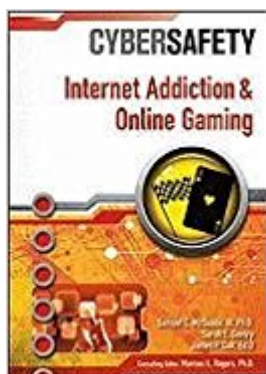


The book was found

Internet Addiction And Online Gaming (Cybersafety)



Synopsis

The Internet is available anytime, anywhere thanks to a host of wireless communications and mobile computing devices. This accessibility makes it difficult for people with online addictions or compulsions to avoid the object of their fixation. Any excessive online activity that leads to personal, family, or community problems can be considered an Internet addiction, and compulsive behaviors can take the form of online and electronic gaming, compulsive shopping, or frequenting chat rooms and social-networking sites. *Internet Addiction and Online Gaming* discusses the nature of these problems, their impact on society, and how readers can watch out for emerging addiction in themselves and in others. Aside from the damage addictions can do to someone's personal life, there are also technological risks from malware, viruses, and malicious hackers. Teens will learn how to use information technology wisely and safely and how to protect themselves from these damaging behaviors. Chapters and topics include:-Attitudes, behaviors, and characteristics of online addicts -Social computing and online addictions -The personal and economic harm of online addictions -Responsible, safe use of the Internet -The role of educators, government, and parents.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Just because every young adult seems to be wired today doesn't mean that these "digital natives" understand how the Internet works or the potential risks involved with such open access. Backed by recent statistics and facts, this straightforward series educates teens about online safety.

Internet Addiction and Online Gaming defines the behaviors and characteristics of online addicts and continues with a look at the addictive aspects of social computing and online gaming, as well as online gambling, shopping, and pornography. Also covered are prevention as well as consequences of online addiction, such as cyberbullying. Each chapter opens with a real or imagined scenario to consider, while numerous color photos and sidebars add further interest. Extensive back matter enhances the research value. Grades 7-12. --Angela Leeper

Samuel C. McQuade III, Ph.D., is a professor and graduate program coordinator for the cross-disciplinary professional studies master's degree program in Rochester Institute of Technology's College of Applied Science and Technology. He has 30 years of experience as a practitioner, teacher, and researcher of criminal justice and security. He is a former Air National Guard security police officer, deputy sheriff, police officer and detective, police organizational change consultant, National Institute of Justice program manager for the U.S. Department of Justice, and study director for the Committee on Law and Justice of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences. He is also the author of *Understanding and Managing Cybercrime* and *Encyclopedia of Cybercrime*. Sarah E. Gentry is a graduate student in the professional studies master's degree program at the Rochester Institute of Technology. She serves as a graduate research assistant for the RIT-led Cyber Safety and Ethics Initiative. She has worked as a system administrator for both the RIT residential computing lab and the Society for the Protection and Care of Children in Rochester, NY. Gentry holds a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science degree in multidisciplinary studies. James P. Colt, Ed.D., is the coordinator of school safety and security for the Monroe 1 BOCES school district. He is a former police officer employed by the State University of New York and served as a criminal justice instructor and school community safety specialist at Monroe 1 BOCES. He is also a certified public school teacher and school administrator in New York State and holds master's degrees in criminal justice and educational administration. He earned his doctorate from St. John Fisher College, with a research focus on cyberbullying and cyberoffending. He is the coauthor of *Cyber Bullying: Protecting Kids and Adults from Online Bullies* and contributing author to the *Encyclopedia of CyberCrime*. He also serves on the executive committee of the Cyber Safety and Ethics Initiative in western New York.

This is a dreadful book. Even making allowances for the fact it was obviously written for the young adult market, it adopts a preachy, smug tone that insults the intelligence and makes it all but unreadable. In the first place the authors acknowledge that there really is no such thing as Internet

addiction-it is not listed in the DSM as a genuine mental disorder. They then ignore this and proceed to discuss participation in online gaming as though it were proven to be addictive. They also play fast and loose with the definition of addiction itself. They then proceed to conflate "gaming addiction" with problem gambling conducted online, conveniently ignoring any research that does not support their preset point of view. Even online browsing is described as a pathological activity. In each doubtful case the authors load the dice by beginning with a corny tearjerker hypothetical, supposedly based on a true story, although they never do identify the true story. And of course, each detail of the sorrowful stories give the authors a soapbox for allegations and conclusions which are simply not backed up, bibliography notwithstanding. In the end what we have here is a bad Sunday school sermon, dressed in semi-scholarly drag. No doubt it will be used as a building block for some preposterous "public policy" foundation, one of those curiously lucrative "non-profits" so beloved of meddling politicians generally. I never throw books away. But in this case I'm going to make an exception.

Contrary to the previous reviewer's point of view, I believe this book is valuable for all of the stated reasons within the book's Introduction. It's apparent that addiction to any medium is real and knowledge is the first step to liberation. Those that are negatively affected to any degree have a tendency to negate any reference to such addictions. We all have a risk to some addictive behavior with various products; however, behavior presented within this book exemplify new frontiers faced by today's society. This is an excellent resource to help those prone to such behaviors, and although the target audience is 6-12 graders many adults will likely find useful information within. My 13 year old daughter used this resource for a school project relating to such addictions, and found it to be very helpful.

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