

# HOW TO HOLD A TARANTULA

HANDLING THE INTERNET  
BEFORE IT BITES

"Actually, tarantulas are not dangerous because if I get bitten, I would not die. Compared to a lot of other things on earth, tarantulas are probably one of the least dangerous animals I have ever heard of. There is more dangerous stuff in your backyard than a tarantula."

**Caleb Hall**



**How Do You Hold A Tarantula?**

"\_\_\_\_\_." Caleb Hall

## LIVING IN A TARANTULA WORLD

### U.S. Department of Justice

"Never before in the history of telecommunications media in the United States has so much indecent (and obscene) material been so easily accessible by so many minors in so many American homes with **so few restrictions.**"

\_\_\_\_\_ % of parents believe that raising kids today is more difficult than it was when they were kids

### Why is Parenting More Difficult Today?

9. Exposure to cultural/religious diversity
8. Living far away from family
7. My or my spouse's work is more demanding
6. High academic expectations

## Why is Parenting More Difficult Today? (cont'd)

5. Bullying at school
4. Financial factors
3. Lack of a common morality
2. The world is more dangerous
1. \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup>

### Bark Technologies Research

Surveyed \_\_\_\_\_ messages (email, text, more than 30 popular apps, and the main social media platforms)

\_\_\_\_\_ % of tweens, \_\_\_\_\_ % of teens were involved in suicidal ideation

\_\_\_\_\_ % of tweens, \_\_\_\_\_ % of teens sent or received nudity or content of a sexual nature

75% of tweens, 93% of teens had conversations surrounding drugs or alcohol

\_\_\_\_\_ % of tweens, \_\_\_\_\_ % of teens experienced bullying as a bully, a victim or witness

32% of tweens, 57% of teens engaged in conversations about depression

\_\_\_\_\_ % of tweens, \_\_\_\_\_ % of teens expressed or experienced violent subject matter or thoughts

### Pornography in Our Country

\_\_\_\_\_ million US adults regularly visit the more than 42 million internet pornography websites

Porn industry revenue is more than the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ combined  
\_\_\_\_\_ % of all internet downloads are related to pornography

### Pornography in Our Homes

\_\_\_\_\_ % of families in the United States reported that pornography is a problem in their home

\_\_\_\_\_ % of online porn is consumed by children under ten years old (for those under 18 years old)

\_\_\_\_\_ is the **average** age that a child is first exposed to porn

\_\_\_\_\_ % of children will see porn by the age of 14

116,000 daily internet search queries are performed related to \_\_\_\_\_ pornography

<sup>1</sup> Andy Crouch, *The Tech Wise Family*, 23-4.

## Pornography in Our Marriages

\_\_\_\_\_ % of married men and \_\_\_\_\_ % of married women say they watch porn at least once a month

Pornography use increases the marital infidelity rate by more than \_\_\_\_\_ %

\_\_\_\_\_ % of divorce cases involve one party meeting a new paramour over the internet

\_\_\_\_\_ % of all divorce proceedings cite an "obsessive interest" in pornographic websites

\_\_\_\_\_ % of US adults admit to having an addiction to internet pornography

## Not Just a Men's Issue

\_\_\_\_\_ % of all women struggle with porn addiction

\_\_\_\_\_ % of women admit to keeping their cyber activities secret

\_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_ internet porn viewers is a woman

(Previous Statistics: <sup>2</sup>, <sup>3</sup>, <sup>4</sup>, <sup>5</sup>)

## Pew Research Center - 2021 Research<sup>6</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_ % of U.S. teens have a smartphone (up from \_\_\_\_\_ % in 2014-15)

90% of U.S teens have a Desktop/Laptop computer

97% of teens say they use the internet everyday

95% of teens use YouTube and 19% use it "almost constantly"

\_\_\_\_\_ % of teens have done something to hide what they do online from their parents

\_\_\_\_\_ % of teens say they use the internet "almost constantly" (up from 24% in 2014-15)

Teens average more than \_\_\_\_\_ hours a day on screen entertainment

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.webroot.com/us/en/resources/tips-articles/internet-pornography-by-the-numbers>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.therecoveryvillage.com/process-addiction/porn-addiction/pornography-statistics/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.missionfrontiers.org/issue/article/15-mind-blowing-statistics-about-pornography-and-the-church>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.netnanny.com/blog/the-detrimental-effects-of-pornography-on-small-children/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2022/08/10/teens-social-media-and-technology-2022/>

# A HIDDEN TARANTULA: SOCIAL MEDIA

In 2023, an estimated \_\_\_\_\_ billion people use social media across the world.  
\_\_\_\_\_ % of U.S. teens say they use Tiktok (#1 "traditional" social media platform for teens)  
32% of teens report using Facebook (down from 71% in 2014-15)  
\_\_\_\_\_ % of social media users report that they are addicted to social media  
The average person spends about \_\_\_\_\_ minutes on social media every day<sup>7</sup>

## Teens Out of Touch?

\_\_\_\_\_ % spend more than four hours a day on social media alone  
\_\_\_\_\_ % of U.S. teens say that the amount of time they spend on social media is "about right" or "too little"<sup>8</sup>

## TikTok

"TikTok is not what it appears to be on the surface. It is not just an app for sharing funny videos or memes. That's the sheep's clothing. At its core, TikTok functions as a sophisticated \_\_\_\_\_ tool that harvests extensive amounts of personal and sensitive data. Indeed, TikTok collects everything from search and browsing histories to keystroke patterns and biometric identifiers, including faceprints—which researchers have said might be used in unrelated facial recognition technology—and voiceprints. It collects location data as well as draft messages and metadata, plus it has collected the text, images, and videos that are stored on a device's clipboard."

**Brendan Carr, FCC Commissioner**

## Facebook and Instagram

"When Facebook was getting going, I had these people who would come up to me, and they would say, 'I'm not on social media.' And I would say, 'OK. You know, you will be.' And then they would say, 'No, no, no. I value my real-life interactions. I value the moment. I value presence. I value intimacy.' And I would say, 'We'll get you eventually.' I don't know if I really understood the consequences of what I was saying, because [of] the unintended consequences of a network when it grows to a billion or 2 billion people. It literally changes your relationship with society, with each other. It probably interferes with productivity in weird ways. God only knows what it's doing to our children's brains."  
Sean Parker, first President of Facebook

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/advisor/business/social-media-statistics/#source>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/stats-teens-social/>

"[We were] exploiting a \_\_\_\_\_ in human psychology...The inventors understood this, consciously, and we did it anyway."

Sean Parker<sup>9</sup>

## WHAT'S NEXT ON THE DIGITAL HORIZON?

### NewNew.co

"We're building a digital marketplace where everyday people sell their decisions to those who control what they should do next. NewNew is on a mission to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_."<sup>10</sup>

[NewNew] is "a \_\_\_\_\_ to the social behaviour that is so prevalent today, and yet it also feels a little unreal, like playing a video game, but with \_\_\_\_\_."

NewNew "is a \_\_\_\_\_ stock market where you buy shares in the lives of real people, in order to \_\_\_\_\_ their decisions and \_\_\_\_\_ the outcome."<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.axios.com/2017/12/15/sean-parker-facebook-was-designed-to-exploit-human-vulnerability-1513306782>  
<https://www.axios.com/2017/12/15/sean-parker-unloads-on-facebook-god-only-knows-what-its-doing-to-our-childrens-brains-1513306792>

<sup>10</sup> <https://newnewcareers.co> – accessed 9/2022

<sup>11</sup> <https://newnewcareers.co> – accessed 9/2022

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## UNTANGLING THE WEB

### Matthew 6:9, 13

9 "This, then, is how you should pray [...]

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

According to Jesus, it is better to \_\_\_\_\_ temptation than to face it and defeat it.

## DIGITAL WORLD WAYPOINTS

1. If you have digital access, you need digital \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Digital access is a privilege, not a \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Let's tone down the " \_\_\_\_\_ " aspect of digital access.

The greater digital access and \_\_\_\_\_ we have, the greater \_\_\_\_\_ we experience.

4. For those of us with children, please remember: parenting is a \_\_\_\_\_, it's \_\_\_\_\_ and we will give an account.

5. When setting up safeguards, we must avoid the extremes of total \_\_\_\_\_ or total \_\_\_\_\_.

### 1 John 2:15-17

*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."*

# BAD REASONS FOR NOT SETTING UP DIGITAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Jason Thacker, The Gospel Coalition<sup>12</sup>

"True change will not come unless we admit these technologies did not arise and do not operate in a morally neutral vacuum—but within a pervasive environment of sin."

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of sin
2. \_\_\_\_\_ about sin
3. \_\_\_\_\_ about sin
4. \_\_\_\_\_ concerning sin
4. \_\_\_\_\_ about yours weakness
5. \_\_\_\_\_ of others' weakness

## PRINCIPLES OF DIGITAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Andy Crouch, The Tech-Wise Family

"Technology is literally everywhere in our home—not only the devices in our pockets but the invisible electromagnetic waves that flood our homes. This change came about overnight, in the blink of an eye, in terms of human history and culture. When previous generations confronted the perplexing challenges of parenting and family life, they could fall back on wisdom, or at least old wives' tales, that had been handed down for generations. But the pace of technological change has surpassed anyone's capacity to develop enough wisdom to handle it."<sup>13</sup>

1. Give yourself \_\_\_\_\_ as you figure all of this out.

To yourself and your children, you need to repeat this phrase over and over. . .

"Our family is \_\_\_\_\_, and that's a good thing."

2. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ out when you \_\_\_\_\_ out.

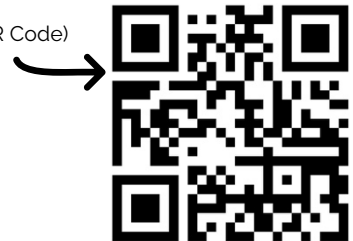
<sup>12</sup> <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/social-dilemma-bigger-dilemma/>

<sup>13</sup> Crouch, Ibid, Preface.

3. Don't be a \_\_\_\_\_. Play by the same rules you enact.
4. Have a proper view of technology. It is neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_—it is a tool.
5. Think in terms of \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ management rather than \_\_\_\_\_ accessibility or solutions.
6. Parents: Embrace that there is no device, app, or software that will replace your need to \_\_\_\_\_ technology, \_\_\_\_\_ with your kids' hearts, and maintain \_\_\_\_\_ of their digital activities.
7. All Adults: Embrace that there is no device, app, or software that will replace your need to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord in these areas, exercise self-control, and maintain \_\_\_\_\_ in your digital activities.

## PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR MULTI-LAYERED PROTECTION

1. Write a Technology \_\_\_\_\_ (Download at this QR Code)



2. Home Internet Protection: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Mobile Internet Protection: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Device-by-Device Protection

5. Complete Digital Management: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

6. "No Substitute" Protection

You should know \_\_\_\_\_ of your spouses' and kids' passwords.

7. Create tech-\_\_\_\_\_ times, occasions, and spaces.

- Halls: DFNs, DFMs, Tech \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ before your devices do, put them to \_\_\_\_\_ before you go.



- \_\_\_\_\_ devices: One hour a day, One day a week, One week a year
8. Diagnose your most used \_\_\_\_\_.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

1. The Gospel Coalition (thegospelcoalition.org) – vast resources for the intersection of faith and technology
2. Komando.com – all things technology website by national radio host Kim Komando
3. Bark.us – great site for tech protection resources
4. "The Social Dilemma" – excellent Netflix documentary about the dangers of social media
5. New York Times article – <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/05/business/media/tiktok-algorithm.html>
6. Google – there are so many good resources for protection and information, simply type your question in and read away!
7. Books: *The Tech-Wise Family*, Andy Crouch