

Outline for Persuasive Speech

Intro:

- I. Have you as ever considered the negative influence that bad media can have upon you and your current or future families?
- II. As someone who has been working in the film industry since 2010, I have come to believe that bad media can be like a powerful, prevailing, and pernicious plague upon our posterity. This is especially the case with visual media like TV and movies.
- III. I have also come to believe that television and movies can have an especially negative impact on a child's education.
- IV. I want to share this with you because I feel it is equally applicable to both current and future parents. All parents want their children to have positive and uplifting TV and film viewing experiences.
- V. Today I would like to tell you about why the television is becoming such a problem, how it is affecting the education of children, and what we can do about it.

Body:

- I. Why is TV a Problem?
 - A. American Academy of Pediatrics:
 - i. "These early years are the most crucial in a child's development."
 - ii. The Academy of Pediatrics currently recommends that children should watch no more than 2 hours of TV a day.
 - iii. 90% of parents are currently ignoring this advice.
 - ii. 90% of children start watching TV regularly before the age of 2.
 - B. Most children will watch anywhere from 15 to 28 hours a week. That is up to as much as twice what the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends.
 - C. These statistics have led many professionals to become concerned with the plague-like affects that the TV is having on children.
 - D. One of these professionals is Newton M. Minow, a former chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. He once said, "In 1961, I worried that my children would not benefit much from television...Now, I worry that my grandchildren will actually be harmed by it."
- II. How does TV Effects a Child's Education?
 - A. Experts are especially concerned with the effects of TV on a child's education.
 - B. You may be asking yourselves "what about all the educational shows on TV? Aren't those helpful for kids? The truth is, only to a limited extent.
 - C. Research done by the American Medical Association has shown that while these shows may help to some degree with things like counting and spelling in the short run, watching too much of them can actually negatively affect a child's educational opportunities in the long run.
 - D. How does TV Affect Performance in school?

- i. TV can interfere with things like reading, doing homework, and getting enough sleep.
- ii. Elizabeth A. Vandewater, Human Development and Family Sciences, University of Texas: statistics
 - 1. Heavy viewing = 25-38% less time reading and 2.68 chance of not reading at age level.
- iii. Next, according to another study done by the Department of Population and Family Health Sciences at John Hopkins University, students with TV in room score 7 to 9 points lower on tests.
- iv. Finally, according to The Department of Maternal and Child Health at the University of North Carolina, children who watch more than 2 hours of TV a day are 10% more likely to develop attention problems later in life.

III. What Can We Do to Remedy the Situation?

- A. What can we do to remedy the plague of TV that is affecting children's education? Let me offer 4 suggestions.
- B. 4 things we can do
 - i. We must regulate amount, types, and content of TV programs.
 - ii. We can treat TV as a privilege instead of a right.
 - iii. We can encourage children to do other activities such as playing outside with their friends.
 - iv. We can follow the advice of Amy Jenson, the chair of BYU's Media Arts department, and "choose to engage in active media conversations." Or in other words, we can help children understand both the positive and negative effects of the media on them.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, I'd like to challenge all of you to regulate the amount, content, and types of TV programs that your current and future children watch. This will allow them to learn and grow from what they view rather than being plagued and harmed by it.