



**Kids First Coalition**

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**Testimony of Penny Young Nance  
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Hello, my name is Penny Nance and I am the President of Kids First Coalition, which is a non-profit educational and advocacy group I founded with the goal of protecting children and advancing pro-family legislation. I sit before you not only as a pro-family advocate but also a very concerned mother of two young children.

Today, I am here to represent the members of my organization, (mostly moms who have downgraded professional careers to raise kids) as well as the countless parents in this country who seek to protect their children from graphic sexual images and violence which unmistakably damage children.

The Kaiser Family Foundation contends that about 95% of American children ages 0-6 live in homes with a VCR or DVD player. They say that these kids watch a DVD or video about 40 minutes per day. We of course all know that not everything viewed by these kids is age appropriate.

Recent studies by the American Psychological Association and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry both say that the major effects of seeing violence on TV or movies are:

- Children may become less sensitive to the pain and suffering of others

- Children may be more fearful of the world around them
- Children may be more likely to behave in aggressive or harmful ways toward others

On the issue of a child's exposure to the viewing of graphic sex, Donna Rice Hughes' organization Enough is Enough has found that kids exposed to the viewing of graphic sex scenes begin to view sex without responsibility as acceptable and desirable. No big surprise, these attitudes can often lead to teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

Even without the science, which overwhelmingly concurs, parental instinct and basic common sense tell us to shield our kids from graphic sex and violence on TV and movies.

I am not an expert on copyright issues nor does my organization take a position except to say that stealing is wrong and parents need to teach children to respect other people's property. On the other hand, I do not believe that the entertainment industry should try to keep helpful technology such as ClearPlay from parents. As a parent I welcome all technologies that give parents options to protect their kids. I even challenge the entertainment industry to work with technology leaders, families and parents groups to develop even more market based solutions. Ultimately, I think this will help the industry by opening up new markets. I will give you an example of how.

As I mentioned earlier, I am the mother of two young children. My son loves Spiderman. A couple of weeks ago I was shopping in Target and I paused in front of the Spiderman DVD. I toyed with buying the DVD but I decided against it because it is just too violent for him. Last week, I bought a new DVD player with ClearPlay and a Spiderman DVD. After hooking up the new DVD player I was able to specifically choose to filter out fourteen categories of material and then password protect my choices. I have included all the categories with my written testimony but the main areas were violence, language, sex and nudity and illicit drug use.

Using all the filters, I screened the DVD and now I feel comfortable allowing my children to view at least part of the movie. Without ClearPlay, I would have not purchased the DVD. What a great tool to help me protect my kids. Of course even with this new technology, not all movies are

appropriate for kids. Again, parents still need to use discretion but its great to have one more tool.

New technology is so valuable to us as a country, but with it comes new challenges and responsibilities. I always tell parents that they must be the first line of defense and remain vigilant against all threats. ClearPlay or any other technology is simply a tool not a substitute for parental oversight. If there is a question, I still watch the movie first to make sure the material is age appropriate even with the filter system. Even as adults it's important to be cognizant of what we feed our minds. There are certainly DVD's I will feel more comfortable buying or renting for my husband and I with the use of ClearPlay. There is a biblical proverb that says, "as a man thinks in his heart so is he." The secular version of that saying is garbage in garbage out.

In closing, the Kids First Coalition is grateful for new technologies like Clear Play that support parents and protect kids. Thank you for allowing me to testify before you today.

## ClearPlay Filter Settings

There are 14 different ClearPlay Filter settings. Each of these settings can be turned on or off. This allows for over 16,000 potential user configurations.

**1. Strong Action Violence:** Filters excessive or repeated violence, including fantasy violence.

- Strong Fantasy/Creature Violence
- Sustained/Repetitive Violent Actions
- Crude Comic Violence

**2. Gory / Brutal Violence:** Filters brutal and graphic violent scenes.

- Fierce, Brutal Violence
- Graphic/Bloody Violence
- Rape/Rape Scene
- Torture

**3. Disturbing Images:** Filters gruesome and other disturbing images.

- Macabre Images, Dead/Decomposing Bodies
- Bloody/Horror Imagery
- Gruesome/Disturbing Imagery

**4. Sensual Content:** Filters highly suggestive and provocative situations and dialogue.

- Highly Sensual Dialogue and Situations
- Highly Provocative and Revealing Clothing
- Highly Provocative Innuendo

**5. Crude Sexual Content:** Filters crude sexual language and gestures.

- Overt Crude Sexual Language
- Overt Crude Sexual Actions or Gestures
- Crude Sexual Slang or Idiomatic Expressions

**6. Nudity:** Filters nudity, including partial and risqué art nudity.

- Rear Nudity
- Topless/Front Nudity
- Partial Nudity/Veiled Nudity
- Nude Photos/Art

**7. Explicit Sexual Situation:** Filters explicit sexual dialogue, sound and activity.

- Sex Scenes
- Sex Related Sounds
- Sexually Explicit Actions/Images/Dialogue

**8. Vain Reference to Deity:** Filters vain or irreverent references to God or a deity.

**9. Crude Language and Humor:** Filters crude language and bodily humor.

- Crude Scatological Word/Sound
- Crude Scatological Image

**10. Ethnic and Social Slurs:** Filters ethnically or socially offensive insults.

- Racial Slurs
- Social Slurs

**11. Cursing:** Filters profane uses of hell and damn.

**12. Strong Profanity:** Filters swearing and strong profanities.

**13. Graphic Vulgarity:** Filters harsh and vulgar words and phrases.

**14. Explicit Drug Use:** Filters vivid scenes of illegal drug use.

- Drugs being used in a vivid/graphic manner.