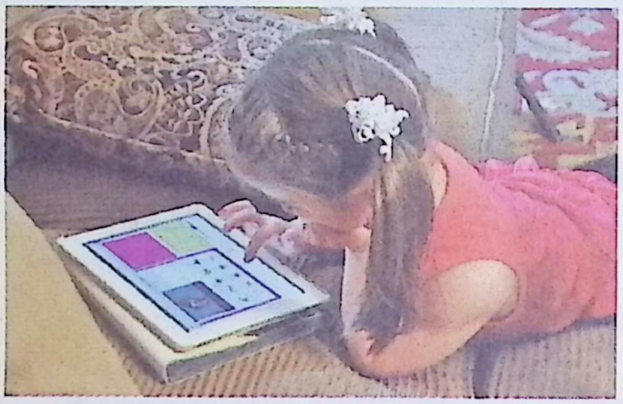
40 Percent of Parents Learn How to Use Technology from their Children

Just how are adults learning to use technology? Chances are if you are a parent, your child is teaching you. A recent paper published in the *Journal of Communication* found that between 30-40 percent of parents were taught how to use the computer and Internet from their children.

Teresa Correa, University Diego Portales (in Santiago, Chile), conducted in-depth interviews with 14 parent/child sets and surveyed 242 parent/child sets. She found that youth influence their parents in all technologies studied (computer, mobile Internet, social networking) up to 40 percent of the time. The children's scores were higher compared to parents, showing that parents don't necessarily recognise the influence. Parents also learned how to use technologies by self-experimentation.



This bottom-up influence process was more likely to occur with mothers and lower socioeconomic families-similar to what happens among low-income immigrant families, where the children act as language and culture links between the family and the new environment. Digital media represents a new environment for lower socioeconomic families, and the children from poorer families were more likely to receive input about technology from school and friends. This spills over and, in turn, the children teach their parents.

Do Religious People Love Their Neighbours?

Most religions teach their followers to "Love thy neighbor" – including those of different races, nationalities or beliefs. But is religiousness really related to love of neighbors?

A Baylor University study provided partial support for that idea. When factoring out the level of right-wing authoritarianism (RWA), researchers found a positive association between being religious and having loving attitudes toward other racial and ethnic groups but not toward those who violated their values.

The study was published in the journal *Psychology of Religion and Spirituality.*



The study was based on analysis of data collected from 389 religiously diverse adult Americans in a 200-question online survey. Among participants were Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, atheists, agnostics, those with no religion and "others." "Religiosity" generally was defined in terms of frequency of religious activities. Researchers studied positive feelings toward different groups, such as African-Americans, atheists, gay men and lesbians.



Prior research indicated that religiousness is not positively associated with love of neighbours.