Resources for Parents, especially on the new media

Resources with a media focus

National Institute for Media and the Family – offers many resources, notably free MediaWise guides on topics ranging from YouTube and MySpace, to online gaming and video game addiction: www.mediafamily.org

Big Picture Small World – a rich site of activities, intriguing resources, and extensive lists of computer games on peace, conflict, politics, environment, climate, energy, food, science, etc.: www.bigpicturesmallworld.com

Center For Media Literacy – the largest producer and distributor of educational materials on media literacy in North America for parents, teachers, and researchers: www.medialit.org

Association for Library Service to Children, notable media lists: www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants

PBS Kids: It's My Life – offers kids a chance to share stories, play games and activities, take polls, read articles, get advice, watch video clips of other kids dealing with questions and concerns, etc.: www.pbskids.org/itsmylife

General parenting resources

Hand in Hand Parenting – unusually insightful workshop, DVDs, print materials, and e-newsletters for strengthening parent-child relationships and support for parents, including an exceptionally useful booklet series on Children's Emotions, Special Time, Playlistening, Crying, Tantrums, Anger, Fears: www.handinhandparenting.org

Center for Nonviolent Communication – skills and insights on effective interaction with and among children and parents; resources like Respectful Parents, Respectful Kids; Raising Children Compassionately….: www.cnvc.org

Institute for Peace & Justice, Parenting for Peace & Justice – one of the most extensive, highest quality sources of faith-based manuals, curricula, resource guides, etc. and a useful e-newsletter: www.ipj-ppj.org

A few more resources for parents and teachers

Children First – web site of the National Parent-Teacher Association: www.pta.org

Children's Defense Fund – educates about the needs of children, encourages investment in constructive programs, and serves as an effective voice for children in public and policy arenas: www.childrensdefense.org

Connect for Kids – improving our communities for kids, encouraging active citizenship: www.connectforkids.org

Child & Family WebGuide, Tufts University – directory of sites offering credible, research-based information on child development, parenting, learning, daycare, health/mental health, and related issues: www.cfw.tufts.edu

LifeSkills 4 Kids – helpful resources for educators and parents working with children K-6: www.lifeskills4kids.com

Childwatch International Research Network – media and violence is a priority concern: www.childwatch.uio.no

Books: Hilarie Cash and Kim McDaniel, Video Games and Your Kids; Kourosh Dini, Video Game Play and Addiction; Dave Grossman and Gloria DeGaetano, Stop Teaching Our Kids to Kill; Nancy Carlsson-Paige and Diane Levin, Who's Calling the Shots? Susan Fitzell, Free the Children; Marshall Rosenberg, Nonviolent Communication; John Paul Lederach, Little Book of Conflict Transformation; Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer, Families Valued; Myla and Jon Kabat-Zinn, Everyday Blessings; William Martin, Parent’s Tao; Stephen Covey, Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families….

By parents, teachers, & young people of Lutheran Peace Fellowship and the Peace & Justice Resource Center. Both offer libraries, workshops, resource guides, articles, computer activities, resource tables, and media interviews with a focus on parents and young people. www.lutheranpeace.org lpf@ecunet.org 206.720.0313, www.pjrcbooks.org