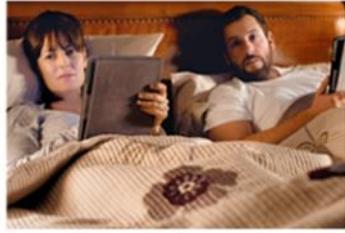


FROM THE
DIRECTOR OF JUNO
& UP IN THE AIR

MEN,



NOW ON
DIGITAL HD
AND BLU-RAY™



WOMEN & CHILDREN

During the group sessions for parents in April, I shared about the movie *Men, Women & Children*, which aims to increase our awareness and understanding about the issues affecting teenagers and families due to the use of digital devices and the Internet. We followed up with movie sessions attended by a total of about 60 parents on 5 and 15 June. Although the sessions were quite social in nature and parents brought in food and desserts to share, we had several discussion questions to reflect on about the themes highlighted in the movie.

In the movie, a couple's marriage was threatened as they became more and more disconnected due to their engagement on their devices instead of turning to each other for connection. Parents are reminded to take time and effort to regularly work on maintaining a strong and healthy marriage, in order to have the emotional capacity to attend to their children. One of the mothers employed extreme measures to control and track her daughter's use of the internet. Their interaction became very clinical, laced with mistrust, thus creating a lot of tension in the mother-daughter relationship. We have to reflect on how we can exercise moderation and balance, and apply age-appropriate approaches, so that our teenagers are able to grow and develop into sensible, responsible and well-adjusted adults. There was another mother who strived to be her daughter's friend and lived her dreams through her daughter. We questioned the values that the mother was attempting to impart and how her daughter disregarded her mother's bid to enforce limits when the situation required her to do so.

If you would like to join our conversations, do consider signing up for the group sessions for parents at <http://tinyurl.com/SJII-mothers> or <http://tinyurl.com/SJII-fathers>.



Movie afternoon, Sunday 5 June @ D'Leeton



Movie night on Wednesday 15 June @ Glass Hall

Michelle Koay, High School Counsellor, michelle.koay@sj-international.com.sg