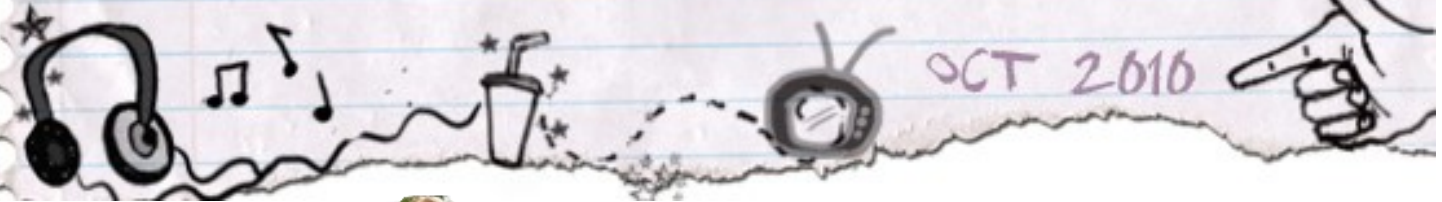


THE PARENT SOURCE

YOUR CULTURAL CONNECTION



WHAT'S TRENDING???

What's inside

Pg.2

- ◆ Self Injury
- ◆ Nicki Minaj

Pg.3

- ◆ Scary Movie Season

Pg.4 (Kid Culture)

- ◆ Willow Smith
- ◆ Child Stars

Pg.5

- ◆ Discussion Questions



"JEGGINGS"

Skinny Jeans and leggings combined their forces to make the newest fashion trend called "Jeggings". Jeggings consist of a standard pair of leggings pretending to be jeans. They are being sold at many popular retail stores like JC Penny, Old Navy, The Gap and even Wal-Mart. Superstars like Beyonce and Kate Bosworth have been spotted in this trend.

MTV TEN ON TOP

Each week MTV will present MTV's '10 on Top', a half-hour countdown of the Top 10 most texted and talked about young celebs at the moment. Their ranking will be influenced by the audience - based on the chatter they elicit, and the headlines they create each week, as well as the amount of buzz about their upcoming projects and events. This serves as a great way to know who and what is popular in the world of teens.



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LADY GAGA'S "LITTLE MONSTERS"

Lady GaGa recently gave a shout out to her little monsters while she received an VMA Award on MTV last month. She also recently posted a picture of a new tattoo on her arm that says little monsters. This phrase refers to her faithful fans. One little monster on yahoo questions described the term in this way. "Think of it like this, Gaga is a Monster. Her fans carry with them (in a sense) a part of her; therefore, we are called Little Monsters. It's kind of like Jesus with his 12 disciples. Christians are followers of Christ, and Little Monsters are followers of Gaga [Monster]."

NEW INFO ON SELF INJURY

A recent article published by Fox news shed some new light on a disturbing behavior that has made its way into the lime light over the past 10 years. Self-injury is defined as “deliberate discreet destruction of body tissue without intent of suicide.”

Most adolescents start between the ages of 11-15. 80% of those out grow this behavior within 5 years of starting. Depending on the study, estimates show that anywhere as little as 4% and as high as 38% of teens have participated in this behavior. There has been a noticeable increase in the

last couple of decades which can be partly due to a new awareness to the problem. Cutting, burning, carving of the skin, breaking bones, preventing wound healing, and sticking themselves with pins and

“Adolescence is the prime time for the behavior. From a developmental perspective, you’ve got a perfect storm for self-injury. Not only do the young have to navigate a growing number of personal relationships, their brains and bodies are undergoing changes as well.”

Researcher from Cornell University

needles are typical ways that injury is done. It is not a way to end their life but to do harm to their body. It is seen as a way to cope with life, to handle emotions that are hard, or as a form of punishment because of a negative body image.

THE APPEAL OF SELF INJURY

Like a drug, self-injury brings a false sense of relief to the pain. It might also be easier to get a hold of than drugs and alcohol. Most involved in this behavior do not seek help.

There is not a specific treatment but it is a good idea to seek some type of help as most report more difficulties psychologically and socially in their life after experimenting with self-injury.



Who is NICKI MINAJ?

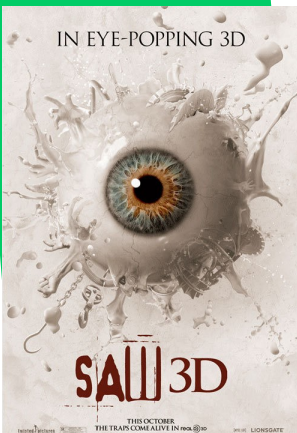
Onika Miraj, or you may know her better as Nicki Minaj, is a popular up and coming female rap artist. Her debut album is set to release on November 23rd. Before her first CD ever hit the shelves she was nominated for MTV’s best new artist award at their recent video music awards event. Her number one hit single, “Your Love”, has had much success and has launched her into the mainstream hip hop realm. At only 25 years old she is gaining success with authority through her unique style and word play. In 2009 Nicki signed with Young Money Entertainment and has been working closely with ultra popular rapper Lil Wayne and numerous other rap artist. She is well known for her sex appeal and ability to rap in a style no other female rapper has done in the past. There were rumors circulating that she was bi-sexual, but when called out on the issue in an interview with OUT Magazine, she denied being bi-sexual but also said she wasn’t dating men either. Nicki has one very distinct tattoo that is found on her left arm, in Chinese writing she has the saying “God is with me always.” The majority of her lyrics contain massive amounts of sexual innuendos, along with explicit word play. Nicki has already been featured on many songs and her debut album “Pink Friday” is expected to do extremely well.



SCARY MOVIE SEASON

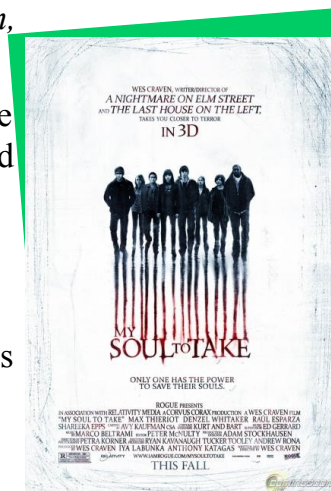
October is scary movie season at the box office and this year is no exception, with three major releases opening in the month of October.

Paranormal Activity 2 is the follow up to 2009's low budget box office hit, which centered on the haunting of a suburban family. The original was filmed from the perspective of a young couple's video camera, heightening the sense of realism by appearing like a home movie. The sequel continues this feel by being filmed from the home's security system. The sequel is currently unrated by the MPAA, but expect an R rating like its predecessor. The trailer and more info can be found at www.paranormalmovie.com/

A black movie poster for Paranormal Activity 2 with the title in white text at the top.

The *Saw* series returns this Halloween for the seventh time with *Saw 3D*. Having released a sequel every year since 2004, the franchise has grossed nearly 750 million dollars. The films revolve around various victims trapped in elaborate torture mechanisms. Often the protagonist of the film must make decisions that have equally unpleasant outcomes (e.g. In the first of the series, a saw could be used to save a character's life, but only by sawing off his own leg). The series is gruesome and gory, causing many critics to classify the films as "torture porn." *Saw 3D* has an R-rating for sequences of grisly bloody violence and torture throughout, as well as language. Moving this film to 3D will surely intensify the gore and sex we have come to expect from this series. Official website with more info at www.saw3dmovie.com.

Wes Craven is the mind behind slasher films *Nightmare On Elm Street*, *Scream*, and *The Hills Have Eyes*. This month he directs the release *My Soul To Take*, where a serial killer stalks seven teens that share a birthday with the date of his alleged death. One of the students has a direct connection to the killer and has visions of the attacks before they happen. The title is a riff on the 18th century children's prayer that begins "Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep." This refers to the hints that a student may be committing these crimes while he is sleeping. Wes Craven's previous films have had strong sexual content as well as gruesome deaths. *My Soul to Take* has been given an R rating for strong bloody violence, pervasive language, and sexual references. This film will also be released in 3D. Trailer available at www.iamrogue.com/mysoultotake.



These movies typically draw strong teenage crowds because they normally star teenagers and young adults. Often horror movies are associated with strong sexual content as well. For more specific information about the explicit content of these films, check www.kids-in-mind.com when the films release in October for reviews. Another great resource is pluggedin.com, Focus on the Family's media review website.



At only 9 years old the daughter of mega stars Will & Jada Pinkett-Smith has entered the realm of superstardom. Willow just recently signed a record deal with Jay-Z's Record label Roc Nation. In a recent interview hip-hop super star Jay-Z compared Willow to a young Michael Jackson. Her first single "Whip My Hair" was just released. In listening to the song you would have no idea that a 9 year old is behind such a powerful voice. The song is a fast paced hip-hop tune that sounds an awful lot like a song Rhianna would record. I suspect that Willow will soon become a kid and teen favorite. Her first single was lyrically clean, however an area for concern is Willow looks like she is 9 going on 29. Many children will look up to her and try to imitate her fashion. Her dress is not in-appropriate she just appears to be living an adult life as a 9 year old. This could open up conversations with your children about enjoying each stage of life instead of skipping ahead.

TV's HIGHEST PAID KID ACTORS

Surprisingly enough number one on this list isn't even the star of a show on Nickelodeon or Disney. Many popular kid actors are popping up on shows that aren't necessarily kid friendly (Two and a Half Men, Modern Family, etc...) Its important to become familiar with the popular Kid actors of today and keep an eye out for the message their show is sending to your child.



1. Angus T. Jones, 16
\$250,000 an episode to spar with Charlie Sheen 'Two and a Half Men' CBS



2. Miranda Cosgrove, 16
\$180,000 per show 'iCarly' Nickelodeon



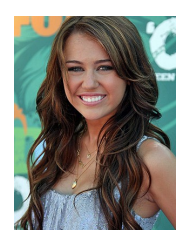
3. Selena Gomez, 17
\$25,000 per episode 'Wizards of Waverly Place' Disney Channel



4. Dylan and Cole Sprouse, 17
\$20,000 each per episode 'The Suite Life' Disney Channel



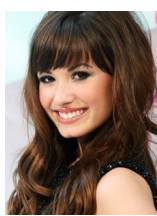
5. Keke Palmer, 16
\$20,000 an episode 'True Jackson, VP' Nickelodeon



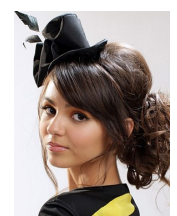
6. Miley Cyrus, 17
\$15,000 per show but don't forget about her tours, movies, etc... 'Hannah Montana' Disney Channel



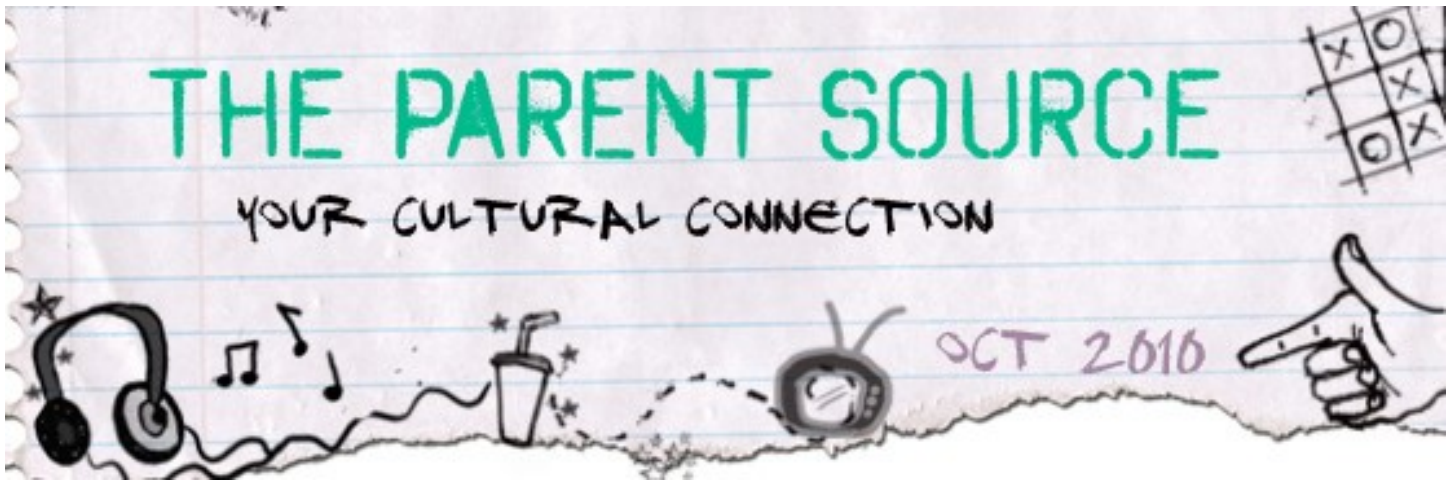
7. Rico Rodriguez, 11
\$15,000 a show 'Modern Family' ABC



8. Demi Lovato, 17
\$12,000 per show 'Sonny With a Chance' Disney Channel



9. Victoria Justice, 17
\$12,000 an episode 'Victorious' Nickelodeon



The questions below are designed for you to ask your teen. Use these questions as conversation starters about these topics.

Lady GaGa's Little Monsters– Why do you think Lady GaGa has such a devoted fan base?
Could calling her fans a mini version of her be negative in any way?

Self Injury– Why do you think kids injure themselves?
What other ways could they cope with their problems?

Scary Movie Season– What do you think of scary movies being in 3D now?
How could watching all that blood and violence be bad for a person?

Willow Smith– Why would a kid want to dress and act like an adult sometimes?
What do you like about how old you are right now?
What are you looking forward to when you get older?