

Raising Kids In A New Kind of World

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The post-modern crisis

- From inclusion of the other to all voices are valid/ all truths equal
- Danish cartoonist and Mohammed
- Family Guy episode with Jesus

Three Media revolutions and their effect on school/literacy

How the internet changes everything

- Two main areas: attention span, attitudes toward authority
- radical democracy
- the printing press
- fall of two pyramids – catholic church/monarchy

The pyramid versus the web

- Facebook story
- Pros and cons of each model
- The pyramid was not all it was cracked up to be
- Patriarchy versus Radical democracy
- Kids need to be taught how to use their voices responsibly

The disappearance of childhood

- Childhood now ends at 13
- Romeo and Juliet

Two environments: school space and cyberspace

- What each requires

Core Issues in Parenting

- We teach who we are - If you want your child to be happy, get happy yourself
- Living through your children
- Conditional love
- Holding close vs letting go
- Trust
- The Will to Power
- The strong-willed child
- Power and control
- Freedom versus structure
- We teach responsibility through freedom



- External locus of control versus internal locus of control
- “Freedom ends where the rights....”
- Allowing feelings
- Anger
- Communication – Listening / Talking
- The 3 basic emotional needs of children
- The harbour metaphor

Cyberspace: the new “environment”

Video Games

- Shorten attention spans
- Impede development of imagination
- Inhibit verbal development including reading and writing
- Detract from physical fitness
- Take up huge amounts of time
- Are addictive

Positive Aspects of Video Games

- Outlet for aggression
- Social aspect (connect “shoulder to shoulder”)
- Satisfies kinesthetic and spatial need
- Satisfies desire for concrete thinking

The Problem with “Screen Time”

- The screen pays attention for you
 - This part of the brain is bypassed and does not develop
- vs
- Moving around in the natural world attending to a wide variety of inputs

MSN / Facebook Social networking sites

- Blurring of public and private space
- Illusion of intimacy
- Superficial connections
- No practicing of social skills – especially reading body language and other feedback
- Tone of voice and nuance do not exist in text