

The final assignment for this class is your chance to answer all of the questions and issues that came up in your parent interview. Using credible research you have, talk about your interviewees issues in terms that a professional would use. If the parent is concerned that their child is being aggressive after playing video games, what does the research say about that? And what is your advice as an expert on media's effects on children? What if the child spends 8-hours a day on a screen? Go through each of your questions, how they were answered, and then you answer them right now. This is supposed to be a guide for parents and professions who work with children on how to understand and manage some of their issues when it comes to screen time and children. VERY IMPORTANT: This is not your personal opinion, but a well-researched, well-guided, APA cited piece of research. Anything not substantiated with research will result in large point deductions. This should NOT be written in the first person but rooted in research.

This paper should be at least 6 pages, typed, double spaced with proper citations. You should have AT LEAST 10 citations .

USE THE INTERVIEW BELOW

I interviewed my boyfriend's mother. My boyfriend has a sister who is 17 and her name is Gilary.

Screen-time

1. What are their screen time habits?

Gilary's screentime has evolved a lot. She used to spend a lot of time on her about 2-3 years ago when she was 15. At the age of 15, she was constantly on her phone texting and face timing her friends. She also spent a lot of time on social media posting photos and talking to her friends. At the age of 16, she began watching more Netflix on her phone and also her laptop. Her father and I talked with her right before she turned 17 this year and that definitely helped. She has been spending more time with us rather her phone. She already has to do all her schoolwork on her laptop so coming off of her phone is her break time from electronics.

2. What are the screen realities?

Her screen realities as of now are mainly schoolwork and her friends who talk to her on the phone. This pandemic and quarantine have definitely caused her to facetime her friends more since she wasn't able to hang out with them in person.

3. How about pre-quarantine versus in quarantine? Concerns?

Pre-quarantine she was on her phone for school purposes and very little socialization of friends but during quarantine hours spent on phone and laptop has increased. She used her laptop and phone to do all of her schoolwork.

4. Have their opinions about the effect of media changed?

Media has evolved drastically in the last couple of years. I have taught that social media specifically has its pros and cons. However, with new apps like TikTok I believe the cons are more than pros. TikTok has kept Gilary glued to her phone.

5. What conversations have they had with their child(ren) about screen time? What information does the parent still need?

My husband and I have talked with Gilary about 2 times regarding screentime. We talked with her when she was 15 and also a few months ago. I wanted to make sure that she doesn't let her phone take over her life and that she should take a break from reading constant news about the pandemic. I believe that has caused a great deal of stress on all of us.

Learning digitally

6. How has your child been dealing with online learning?

Gilary was born in the digital age. She grew up with cell phones and social media. I think that online learning is something she has adapted to very easily. Social life has definitely seen a decrease because of the pandemic but she dealt with it greatly. And as a family, we were there for her when she was stressed out.

7. Did you ever consider homeschooling Gilary?

Gilary has always been a very social and confident person and homeschooling her would be a shame. I think she does better when she has people around her to support her. Therefore homeschooling was never considered when it came to her education.

8. What are some difficulties you think Gilary faces with online learning?

Gilary has adapted to online learning like a pro. However, she did face some difficulties like communication with professors and also stress. She did have anxiety when it came to group work and tests. She has worked on that and it is much better at it now.

9. Do you think being in front of the laptop constantly has affected her stress level?

Gilary has been spending a lot of time on her computer especially because of this pandemic and to a certain extent, it has affected her stress level. She stresses out when new assignments are assigned, she also stresses out when she is not able to talk to her professors in person. Online learning has been stressful, but she has managed it nicely lately.

10. How have you helped Gilary when it comes to online learning?

I did not grow up here. I am an immigrant so there is not much I can do when it comes to her schoolwork. However, as her parent, I have always been there to support her emotionally.

Media literacy

11. How old was Gilary when she got her first phone?

My son who is older than Gilary got his first phone when he was 15. Gilary was supposed to get her phone when she was around that age too however my hand and I felt that giving her a phone at a younger age (13) would be a better idea for her safety.

12. What was your biggest concern when it came to her having full internet access?

I had a few concerns. My main concern was Gilary being catfished or used on the internet by older men or women even. I was scared for her to get involved with dangerous people. However, she was never the type to talk to strangers. Her father and I talked with her before she received her phone about the concerns that we had.

13. Are there any specific websites you did not allow her to go on?

We were very open with her and she was allowed to go on any website she wanted. However, her brother did not allow her to have any social media accounts until she turned 15 years old.

14. Did you allow her to have her privacy or did you check her phone?

I think snooping in children's phones can be necessary at some points, but I never had to do that with Gary. She was always honest and forward with everything and that was because I made sure that she wasn't scared to share her life with me. I gave her my honest advice but never judged her or made her feel bad because that is what drives rebellion in young adults.

15. Was she honest and did she ask questions about things that she was not familiar with when it came to social media and the internet?

Gilary has always been an honest individual. She has never felt compelled to lie to me because I am a supportive mother and I try not to judge. She is a young girl, and she needs to learn about life from her mistakes. She has always asked questions when it came to socializing with boys on social media. I always shared my advice with her but also made sure to tell her that she is too young to be talking to boys. She never really listened but still shared everything she did on social media with me.

16. What age do you think is the best for a child to get access to the digital world?

This question would be answered differently two years ago than I will answer it now. Currently, I believe that children younger than the age of 14 should not have access to social media. Digital has evolved quickly and it is more dangerous now. Media and body image

17. Did digital media in a way affect Gilary when it came to her body image?

Gilary has unfortunately struggled with her weight for some time now and social media has not been helpful. Sometimes she compares herself to unrealistic bodies and as Mitchell, she doesn't show it I know that it bothers her.

18. What do you believe is the worst part of social media when it comes to body image?

There is no worst part the whole social media is terrible when it comes to body image. Social media users these days use unrealistic filters to change their appearance and that has a terrible effect on young adults like my daughter.

19. Did you ever have any conversations with Gilary about the body image of social media?

I have never commented on Gary's body because I know that she is already aware of her weight. I have also made sure to support her and explained to her that social media "body norms" are nowhere near normal.

Media Sex and gender

20. How young was Gilary when she started being open about her sexuality and boys?

Gilary began talking to boys right when we bought her first phone. With access to social media, she began talking to boys on social media platforms. However, after she turned 14 my son decided that Gilary is too young for social media therefore he asked her to delete her social accounts.

21. What kind of conversations did you have with her when began interacting with boys on social media platforms?

I spoke to her about the possibilities of lies and the danger she could face. When she was 15 she would talk to boys over that age of 20 on social media platforms. I never liked the fact that she would talk to boys who she didn't know but I figured having her trust is more important than bashing her for not listening to me.

Drugs and alcohol

22. Did Gilary use any sort of drugs or alcohol without your knowledge?

Gilary never used any sort of drugs however she did consume very little alcohol when she was around me or her father.

23. How did you handle her when it came to having drugs and alcohol around her?

She never needed to be handled. She is a determined and smart individual and she wouldn't let anything in her success.

Sex life

24. How young was Gilary when she learned about sex?

Gilary learned about sex when she turned 11 and that is because she was learning menstrual cycles in school. It was a very embarrassing thing to teach her at a young age, however, I knew that she was a smart girl.

25. Were you always open with her about sexual experiences?

Even though Gilary shares all of her thoughts and ideas with me, there are still certain things that she does not like to speak to me about and that's sex.

26. Do you think it's important for parents to talk to their children openly about sex?

Parents should be honest with their kids from a young age. Sex is human nature and that should be explained to children at a young age.

