

I would like to comment on Implementation of the Child Safe Viewing Act; Examination of Parental Control Technologies for Video or Audio Programming.

My family has been using the TVGuardian technology for several years now. We feel that this product has exceeded our expectations and has made us more aware as a family of what kind and to what extent that foul language exists on television. Until we connected this technology to our TV I never noticed how often many phrases and words are used during a normal program. It saddens me how dulled and tolerant we have become to the inching in of profanity into our everyday lives. I wonder what will be next will it be topless weather girls given us the local forecast?! It is bad enough that television promotes homosexual activity and accepts it as normal and the lack of clothing or appropriate dress that floods the screen without regulation of some sort there is no telling where this media will go in the future. I strongly support the mandating of some sort of language filtering device. The TVGuardian works extremely well in reading of closed captioning and replacing inappropriate language. It also helps me as an adult to realize that if I am spending more time reading the alternate captioning than hearing the original scripting that I need not to be watching such a program.

Thankfully the government mandated closed captioning but today's DVD's have found ways around it by including scripting in the DVD that is not closed captioning that allows hearing impaired viewers to view programs and movies without Closed Captioning convertor devices. This hurts the effectiveness of the TVGuardian as well. Forcing me as a viewer to not only look at the "parental ratings" of a movie whether for rental or purchase but to also look for the closed captioning identifier. If mandatory use of closed captioning was once again enforced the TVGuardian I believe is the best option for screening for foul language. Unfortunately newer video playback devices especially those with DVD/VCR players incorporated into the surround sound features bypass the TVGuardian unless the equipment has the TVGuardian software/hardware pre-installed. Very few manufacturers do. As for requiring satellite and cable providers to offer a TVGuardian option to their service that would be a great step toward bringing back wholesomeness to TV but it would not filter purchased or rented movies viewed through a DVD/VCR player. To be totally effective the TVGuardian has to be the last thing that the audio signal goes through before it enters and speakers or amplifiers. That would require that TV sets and theater sound systems have this technology embedded in them. Unfortunately many people have already purchased new HD TV's and other media equipment making it difficult if not impossible for them to utilize and type of filtering device. I know several families that would enjoy have the TVGuardian on their media center but are presently unable to install it that is an area where cable and satellite providers should offer a filtering service. An even simpler solution would be to have any producers of films and television programs to filter their products through a device like TVGuardian before the program or film is released. It is my opinion that the producers of today's programs and films are so numb and tolerant of profanity that they do not even realize that it is occurring in their programming. I support any effort that will clean up television. As a participating parent it is easy for me to regulate what my children are viewing but I do realize that in many American households the television is the primary care giver in the family and to have the programming cleaned up would be a blessing for all of society. I will be glad to answer any questions or provide more information/opinions

in regard to this issue. I thank you for your time and efforts and look forward to seeing some mandatory requirements emerge from this proposal.

Sincerely

Eric VanSplinter