

# Profanity on TV Linked to Foul-Mouthed Kids

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## *U.S. News & World Report:*

Is TV turning our kids into fountains of four-letter words? Maybe so, says a new study that finds a link between foul-mouthed inner-city children and profanity-ridden shows and video games.

However, the research doesn't confirm that exposure to trash-talking adults directly leads to swearing among kids, nor does it explain why non-aggressive cussing might be a bad thing. And the actual size of the possible effect is unknown, although the study's lead author called it "moderate."

"As a society we've gotten pretty lax concerning profanity. We're desensitized to it," said the author, Sarah M. Coyne, an assistant professor at Brigham Young University. "This study shows that it does matter. It matters where they hear it, and parents should maybe be a little more vigilant about profanity exposure in the media."

Read the full story: [\*U.S. News & World Report\*](#)