2-26-2015

Letters to the Editor Feb 26, 2015

Kate Rimkunas
The Orland Park Prairie

Follow this and additional works at: https://dc.uwm.edu/orland_park_library_challenge
Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Recommended Citation
https://dc.uwm.edu/orland_park_library_challenge/237

This Letter to the Editor is brought to you for free and open access by UWM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Orland Park Public Library (Illinois), 2013 by an authorized administrator of UWM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact open-access@uwm.edu.
Letters to the Editor Feb. 26, 2015
LET'S TALK ABOUT LIVING WITH RELAPSING MS

Join us for an MS LIVING EVENT.
Hear from MS experts and others who are living with MS. Plus, get some answers about dealing with MS and information on an oral treatment.

Choose your date & location:

April 9 • 6:00pm • Chicago

April 10 • 12:00pm • Orland Park

April 11 • 12:00pm • Oak Lawn

A MEAL WILL BE PROVIDED. FREE PARKING.

Register HERE at mslivingevents.com
Or Call 1-866-703-6293
to reserve your space.

Most Viewed

1. District 230 board meeting used to highlights academic achievements

2. Police notified by FBI after Orland address appears on ISIS ‘kill list’

3. Police Reports March 26, 2015

4. Fashion is a Lifestyle: Men in shorts
Library should install filters on adult computers

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my disappointment in the Orland Park [Public] Library’s decision to continue to allow unfiltered access to the Internet on their adult computers.

I applaud the library on filtering the computers in the children’s sections of the library. However, declaring the library safe because the children’s computers are filtered, while leaving the adult machines unfiltered, is misguided and deceptive.

Walt Mueller of the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding writes, “The Internet, mobile devices and other digital technologies combine to create a world in which children and teens no longer have to look for and find pornography. Now, pornography is in the mainstream and it finds them.”

Children are at great risk of accidental exposure to pornography at young ages. The library is risking the innocence and safety of our community’s children by serving as a welcoming, open door to Internet pornography. By spending thousands of dollars on attorney fees to defend their position, instead of buying a sophisticated filtering program for their computers, they are telling Orland Park that they value access to pornography more than the well-being of our children.

It may seem that pornography is an industry employing people by choice. It may seem that it is a harmless and normal part of our society. In reality, it is an industry that causes addiction, destroys lives and families, and enslaves women and children. I recently learned that sex traffickers have two income streams — one from “johns,” who pay for the actual act, and the other from people who view that act on the Internet.
If traffickers are creating porn, and trafficking is illegal, then isn’t the library allowing access to illegal information? How can the library employees tell with any certainty which porn sites are legal and which are not? And should it be a library employee's responsibility to make those distinctions?

Computer filtering programs are sophisticated enough to allow freedom of information access while keeping viewers safe from illegal and inappropriate material — material that no one in a public building, where children and teenagers gather, should have access to. I urge the library to heed the outcry of our community's public and install filters on their adult computers. To quote U.S. Senator Mark Kirk, “I'm always for the First Amendment. We shouldn't have the freedom to create slavery in America, especially in Illinois.”

Kate Rimkunas

Orland Park resident

Add comment

You're currently logged in as: Michael Zimmer

Comment

Comment Preview

More from The Orland Park Prairie

Police notified by FBI after Orland address appears on ISIS ‘kill list’

Township to host monthly immunization clinic

Poll workers needed in Orland Park for April 7 election

District 230 board meeting used to highlights academic achievements

District 230 Foundation ready to get its game on
Fashion is a Lifestyle: Men in shorts