Helping Children Cope With Violence in the Media

Factsheets and Resources

APA

How Much News Coverage Is OK for Children?
http://test.apa.org/helpcenter/news-coverage.aspx

How to talk to children about difficult news and tragedies
http://www.apa.org/helpcenter/talking-to-children.aspx

PBS

Talking with Kids About News
http://www.pbs.org/parents/talkingwithkids/news/

Books

La Greca, A., Silverman, W., Vernberg, E., Roberts, M. (Eds.) Helping Children Cope with Disasters and Terrorism. Washington DC: American Psychological Association
(Specifically Chapter 14) ISBN: 978-1-55798-914-7
Helping Children Cope with Disasters and Terrorism offers psychotherapists and others involved in emergency response the most comprehensive, up-to-date information available on the immediate and lasting effects of trauma on children and adolescents.

Journal Articles

Comer, J., Furr, J., Beidas, R., Weiner, C., Kendall, P. (2008) Children and terrorism-related news: Training parents in coping and media literacy. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 76(4), 568-578.
This study examined associations between televised news regarding risk for future terrorism and youth outcomes and investigated the effects of training mothers in an empirically based approach to addressing such news with children.
http://psycnet.apa.org/journals/ccp/76/4/568/

Leiner, M., Peinado, J., Villanos, M. T. M., Lopez, I., Uribe, R., & Pathak, I. (2016). Mental and emotional health of children exposed to news media of threats and acts of terrorism: the cumulative and pervasive effects. *Frontiers in pediatrics*, 4.
Viewing extreme violence and terrorism, either directly by witnessing acts or indirectly by watching them in the media, affects children's mental and emotional health and some children are at a higher risk for negative effects than others.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4803729/

Wartella, E., Beaudoin-Ryan, L., Blackwell, C. K., Cingel, D. P., Hurwitz, L. B., & Lauricella, A. R. (2016). What kind of adults will our children become? The impact of growing up in a media-saturated world. *Journal of Children and Media*, 10(1), 13-20.
This article urges children and media scholars to consider the broader consequences of the ubiquitous media environment in which children live today.
http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17482798.2015.1124796

Mainstream Media - Articles and Videos

How to help kids cope with violence in the media
Sadly, violence in the media these days isn't limited to action movies and video games.

News coverage of deadly shootings and terrorist attacks is rarely more than a click of the TV remote or a swipe of a smartphone screen away, and with the spread of new technologies, social media and gaming platforms, children may be more exposed to violent and disturbing media images than ever before. Now, a group of physicians is calling on parents, lawmakers, and the media to come together to limit the amount of virtual violence children see on a daily basis. (CBS News, July 21, 2016)

[How to help 'underserved victims' of violence](#)

Those violently bereaved by shootings or terrorist attacks suffer complex forms of grief. The underserved victims of violent loss need greater support, recognition and research.
(Joan Cook, *CNN*, July 18, 2016)