

Reporting All The Bits

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Everything I ever learned about internet protection—I learned from MOM

With Mother's day arriving on Sunday May 11th this year I thought it would be time to pay tribute to Mom and reflect how pervasive her influence can be in our lives.



Moms set the example and teach us to clean up our room, wash our hands before each meal, set the standard for what is clean and what is dirty. When we were growing up they would be our biggest coach, critic and care giver. They taught us to keep ourselves safe by not talking to strangers, to be polite and to think outside ourselves by setting the example of sacrificially caring for their family.

Something seems to happen when a person becomes a mom. They change! They develop a sixth sense that they can see through walls and behind. They always seem to know what you were up to. There was no point in lying about taking those cookies from the cookie jar—they knew—or at least it seemed like mom always knew back then.

They also change in another way. They become perpetual worry warts! Even when kids grow up mom is still concerned when her "child" takes on challenging roles in their lives such as a

peace keeping mission in Afghanistan or security guard at a bank.

Our theme in this issue is along the lines of the book *All I Really Need To Know I Learned in Kindergarten* by Robert Fulghum and first published in 1986.

Fulghum lists lessons normally learned in kindergarten and then explains how the world would be a better place if we as adults lived by those basic rules as children, i.e. sharing, being kind to one another, and cleaning up after themselves.

With that in mind we take those same rules and apply them to internet security. The number one rule is never talk to strangers. As a kid there was that basic power imbalance between children and adults and the rule was put in place for our safety. When it comes to opening email attachments and clicking on links the same rule applies. Don't open attachments or click on links unless it is from a trusted source—someone you know.

Wash your hands before dinner. Before you open an attachment, a CD or a file make sure that it has been through a virus scan. Secondly make sure that the virus scanning software is up to date. Then the file will be clean of any virus.

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I don't want you to watch that show or no TV for you for a week! Mom had some clear standards for acceptable TV use. The same should be in place for surfing the internet at home, school and at work. We can provide an internet content filter, but before we implement the technology the standards of what is acceptable should be in place. At school and at work an **Internet Acceptable Usage Policy** should be drafted and reviewed so that people understand what compliance means and that the consequences of non compliance are clearly laid out. The consequences of non compliance for a business can mean costs of having a network technician removing spyware from computers, or the cost of a lawsuit since an employee feels harassed with the content that is displayed on company computers.

Clean up your room! It is easy to drop your clothes and toys on the floor and bed when you are done with them. The resulting mess means you have a tough time finding it again or you get "hurt" when you trip over stuff on the floor. I lost my ball! I can't find my favorite sweater! Hopefully mom demonstrated to you how to organize things and put them away neatly. The



same applies to your computer. Part of using the computer is to file things away neatly. The other part is to set it to delete history and temporary files after a while. Then you can find things easily and the system will also perform better.

I don't want you playing with those kids! Wow, Mom made some value judgments! Sometimes she would feel that certain kids are a bad influence. How does that apply to computers? There is a class of programs called P2P or peer to peer that allow you to share files over the network or the internet. It should be of great concern who you are sharing with and what you are sharing. Napster would be in the class of P2P programs and made the news when the music industry sued them for allowing copyrights to be broken by sharing music. Two things to consider are what are you sharing? Is it a violation to share those files? You could be breaking a copyright or a confidentiality code. Who are you sharing it with? Are those files infected with a virus? Will those pictures of the party on the weekend be posted on the web for you current and future employers to see? Do you want them to see it?

When will you ever grow up? This is a note of exasperation from a tired mom. She becomes tired of picking up after you, doing the laundry, making the meals, taking you from place to place, and continually monitoring and mentoring you. A mother's work is never done! There comes a time when we you need to grow up and fend for yourself.

We may have forgotten some of those basic rules from home and kindergarten. They still apply to life and computer use. Mom might not be able to help anymore. If you need help developing an acceptable usage policy or help keeping your network clean feel free to contact any of the network technicians at KDI at 604-574-7225.

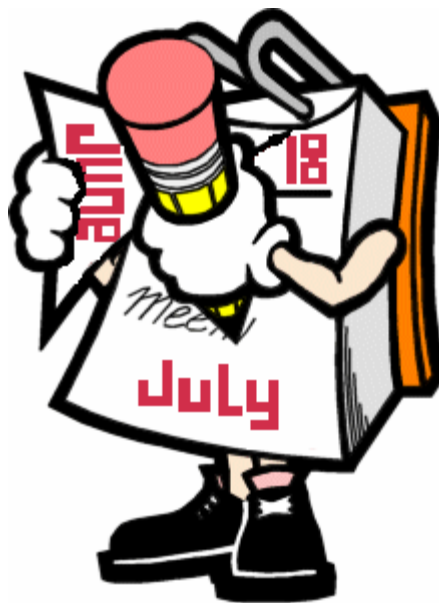
Remote Network Monitoring Service like Mom used to make!

Mom is a tough act to follow whether in action or in theme. One thing that moms are known for is that sixth sense of when you are getting into trouble.

Mom knows when we are stealing cookies and when you are going to get hurt. We can't repeat that act, but one thing that we can do, for the critical components of your network, is to implement remote network monitoring. When things go "bump" in the night our server will send an email to one of our technicians to follow up. The firewall and the primary server will be covered for all of our retainer clients. The monitoring is just one aspect of a fully managed network scenario. We can then become proactive rather than find out the next day that the server was stolen or there was a power failure. Remote network monitoring lowers any potential down time costs.

If there was a fire or theft the monitoring is not enough—we would call you to tell you the server is down and you would tell us the building is burnt to a crisp. You need a backup and recovery strategy. Typically we would also implement a remote back-up server to provide automatic backup to another one of your locations or to our office.

Call KDI to set a time to discuss basic network monitoring or full remote network management and we will even bring the cookies!



SAVE THE DATE: Beyond the Wall July 18th, 2008

KDI announces our third annual NetSentron Technical summit. To be held in Surrey on Friday July 18th, 2008. The theme for this year is beyond the wall. Beyond the firewall there is whole new world to be explored. The internet firewall is typically seen as the major defense against the hordes of internet pirates trying to break in.

Well me bucko it is time to break out and use the firewall to expand our horizons. Rather than being tied to the dock at home port we will expand on the features for added protection inside the network as well as allow us to roam outside the network.

The summit is an all day series of presentations on internet and network technology which will include:

Internet content filter.

Use and configuration of the VPN.

Network Bandwidth reporting and management.

Remote network monitoring and management.

Cost for the seminar remains at \$95.00 (plus GST). The fee is waived for all clients that are current on NetSentron Support.

Spaces are limited so for more information, or to book your spot, you may call, fax or email KDI.



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- IBM iSeries Software Development/Management

You don't really understand human nature unless you know why a child on a merry-go-round will wave at his parents every time around - and why his parents will always wave back. **William D. Tammeus**

Parents often talk about the younger generation as if they didn't have anything to do with it. **Haim Ginott**

Children are a great comfort in your old age - and they help you reach it faster, too. **Lionel Kauffman**

Sing out loud in the car even, or especially, if it embarrasses your children. **Marilyn Penland**

Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children. **Charles R. Swindoll, *The Strong Family***

I regard no man as poor who has a godly mother - **Abraham Lincoln**

The heart of a mother is a deep abyss at the bottom of which you will always find forgiveness - **Honore de Balzac**

A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie. **Tenneva Jordan**

A suburban mother's role is to deliver children obstetrically once, and by car forever after. **Peter De Vries**

All mothers are working mothers. **Author Unknown**

Call During May and June for a Network Spring Cleaning!

Your mother doesn't live here so there is no one else to pick up after you! Even with vigilance your computer and network needs a spring cleaning. It occurs at two levels. The physical computers themselves can collect dust inside and over time the fans will fail and the system will have a heat failure. KDI will clean up your network in two ways. One we can clean out the dust. Two we can clean out the temporary files and "gunk" on the hard drives that slow the system. For more information or to arrange a spring cleaning contact Jaret at KDI .

