

Harry W. Hukin

The Chair & Committee
Impact of Violence on the Youth of Australia



Dear Chair & Committee,

I realise this is my third letter to you. Though I have little knowledge of what others may have submitted, I feel we, as a whole society, have seriously failed to understand the importance of changed ideas & concepts that began with the advent of television, then women as full time workforce, ^{in the 20s} Womens Lib & its concept of rights following the Pill & the sexual revolution in attitude that followed. Add to this the rights of the child, plus then the computer & computerised games & the internet, & how that has developed, plus the mobile phone & its influence.

That combination went hand in hand with commerce & advertising, the push in fashions for both male & female, plus the huge change in "music", with the in your face language of youth that came with that "music" & the way of dance & language used by youth, that ^{has} now ^{become} accepted on radio, & TV & "music", plus the introduction of alcohol & drugs to our youth/adults.

The life of childhood has been greatly changed by this combination. We have so missed the change of mood & attitude. It's not just there are so many of us humans now, it's the materials presented during childhood that mean so many children do not get the nurturing that teaches discrimination, that enables discretion & discernment & social responsibility for the individual. So they know they belong to the community, are needed by family, that they themselves have responsibilities involving contribution to society.

Instead kids are left to fend for themselves in many ways. The games ^{on play station} they play are self centred & aggressive for themselves to beat the challenger, a computer generated identity. So much is war this, war that, crime, murder, sex, ^{all mass presented.} Often parents are no better informed & are harmful to their own,

I know this sounds negative, negative, negative, but it's really a whole combination of influences that have invaded the experiences of parents thus affecting early childhood & further experiences for children & adolescents.

We now know enough to have developed psychiatric & psychological methods to help those whom are finding life so difficult.

Currently we are being pushed to allow more violent & aggressive computer games, with those who "demand their rights as adults" & claim it's their entertainment & they do not go out to kill, rape, commit crime. The impact of such shallow views we are already trying to cope with, the reason for this enquiry being necessary.

This is a major problem that modern society now faces & needs to find ways to combat. The indigenous peoples had elders, men & women, whom had learnt many social levels skills management for their people. Sadly almost gone now.

One thing is clear however, it's not possible for interests to self regulate. So much has been allowed under current levels of regulation that we are having a lack in morals & social responsibility necessary for balanced, happy, caring, & less selfish community.

Respectfully

Ferry W. Fitch

Friday 19th March 2010