



## Goal of our Meeting

- Not to teach you everything there is to know about the technology that could be a part of your child's life
- Not even to teach you everything you need to know about the technology that could be a part of your child's life

## Goal of our Meeting

- To encourage and better equip you to deal with technology in your role as parents
  - To make you aware of the technology that could be a part of your child's life
  - To show you some of the potential dangers which could come from that technology
  - To give you some practical instruction and tools related to dealing with that technology

## The Responsibility of Parents

- While not being ultimately responsible for their children's sins, parents do have considerable responsibility for who and what has influenced their children, and so do have some level of responsibility for their sin.
- 1 Samuel 3:10-14

## The Authority of Parents

- Parents are the primary God-given authority for their children
  - Colossians 3:20
  - Ephesians 6:1
- Two critical purposes for your authority are outlined in Psalm 127
  - Guarding or Protecting
  - Building

## The Role of Parents

Tedd Tripp, in his book *Shepherding a Child's Heart* (p. 126), says, "Parenting involves:

- (1) Providing the best shaping influences you can
- (2) The careful shepherding of your children's responses to those influences"

## The Role of Parents related to Technology

Parenting involves:

- (1) Providing the best shaping influences you can by guarding your children from the ungodly influences available through technology – guarding or protecting them
- (2) Carefully shepherding your children's responses to the technology that is a part of their lives – building or instructing them

## The Role of Parents

As a parent, you have:

- Responsibility for your children
  - to give protection, instruction and discipline. This implies the need for:
    - Awareness
    - Action
- Authority over your children
  - to give protection, instruction, and discipline

## Technology and the Heart

As parents, we must think of technology as it relates to our child's heart.

Proverbs 4:23 *"Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life."*

## Technology and the Heart

Your child's use of technology:

- Influences their heart – *watch over or guard your heart*
- Reveals their heart – *from it flow the springs of life*

## General Principles for Parenting and Technology

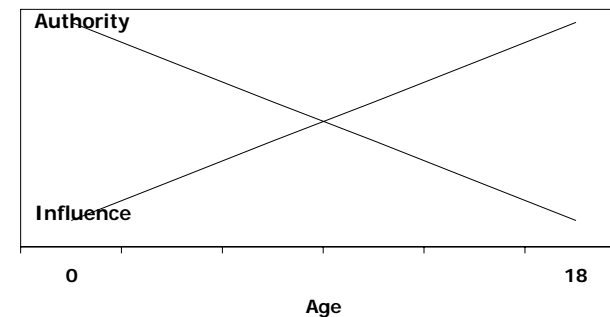
- Be careful to address more than just the behavior of your children related to their use of technology
  - Don't simply set up rules or other safeguards to protect your child.
  - Go beyond their behavior to deal with the heart issues.
  - Biblical communication with your children about these issues is vital.

## General Principles for Parenting and Technology

- Understand the balance of authority (forcing your children to obey) and influence (motivating/teaching your children to choose what is right) relative to your child's age.

## Authority vs. Influence

Taken from *Shepherding a Child's Heart*, by Tedd Tripp



## **General Principles for Parenting and Technology**

- Understand the balance of authority (forcing your children to obey) and influence (motivating/teaching your children to choose what is right) relative to your child's age.
  - Don't just force compliance
  - Teach your children to make godly choices with regards to technology

## **General Principles for Parenting and Technology**

- Be careful what opportunities your children have for doing evil in secret
  - Ephesians 5:7-13
  - Technology has greatly increased the opportunities for evil (particularly anonymous and secret sin) available to children and youth today.

## **General Principles for Parenting and Technology**

- Be careful of who and what are influencing your child
  - 1 Corinthians 15:33
  - Proverbs 13:20
  - Colossians 2:8
  - Technology has greatly increased children's and youth's access to ungodly people and ideas.

## **Potential Dangers...**

- The dangers which we will talk about are not guaranteed to happen with these types of technology
- However, there is the potential that they are happening or could happen
- As parents you must evaluate:
  - Are these happening in my life?
  - Are these happening in the life of my child?

## Some Specific Types of Technology

- Internet
  - General internet usage – pornography, etc.

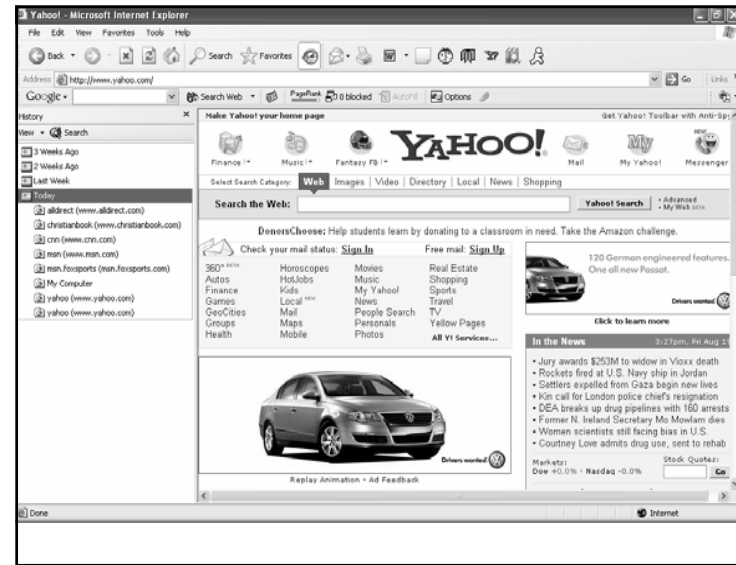
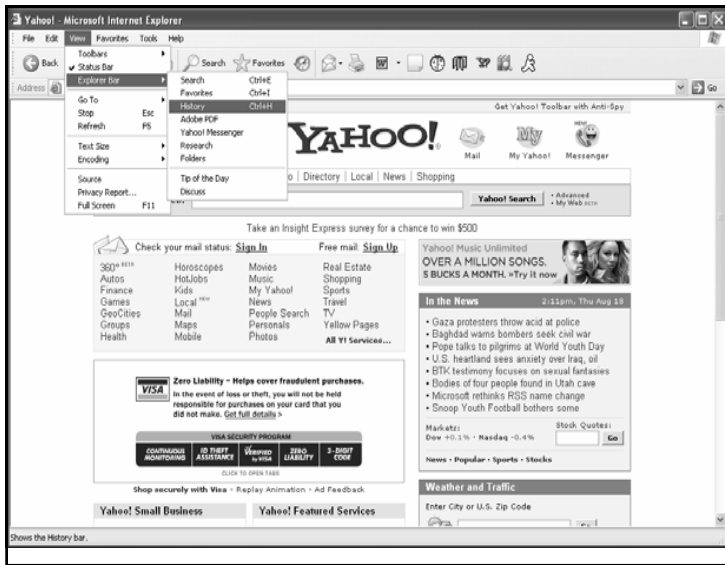
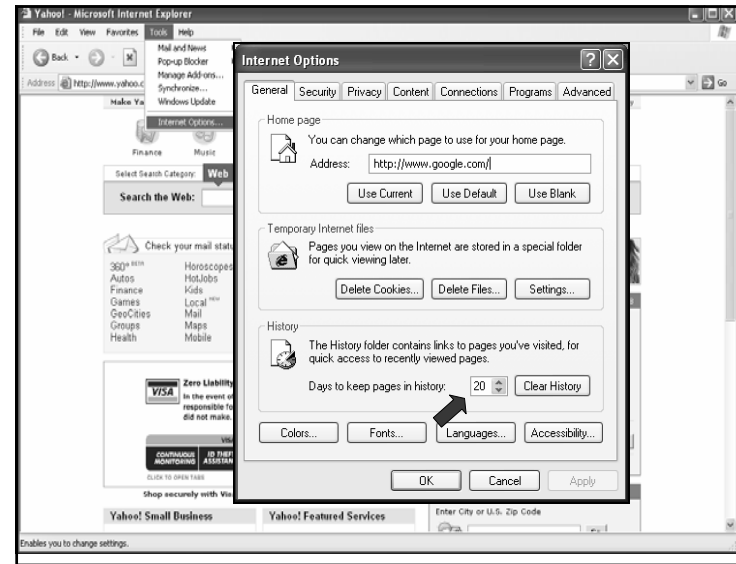
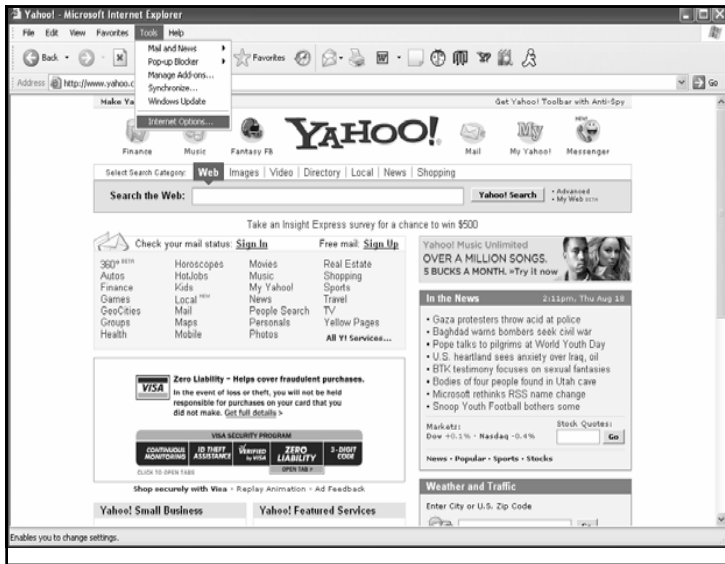
## Potential Dangers of Internet Usage

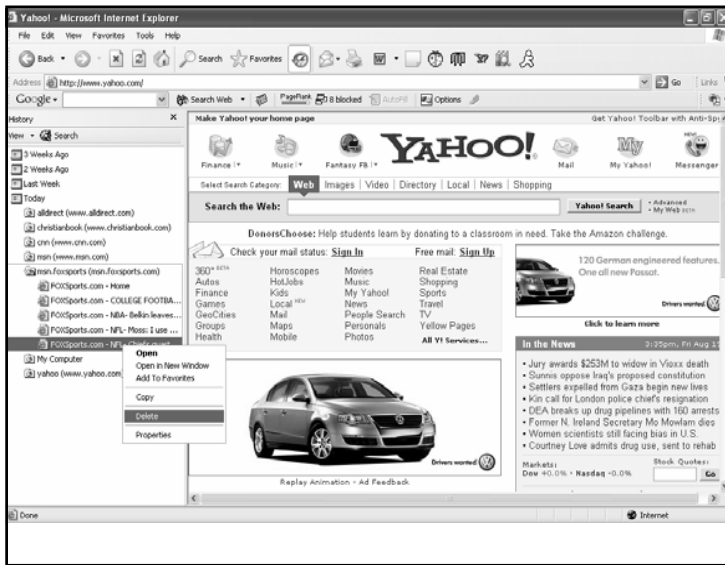
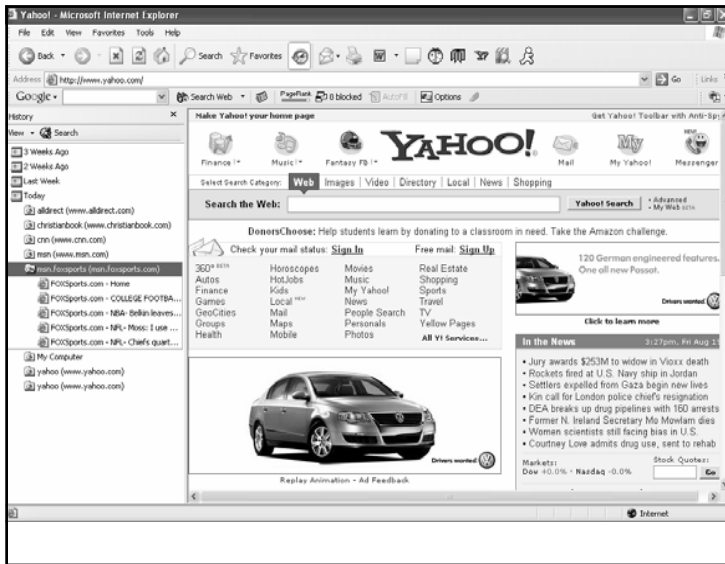
- Exposure to ungodly people, attitudes, ideas, behavior, etc.
  - Potential for “negative” research
  - Significant impact on our thinking or worldview
  - Works against the “renewing of our minds”
  - Violates the commands of Scripture
    - i.e. Philippians 4:8, Ephesians 5:3
- Opportunity to “privately” sin – it brings evil directly into your home
- Waste of time
  - Ephesians 5:15-17

## Potential Safeguards for Internet Usage

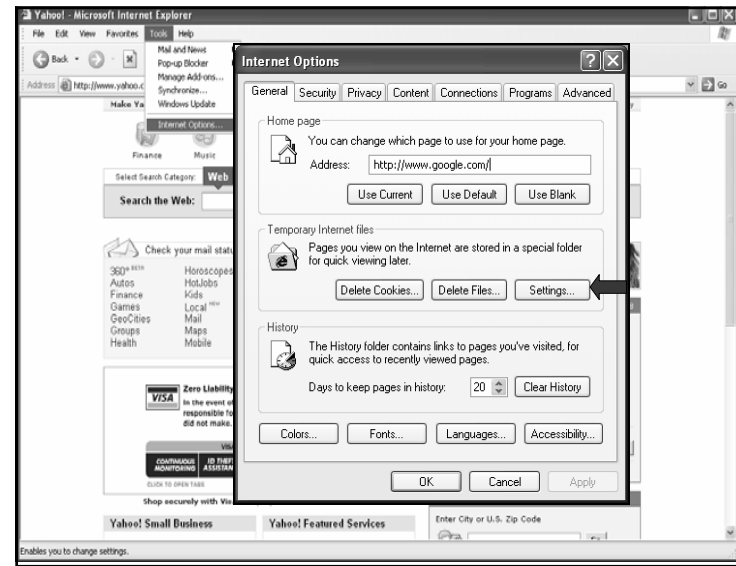
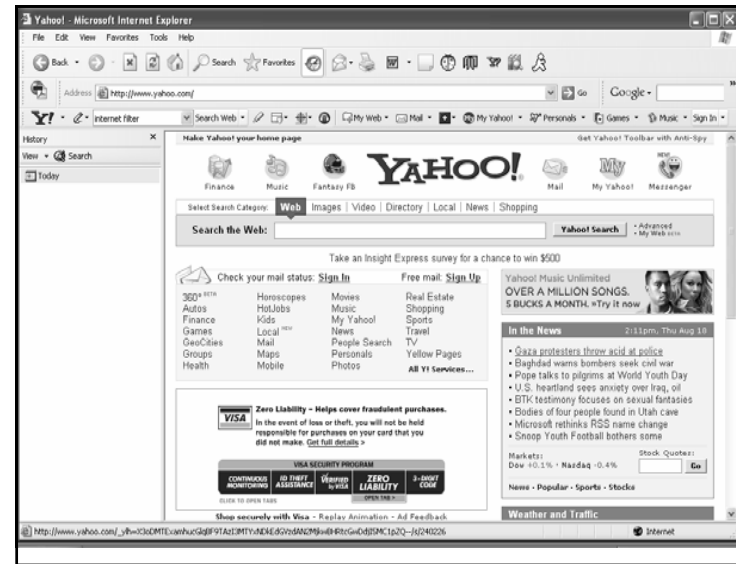
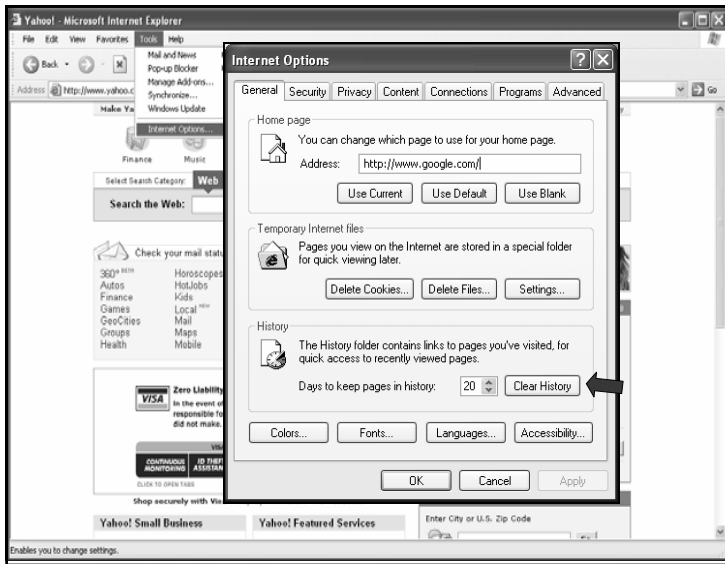
- Don't put a computer with internet in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Monitor what the internet is being used for



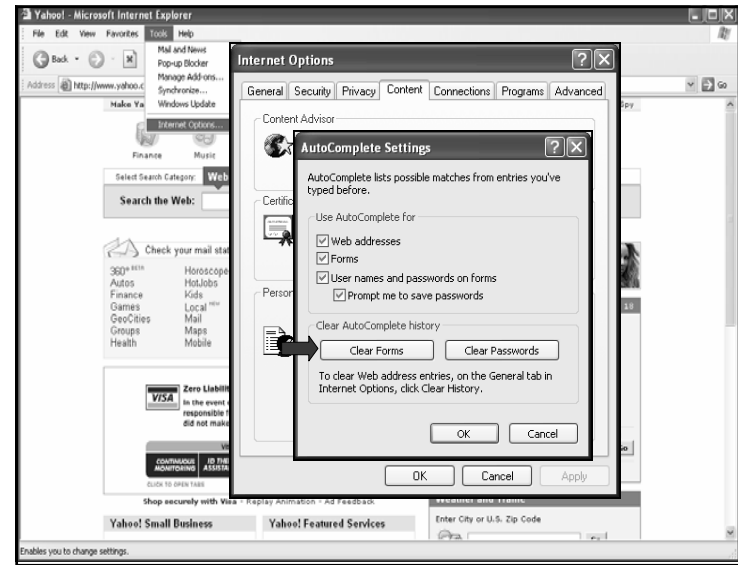
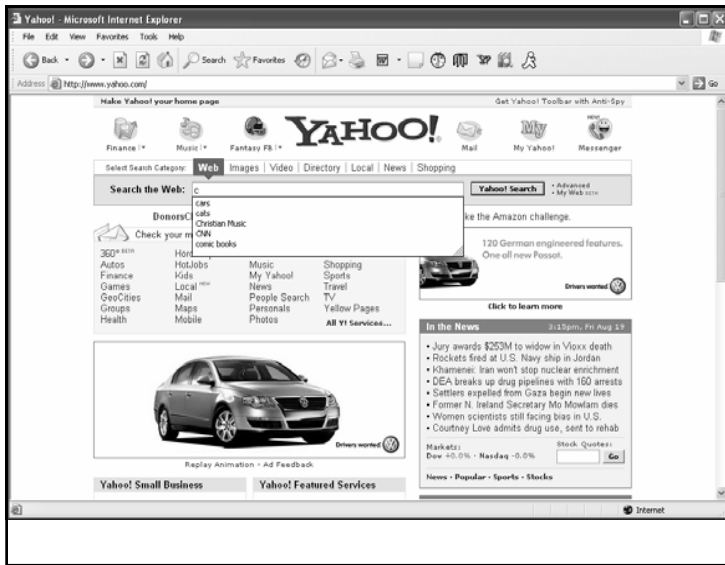
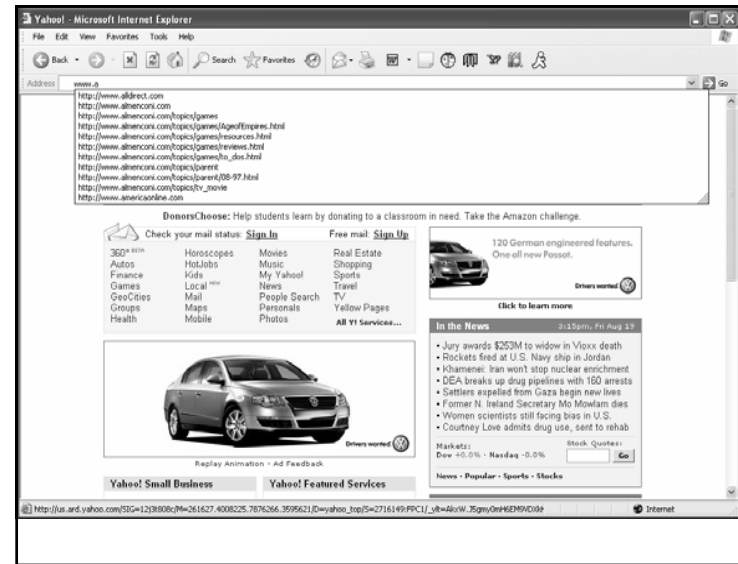
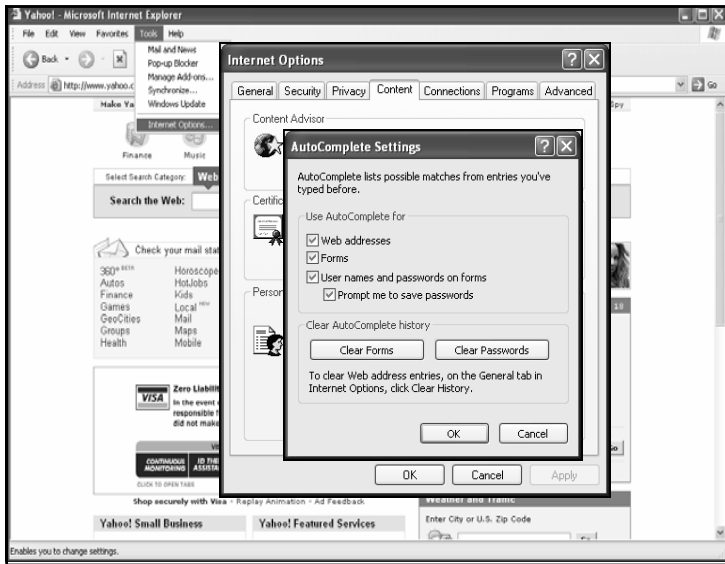










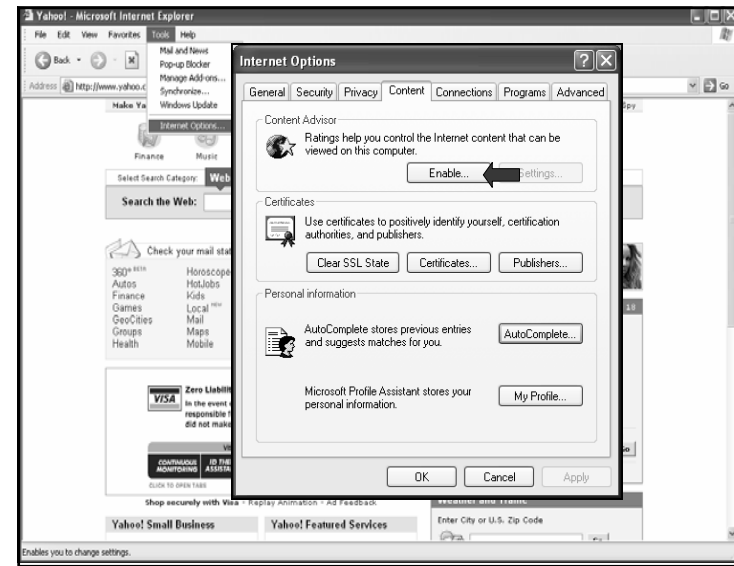


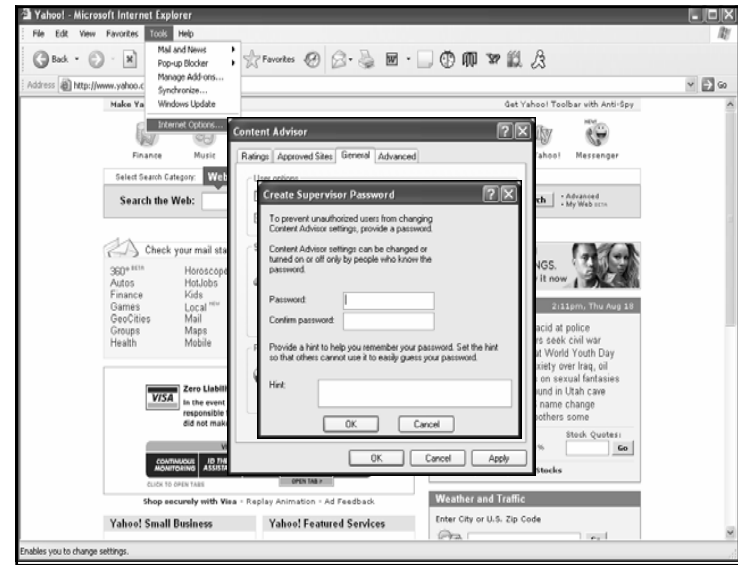
## Potential Safeguards for Internet Usage

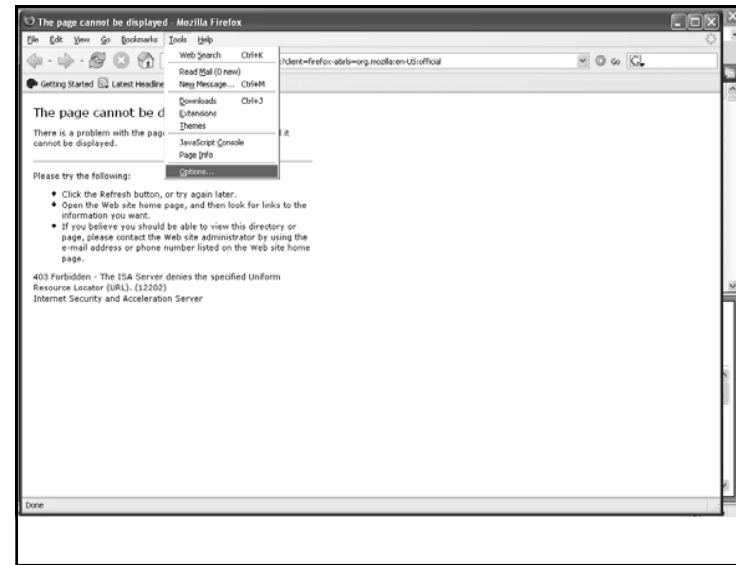
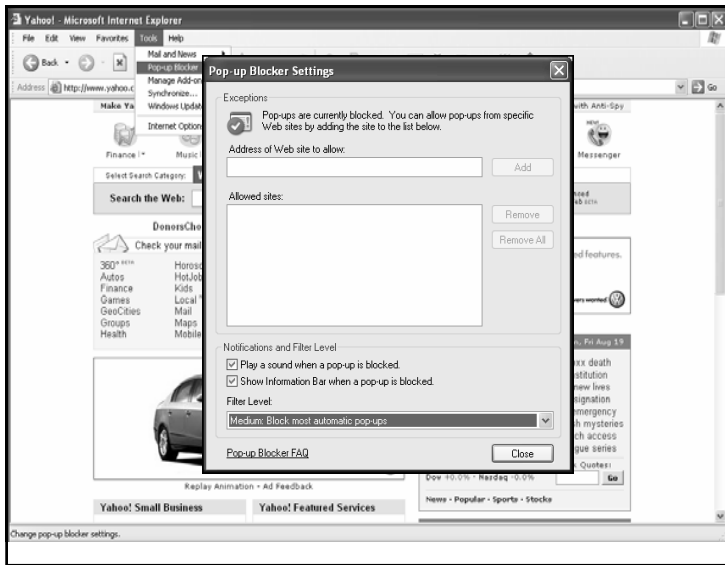
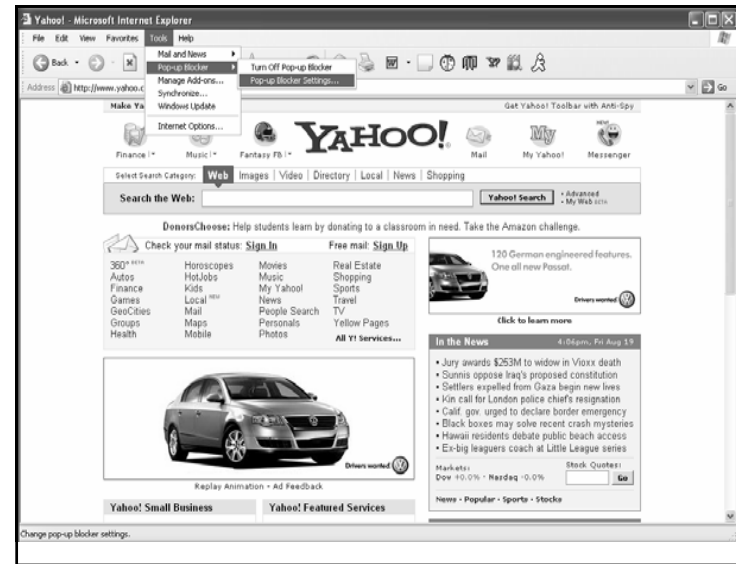
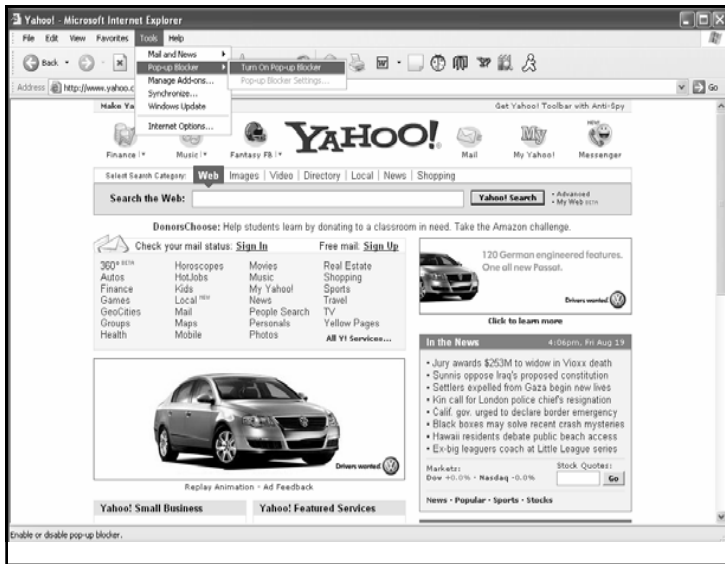
- Index.dat file – keeps a more permanent record of internet usage. Some information is coded, but you can open it in notepad and search for specific phrases.

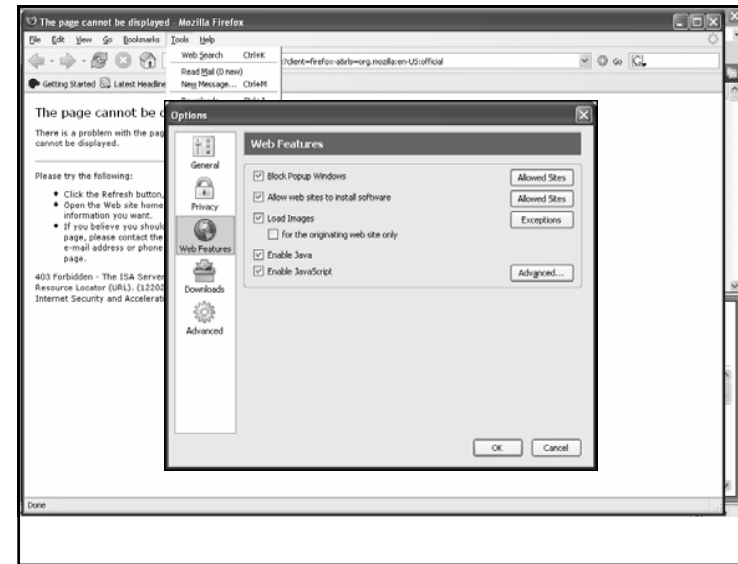
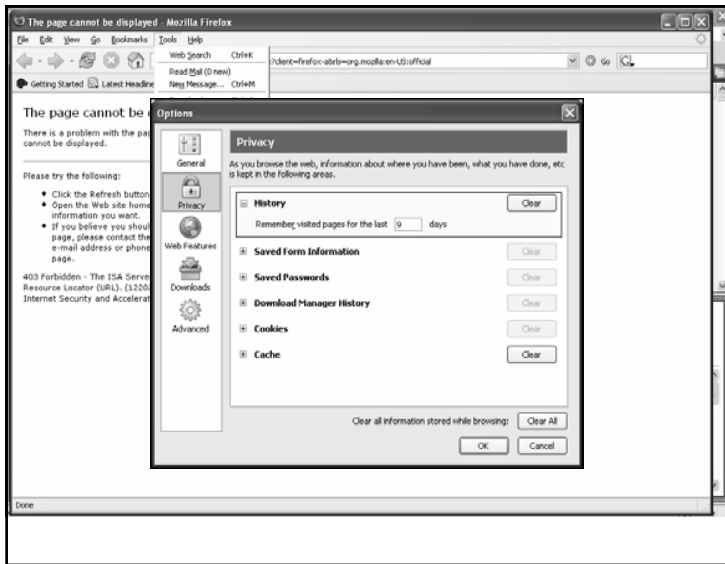
## Potential Safeguards for Internet Usage

- Don't put a computer with internet in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Monitor what the internet is being used for
  - This is only an after-the-fact safeguard
  - It is a good first step to see what has been going on but it is not enough
- Limit what can be viewed online (both websites and pop-ups)







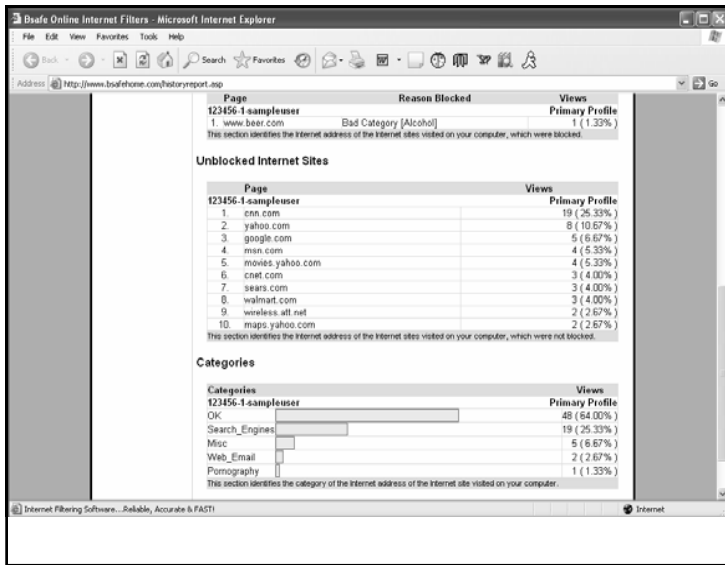
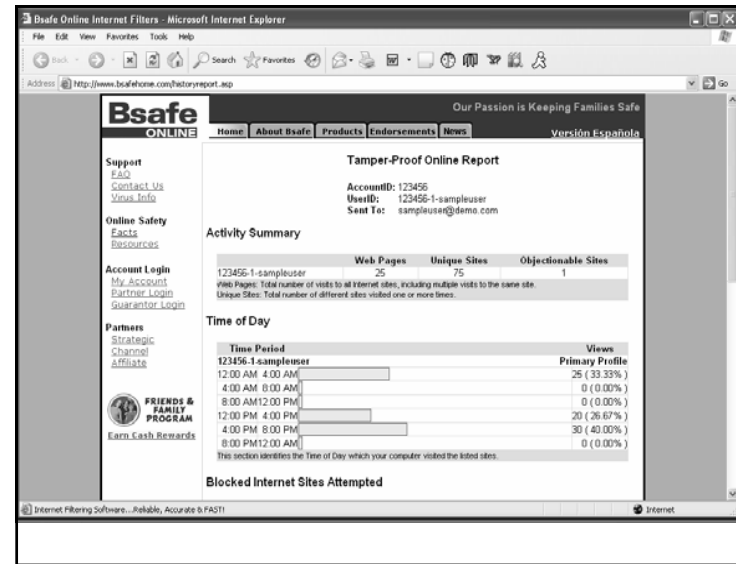
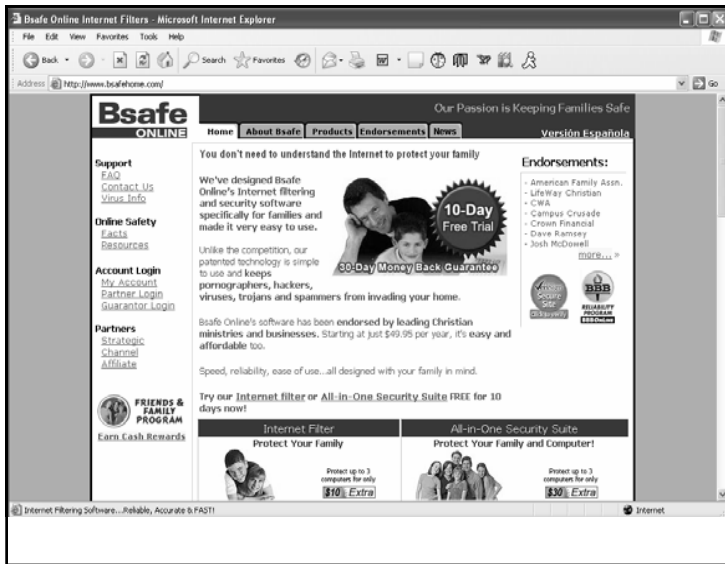


## Potential Safeguards for Internet Usage

- Don't put a computer with internet in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Monitor what the internet is being used for
- Limit what can be viewed online (both websites and pop-ups)
- Utilize other software to help with these things (but know they are not foolproof!)

## Potential Safeguards for Internet Usage

- Norton Internet Securities – Parental Controls
- Bsafe Online ([www.bsafecom.com](http://www.bsafecom.com))



## Potential Safeguards for Internet Usage

- Norton Internet Securities – Parental Controls
- Bsafe Online ([www.bsafe.com](http://www.bsafe.com))
- [www.getnetwise.com](http://www.getnetwise.com) – information on lots of other tools and resources





## More Potential Safeguards for Internet Usage

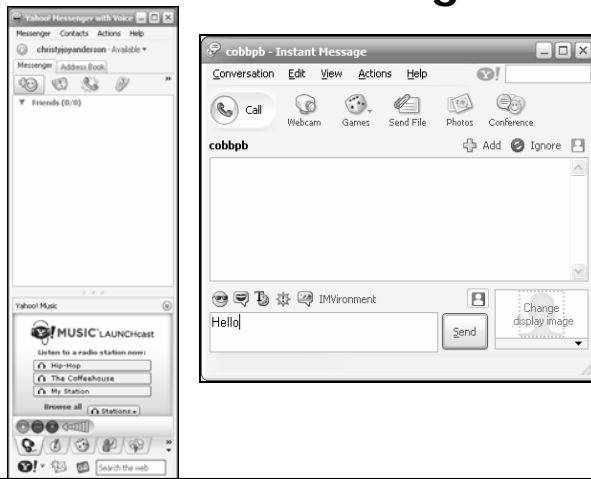
- Be aware of and talk with them about their internet usage away from home (friend's houses, library, school, etc.)
- Limit time spent on the internet
- Only allow them on the internet when you are with them
- In some cases: Get rid of the internet

## Some Specific Types of Technology

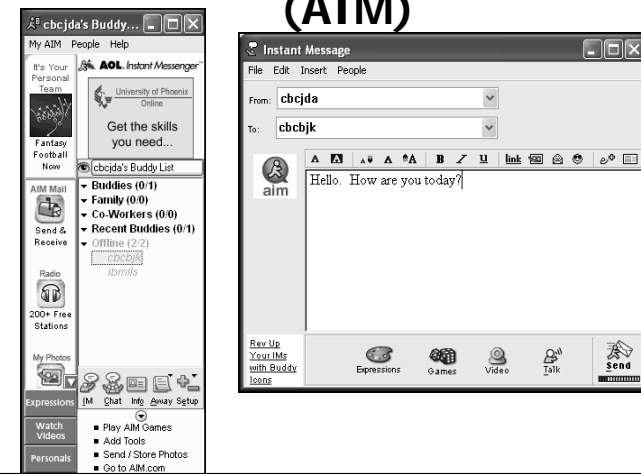
### Internet

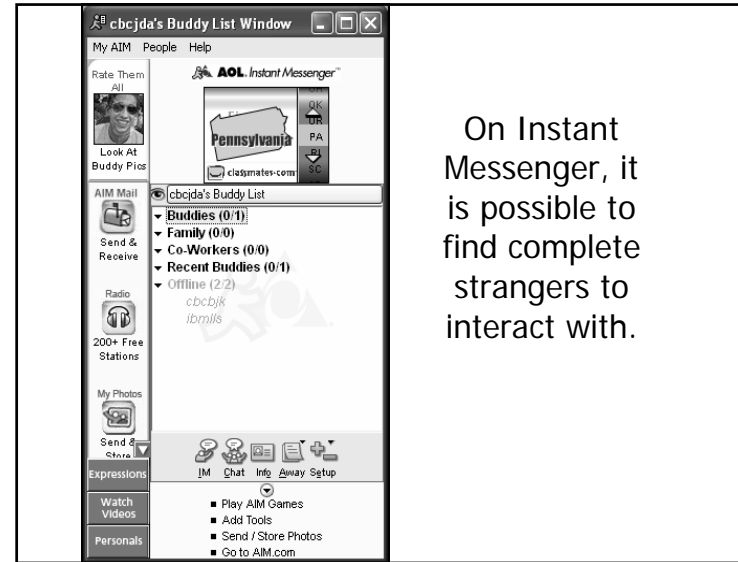
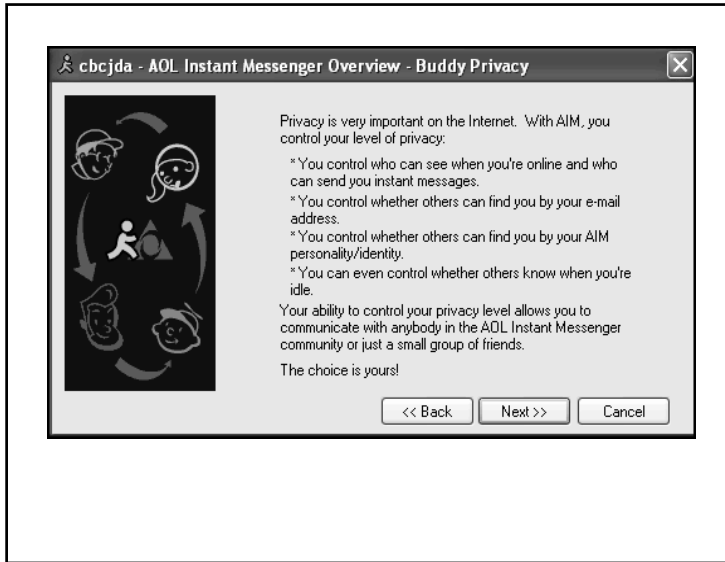
- General internet usage – pornography, etc.
- Instant Messenger

## Yahoo! Messenger

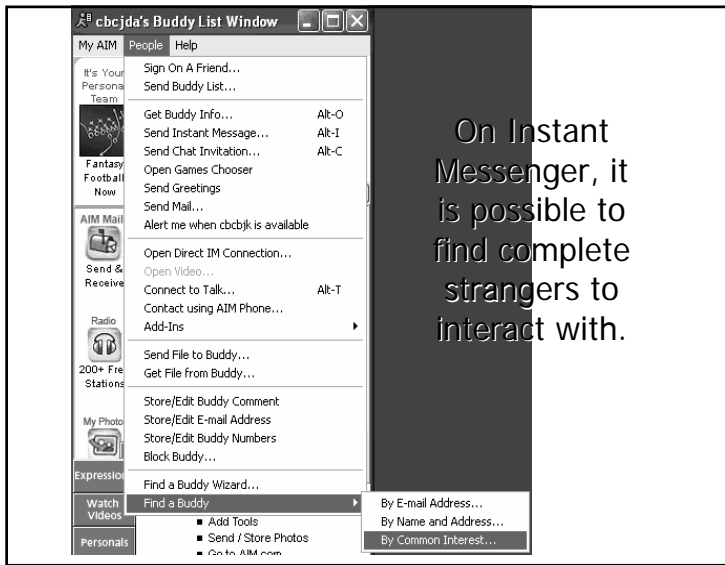


## AOL Instant Messenger (AIM)

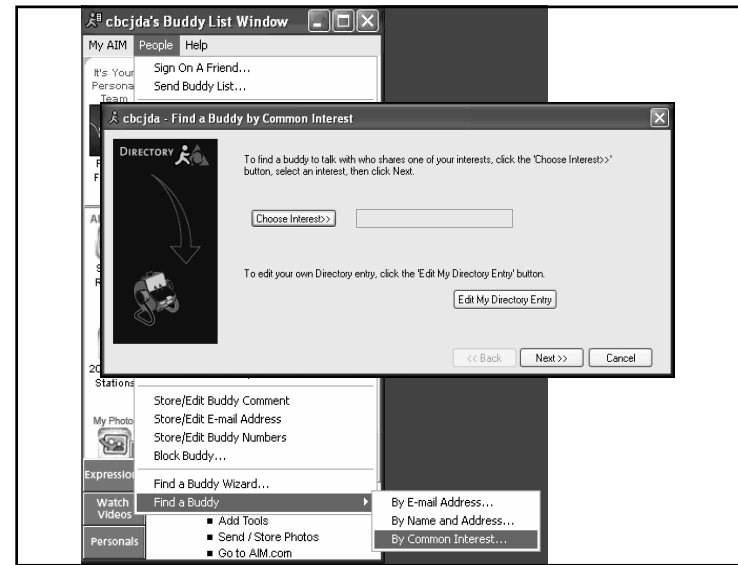


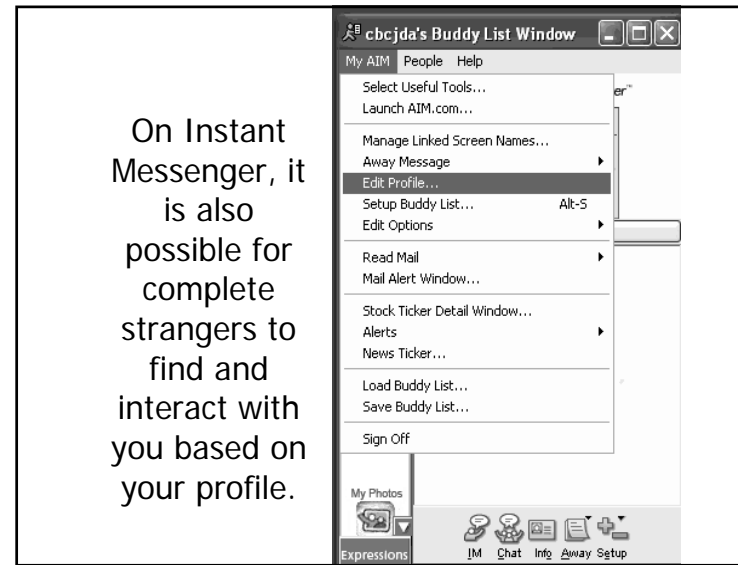
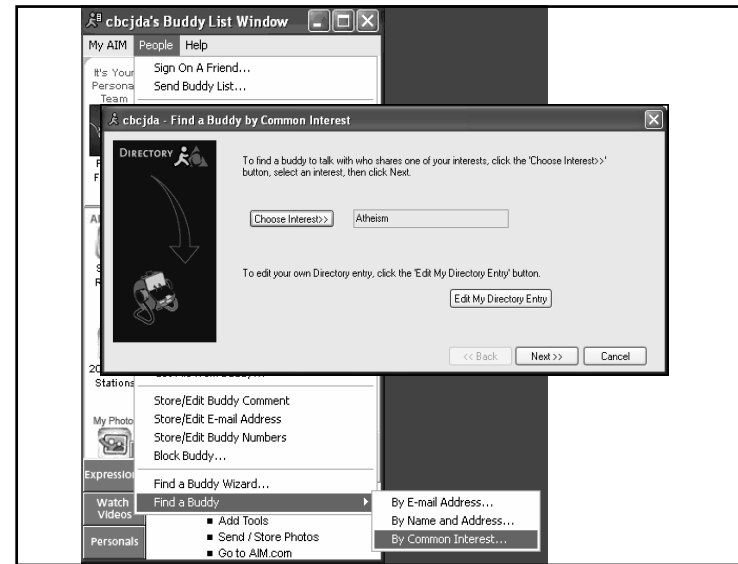
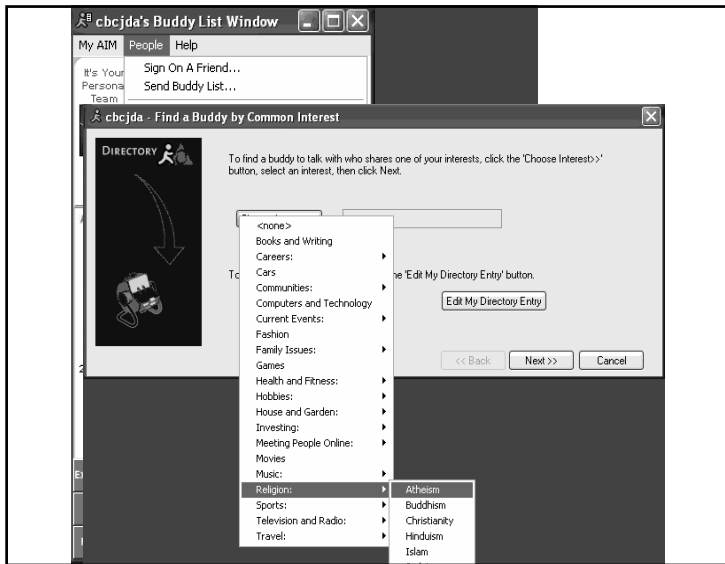


On Instant Messenger, it is possible to find complete strangers to interact with.

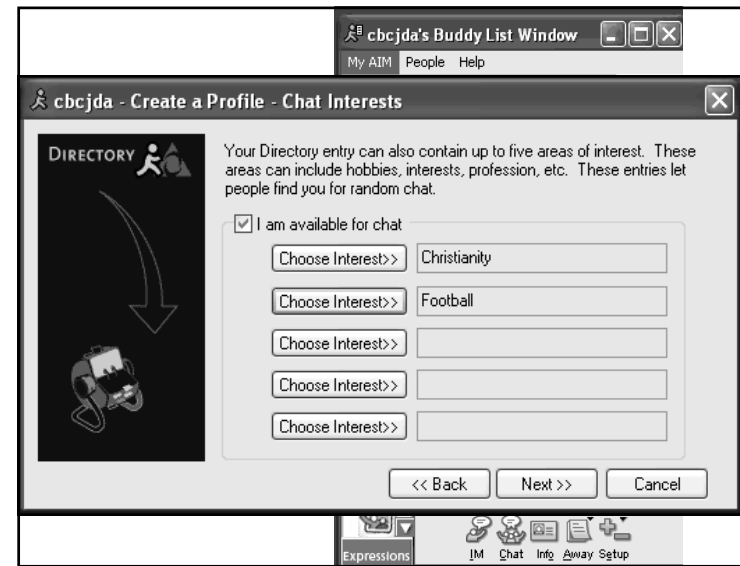
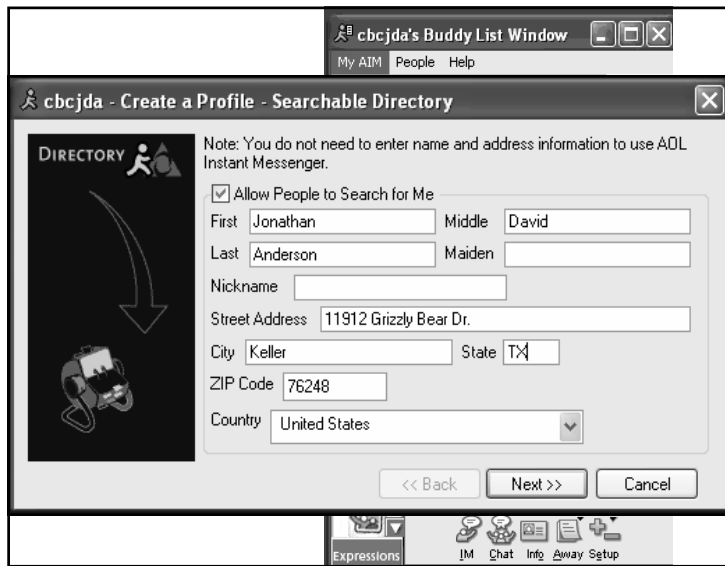
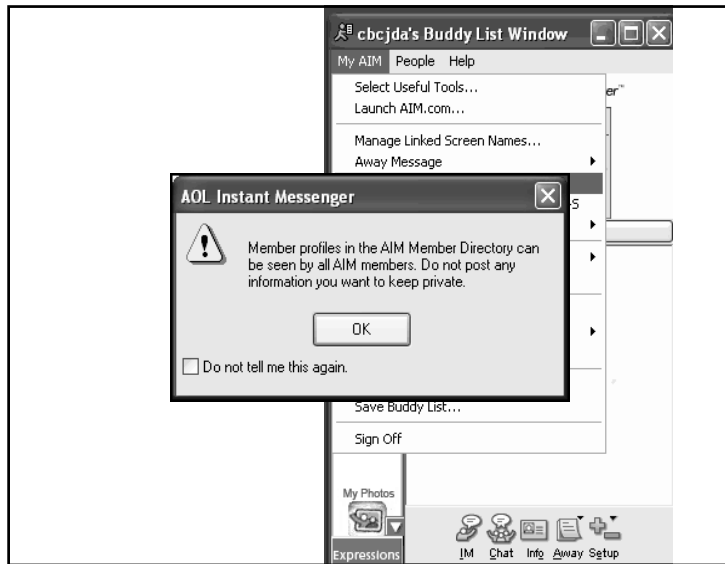


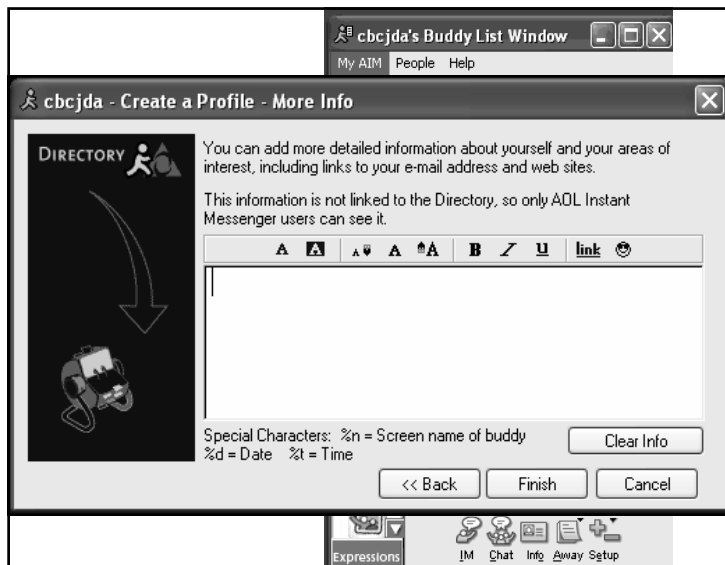
On Instant Messenger, it is possible to find complete strangers to interact with.





On Instant Messenger, it is also possible for complete strangers to find and interact with you based on your profile.



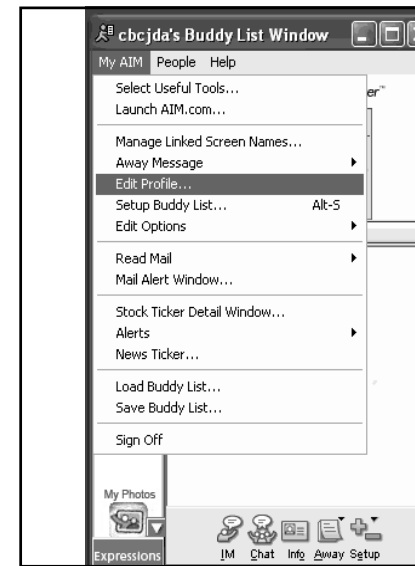


## Potential Dangers of Instant Messenger

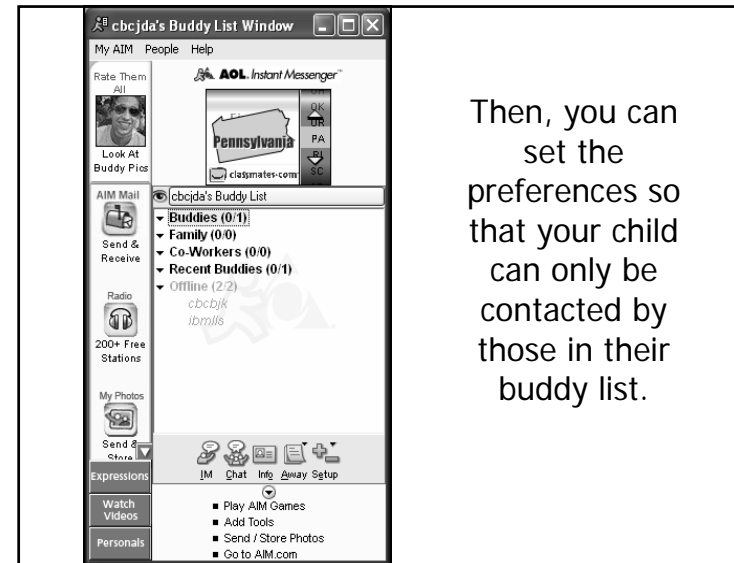
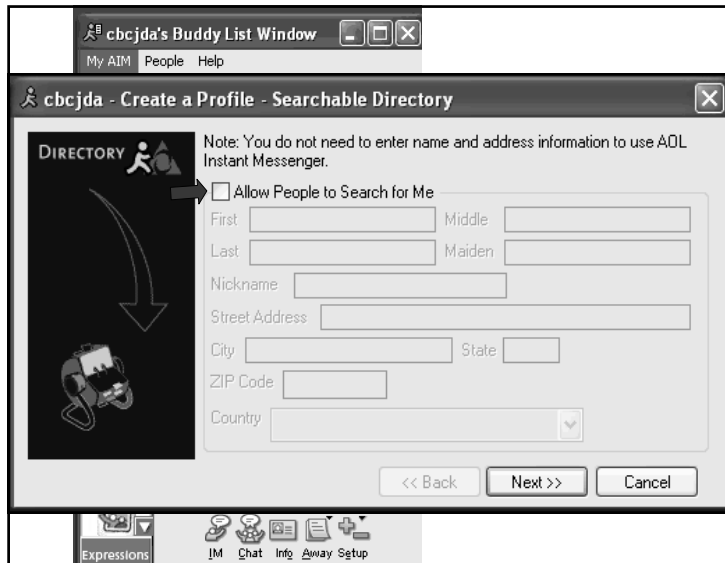
- Interaction with those who are ungodly
  - Influence of ungodly people, particularly those you do not know
  - Potential for giving out personal information which could place your child in a position to be harmed
- Waste of time

## Potential Safeguards for Instant Messenger

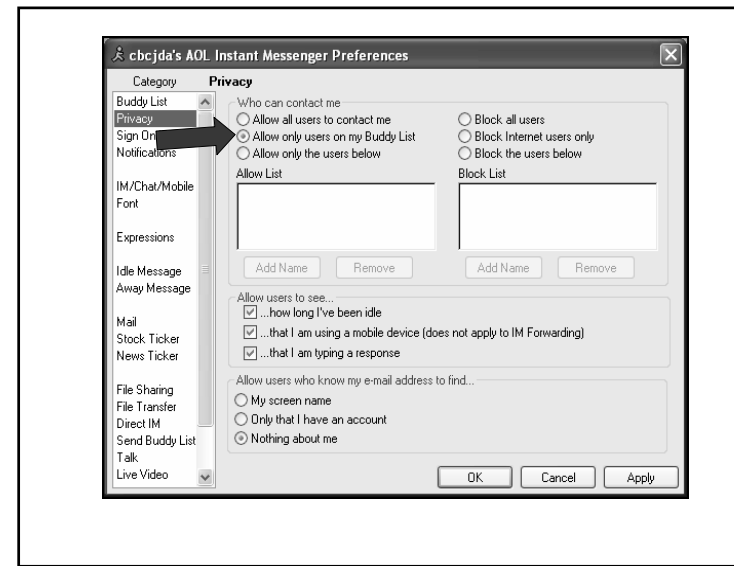
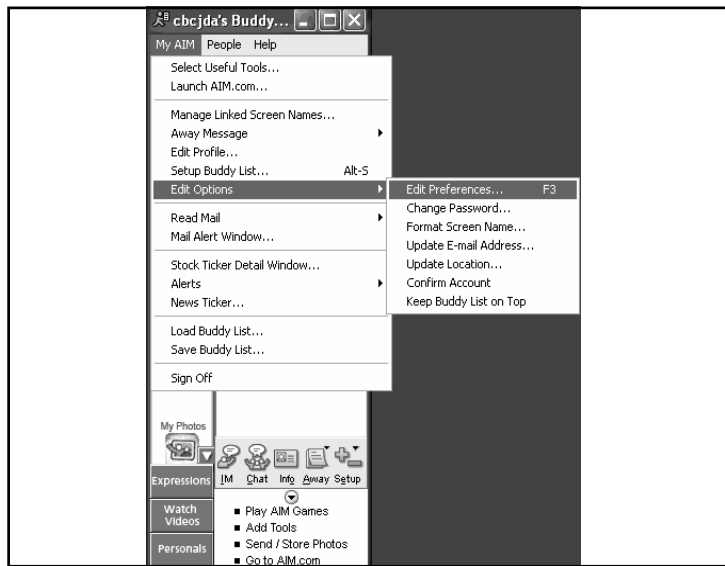
- Cultivate a good relationship and good communication with your child.
- Don't put a computer with internet in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Adjust the Instant Messenger settings to minimize the potential interaction with those who are ungodly (particularly strangers)

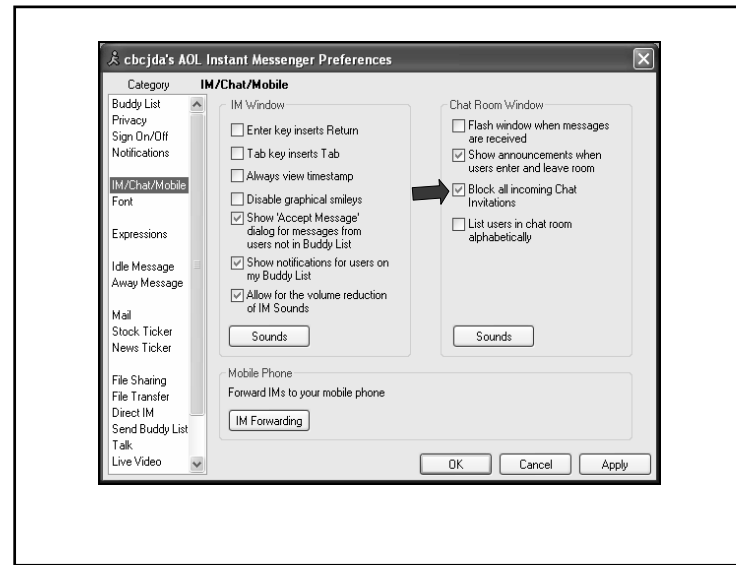
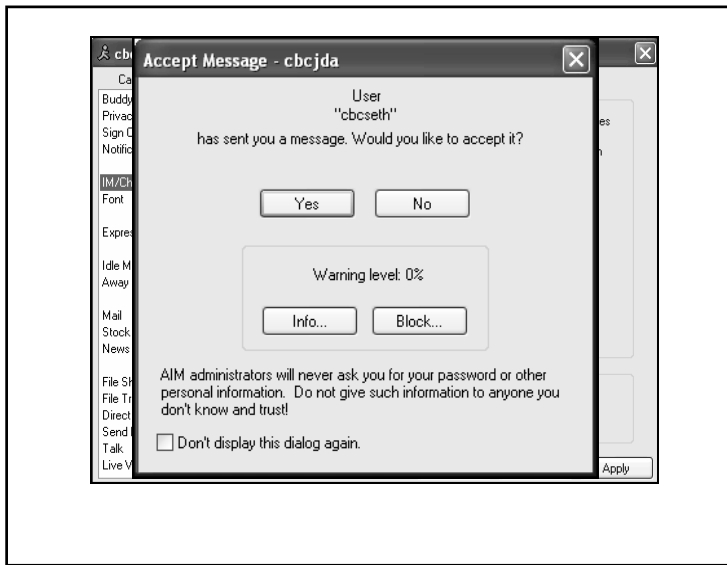
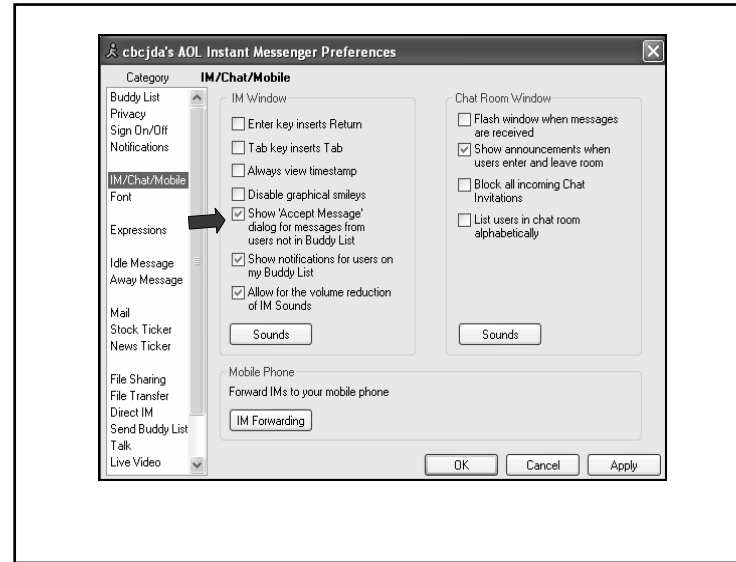
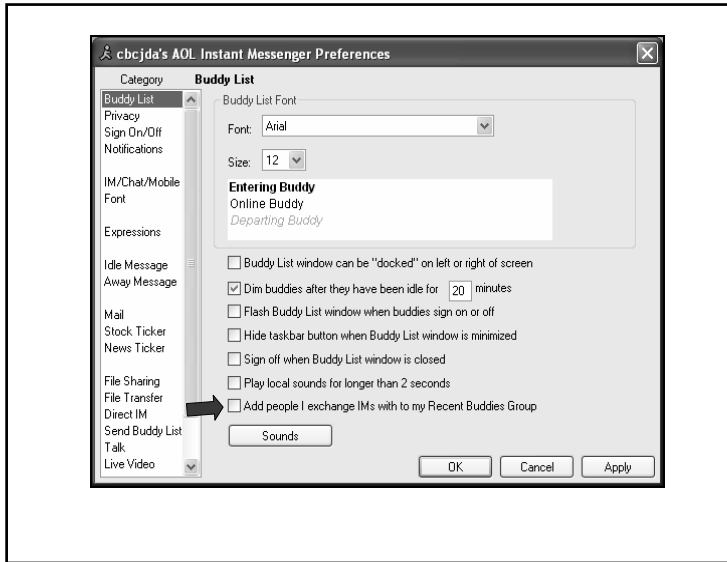


First, in your profile, do not allow people to search for you, and do not give additional information about yourself.

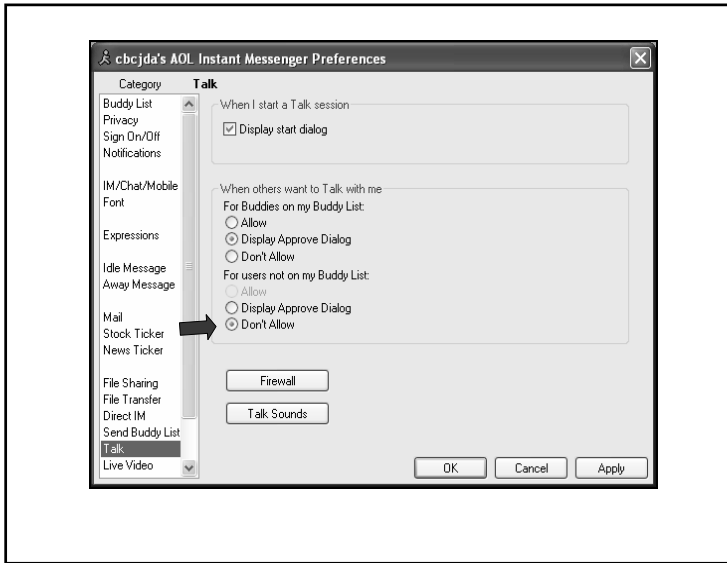
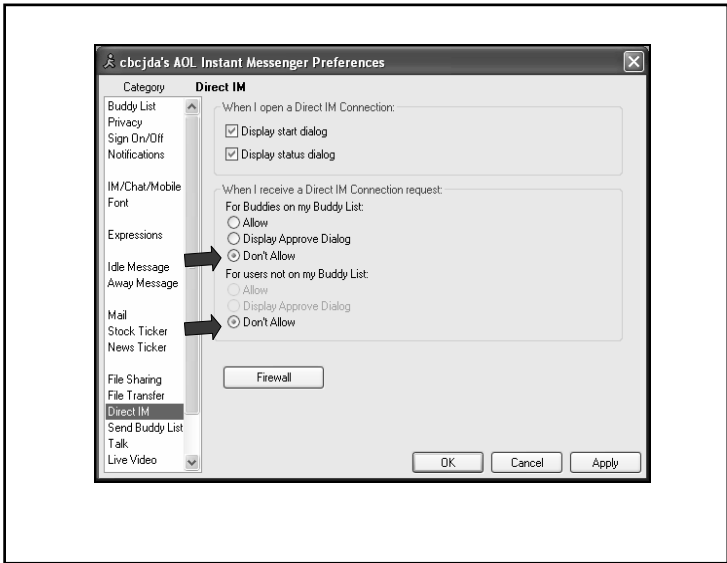
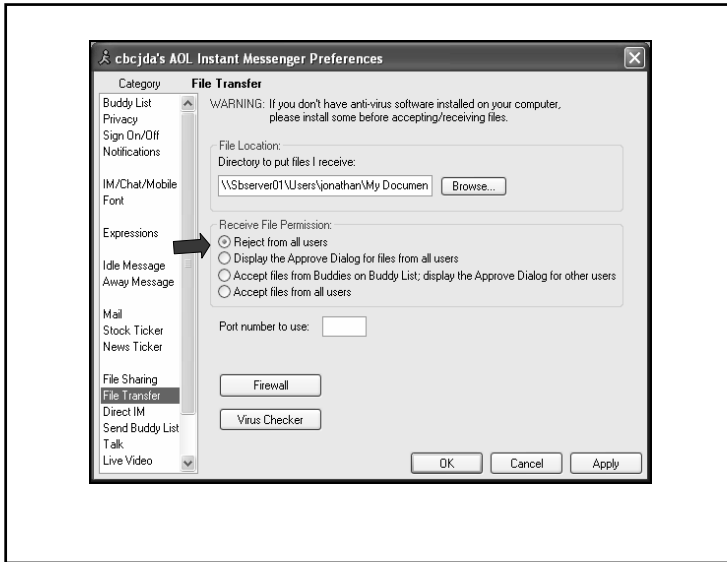
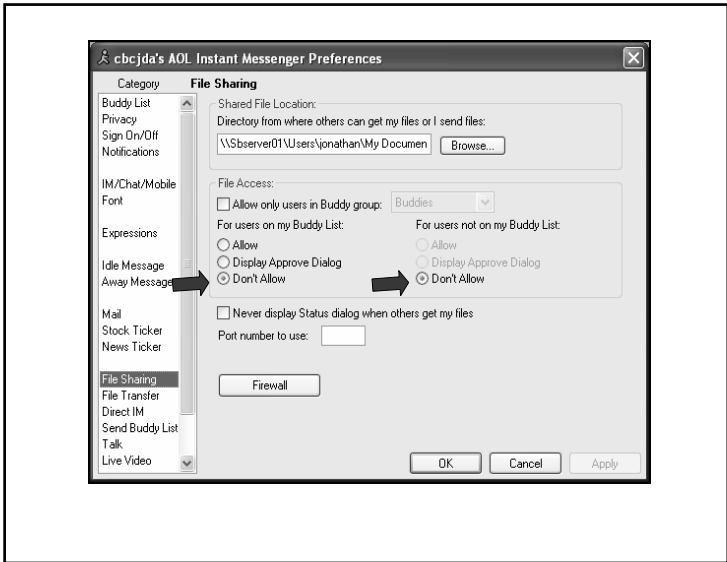


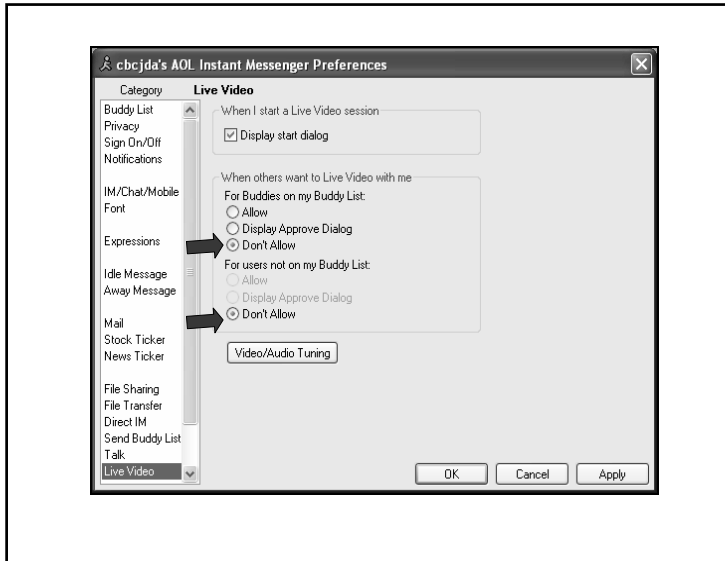
Then, you can set the preferences so that your child can only be contacted by those in their buddy list.











## Potential Safeguards for Instant Messenger

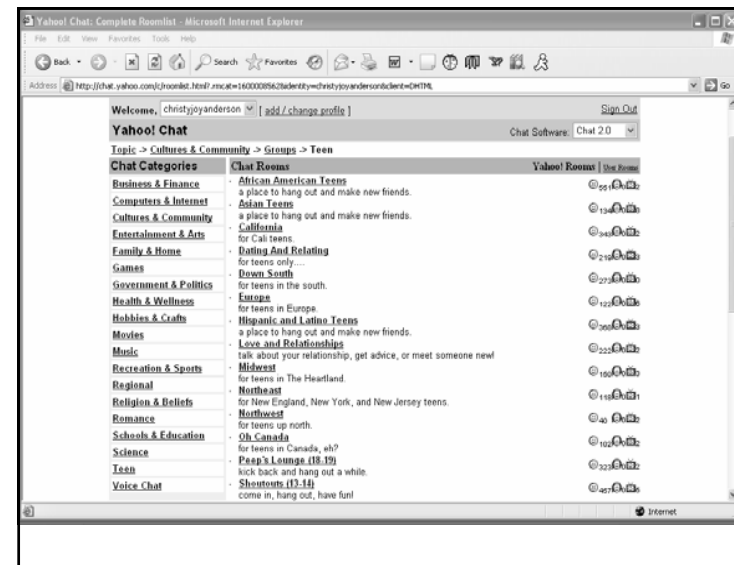
- Don't put a computer with internet in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Adjust the settings to minimize the potential interaction with those who are ungodly (particularly strangers)
- Ask your kids who they are talking to, what they are talking about, and if they ever talk with those they don't know

## Potential Safeguards for Instant Messenger

- Limit time spent on the internet and specifically on Instant Messenger
- In some cases: Get rid of Internet or Instant Messenger

## Some Specific Types of Technology

- Television
- Internet
  - General internet usage – pornography, etc.
  - Instant Messenger
  - Chat Rooms



## Potential Dangers of Chat Rooms

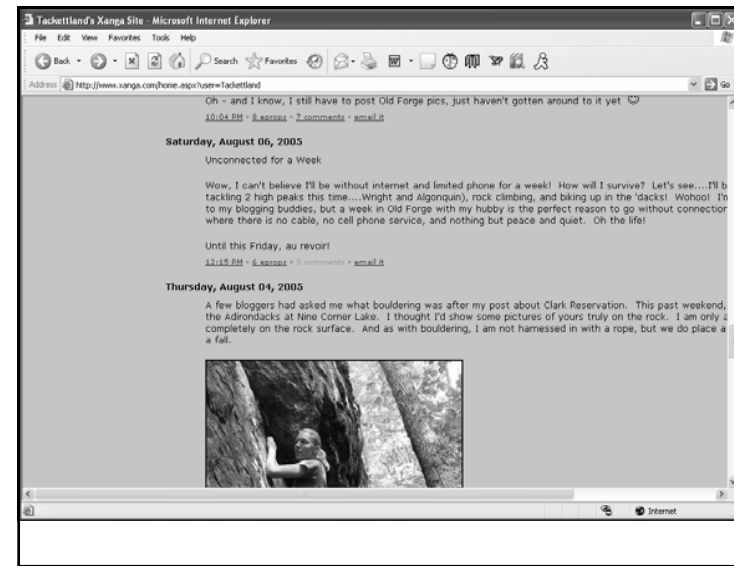
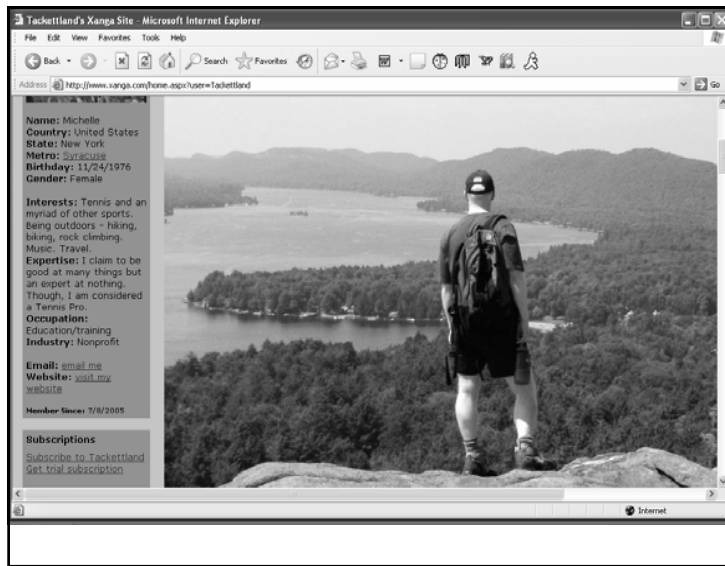
- Interaction with those who are ungodly
  - Influence of ungodly people, particularly those you do not know
  - Potential for giving out personal information which could place your child in a position to be harmed
- Waste of time

## Potential Safeguards for Chat Rooms

- Cultivate a good relationship and good communication with your child.
- Don't put a computer with internet in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Don't allow your children to use chat rooms
  - Use a filtering program that blocks them
  - Monitor their internet usage

## Some Specific Types of Technology

- Television
- Internet
  - General internet usage – pornography, etc.
  - Instant Messenger
  - Chat Rooms
  - Xanga Sites/Online Diaries/Blogs



Tackettland's Xanga Site - 8/6/2005 12:15:31 PM - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: http://www.xanga.com/item.asp?user=Tackettland&tab=weblog&id=221064795

Unconnected for a Week

Wow, I can't believe I'll be without internet and limited phone for a week! How will I survive? Let's see...I'll be canoeing, hiking (Tim - we are tackling 2 high peaks this time...Wright and Algonquin), rock climbing, and biking up in the 'dacks! Whoo! I'm sorry to say goodbye for a week to my blogging buddies, but a week in Old Forge with my hubby is the perfect reason to go without connection. We stay at his parent's camp where there is no cable, no cell phone service, and nothing but peace and quiet. Oh the life!

Until this Friday, au revoir!  
Posted 8/6/2005 at 12:15 PM - [email it](#)

[Give eProps or Post a Comment](#)

Original: 8/6/2005 12:15 PM  
Comments: 3  
eProps: 0

Read Comments  
Post a Comment  
Back to My Xanga Site

Who gave the eProps?

2 eProps from:

- Timstead [rubylblue123](#) [allcats](#)

3 Comments

And a fine little camp it is! Of course, Old Forge did get its first internet cafe just last year, ya know ...  
Posted 8/6/2005 at 12:54 PM by Timstead

Have a mountain of fun!  
Posted 8/6/2005 at 4:52 PM by rubylblue123

I hope you guys have a great time! Remember, lots of photos ☺  
Posted 8/6/2005 at 4:52 PM by rubylblue123

I LOVE Old Forge! Have an awesome time!  
Posted 8/7/2005 at 5:50 AM by allcats

TimHead's Xanga Site - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: http://www.xanga.com/home.asp?user=TimHead

...she's waiting for you  
...he's looking at you

# TimHead

And if you don't expect too much from me/You might not be let down

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Thursday, August 18, 2005

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The **Thursday Tipsheet** is in effect, brought to you by Crest™, the official toothpaste of the TimHead Household.

**On "HeadHood Heavy Rotation":** Mike Peters, Rise, Nickel Creek, Nickel Creek; Cornershop, When I Was Born For The Seventh Time.

**Celebrating:** Phil Mickelson. The pundits all penciled in Tiger to win the PGA Championship and didn't even give Lefty a chance when he had a lead, but Mickelson merely scored a dramatic victory on the final hole of the year's final major, and then celebrated on the green with his daughters, son and wife, Sweet.

**Not Celebrating:** Philadelphia Eagles fans and prima donna wide receiver Terrell Owens. The world is officially sick of his act, even if his week's suspension by the team for arguing with coaches is at an uneasy truce at this time. Even after he and sly agent Drew Rosenhaus whined on every sports outlet about their holdout, an ESPN.com poll found only 8 percent of sports fans supported him. Maybe we should

Name: Tim  
Country: United States  
State: New York  
Metro: Syracuse  
Birthday: 8/19/1900  
Gender: Male

Texas: Xanga Metros - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: http://www.xanga.com/metrodirectory.asp?id=304

xanga METROS

Blogs Metros Bloggings Users Web

Search:

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Texas 77 Metros

- Ahliene • 3195 members
- Allen • 4357 members
- Amarillo • 5009 members
- Arlington • 17951 members
- Austin • 17917 members
- Beaumont • 6797 members
- Belton • 340 members
- Bracken • 707 members
- Brownsville • 1492 members
- Bryan • 1101 members
- Carrollton • 1440 members
- College Station • 2143 members
- Corpus Christi • 4118 members
- Crowley • 63 members
- Da Deffen • 4673 members
- Dallas • 57949 members

Xanga Bloggings - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: http://www.xanga.com/groups/

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I graduated in: 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999

Xanga Bloggings

Browse Bloggings

- Arts & Humanities  
Act, Writing, Poetry...
- Business & Finance  
Occupations, Small Business, Companies...
- Computers & Internet  
Internet, Web Design, ESI...
- Entertainment  
Music, Comics, Movies...
- Family & Home  
Family Issues, Parenting, Genealogy...
- Games  
Computer & Video Games, Online Gaming, Role Playing Games...
- Health & Medicine  
Conditions & Illnesses, Weight Issues...
- People  
Friends, Organizations, Relationships...
- Regional  
U.S. States, Countries, Regions...
- Religion & Beliefs  
Christianity, Other, Spirituality...
- Schools & Education  
K-12, Classmates, Colleges & Universities...
- Science & Nature  
Data, Wildlife, Animal Rights...
- Society & Culture  
Issues & Causes, Customs & Cultures, Et Language...
- Sports & Recreation  
Sports, Automobiles, Outdoors...

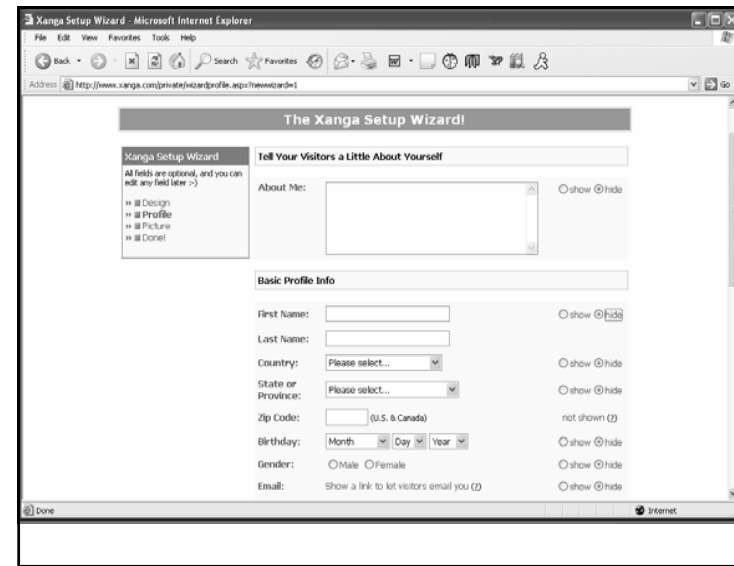


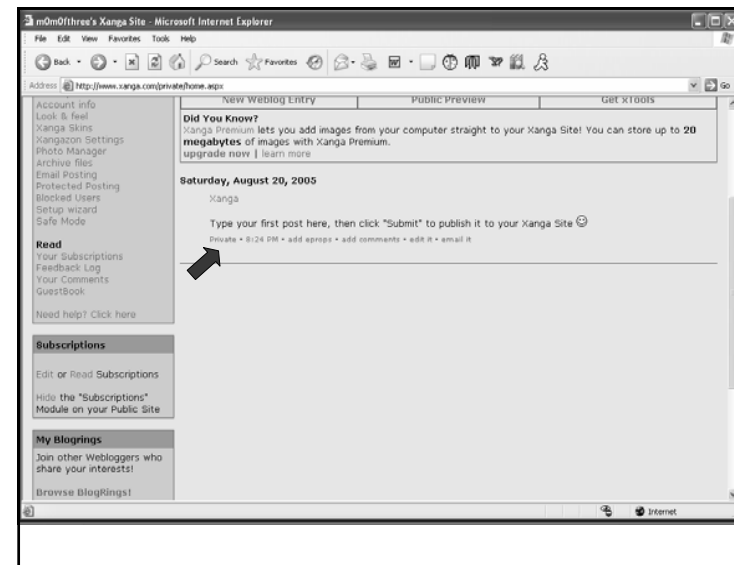
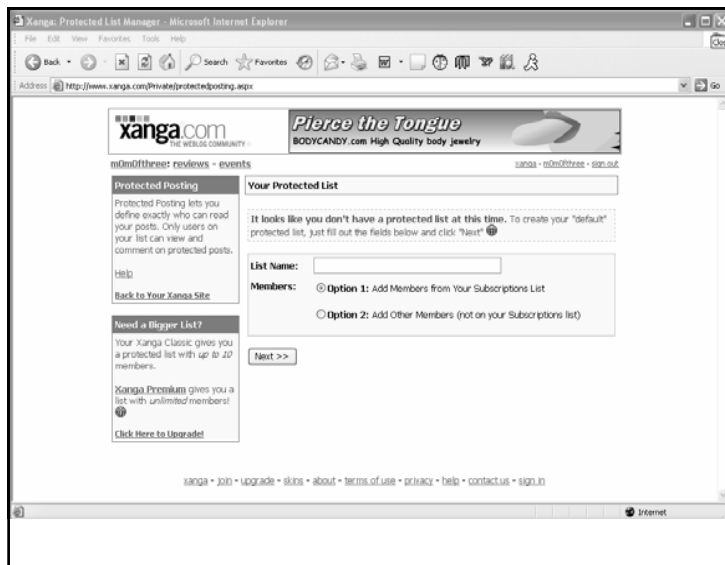
## Potential Dangers of Xanga/Online Diaries

- Interaction with those who are ungodly
  - Influence of ungodly people, particularly those you do not know
  - Exposure to evil
  - Potential for giving out personal information which could place your child in a position to be harmed

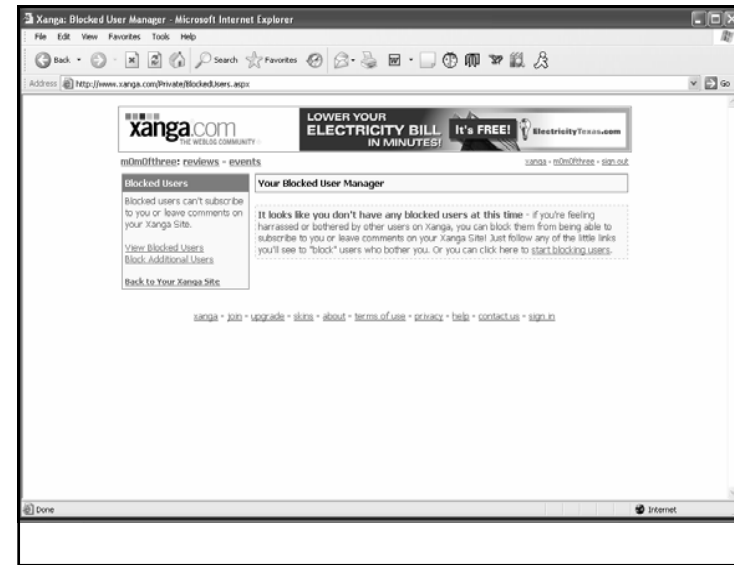
## Potential Safeguards for Xanga/Online Diaries

- Don't put a computer with internet in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Monitor how they use it - Visit their site often
- Monitor what other Xanga sites they are going to (as described under General Internet usage)
- Talk about what they put on their site
- Set up their site to not show personal information and to keep postings private





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  - Block others who post inappropriate content



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- Monitor what other Xanga sites they are going to (as described under General Internet usage)
- Talk about what they put on their site
- Set up their site to not show personal information and to keep postings private
- Block others who post inappropriate content
- In some cases: Don't allow them to use it

## Some Specific Types of Technology

- Internet
  - General internet usage – pornography, etc.
  - Instant Messenger
  - Chat Rooms
  - Xanga Sites/Online Diaries/Blogs
  - Email

## Potential Dangers of Email

- Exposure to ungodly people, attitudes, and actions – either intentionally or unintentionally (through spam)

## Potential Safeguards for Email

- Don't put a computer with internet in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Monitor how they use email
  - Possibly have them use the family email account
  - Periodically look through the emails they are sending and receiving (but know that many will know how to keep you from finding things that they don't want you to find)
- Use a server or software to block spam



## Some Specific Types of Technology

- Internet
  - General internet usage – pornography, etc.
  - Instant Messenger
  - Chat Rooms
  - Xanga Sites/Online Diaries/Blogs
  - Email
- Television

## Potential Dangers of Television

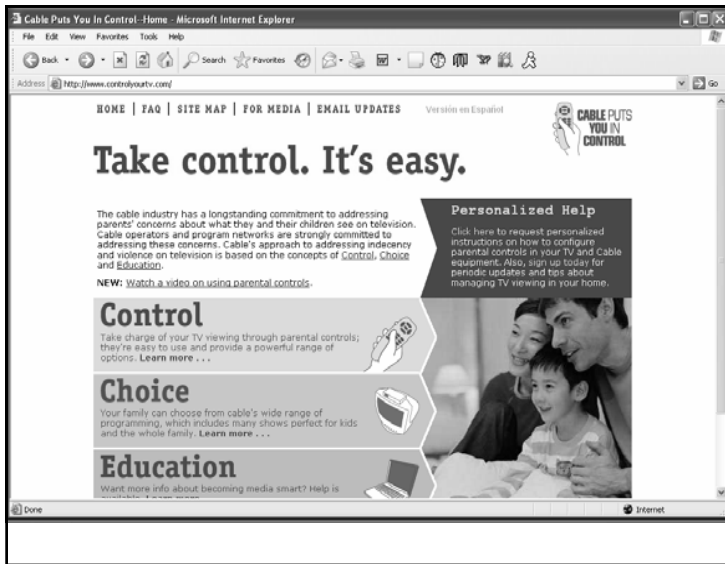
- Exposure to ungodly people, attitudes, and actions
  - Significant impact on our thinking or worldview
  - Works against the “renewing of our minds”
  - Violates the commands of Scripture
    - Philippians 4:8, Ephesians 5:3
- Opportunity to “privately” sin – it brings evil directly into your home
- Waste of time

## Potential Safeguards for Television

- Don't put a TV in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Limit what you allow on your TV
  - No TV
  - Tape things that are appropriate – fast forward through commercials, previews, etc. that aren't
  - No cable or satellite TV
  - Use the features of your TV, cable provider or satellite provider to limit access to certain channels

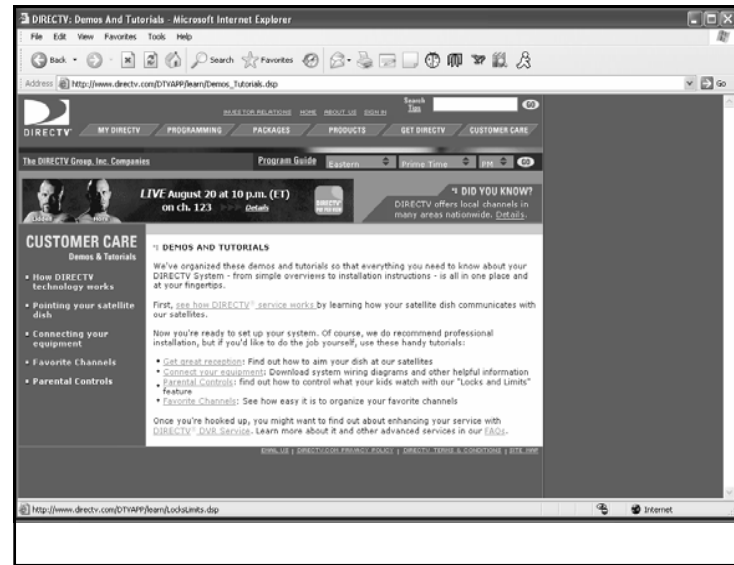
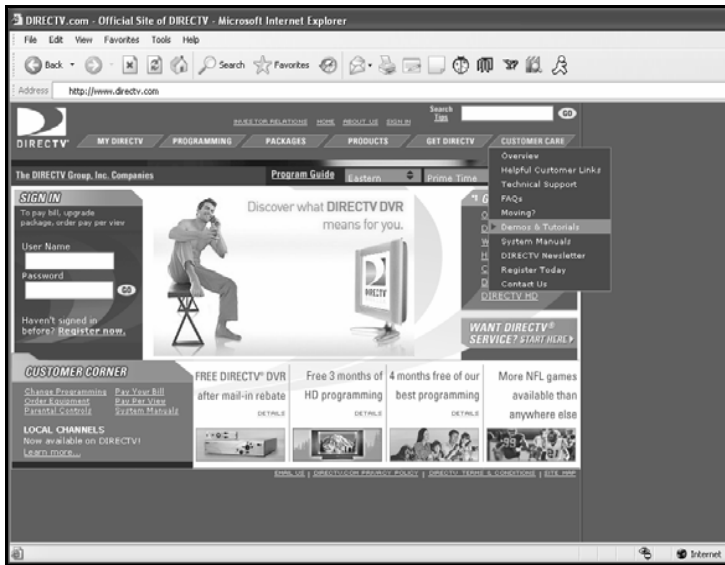
## Potential Safeguards for Television

- [www.controlyourtv.com](http://www.controlyourtv.com) (for cable TV)



## Potential Safeguards for Television

- [www.controlyourtv.com](http://www.controlyourtv.com) (for cable TV)
- [www.directv.com](http://www.directv.com) (or other specific satellite TV website)



## Potential Safeguards for Television

- Don't put a TV in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Limit what you allow on your TV
  - In some cases: Get rid of the TV
  - Tape things that are appropriate – fast forward through commercials, previews, etc. that aren't
  - No cable or satellite TV
  - Use the feature of your TV, cable provider or satellite provider to limit access to certain channels
- Talk about what they watch. Watch it together (don't use the TV as a babysitter).
- Limit the time spent watching TV

## Some Specific Types of Technology

- Internet
  - General internet usage – pornography, etc.
  - Instant Messenger
  - Chat Rooms
  - Xanga Sites/Online Diaries/Blogs
  - Email
- Television
- Cell Phones

## Potential Dangers of Cell Phones

- Interaction with those who are ungodly
  - More challenging to monitor than a land line because they can talk anywhere and anytime
- Opportunity to cheat
  - Text messaging
  - Camera phones
- Unrestricted internet access

## Potential Safeguards for Cell Phones

- Monitor your child's cell phone usage
  - Talk to them about it
  - Look at their phone
    - Pictures/videos
    - Text messages
  - Look at your cell phone bill
    - When are they talking, how much, to whom
    - When are they text messaging, how much, to whom
- Don't give your children internet access through their phone
- In some cases: Get rid of the cell phone

## Some Specific Types of Technology

- Television
- Internet
  - General internet usage – pornography, etc.
  - Instant Messenger
  - Chat Rooms
  - Xanga Sites/Online Diaries/Blogs
  - Email
- Cell Phones
- Video Games

## Potential Dangers of Video Games

- Exposure to ungodly people, attitudes, and actions (through fictional characters)
  - Still had a significant impact on our thinking or worldview
  - Works against the “renewing of our minds”
  - Violates the commands of Scripture
- Opportunity to “virtually” sin – to practice sin through a video game character
- Become consumed with things that are unreal (Philippians 4:8, Colossians 3:1-2)
- Waste of time

## Potential Safeguards for Video Games

- Don't put a TV and video game system in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Limit what video games you allow
  - Observe the games your child plays (or play with them ☺)
  - Use game ratings to help decide appropriate games

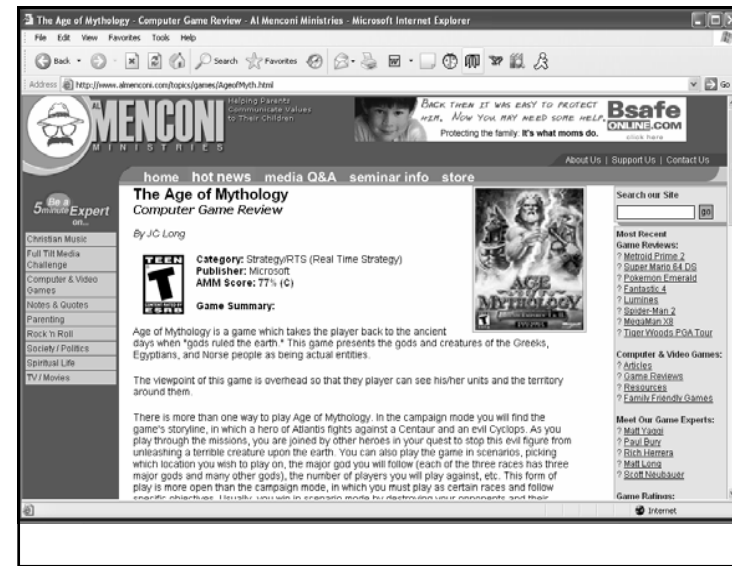
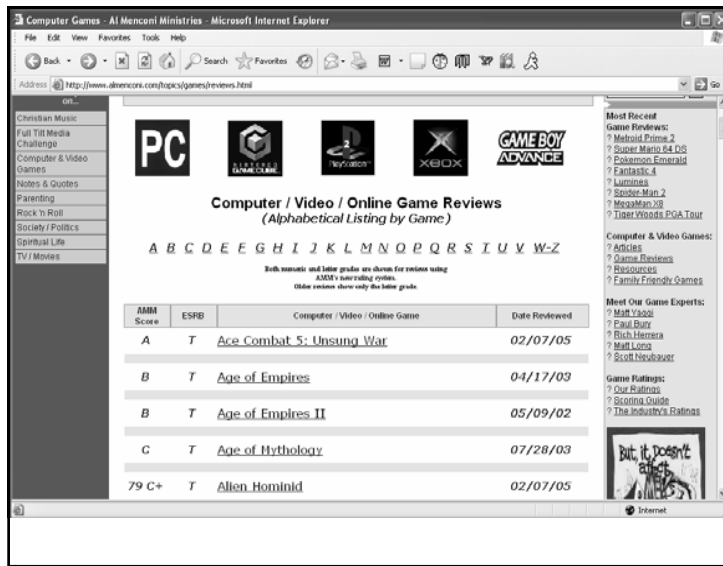
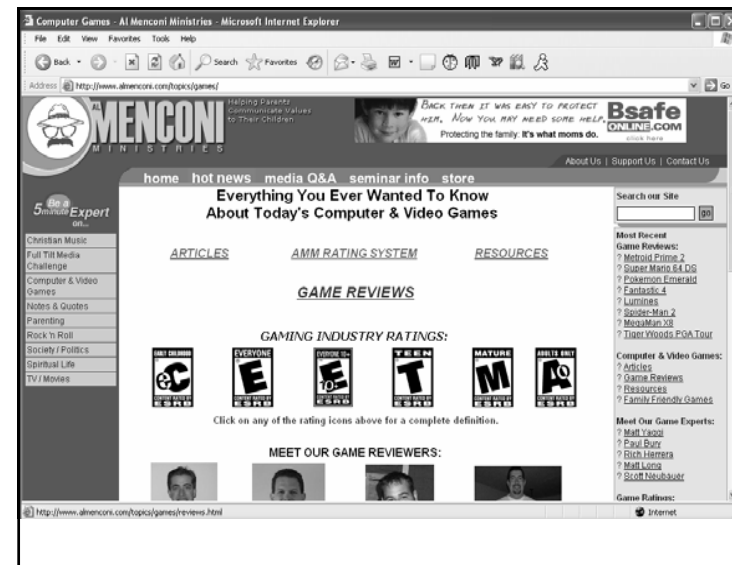
## Potential Safeguards for Video Games

- [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org)
- [www.esrb.org/esrbratings\\_guide.asp](http://www.esrb.org/esrbratings_guide.asp)



## Potential Safeguards for Video Games

- Don't put a TV in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Limit what video games you allow
  - Observe the games your child plays (or play with them ☺)
  - Use game ratings to help decide appropriate games
  - Use websites to find reviews of games before buying them (www.almenconi.com)






## Potential Safeguards for Video Games

- Don't put a TV in your child's bedroom. Keep it where it is visible.
- Limit what video games you allow
  - Observe the games your child plays (or play with them ☺)
  - Use game ratings to help decide appropriate games
  - Use websites to find reviews of games before buying them
- Limit the time spent playing video games
- In some cases: Get rid of the video games or the entire game system

## Some Specific Types of Technology

- Television
- Internet
  - General internet usage – pornography, etc.
  - Instant Messenger
  - Chat Rooms
  - Xanga Sites/Online Diaries/Blogs
  - Email
- Cell Phones
- Video Games
- Music – iPods/mP3 players

## Music – iPods/mP3's

		
<b>iPod shuffle</b> 240 songs, anywhere Our smallest iPod yet. Enjoy skip-free playback when you're on the go. And use the one-step iTunes Autofill to really mix things up. from \$99	<b>iPod mini</b> 4 colors, 1,500 songs Tiny. Light. And totally irresistible. Get up to 18 hours battery life, and choose your tunes with the famous Apple Click Wheel. from \$199	<b>iPod</b> 15,000 songs, vivid color Take your entire music, podcast and photo collection everywhere. Enjoy a crisp color display and up to 15 hours battery life. from \$299

## Potential Dangers of iPods/mP3's

- Influence of ungodly music
  - Particularly difficult to monitor the music on an iPod – songs can be downloaded directly from the computer.
  - Significant impact on our thinking and worldview
  - Works against the “renewing of our minds”
  - Violates the commands of Scripture
- Waste of time

## Potential Safeguards for iPods/mP3's

- Monitor what your child is listening to
  - Talk to them about what they listen to
  - Listen to it with them
  - Check their iPod for what is on it
- Limit the time spent listening
- In some cases: Don't get/get rid of their iPod

## Common Excuses

- I don't want to spy on my kids; we've built trust and I don't want to ruin that.
  - Communicate well with them
    - Help them understand what you are doing and why
    - Talk with them about the most beneficial safeguards for your family
  - Demonstrate personal humility and the need for accountability
    - These safeguards aren't just for your children!!
    - Talk to them about how you set up safeguards for yourself
  - Do what needs to be done for your specific child

## Common Excuses

- I want my kids to have their privacy
  - Privacy is not a God-given right
  - Teach them that God sees and knows everything
  - Proverbs 15:3

## Common Excuses

- I enjoy/benefit from some of the things that are a danger to my kids
  - Be willing to make sacrifices for the sake of your child's (and your own) holiness.
  - Matthew 5:29-30 – Radical Amputation

## What do I do when...

I find out my child has been using technology in ways that are sinful:

- Take the opportunity to shepherd their heart!!
  - Humbly and lovingly confront them
  - Talk to them about it – go beyond the behavior to the heart issues (lust, etc.)
  - Implement appropriate safeguards
- Know that you are not alone in dealing with it
  - Prayerfully depend on the Lord
  - Seek counsel from others as needed

## What do I do when...

I find out my child has been using technology in ways that are foolish or dangerous:

- Take the opportunity to shepherd their heart
  - Don't overreact
  - Humbly and lovingly talk to them about it
    - help them understand the dangers, etc.
  - Implement appropriate safeguards
  - Follow up with them

## Pray and Act

Nehemiah 4:9

“But we prayed to our God, and because of them we set up a guard against them day and night.”

## Humbly Depend on the Lord

Psalm 127:1-2

“Unless the Lord builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the Lord guards the city, The watchman keeps awake in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, To retire late, To eat the bread of painful labors; For He gives to His beloved even in his sleep.”