

CONNECT WITH KIDS HALF-HOUR SPECIALS - 2008-2009

Young Guns (gun violence in urban America) Pathfire Delivery Date: Nov 19, 2008

The squeeze of a trigger is an instantaneous and almost effortless act that can cause death and grief and a life-time of pain. Murder is the number one cause of death among young African-Americans, the second leading cause of death among all young Americans, and firearms are often involved. *Young Guns* tells the stories of those devastated by gun violence: victims' families, gunshot victims paralyzed for life, and a young man convicted of murder and imprisoned for 26 years.

The Power of Expectations (how adult expectations shape children) Pathfire Delivery Date: Feb 11, 2009

The expectations of parents, teachers, and others play a powerful role in the development of kids. Both subtly and overtly, adults send messages to kids about who they are and will be, and year after year, especially in their developmental years, those messages help form the script of that child's life. This program also examines ways to prevent encouraging messages from turning into overbearing expectations.

Boy Meets Girl (dating, love and sex among teens) Pathfire Delivery Date: April 1, 2009

As children emerge from innocence into the middle and high school years, boys find girls and girls find boys and the results are exciting and painful, joyful and fractious. There are myths that circulate among kids about love and sex; there is dating violence that often remains hidden from parents and educators; there are pressures that boys place on girls and, sometimes even more forcefully, on each other.

Game On! (pressure and competition in the lives of young people)..... Pathfire Delivery Date: May 27, 2009

Recent studies have brought to light a significant population of young people today who pressure themselves, and get pressure from their parents, to build a teenage resume that is close to perfection. Their goal is to succeed at almost *everything*: get mostly A's in school, take several advanced placement courses, beef up their SAT or ACT scores by taking prep classes, join a half-dozen after-school clubs, work both a volunteer job and a paying job, get elected to student government, and get appointed captain of a varsity sports team. But, while some kids are succeeding despite this pressure, many others are on the therapist's couch, or taking medication, or losing their childhood.

Parenting in the Age of Alcohol (the dangers of teenage drinking)..... Pathfire Delivery Date: June 24, 2009

In the lives of American kids, there is no drug more likely to be used, none more often consumed nor in greater amount, and none more likely to result in harm than alcohol. It is the most misunderstood drug of all, and, to kids, educators, policy makers, and parents, there is few issues more frightening or perplexing.

Teen Tech (texting, video games, & the internet in the lives of kids) Pathfire Delivery Date: August, 2009

Technology has taken over the lives of our children and the impact, both short and long term, is unclear. But what is certain are risks: addiction to video games, gambling, and pornography; distraction from friends, family, sports, and academic work; new and secret ways of harassing, bullying, and seducing others; and encouragement of dangerous behaviors and ideologies from websites that are accountable to no one.

Please note that all the titles listed above are working titles and the schedule is tentative.