**BIBLICAL FOUNDATION**

***Why we do what we do to protect our children.***

* OBLIGATION TO CARE FOR CHILDREN

Ephesians 5:1-11
Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore, do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true) and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.
Matthew 19:14
“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these”
Luke 17:1-3a
Jesus said to his disciples: “Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin. So watch yourselves.” (Also see Matt 18:6-7 and Mark 9:42, they say the same – emphasis!) “stumble”, Greek “cause to stumble”)

* EDUCATION

Titus 2:1,2,12 “You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine. Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance…say NO to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.”

* PREVENTION

Proverbs 13:13 “He who scorns instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command is rewarded.
Proverbs 24:12 “If you say, ‘But we knew nothing about this,’ does not he who weighs the heart perceive it?”
1 Thessalonians 5:22 “Avoid every kind of evil”

* SHREWDNESS

Ignorance is no longer bliss
Webster: sharp-witted, clever in practical affairs, not easily fooled
Matt. 10:16 ff “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.”
James 3:1 “Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly”

* RESPONSIBILITY

Galatians 6:1-2 “Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently…Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ”