

# YOUR TURN

A WEEKLY FORUM  
FOR YOU, THE READER

**IN** light of our article last week that cellphone pornography has become rife among teens across the Eastern Cape and Garden Route, we asked you how parents could restrict their children's access to this type of porn. This was your response:

Esme Coetzee, Cove Rock, East London: "Discipline and morals should be instilled in children when they are very young, because it is too late to start when they are teenagers. Also, parents should communicate better with their teenagers. It's no use taking their phones away . . . they will find another way."

**Louisa Gee, Nelson Mandela Bay:**  
"I'm a mother of two teens . . . they have WAP-enabled cellphones on the proviso I will check (them) without warning. If they refuse, the phones will be confiscated. It's my job as a parent, not that of the companies offering the porn, to restrict . . . access."

Colleen Adams, Nelson Mandela Bay: "It comes down to education and upbringing. If your children know what is acceptable, (what is) right and wrong and what is ethical, they will not be influenced adversely by peer pressure."

**Hamilton Mphahleli, Zwide:**  
"Parents must . . . discuss these issues with children because confiscating their phones is no guarantee they won't see these things elsewhere."

Michelle le Roux, Knysna: "Maybe cellphone manufacturers can start making phones that have an option of parental control! We could then have a special pin number (and) can set access restrictions, like they do on the internet and TV."

**Dr Leonhard Praeg, Grahamstown:** "Parents should not try to prohibit, repress, or prevent their children from accessing porn (as) this would simply make it more appealing. Instead, they should educate (them) about sex, by explaining to them why porn is empty, gratuitous and emotionally and commercially exploitative."

Dr Bruce Woolard, Port Elizabeth: "The bottom line is that parents must educate their kids. They should be taught to value their own bodies and respect other people's bodies."

