

by Quentin Tarantino that glamorizes the use of drugs like Cocaine and Heroin. The film is aimed at younger high school and college age people and their interests. Just when the "Say No To Drugs" campaign seemed to be doing well along came "Pulp". I actually witnessed Adolescents from twelve to college age begin experimenting with drugs. From Las Vegas to Monterey California to Boulder I watched it happen. The saddest thing was when this young girl about sixteen who had already been smoking pot was now addicted to crystal meth. She came up to me trembling all over and cried "I need help." She was down to maybe ninety pounds which was twenty less than when I met her six months before. So it isn't hard to believe that a child might just as easily be influenced by violence as by drugs.

According to Erna Christensen "when children view a kiss, they kiss." (001) So when viewing something somewhat more extreme, it is safe to say the possibility for copying is still there. John Monahan on Predicting Violent Behavior said, "Third grade boys who preferred Gunsmoke to I love Lucy were rated ten years later as being three times as aggressive." (70) In a recent survey conducted by myself the overall consensus was that children viewing violence is definitely a problem. However it is obvious that the younger the person, the more desensitized they are. The medical professionals, age 24-45 from Pres. St. Lukes believed something should be done. The younger college students, age 18-23 were much less concerned even though they agreed it was a problem. This makes it obvious that if the professionals believe there is a problem, and they grew up with Gunsmoke, and college kids with MTV, Pulp Fiction, Natural Born Killers and Rambo. What will the kids be like that are growing up in Cyberspace with Beevis, Butthead and the S&M chat room?

As responsible parents, we must consider the above information when we allow are children free reign on the remote control. Especially when we are away and cannot monitor their viewing. There is absolutely no doubt about it, TV can have a negative affect on family harmony, academic achievement and violent behavior. So lets not only be responsible parents, but let's be a responsible and try to teach the kids the way Ward and June would have.