Guide children on Internet usage

Written by 3K Admin
Tuesday, 27 October 2009 09:05 - Last Updated Tuesday, 27 October 2009 09:17

<p align="justify">�</p><p align="justify">Monday, October 19th, 2009 04:27:00 </p><p align="justify">Just like adults, children nowadays can access the Internet worlds without limits.</p><p align="justify">The question is, can they judge and differentiate what is good or bad for them? Can they protect themselves from being trapped by advertisements from companies promoting their products or being scammed by strangers who they think is their friend or even protect themselves from pornography sites that suddenly pop up on their screens?</p><p align="justify">Do they have enough knowledge or experience to make proper judgments?</p><p align="justify">All these will affect their growth throughout their life and affect their moral values. So, how can we protect our children from such risks on the Internet?</p> In early August, the government had planned to introduce an Internet filter software to protect our children by filtering away pornographic information. <p align="justify">However, such technology would not be the best answer as even the filtering system can be bypassed or
circumvented through the proxy servers.</p><p align="justify">Furthermore, it has been unveiled in a recent news article the truth of what a children�s guardian software company had done, other than protecting your children.</p><p align="justify">This American guardian software company, The Sentry and Family Safe, had unethically recorded or downloaded the conversations among children at Yahoo, MSN, AOL and other websites and chatrooms. Then, they sold that information to companies that target children � such as computer game firms and film makers. With that information, they could study the interest or preference of children and develop marketing strategies that would win their hearts.</p>This incident has warned us that we cannot depend on technology to take care of our children. Parents should take the responsibility to protect and guide their children. <p align="justify">They shouldn�t cite ignorance and assume that their children who have access to the Internet at home are safe.</p><p align="justify">Note that other than pornography issues, children also might provide important data such as where they study, the house address and income level of the family to a stranger. Such information can place you and your family in a risky situation.</p><p align="justify">Education will be the solution for you to protect your children. Parents can provide guidelines to their children on how to eliminate or at least minimise risks. Parents can also refer to other sources of information on how to protect their children from risk and media influence.</p><p align="justify">Yu Kin Len
Petaling Jaya</p><p align="justify">Source: http://www.mmail.com.my/content/16105-mailbox-guide-children-internet-usage</p>