

Protecting children from internet abuse

It is the duty of parents to raise their children upon the teachings of Islam by using all possible good means. In fact, the Internet can help parents in this regard if it is used correctly. However, parents should guide their children to the ways of using it in a positive way and protect them against misusing this service.

The prominent Muslim scholar, **Sheikh Muhammad Iqbal Nadvi**, Imam of Calgary Mosque, Alberta, Canada, and Former Professor at King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, states:

“There are many ways of protecting both children and ourselves from the *haram* (unlawful) as follows:

1. By creating a barrier between us and sins.
2. By providing alternatives to take us away from the *haram*.

Applying this to your situation, you need to establish firm and healthy channels of communication with your children and explain to them the Islamic position concerning these issues and how to deal with them. The best way to achieve this is to be a good role model for your children, for if they see you as a good example, they will learn the good from you as well.

You are supposed to introduce alternatives to them. There are many good Islamic websites that they can visit and learn from. They can be given tasks to do on each website, and then can receive prizes for that.

Most importantly we must teach our kids how to choose the right friends, who are aware of Islamic teachings and can protect them from learning about *haram*.

The following are some *ayat* (Qur’anic verses) and hadiths:

1. *Surat An-Nur*: 30-31
 2. *Surat An-Nur*: 19
 3. *Surat An-Nur*: 21
 4. *Surat An-Nur*: 27, about the manners of family life.
 5. *Surat An-Nur*: 5
- 8-59

