Date:

Re: Letter to editor

Issues: Child safety with technology & online use

To Whom It May Concern:

I’d like to shed some light on several urgent issues associated with child luring, cyber-bullying, technology addiction and child suicide.

Did you know that every 9 minutes a child is a victim of online abuse? Or that 2 out of 3 of these children are under the age of 15?

On average, a child receives a smartphone by the age of 10, and over 50% of children over the age of 12 have social media accounts that are used by millions of predators. No legislation exists requiring a minor to be educated and trained on the proper use of such devices.

And what is even more disturbing is that there is a direct correlation between the amount of time a child spends on social media, to lower academic performance, lower

self-esteem, and increased anxiety and depression.

This is not okay!

More families are recognizing these issues, as approximately 275 million lawsuits are filed annually against schools & organizations, and that number is rising as online issues and social media use continue.

Thankfully, here is some good news that I recently came across. It is a non-profit organization called [The Digital Citizen Academy](http://www.thedcacademy.com/), which is focused on keeping schools, homes, and kids SAFE from the dangers of using technology. The Academy offers both prevention and diversion training programs aimed to eliminate core issues like cyber-bullying, technology addiction, child luring, and suicide.

Please consider writing a piece about these issues above (They would be happy to be a resource.) [www.TheDCacademy.com](http://www.TheDCacademy.com)

I am a major advocate for everything The DC Academy stands for; hence the reason I took the time to send this letter to you today.

Thank you for your time and your attention to these very urgent matters. This is a 911 situation. These statistics are alarming and we must take action!

Respectfully,