

 * Thank you for your interest in this presentation. Please note that analyses included herein are preliminary. More recent, finalized analyses can be found in: Ybarra, M., Diener-West, M., Markow, D., Leaf, P., Hamburger, M., & Boxer, P. (2008). Linkages between Internet and other media violence with seriously violent behavior by youth. Pediatrics, 122(5), 929-937. 

APA Convention, August 14-17 2008, Boston MA

Growing Up With Media: Viewing Hate Web Sites and Serious Violent Behavior: Who's Doing It?

 Merle Hamburger PhD^a
Michele Ybarra MPH PhD^b
Philip J Leaf PhD^c
Marie Diener-West PhD^c 

^aCenters for Disease Control; ^bCenter for Innovative Public Health Research; ^cJohns Hopkins School of Public Health

This research was supported by Cooperative Agreement number U49/CE000206 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the CDC.



SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™

 **Brief Description of the Growing up with Media survey** 

Online data collection among randomly identified households with adult members of Harris Poll OnLine



- Baseline data collected August – September 2006
- 1,588 households
- Youth between the ages of 10-15 years
- English speaking
- 26% response rate

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™

 **Why Study Hate?** 

- According to UCR there were 7,720 hate crime incidents in 2006
 - ~52% were racially based
 - ~19% were based on religious bias
 - ~16% were based on sexual orientation
- Young people (<20) more likely to be victimized than older people
- Almost 500 active hate websites in 2007

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™

 **Problem Statement** 

Little is known about which adolescents are viewing hate websites and how that may impact their behavior.

- What are the characteristics of adolescents who visit hate websites?

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™



Exposure to Hate Website

“In the last 12 months have you visited a website that people would call a ‘hate’ site. A ‘hate’ site is one that tells you to hate a group of people because of who they are, how they look, or what they believe.”

Response alternatives:

- No, I don’t know what this is (56.8%, n=888)
- No, but I have heard of this (40.6%, n=660)
- Yes (2.5%, n=40)


SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™



Demographic and household characteristics

Variable	Viewers of hate sites	All others	Odds Ratio
	2.5% (n=40)	97.5% (1548)	
Age (range: 10-15 years)	13.4 (0.3)	12.6 (0.06)	1.36 (1.34-1.39)
Male	34% (12)	53% (784)	0.46 (0.43-0.49)
Hispanic	18% (7)	18% (198)	1.00 (0.92-1.08)
Non-white	33% (13)	28% (404)	1.22 (1.14-1.30)
Propensity to Respond with Anger (range: 10-30)	21.4 (1.2)	18.8 (0.2)	1.13 (1.12-1.14)
Poor Parental Monitoring (range: 2-10)	3.4 (0.3)	2.9 (0.05)	1.22 (1.12-1.35)
Poor Parental Closeness (range: 3-14)	6.8 (0.5)	5.5 (0.07)	1.30 (1.28-1.31)
Witnessing Domestic Violence	30% (8)	9% (135)	4.69 (4.36-5.06)

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™



School and Drug Characteristics

Variable	Viewers of hate sites (n=40)	All others (n=1548)	Odds Ratio
School Variables			
Suspended from school 1+ times	35% (10)	23% (343)	1.87 (1.70-2.06)
Poor academic performance	21% (9)	9% (142)	2.91 (2.69-3.15)
Carrying a weapon to school	16% (4)	2% (21)	11.76 (10.62-13.03)
Drug Variables			
Alcohol use	39% (13)	12% (169)	4.81 (4.50-5.14)
Marijuana use	22% (6)	5% (62)	5.41 (5.00-5.85)
Inhalants / Hard drugs	16% (5)	2% (26)	9.92 (9.07-10.85)

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™



Externalizing behaviors and Exposure to community violence

Variable	Viewers of hate sites (n=40)	All others (n=1548)	Odds Ratio
Externalizing behaviors			
Aggression (offline)	85% (34)	58% (880)	4.1 (1.3-12.8)
Aggression (online)	47% (17)	21% (304)	2.7 (1.1-6.7)
Delinquent behavior	80% (31)	56% (862)	3.0 (1.2-7.9)
Seriously violent behavior	20% (7)	4% (86)	5.1 (1.7-15.0)
Community Violence Exposure			
Seen / heard shots, bombs, riots	22% (8)	7% (113)	3.44 (3.20-3.72)
Seen robbery with a weapon	44% (15)	18.5% (288)	3.54 (3.32-3.78)
Seen someone murdered	9% (5)	2% (24)	5.08 (4.61-5.60)

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™



Summary



It is a small minority of 10-15 year olds who report visiting a hate site in the past year

- Only 2.5% of sample reported viewing hate sites

VERSUS

- 55% of sample had never heard of hate sites
- 42% of sample had heard of them, but never been to a hate site

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™




Summary




Respondents who reported viewing hate sites are significantly more likely to:

- Have more family and school difficulties
- Use alcohol and illicit drugs
- Are exposed to community violence
- Be aggressive, delinquent, and seriously violent

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™

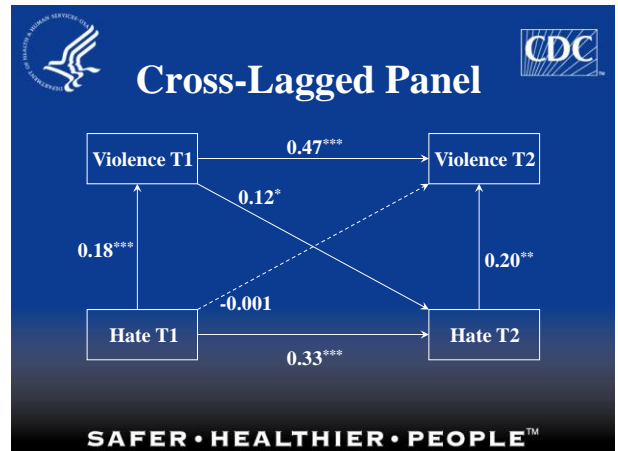



Limitations of GuwM Data



- Reliance on self-reports
- It is possible that:
 - Children were monitored by their parents
 - 22% of youth indicated someone was close enough to see the screen during data collection
 - Parents completed the youth survey.
- Data are cross-sectional, but...

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™







Implications

Important association between viewing hate sites and...

- Seriously violent behavior
- Other antisocial behaviors

Viewing hate sites may simply be a symptom of underlying antisocial tendencies

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™



Contact Information

Dr. Merle Hamburger
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
mhamburger@cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control.

SAFER • HEALTHIER • PEOPLE™