

okay, let's start the media and violence mh... i don't know... so there is some sort of link but it seems that many studies don't stop to think if it is the other way around: so that maybe aggressive people also watch more violence and prefer it to nonviolent media than people who aren't aggressive in the first place instead of the media making people aggressive. Furthermore, I don't know... ham aähm ehm what am I going to write. it's a difficult topic there are probably many, many different conclusions... probably it's something in the middle: so that there is something like ehm what was I going to write something in the line of: some violence in the media will actually make you more aggressive especially children as their habits are still forming, but that's less so with grown ups so maybe censoring it with an age limit would be a good idea... and then there is: the following point that there are lots of other factors: for example socialisation: if the kids have a good, caring loving family they won't get violent: as the last study says of somebody: it's the EINSTELLUNG of the parents toward violence that influences kids... so if parents don't like violence on TV they will teach that to their kids and they will also dislike violence... I have to stop correcting myself there must be another point there must be something else... in some studies don't see any connection between where there's a missing link

Censoring violence in the media?

With so many different conclusions from different studies it is hard to say whether violence in the media really has a direct influence on the aggressive behaviour of children. For example Professor Huesman of the University of Michigan argues that there is a direct link between exposure to fictional violence as a child and aggressiveness as an adult, while Jonathan Freedman of the University of Toronto claims the opposite. To this inconclusiveness comes another point: many studies seem to VERNACHLÄSSIGEN the way the link works. It is possible that violence in the media does not cause aggressiveness, but that the two are still proportional in so far that aggressive people generally prefer watching violent programs or playing violent computer games. However, even with this unclear conclusion from the studies it may be better to "play safe" and censor excessive violence in the media. Another point concerning censorship is the question of what should be censored: different studies have defined violence differently: George Gerbner of Temple University, for example, includes violence presentation in cartoons in his study while others exclude it for being unrealistic. Certainly only some violence in the media can be made responsible for aggressive behaviour.

And even admitting that especially excessive violence must be censored there is the violation of freedom of the media - a problem as important as violence. No authority can give the ultimate answer to what is bad violence and what good violence in the media. Decisions about extreme violence it may still be possible, but in the grey area between it and moderate presentation of aggression, it is a subjective decision if one should err on the side of freedom or safety. Finally a Norwegian study has shown that there are always more factors than exposure to fictional violence. Especially the lack of parental rules of what was allowed to be watched made an impact on aggressive behaviour of teenagers. So it is the parents' attitude toward violence that influences a teenager's behaviour and habits. This implies that censorship is not the sole solution to the problem, but that a successful socialisation is a more important key to non-aggressive behaviour.

This leads to the conclusion that children should certainly be protected from violence in the media, but only to a certain degree. Age limits, like the ones already in place, certainly make sense, but banning all fictional violence, or publicly disposing of "killer games" as it has been done by the 'Aktionsbündnis Amoklauf Winnenden' will make no difference. Growing up in a caring family that

teaches its children a healthy Eattitudeagainst aggressive behaviour is the safest way of preventing violence. So censorship can within a limited scope be a method of protecting the society. But there are many more