



Please Do Not Throw Away

Dear Parent(s),

This past week I was surfing through TV channels and came upon C-Span (I know I must have been bored right) and what was being addressed I believe is something of utmost importance in the war of keeping our kids safe and innocent. Attached is a copy of the article that was written by a reporter of the New York Times telling a story about the young man who was addressing a sub-committee of the US Congress on Sexual Exploitation of Children. Please take the time to read this letter as I believe that you need to know what is going on today via the internet. However I want to address something that is going on right here at home in our youth that attend our church. Recently I became aware that many of our students are creating websites of their own via at least two different hosting websites. The sites are myspace.com and xanga.com. I decided I would create a site and see what these were all about. To my astonishment as I created my site and then began to add friends to my subscriptions I found some of our own students putting their picture, e-mail address, instant message address, their physical address, and sometimes even cell phone numbers to where they can be reached. Also many put very personal information about themselves, like their like, dislikes, the school they attend, and much more. I was watching C-Span the reporter talked about these very sites and how they are hunting grounds for sexual predators. As you read the attached letter you will understand more of how these sites can become just that for predators. Listen anybody with a computer can access these sites and look at what your kids are putting on them and even in some cases contact them through information that has been given. Often these predators will disguise themselves as other teens to attract them and then set-up a meeting point. Please feel free to access my xanga. Just go to xanga.com and under username enter maximusthegreatone and under password enter spartans. Please feel free to check out my site and even look at some of the subscribers on the left, all of which are students in our ministry. I believe you need to be informed and you need to take measures to ensure the safety of your child as he or she is on the internet. Please do not take for granted that just because you have or do not have a computer at home that your child is not accessing the internet. I have found many students who do not have a computer at home that still have a xanga or myspace website. I will be addressing my concerns with the students in the coming weeks. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. 815-626-1234 or 815-441-2180

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jason Borton

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OUT TO OTHERS WITH CHRIST LOVE**