼ There is a direct negative correlation between the amount someone posts on social media & their self-esteem. More postings = lesser ego strength
- Even when together F2F it is all about documenting the event & posting it
- When together, always on or aware of social media, email, & texts
- We sit with friends & spending the entire time on our phones, then post photos of ourselves with our friend(s) (What's up with THAT?!)
- Posting during/after events-"thanking" the host we already thanked-& the guests to whom we already said goodbye to AT the event-becomes PRIORITY!
- We list everyone there we just saw; tagging only the socially "important "people"
- → All tied to building, buttressing, leveraging and/or maintaining social currency
- Mean girls (& boys); catfishing, cyberbullying & online posts, tweets, images...
- Use, perception, emotional reaction, reaction, response

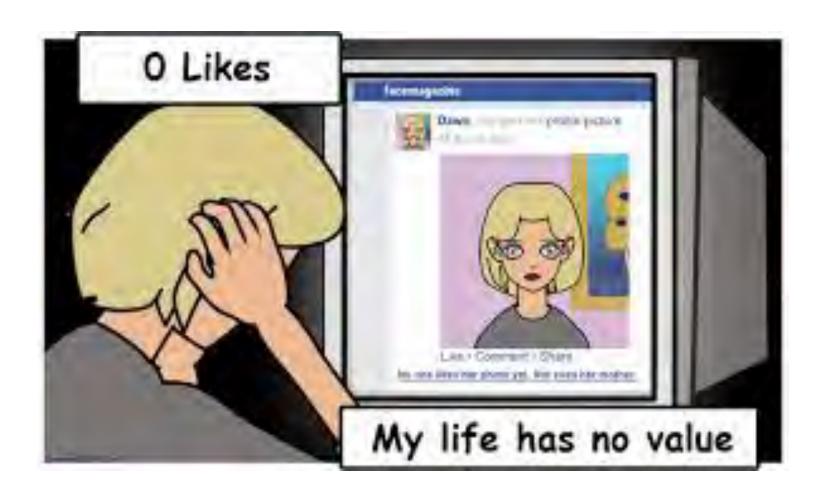
Do we contemplate the affect/effect our posts might have before posting?

Do we edit our posts?

What is our motivation/agenda (or not) for posting (or not)?



THESE QUESTIONS ARE HARD ENOUGH FOR THE AVERAGE PERSON FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH ASD, THEY CAN BE RENDERED MOOT...
AND EVEN CAUSE SIGNIFICANT CONSEQUENCES.



MAY 20, 2011

Obama's New Boss / Syria McCain vs. Brzezinski / Puss Summer's best movies & more

TIME

THE

GENERATION

Millennials are lazy, entitled narcissists who still live with their parents

Why they'll save us all





SWIPE RIGHT TO BIN



Text Message Today 11:10 AM

Hey Alex Laughlin, It's Binder, the app for dumping people. Your ex says, 'they'd rather you were happy than with them, and these two things cannot coincide'. Sorry, you're binned. Www.go-binder.com

Text Message

Q W E R T Y U I O

A S D F G H J K

7 Y C V B N M

Okay... now THIS is just BEYOND UNCOOL...

#PlummatingMEHtaDauchal avale

SOCIAL MEDIA REASONABLE USE STRATEGIES

(It's all about practicing good "Digital Citizenship")



cStructure homes & children's time to guard against excessive involvement with social media

Charge all family member phones OUTSIDE of bedrooms

ABSOLUTELY NO devices at meals or family gatherings

Illustrate the power of intermittent reinforcement

Remind them that what they see & receive may not be vitally important – and also not even be real or authentic

Set & utilize privacy settings to avoid problems

angagement so that they feel more

Encourage them to put devices aside from time to time

Talk to your children about their online social lives, from the BEGINNING of their

MILLENIALS

(a.k.a. Digital Natives)

- M Born after 1984 ("Gen Z"-ers were born from the mid-1990's on)
- Surpassed Baby Boom generation in 2015 as nation's largest living generation
- Came of age during a recession, dot com bubble/burst, terrorism, and U.S. housing crash
- Overexposed and underdeveloped
- Self-esteem gauged by "Likes" (or lack thereof), number of "followers," comparisons to other as seen through postings on social media
- Their "narcissism" different than previously defined in DSM. Entitled by Baby Boomer parents & society, Self(ie)-absorbed, Reality TV tells them everyone can be famous, Twitter shows them everyone cares about their every opinion, blogs (same; unvetted; building an audience)
- M Tinder (etc.) & cyberporn have changed dating/sexuality for the worse.
- Post 9/11 culture; they don't understand privacy, rather they CRAVE exposure
- Have developed an entire "language" of codes/emoticons/emojis to express their feelings through digitally-mediated communication

DIGITAL IMMIGRANTS VS. DIGITAL NATIVES

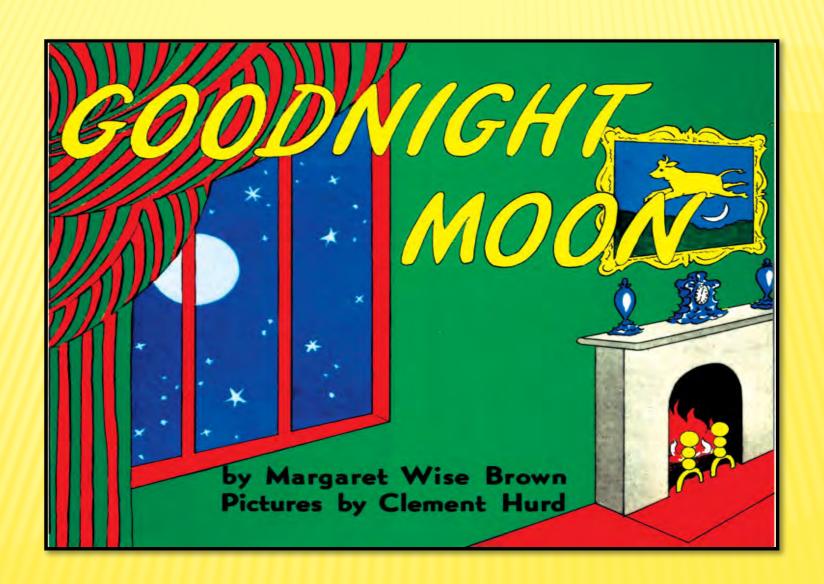
IMMIGRANTS

- Prefer to talk on the phone or in person
- Cell-mostly; use their phones to access Internet, connect with others, and even do their homework.
- Text sparingly
- Value proper English when texting or posting; use correct grammar/punctuation and will go back to edit, correct
- Prefer synchronistic communication
- Accustomed to and like manuals/instructions with clear steps
- Assume they will work their way up the ladder in the workplace
- Hang out in person, in social clubs, restaurants
- Tell friends about a trip on the phone or in person
- Use Internet to harvest information
- Think young people waste time online
- Think of the Internet as not "real life"
- One task or pleasure at a time
- Safety concerns are physical kidnapping, assault, robbery, illness, or mortality

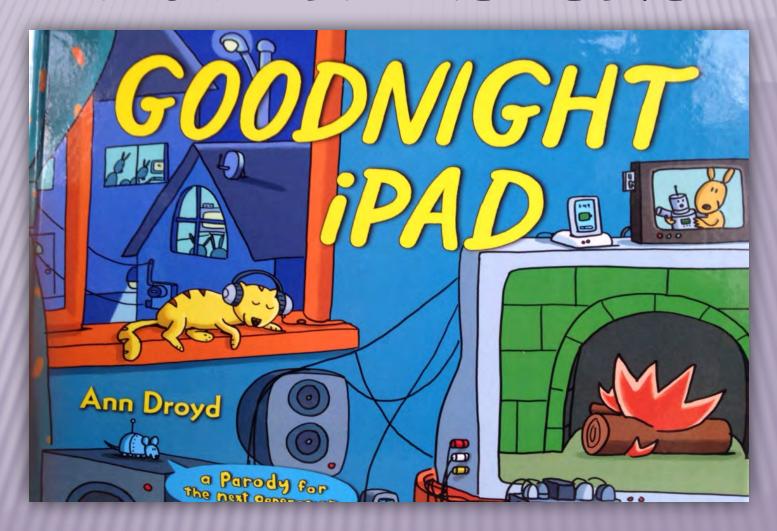
NATIVES

- Prefer to connect via text, chat, gaming, social media
- Text more than call; 47% of teens can text with their eyes closed
- Prefer asynchronistic (sequential) communication
- Cannot relate to manuals; figure it out intuitively
- Try many careers, prefer flexible hours, opportunity to make up work remotely expected
- Hang out online in chats, social network sites, and games
- Use texting and instant messaging shorthand, codes, emoticons & emojis
- Tell friends about trips through posting
- Use Internet to socialize, play, watch videos, shows, movies, etc.
- Believe many aspects of life are only happening online
- Prefer shopping and watching movies online
- Internet is as real, and often more pleasurable, than offline is
- Believe everything they read online has at least some authenticity
- Multitasking is their life

DIGITAL IMMIGRANTS BE LIKE...



BUT DIGITAL NATIVES BE LIKE...



(...And they usually DON'T be likin' it at all!)



And so it

ANDYOU<u>WONDER</u>WHYWE DON'TTRUSTYOU!!!



Calculator or Hidden App? Teens Are Disguising Content With Apps







THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS... I MEAN... The 12 APPS EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW ABOUT...

(#SORRYBRAHSMIBAD)

- 1. AUDIO MANAGER
- 2. VAULTY
- 3. SNAPCHAT
- 4. BURN NOTE
- 5. LINE
- 6. OMEGLE
- 7. TINDER
- 8. BLENDR
- 9. KiK MESSENGER
- 10.YIK YAK
- 11.ASK.fm
- 12.NSFW SUBREDDITS

SOON AS YOU SEE THE TEXT

#Like a phone call, but we feel the pressured need to instantly reply and also to instantly receive reply ourselves

#An inherently selfish behavior

#Self-esteem & relationship determined by response time

#Ambiguity of non-verbal communication can cause relationship fissures/problems — especially for those with ASD



TEXTING...



Basically the "lazy" and "selfish" version of a phone call, but we feel the pressured need to immediately check it, & also to instantly reply. Or wait. Depending upon the "sender" & our intent/goals regarding them



Self-esteem & relationship determined by response time



Send a dopamine "squirt" to the brain pleasure receptors



Ambiguity of non-verbal communication can cause stress, anxiety, and/or relational fissures/problems-especially common with individuals with ASD

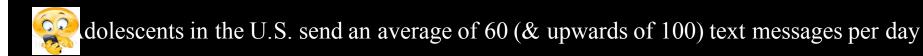


Adolescents, teens, young adults, and... yes... even many adults... crave the peer affirmation, attention & connection afforded to them by text messages



The power of this reinforcement is enhanced by the fact that it is deliverable via an intermittent schedule

SOME FACTS REGARDING TEXTING BEHAVIOR ...



pigital Natives (and even A LOT of us Digital Immigrants!) prefer to communicate via text nessaging than ANY other mode of communication, including F2F interaction

THE GOOD:

Controllable
Asynchronous
Relieves pressure of communication struggles

THE BAD:

Lack of facial cues can cause misinterpretation of texts

Perseveration can lead to over-texting and negative consequences

Reinforces lack of F2F or talking engagement

A kinda super selfish form of communication

THE UGLY:

Cyberbullying "Sexting" which can lead to negative consequences

TO LIMIT SMARTPHONE AND TEXTING WITH KIDS

- · Be aware of the variety of devices available
- Decide which type of Smartphone, if any, is appropriate for the age of your child.
- Control usage; purchase limited minute plans/phones for calling/texting, or by monitoring child's access
- · Consider linking the privilege of phone usage with responsibilities like completing homework, chores, etc.
- Discuss the necessity of using caution when texting or sending photos since they are not private & may be shared with people your child does not know
- Instill an awareness that sending hurtful or untrue messages can have serious consequences for both the sender & the child or children who are being discussed
- Take time to express interest in your child's friends & in the messages he/she sends
- Limit times/places where your child can use electronic devices since maintaining open parent-child communication is essential. Insist that your child refrain from texting during short car trips, and family dinners, when adults are speaking directly to him or her, etc.
- Encourage your child's interest & participation in various activities: athletics, drama, photography, art, crafts,
 - playing a musical instrument, singing, dancing, reading, volunteering, etc.
- Provide quality family interaction time by eating together, taking walks, playing games, etc.
- Foster "technology free" times when your child can reflect on his or her life, feelings, friends, & identity.

AND THEN OF COURSE, THERE ARE...

THE GAMERS!

(aka: What you've all been waiting for!)

- Single Player games
- MMORPG's: Massively multi-player online role playing games (began with Dungeons & Dragons, now most popular in 2015 is World of Warcraft)
- MUD's: Multi-use domain games; self-constructed
- Studies indicate that those with ASD spent over 50% more time playing video games & watching TV than all non-screen activities combined.
- Gamers can create a completely self-constructed persona & test/play out identities and roles they are unable to manifest in real life.

Like a drug addict on a bad run, a gaming addict often will neglect personal health, hygiene, any/all responsibilities, sleeping, eating, work, school, & even their own children when lost in a gaming "blackout."

Video games for children with ASD are a potential source of great learning opportunities, but can present a host of dangers and the potential for problematic use as well

Kids & teens with ASD are especially vulnerable to video game addiction

Boys with ASD average 2.4 hours a day playing video games; girls 1.8

Compared to typically developed siblings, children & teens with ASD had higher levels of problematic, or addictive, video game use

RELATED BEHAVIORS INCLUDE:

- 1. Becoming overly focused on their video game play
- 2. Difficulty in transitioning from video game play to other activities
- 3. May display argumentative behavior in an effort to have access to more play
- 4. Getting angry when interrupted from games
- 5. Spending more time with games than with friends and/or family

THE GOOD...



Video games show promise for helping individuals with ASD overcome social & communication challenges

THE BAD...



The more inattention a child displays, the more likely he is to play video games for extended periods of time



Some parents of ASD children may offer increased access to video games as a means of managing difficult behavior

THE UGLY



Excessive video game use has been correlated to increased oppositional behaviors including:



Arguing



Refusing to follow directions



Aggression

IT'S ALL ABOUT CHOICE & BALANCE...

GOOD CHOICES:

Scene Speak

Teachtown

Sports & Educational Games

Super Hexagon

Echochrome

Portal 2

New Super Mario Bros

Pinterest

Wii Sports Resort

Kinect Adventures/Sports

Sports Champions

BAD CHOICES...

ROLE PLAYING GAMES



Have particular features such as high reward schedules (including virtual rewards such as scores, achievements, and in-game items) and social rewards (such as peer attention) that may foster a preoccupation or intense interest in the game



Have the potential to be more time-consuming than other games because players much create and maintain characters over time and have the option to explore open-ended virtual worlds, possibly increasing the likelihood of problematic use patterns



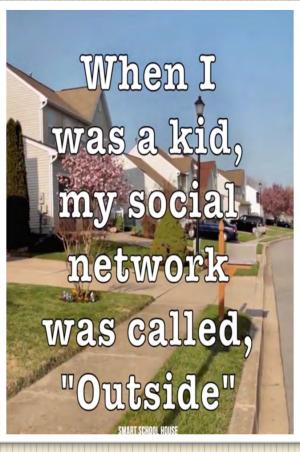
Have been more closely associated with addiction



Game designers purposely install rewards systems and other attractions while prolong intended playing time and can increase emotional activation

COMMON SENSE STRATEGIES TO AVOID PROBLEMS

- 1. Keep it out of the bedroom
- 2. Emphasize and expect other forms of play for your
- 3. Be selective in approved game choices
- 4. Set limits; Offer a "10 minute warning"
- 5. Use a visible timer
- 6. Have another fun "transition" activity in place
- 7. Own the technology
- 8. Establish a specific routine/time schedule for video game play
- 9. Establish & be CONSISTENT with reasonable-use rules & strategies
- 10. Go on a family "Game Play Diet"





APP-Y ENDING!

GOOD:

Two good search engines for finding appropriate apps:

AUTISM APPS i.AM search

When assessing an individual for a mobile device or communication app, issues such as:

USABILITY CONTEXT
INTEGRATION DISCONTINUANCE
TECHNOLOGY COMPATABILITY
CONTEXT, SENSORY/COGNITIVE DEMANDS
ABILITY TO BLOCK/DISRUPT/MONITOR

...need to be considered.

OTHER POTENTIALLY GOOD SOFTWARE/APPS/PLATFORMS*

"Speech With Milo"

"Look2Learn"

"Tap To Talk"

"Tobbi Sono Flex"

"APP Caution Tab

"Boardmaker"

"Noise Down"

"Virtual Scene Displays"

"Too Noisy Pro"

"TouchChat"

"Internet Solutions For Kid

"Sequencing Tasks: Life Skills"

Smartphone-based autism social alert system

Autism Tutor; "An eparenting tool" (Android phones only-sorry Apple Lovers!)

Also recommended are the use of games / apps that involve:

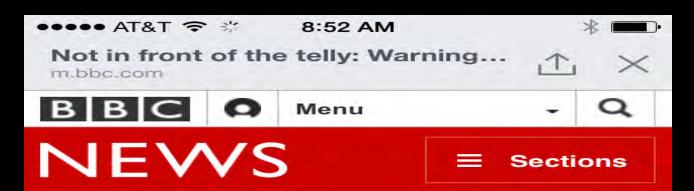




Organizational/Self Management Assistance (such as "Visual Schedule Planner" & "Pocket Schedule" type

SIRI™ (& similarly designed Virtual Assistants) can be positive IF MONITORED. They are predictably kind & "reach children where they live" (i.e. can be programmed in the voice of a Disney[™] or other media-based character that "reaches them")

^{*} DISCLAIMER: Neither I nor anyone I even KNOW, has any personal, professional, or in any way beneficial association with any of the above technological tools



Technology

Not in front of the telly: Warning over 'listening' TV

○ 5 hours ago | Technology



Samsung said personal information could be



PRIVACY, SCHMIVACY-THIS STUFF IS SUPER COOL!!!





ONES TO WATCH ON THE IMMEDIATE DIGITAL HORIZON ...?

Or just more über hyped "(Google) Waves" of the Future types???

BITCOIN

PERISCOPE

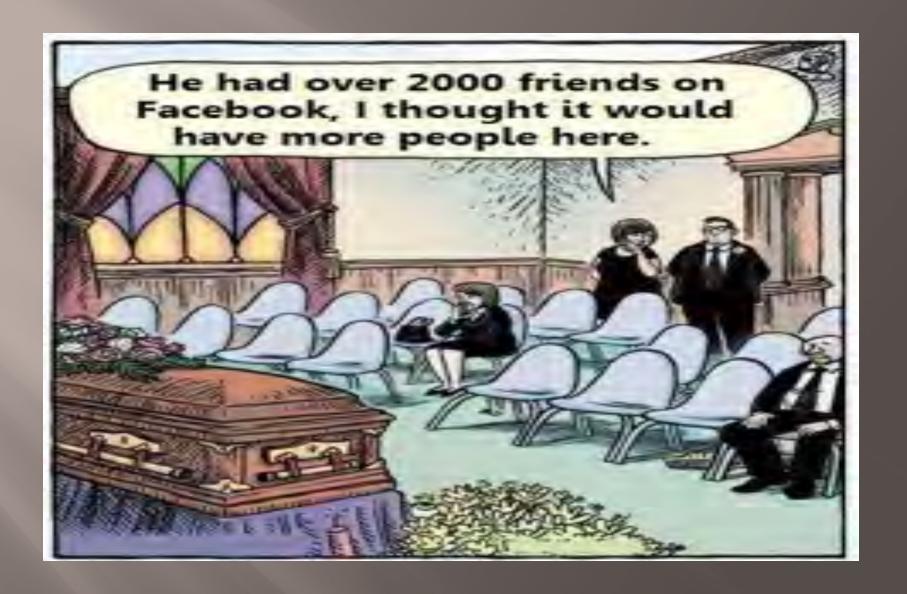
OCULUS (VR / AR)

SYNEREO

ETHEREUM

FIRECHAT





#BummerDude

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& LOTS & LOTS OF OTHER JOURNAL ARTICLES, BOOKS, RESEARCH, AND (LEGIT!) WEB-BASED SOURCES WHICH I WOULD BE GLAD TO SHARE WITH ANYONE WHO ASKS!!!

With profound and humble appreciation to:

ADVANCE L.A.
THE HELP GROUP
DR. HOLLY DANIELS
EVELYN SANTIAGO
MY DOG "LUNA"
ALL OF YOU...

& AS ALWAYS,

My Most Esteemed Mentor: DR. KAREN DILL-SHACKLEFORD



Facebook

I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same prin-

ciples.

Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom.

I give them pictures of my family, my dog and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch and doing what anybody and everybody does every day.

I also listen to their conversations, give them the "thumbs up" and tell them I like

them.

And it works just like Facebook! I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.

already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.