

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
February 5, 1995

Prelude: Emma Giorgi

Welcome: Bob Park, Vice President

Song: Love Will Guide Us, #131 SLT

Chalice Lighting

Joys and Sorrows

Song: It Could Be a Wonderful World, #71 Prairie Songbook

“Who’s Calling the Shots?”

Rachel Siegfried, Rick Owen, Marilyn Peters

Discussion

Responsive Reading: #597

Offering

Introduction of Visitors

Announcements

Song: Gonna Lay Down My Sword and Shield, #162 SLT

Postlude

Mon.
13th.
6:30

1. An average US child will have watched 13 hours of TV by age 18, compared with 11,000 hours spent in school.

- A. 5,000 B. 8,000 C. 15,000 D. 22,000

2. Out of 47 video games, how many did not have violence as a major theme?

- A. 3 B. 7 C. 10 D. 18

3. How does the rate of violence in children's programs compare with the rate in prime time TV shows?

- A. Half as much B. Twice as much C. Three times as much

4. A teenager can buy a weapon that looks just like the killing machines glorified in action movies and video games for about how much money?

- A. \$50 B. \$100 C. \$150 D. \$200

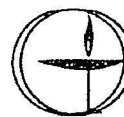
5. By age 18 the average American child has witnessed at least 18,000 simulated murders on TV.

- A. 6,000 B. 9,000 C. 12,000 D. 18,000

6. A USA Today survey of 503 kids ages 8-12 indicated that reality-based shows are popular with kids. More than 50% of those polled said they enjoyed watching the show Cops on Fox TV. But 65% admitted to being scared or upset by violence they'd seen on such shows.

- A. 15% B. 33% C. 65% D. 85%

or maybe they are frightened by not watching?



See the following study materials inside:

- Background Information
- Newsletter Quiz
- Discussion Starters
- Opportunities for Action
- Advocates and Organizations
- Study Materials

STOP THE MARKETING OF VIOLENCE

1. BECAUSE Unitarian Universalists are committed to the goal of a peaceful world characterized
2. by justice, equity, and compassion for all; and
3. WHEREAS play activities and exposure to media images are among the primary ways a child
4. learns about the world;
5. WHEREAS studies have demonstrated that exposure to media violence increases tolerance of
6. actual violence;
7. WHEREAS aggression-based toys frequently are marketed in a way that reinforces racist and
8. sexist stereotypes;
9. WHEREAS many television programs and motion pictures contain a high frequency of violent
10. episodes presented as entertainment; and
11. WHEREAS marketing decisions are based on profitability rather than ethical considerations;
12. ~~THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED~~ that Unitarian Universalists—both children and adults—be
13. urged to educate themselves about the relationships among media violence, children's aggres-
14. sive play, and the level of violence in our society;
15. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Unitarian Universalist congregations and individual Unitar-
16. ian Universalists be urged to:
 17. 1. monitor television programs, motion pictures, and toy advertisements in their commu-
 18. nities;
 19. 2. express their disapproval of violent images and aggression-based toys to television
 20. stations, theater owners, toy manufacturers, retailers, and sponsors; and
 21. 3. observe the annual International Days of Protest Against War Toys; and
22. BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Unitarian Universalist congregations be encouraged to enter
23. into coalitions to boycott sponsors and purveyors of violent media images or aggression-based
24. toys, and to educate adults and children about nonviolent toys and alternative forms of
25. entertainment.

Referred to local congregations for study and response
by the 1994 General Assembly delegates in June, 1994.

Please forward comments to the Commission on General Resolutions
prior to March 1, 1995, using the enclosed comment form.

The deadline for submitting these forms is March 1, 1995.