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Giving Up Cable Television

By Alyice Edrich

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Giving Up Cable Television

By Alyice Edrich

My children cried when they realized they could no longer watch their favorite television shows, but soon learned that wholesome videos can cure their withdrawals in a moment's notice. But more importantly, they've gotten off their butts and started enjoying more physical and bonding activities. And the best part is that I no longer hear, "Just a minute mom. I'll be there on commercial. Huh, what did you say? Oh, I forgot because I got hooked on this show. And, do I have to? I was right in the middle of the good part!"

It all began on February 9, 2004 when my friend and I attended an all-day Women's Bible Study. At one of the workshops, the speaker discussed ways we could simplify our lives and in return grow stronger bonds with our children and other loved ones. One of her suggestions was to nix the television. She read a study that stated television consumption wastes approximately 4 hours of our day and 13 years of our lives. She went on to ask, "If you knew you could gain just 6 of those years back by cutting your television watching down to just 2 hours a day, what would you do with all that time?"

The irony was that this lesson came at a time when my husband and I requested our cable services be lowered to the very basic package, but found the cable company had disconnected our service instead. Now for those of you who live in a big city being without cable isn't that big of a deal, but for those of us who live in rural communities, we need cable just to get channels 2 through 13 to come in clear. After learning that the cable company wasn't going to be able to come back out for another week and that we would incur a "service connection" charge, we decided to forego cable altogether.

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Our 9 year-old-daughter stormed out of the room, up the stairs, and straight into her bedroom as she mumbled and screamed about the injustice of it all. Our 13 year-old-son looked at us in disgust while he complained that he'd never be able to watch televisions again because the only shows he ever watched were cable-only stations. And my husband; well, let's just say that he had a moment of television jitters but soon realized something pretty powerful—television shows had become more important than socializing with his family and friends. He realized and later admitted that he had grown accustomed to planning his time around what show was on at what time and yelling at the kids to "not" interrupt him.

I'll admit that the first week was the hardest. With so much time on their hands, my children began bickering with each other over the silliest things. After a week of listening to my children constantly bicker, I was ready to re-order cable. But we stuck it out. We're now going on our third week and I'm

pleased to announce that no one died of boredom, the children have stopped bickering (well for the most part), my husband and I have found more time to talk with our kids and each other, we've rediscovered reading for pleasure, and board games have become a family affair. It truly has been a blessing in disguise and a great way to reacquaint ourselves with one another.

Alyce Edrich is the author of several work-from-home e-books, including Tid-Bits For New Signing Agents—where parents earn \$25 an hour without party plans and MLM programs. She invites you to stop by <http://thedabblingmum.com/books/index.htm> to order a copy today!

Satellite TV: Discovering The Wonders Of Modern Television

By Robert Thatcher

Since the creation of information technology, many remarkable things are gradually taking its technological advancement in an exceptional rate. Take for example the way television operates these days.

>From the time cable television was launched, many tech-savvy geniuses are continuously looking for ways to compensate the growing demand of the market. Hence, they have created the so-called satellite TV.

And from the time this new technology was established in the market, the satellite TV is significantly making the cable television a run for their money.

Basically, satellite television works through the use of satellites, particularly communication satellites. These satellites are the ones responsible in delivering more television shows all over the world. It has wider reach compared to the cable television because it is not restricted and dependent on "terrestrial signals."

Contrary to most popular beliefs, the use of satellite television is not actually new to this world. Its first discovery was in 1962 when the television signal was transmitted to the Telstar satellite from Europe,

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passing over North America.

However, the proliferation of satellite television only started in the modern world because of the continuous increase in the cable television subscription. Also, the lack of cable TV providers in some places of some countries prompted the consumers to opt to satellite TV.

The Technology

Basically, satellite television works just like any cable television that generates signals. The only difference is that the satellite television uses either geostationary orbit of about 22,300 miles way over the earth's equator or through extremely oblique position with steepness of more or less 63.4 degrees with an "orbital period" of almost 12 hours.

However, some people still contend that cable television works better than satellite TV. This, in turn, created an endless debate on these two giant monsters in the world of broadcast media.

Hence, for those who wish to know if satellite TV is really a better choice over cable television, here is a list of some of its benefits over cable TV:

1. Quality

Satellite TV has better reception signals than cable television. Hence, it creates better quality of viewing. This is based on the theory that cable television has inadequate "bandwidth." For this reason, it creates poor quality of signal reception.

On the other hand, satellite TV use digital signals, which creates better quality of images and sound

coming from the station. In fact, some experts contend that images seen on a satellite TV have 2 to 3 times better resolution than the cable television.

2. More stations

Cable televisions usually have limited number of channels. This is due to the fact that cable television providers operate upon subscription. If a certain channel is no longer included in the subscription list, then, the viewer will not retrieve that channel.

On the other hand, satellite TV has more digital stations. This is because most of the channels taken from the satellite are transmitted directly by the television stations to the satellite, and from here, the stations are distributed to every home with satellite disc mounted on their roofs.

3. More access

The best thing about satellite television is that the subscribers can actually access any channels wherever they may be. This means that even if they are in the most remote part of the world, they can get access on the channels and watch their favorite TV show.

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Indeed, it is pretty obvious why most people prefer satellite TV to cable television. However, only one thing is certain. Satellite TV will definitely cost more than cable television.

Nevertheless, even if it will even cost a million, as long as it provides quality pictures and resolutions, then, it is worth paying for.

Robert Thatcher is a freelance publisher based in Cupertino, California. He publishes articles and reports in various ezines and provides satellite TV resources on



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