

Monitoring Your Children?

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Parenting with technology is certainly a much more recent development. Yes, there were phones and computers back then, but with the surge of smartphones today, the internet has never been so easily accessible as it is now. You can do so much as check the weather, listen to your favorite music, watch your favorite movie, post to social media and so much more just with your phone. It's rare nowadays if you meet someone who doesn't have a smartphone. Which is where this problem kind of occurred from.

Almost everyone has a smartphone, meaning kids would want one too. Parents do give them to their child but almost never think farther than that.

Parents then start to realize what they did and try to find ways to keep their children safe from the internet. They check their child's messages, call log, search history, the apps they've downloaded and they can even find ways to track their child. They can even go as far as putting parental controls on their child's devices, or blocking websites entirely from their internet access. All to keep their child "safe". While in reality these parents should have approached it from a different perspective.

Instead of just handing your child a device like this, maybe first teach them the ins and outs of the internet. What's safe for them and what's not. Make it clear to them that you actually trust them and the decisions that they make. It'll make things go much smoother than if you were to monitor them behind their backs.

If you were to monitor your child behind their back, it'd almost tell them that you sort of don't trust them. The fact that you have to see everything they do, otherwise they'll be in danger isn't a good habit for your child. Your child may eventually even catch onto what you're doing. So, they'll take matters into their own hands and find ways to sneak around you. People will most often do something that they were told not to do. It's just how we are as curious creatures. If someone was to tell us not to look behind us, we most likely will. So blocking your child from a website is almost the same thing. They'll find a way to get that website one way or another.