

As a parent of 3 children, ages 17 through 14, I am writing in support of the inclusion of advanced blocking technologies in any video/audio devices sold within the United States. As you are no doubt aware, our young people are inundated with inappropriate images and language, not on a daily basis, but on a minute by minute basis. I would welcome the ability to reduce, in any way, the negative influence this assault has upon my children. With the wide array of technology available, it is nearly impossible for a parent to screen everything that a child hears or sees. Advanced Blocking Technology (ABT) devices and programs, such as TVGuardian, give that power back to parents and allow us to raise children freer of the negative influences abounding in today's society.

We use TVGuardian for video devices in our home as well as NetNanny software for our computers. My wife is Deaf and I am hard-of-hearing so we always have the closed caption on when viewing DVD or television. Our children are often watching with us, but as we both work, there is a period of time when we are not home and the children may tune to programs we may not feel are appropriate for them. TVGuardian allows us to control what they are hearing (or reading in the closed caption) as it deletes inappropriate words from the shows. The ability to block entire programs is also very useful. We would welcome that same ability on radios, iPods and other portable devices that we are unable to monitor continuously.

I would urge you to mandate the inclusion of ABT in all commercial audio and video devices (especially gaming consoles, iPod type devices, DVD/BlueRay players, etc.) and return control of our children's development to the parents.

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