

What ever went wrong ?

by

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It all seems so simple. Our child wants a game to play, after all, all their friends have one. We think it will make them happy, because we love to make them happy. Besides we reason, they will learn things from a game. It might raise their intelligence in some way, we don't understand. So, we buy the game machine. Our child is delighted, and we are that they are happy. All goes well, in the beginning. We ask them to limit their time playing the game and they oblige. But, then we begin to notice that they are playing the game when they should be doing other things. We tell them to stop, they resist. We try to force the issue, but they explode in a temper that shocks us. Frightened, we withdraw. A fatal mistake! Because now, the game machine has taken over the mind of our child. They will be addicted to its ever increasing strategies, and just as increasingly lose interest in real life and especially their school work. Parents, then, take their child places, and their child takes their game. They are now inseparable. We used to talk with our child. Tell them stories, share activities with them, have fun and laugh. We had a purpose. We no longer have! Now, the game has replaced us. Now, we are a hinderance to the mind of our child. They see us forcing them to do things they don't want to do, and they respond by taking refuge inside a matrix that will not let them free!

In my books, I discuss this increasing problem of children being addicted to games. For when they are, and too many parents around the world tell me the same thing, they will fall behind in their studies. At the same time, the parent will lose the ability to control their child's emotion and develop their skills in language. This is a very common, a very serious, and a very global problem that is not being addressed. I offer my thoughts on how the parent can control this addiction.

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