

Digital Media:
Phone, Computer/Internet, Music, Movies, TV, Tablets,
Gaming Systems, Social Media apps
(Much of this used to be “Analog Media”)

Why is this an issue?

What has been so tricky for parents about digital media is that while it may look and feel a lot like the analog media we're used to, it's actually a whole new world. The move to digital media is a way bigger paradigm shift than moving from cassette tapes to CDs, as radical as that felt a couple of decades ago.” (p. 20)

“Like it or not, we can't remove *digital* from our kids like a stain and get them to think about media and use it like we do. **That's not the world they live in now, and it's not the one they're going to live in as adults.**” (p. 11)

What kind of steps can we take?

“Right Click’: It's an invitation to step into the digital world of our kids with greater understanding and create a plan that's right for your family. When we right click on our devices, a menu appears that prompts us to choose what we want to do next.” (p. 22)

The digital world can be a scary and confusing place for kids. **As adults, we have perspectives of a world both with and without digital media.** Our kids may sense that we miss how things used to be, but they'll never understand why. **They're just trying to make sense of the only world they know.** (p. 25)

“Kids are learning to understand and use media in radically new ways. **The biggest stumbling block for parents is often not what we do, but how we think about media.** When we fail to understand how our kids think about it, our conversations about boundaries, rules, and good decisions get lost in translation.” (p. 25)

“Having a big-picture grasp of what makes digital technology so different from what has come before helps us as parents to be equipped to deal with the questions and concerns we have now and be able to address future issues as they arise. **The goal is to have great relationships with our kids.** Media will be in the middle of that somehow. Rather than a divider, we want it to be common ground where families connect.” (p. 28)

My Personal Digital Media History

1. Consider different stages of your life.
2. Bullet-point different facts/ memories in each category
3. Identify time period too.

Examples:

- There was a pay phone in my high school cafeteria*
- *Grade School: My family got cable TV for the first time*
- We never had home internet*

Phone

Computer/Internet

Music

Movies

Television/Gaming Systems

What Does Your Family Own? Or How Do You...? (Watch/Listen/Read/Play)

Recap with these Questions:

1. What are 1-2 major things from your Digital Media History that shaped a certain period of your life?
2. What was most surprising about your “What We Own” list?

Thoughts for Next Sunday:

1. As you go through your week, notice/think about how you and your family use digital media.
When? Where? How often? How long?
2. Finish your “Personal Digital Media” and encourage a friend/spouse/partner to do the same. Discuss.

Marta's Personal Digital Media History

1. Consider different stages of your life.
2. Bullet-point different facts/memories in each category
3. Identify time period too.

Examples:

- There was a pay phone in my high school cafeteria*
- *Grade School: My family got cable TV for the first time*
- We never had home internet*

Phone

- Pay phone in my HS cafeteria
- Got my first LG cell phone Senior Year of HS
- iPod Touch and “dumb” cell phone in college and post college
 - First iPhone: 2012

Computer/Internet

- Dial-up internet starting in MS
- Had to wait your turn for the internet
- AOL Instant Messenger in MS/HS (BIG DEAL!)
 - Desktop then laptop in college
- Capital U campus got wifi my Senior year
- Facebook= first year of college
 - Twitter= final year of college
- Instagram= learned it in 2013 for this job

Music

- Bought my first CD in 6th Grade
- Downloaded music from Napster (HS)
- Burned CDs and bought CDs (HS)
- Owned a discman throughout MS/HS
 - Had a LARGE binder of CDs!
 - First iPod in early college
 - Current: no longer buy music. Pandora and Spotify primarily

Movies

- Had a collection of Disney VHS
- Rented movies from local video store
- Drove 45 minutes to the movie theatre in the larger town
- Mail subscription of Netflix in college
 - Redbox starting in college
- Make trips to Best Buy on special occasions
 - VHS to DVD was a BIG deal

Television/Gaming Systems

- Family has always had cable TV
- TV in living room and family room
- Uncle had camcorder so home videos were of holidays and family gatherings
- Recorded TV on VHS (MS/HS) (like FRIENDS on Thursday nights)
 - Brother was and is a big gamer. (Sega, N64, Playstation)