

Webs Review

Violence, Children and the Media

The Internet features a good many documents and websites that deal with violence in the media and its effects on children. The content and attitudes the issue generates are varied. Below is a selection of the sites we found the most interesting.

The UNESCO International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media

www.nordicom.gu.se/unesco/

This organisation, under the auspices of UNESCO, promotes research into the media and minors and in particular violence in the media. Published in English, it includes an extensive database, with bibliographies on communication and violence. Its updated diary includes all types of events relating to children and the media. The organisation's inhouse publications up to 2003 can be found in PDF format in the section entitled 'Newsletter'.

Infoamérica

www.infoamerica.org/teoria/violenciatv.htm

Infoamérica is a portal addressed to the Latin American community and created in 2002 at the initiative of the academic Bernardo Díaz Nosty, from Malaga University, with support from the Ministry for Science and Technology. It is a wealth of resources on communication issues and includes a wide range of links about violence and television. The portal includes articles in Spanish, Portuguese and French. NB: some links do not work properly.

Consell de l'Audiovisual de Catalunya

www.audiovisualcat.net

The Council commissioned the Blanquerna School of Communication Studies at Ramon Llull University to prepare a study into children's and adolescents' uses and perception of violent television content. The report was coordinated by the professor Jordi Busquet and formed part of the research work the Council promoted into television violence and its possible influence on society, particularly children, with a view to generating a social debate on the topic.

www.audiovisualcat.net/recerca/presentacio-violencia.html

American Psychological Association (APA)

www.apa.org

The APA is a reference point as an association that has looks into the effects of media violence on viewers. Its attitude reaffirms a direct relationship between violent behaviour and exposure to aggressive content on TV. Articles can be downloaded from the website, including "Longitudinal Relations Between Children's Exposure to TV Violence and Their Aggressive and Violent Behavior In Young Adulthood: 1977-1992" and "Exposure to Violent Media: The Effects of Songs With Violent Lyrics on Aggressive Thoughts and Feelings".

www.apa.org/pubinfo/violence.html

www.apa.org/journals/psp/press_releases/may_2003/psp845960.pdf

www.apa.org/journals/dev/press_releases/march_2003/dev392201.pdf

Estudi de la UNESCO sobre la violència als mitjans

www.hinifoto.de/gaming/unesco.html

On 19 February 1998, Professor Dr. Jo Groebel from Utrecht University (Holland) and currently the director-general of the European Institute for the Media presented a report in Paris on the global state of violence in the media. UNESCO prepared the document in conjunction with Utrecht University and the World Organisation of the Scout Movement.

Center for Media Literacy (CML)

www.medialit.org

The CML website enables you to do a theme-based search. In terms of violence in the media, it offers both a selection of articles (over 20) that analyse the phenomenon, as well as the possibility of purchasing books online.

www.medialit.org/focus/viol_home.html

Media Literacy Review

interact.uoregon.edu/MediaLit/mlr/home/index.html

Media Literacy Review is a biannual e-journal that provides resources to educators and other people interested in the study of the media, children and youths. The publication is the result of an initiative of the Media Literacy Online Project (MLOP) and, among the issue-based directories, has one devoted to violence, sex and the media.

interact.uoregon.edu/MediaLit/mlr/readings/contents/violence.html

Australian Broadcasting Authority

www.aba.gov.au/tv/research/projects/violence_on_tv.htm

In 2002, the Australian regulatory authority carried out a research project to establish the relationship between television violence and people's attitudes. The study also determined different categories of violence and types of television access (pay-per-view, Internet, etc.). The document can be consulted in PDF format at:

www.aba.gov.au/tv/research/projects/pdftrf/ViolenceOnTV.pdf

Media Awareness Network

www.education-medias.ca

The main goal of this Canadian-based resources network that helps educate people about the media and Internet is to contribute useful tools for parents, tutors and teachers about media awareness. One section is dedicated to media violence and includes different articles with economic data, information on education and public policies, etc. In French and English.

www.education-medias.ca/francais/enjeux/violence/index.cfm

www.media-awareness.ca/english/resources/tip_sheets/media_violence_tip.cfm

Grup d'Estudis de Pau i Desenvolupament (GEPYD)

www.ua.es/es/cultura/gepyd

The GEPYD research group from Alicante University looks into areas relating to peace, conflict and violence from different perspectives, including the media and the cultural point of view. The documents it publishes include an interesting article by professor Clemente Penalva titled "El tratamiento de la violencia en los medios de la comunicación" (The Treatment of Violence in the Media):

www.ua.es/es/cultura/gepyd/docs/tratviol.pdf

Media Education Foundation (MEF)

www.mediaed.org/studyguides

The Foundation offers a video and DVD service about communication and education. In relation to violence, you can consult the website, found in the Study Guides section, which includes a collection of articles on violence in the television discourse by George Gerbner, a communications professor and president-emeritus of the Cultural Environmental Movement.

Center for Communication and Social Policy (CCSP)

www.ccsp.ucsb.edu/beigfram.htm

The Centre does research work and promotes discussions on communication policies. It regularly publishes a study on violence on national television in the US. Among its goals, it aims to develop conflict-resolution measures, dialogue and the prevention of violence. The website includes a PDF format summary of the study.

www.ccsp.ucsb.edu/execsum.pdf

MCS

www.aber.ac.uk/media/Sections/tv07.html

MCS is a specialised resource portal within the sphere of the academic study of communication and the media. The directory on violence contains theoretical and academic articles on the influence of violence.

Center for Media and Public Affairs (CMPA)

The CMPA, headquartered in Washington, prepares studies on the entertainment and news media. The centre's website is published in English and has a section with various studies looking at the effects of violence.

www.cmpa.com/tvent/violence.htm

Queen Sofia Centre for the Study of Violence

www.gva.es/violencia/

One of the principle aims of the centre is to promote research into the factors that promote violence in different contexts, such as the media or schools. Each year it organises an international congress on a particular area relating to violence. For further information, see the bibliography, the news section and links.