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Melissa: mother of 5 sons ages 7, 6, 4, 3, 1

Interviewer: So tell me how many kids you have, and what their ages are.

Melissa: I have five boys. So 7, 6, 4, 3, 1.

Interviewer: Okay! Very lively!

Melissa: Yes! All boys.

Interviewer: So tell me about the devices. Anything with a screen that's in your household.

Melissa: TVs, cellphones, just mine and my husbands, and then tablets. We have 2 tablets in the house.

Interviewer: Okay, and video games?

Melissa: We have a PS4 and a PS3.

Interviewer: Okay, and they're attached to the televisions?

Melissa: Yes.

Interviewer: And do you have a laptop or a desktop?

Melissa: No.

Interviewer: No? Okay. So do your kids, do your boys, I guess ... So thinking about your oldest boys, because I'm looking at kind of 5-11 year olds. So you have a 6 and 7 year old, is that right?

Melissa: Yes.

Interviewer: Do they use devices ... any screens anywhere else like friends, or relatives, or daycare, or school, library?

Melissa: School they do, I know for sure because they have tablet time. So it's school and I would say my mother's house. So their grandmothers, and then my home. And that would be the only places really.

Interviewer: Okay. Do they access your cellphones?

Melissa: When they sneak them, yeah. No, they broke my last phone just like a few days ago, so I had to get a new phone. So now they're not allowed to touch my phone at all.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Melissa: Because they like picked it up and dropped it on accident.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: So no, not anymore.

Interviewer: Okay! And so what's the primary use then of the television?

Melissa: So they each ... Everybody has TVs in their rooms and then we have one in the living room and then in my husband's man cave. So yeah, so that would make 1, 2, 3, 4 ... 6 televisions in our house.

Interviewer: And are they connected to Netflix or anything?

Melissa: We have four smart TVs. So yeah, they are.

Interviewer: Uh huh, so what do your 6 and 7 year olds mainly watch on television?

Melissa: [Lucas, age 7], he's more ... He's the video game kid. So he's the one who plays the PS3 and [David, age 6], right now, he's more into like YouTube blogging and Netflix.

Interviewer: And they access those on the television?

Melissa: On the televisions.

Interviewer: Is Lucas the older one?

Melissa: Yep, Lucas is the older one.

Interviewer: Okay. So do they also access YouTube on the tablets?

Melissa: Yes.

Interviewer: And what else do they use their tablets for?

Melissa: They have ... What is it? ABC Mouse, and then a bunch of apps that their teachers have sent pamphlets for.

Interviewer: Oh, okay.

Melissa: They're like educational. Just random kind of games, you know? Between me and my husband, they know the rules. They're not allowed to download anything. We have pass codes on everything.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: Just because ... Just in case.

Interviewer: Sure.

Melissa: And we have parental guides on the TVs as well.

Interviewer: Oh, okay.

Melissa: Just in case, as well.

Interviewer: Is that like Netflix or?

Melissa: It's on their TVs. It's ... What is the brand? RVC or something like that? It has Roku? Is it Roku?

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah. Roku.

Melissa: In to their TV with Netflix and everything like that. But when you're programming the TV, it gives you the option of how old the children are with that TV.

Interviewer: Wow.

Melissa: So it blacks out everything else.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: And then you can go down the list of different things that you want to block off.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: Yeah, so especially on YouTube because YouTube's like my biggest fear.

Interviewer: So that is the Roku level that it's filtering YouTube.

Melissa: Yep.

Interviewer: Oh, I didn't realize that!

Melissa: Yeah.

Interviewer: It's something new to me.

Melissa: It's pretty cool, though.

Interviewer: So what things did you specify it should filter out?

Melissa: Any violence, any ... Like, they have like different lists like things against suicide, things against ... Mainly things David likes to watch on YouTube is like slime videos.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Melissa: So he's really into making slime right now with my sister, she just turned 12 yesterday so. He does a lot with her. And where are they? He's into Power Rangers. He's been Power Rangers since he was a baby, but he only likes the original ones. So he watches ... They had action figures and they would watch them play with action figures. And that's about it, really.

Interviewer: Got it. And then on the PS3?

Melissa: Lucas is more into skateboarding games, basketball games, and driving games.

Interviewer: Okay, so the kind of sports?

Melissa: Yeah, sports and action games.

Interviewer: So who made decisions about what games?

Melissa: I don't know anything about games, to be honest. I know nothing. I know he asked my husband that he wanted this one game, I can't remember. I guess, and I said yes, and I bought it not knowing what the game was about.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Melissa: Well he was so excited, I don't even think I let him play with it yet. I was literally like, "Just wait till dad gets home." You know? Whatever. Well by the time he got home he seen the game and he was like, "Did you really just buy this for our 7-year-old?!" "I don't know, it looked like racing car games." I didn't know, but I guess it was way worse with like violence and all this other stuff. So he took it from him and he got him a new racing game.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: So he makes all the decisions on that, I know nothing.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative). It sounds like he's kind of aligned with what you mentioned, your filters?

Melissa: Yeah.

Interviewer: Like violence.

Melissa: Yes, we are definitely strict when it comes to the boys just because it's hard being Hispanic too, you know? I feel like ... I'm not trying to ... The stereotypes and stuff. So the last thing I want are my children to be violent or gang-related, or anything like that because that's kind of why I feel like I'm way stricter when it comes to screen time and television.

Interviewer: Yeah, you have to really think about those stereotypes. And Grand Theft Auto-

Melissa: Yeah! That's what it was!

Interviewer: It has a lot of really negative stereotypes about Latinos.

Melissa: Yes! So I didn't know, but [crosstalk 00:07:04] he must have seen it, like I don't know. He was like, "I want this game!"

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative). Yeah, yeah. Well, I wouldn't know that.

Melissa: Yeah.

Interviewer: Okay, so let's think about your boys, your two oldest boys, days. Yesterday or a kind of recent more typical day maybe. From when they woke up and when they went to bed. And just talk me through when they might use screens.

Melissa: Well they both wake up, late starters, so they're not very good at waking up in the morning. But they'll try, especially David. Not so much Lucas. Lucas's more ... He's more responsible in the aspect like, "Okay now I have to get dressed, I have to do this, I have to do that." David's more of the one where he'll sneak a tablet in the bathroom with him. And we're like, "What the heck is taking him so long?" Like I don't understand. And I'll get in there and he's playing on the tablet on the toilet. Like, really?

Melissa: So he's the one who's like sneaky. But as far as they know they're not allowed to play the tablets in the morning, and then when they get home

from school, they have to do homework, chores, and then they have free time so.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: We push them outside at least a good hour, just riding bikes, or whatever. And then dinner, bath, and then about 30 minutes to an hour, depending on how fast the day went.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Melissa: We'll allow them on their screens.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Melissa: So throughout the week, they don't really get much screen time at all. The weekends, I would say, the mornings probably they're up practically like 8. So I think the mornings might be a little longer.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Melissa: Cause everybody else is sleeping in. We're all kind of hanging out, whatever. So I'd say the mornings we would have the longest times on the weekends.

Interviewer: And so I'm curious, because other people have mentioned having a routine around the television at night. Like, Wheel of Fortune apparently.

Melissa: Yeah!

Interviewer: Do the boys have anything that they love to watch on television?

Melissa: My three year old Anthony, he's obsessed with Boss Baby. The movie Boss Baby.

Interviewer: Oh, okay!

Melissa: So him and David share a room.

Interviewer: Oh, I see! Okay.

Melissa: So they watch Boss Baby normally right before they go to sleep. Or David will say, "Let's watch Power Rangers." So it's really those two. Lucass more ... He's a little older so he's like into The Avengers. And he knows how to work On Demand perfectly fine so he just real quick. And then the

other ones, they're not really ... They're kind of out of it. They don't really care for the TV too much so.

Interviewer: And when they get ahold of your cellphone, or your husband's cellphone, do they play games on there?

Melissa: Yeah they have, actually, because I still have my phone ... This phone downloaded. When I transferred it over, it brought everything back into this phone.

Interviewer: Oh, nice!

Melissa: So all my apps came in automatically. So yeah, he has kid games on my phone still. And some are like mind teasers. I don't know. What is it, Cut The Rope, or something?

Interviewer: Oh yeah, I've seen that.

Melissa: Yeah! And then other ones are just regular games, I guess.

Interviewer: And do they use devices for communication like FaceTime, or texting?

Melissa: No. When my son, older son, when he goes over to his grandparents' house and sometimes the other one's do, but he's really close to his grandfather.

Interviewer: Aww.

Melissa: His grandfather bought him a cellphone without telling me.

Interviewer: Grand parents prerogative, right?

Melissa: And my son called me, and called me, and called me, and called me, and texted me, all weekend long. Not that I mind, you know, but literally I think I had about 20 calls just from him. And you know, it was frustrating. I was like, "Look, I know you did this because you like to talk and vice versa, I've never stopped that relationship. You guys can talk whenever. If he wants to call you, you want to call him, cool. But if I wanted to buy him a cellphone, I would have bought him one." Just kind of against it.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Melissa: Well he texts me when he's over there because he gets the phone when he's over there.

Interviewer: Oh, that's [inaudible 00:11:22].

Melissa: So now we agreed. I was like, "Look, because you paid for the month." I was like he goes over there literally every weekend unless we have something to do, but those are the times he can use his phone over there. And as far as control over there, I don't know.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: Probably not.

Interviewer: Grandfather's space.

Melissa: Yep.

Interviewer: Okay so do you feel like as your oldest boys have grown older, your kind of routines around screens have changed?

Melissa: I would say yes. Just because now there's different games they can play. Now they're older so they feel like, "Oh, we know how to do this now." Or, "We know how to do that." Or like I said, Lucas, he's now he went from liking kid movies with his brothers, to now liking action, more of the adult-ish ones. Like I said, The Avengers, or what's the other one? Green Lantern, I think he watched a couple times. Some like that.

Interviewer: And then tablet, are there three tablets? Two tablets, did you say?

Melissa: There's two.

Interviewer: Two. And so how does the sharing of those work?

Melissa: Okay, so at one point, the three older kids had tablets. Lucas broke his tablet, so he doesn't get it, unless he asks his brothers like, "Hey, can I use your tablet?" But it's really my second oldest and my middle one. Those are their tablets. And then the two little ones, they don't have tablets.

Interviewer: Okay. So when your oldest boys were very young, how did you kind of establish routines. Like you say you kind of have this ... It's about half an hour.

Melissa: Yeah.

Interviewer: And nothing in the morning.

Melissa: I think it was really just repetition to be honest because we were ... It took forever to wake the kids up in the morning. So we were just always in a hurry, always in a hurry running them out the door to catch the bus. So I think it just second nature. It was hard in the beginning of the school year,

and now we're half, all the way done and they're okay now. I think it's going to get hard again in the fall.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Melissa: But for now they're adjusted pretty well.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Melissa: But they start up daycare next week. So we'll see how that goes.

Interviewer: Already? Wow.

Melissa: Yeah. And then Lucas goes to summer school, so, yeah. We'll see.

Interviewer: But still it would be nice if they have the kind of they have to get out of the house so you keep that routine going.

Melissa: Yeah. Me and my husband we are ... I don't know if we're old school, I should say, but we have conversations about that all the time where we watch my sisters kids and they're used to being on a screen all day long, or like my niece's kids. I just don't want that for my children where they just sit there watching other kids have fun. We are planning a camping trip for the two boys' birthdays because they're a day apart. So we're going camping up north and we're more into that type of thing so we try to keep away from the screens.

Interviewer: Right, right.

Melissa: For them.

Interviewer: It's kind of built in to your whole family [crosstalk 00:14:47].

Melissa: Yes, it's kind of funny, but it's like, you can tear my phone away from me, and it's just like, "I'm dying."

Interviewer: So you sympathize they're excited for phones, yeah. So do they have friends or relatives that make suggestions of what games to play or what things to watch on YouTube, or what television shows to watch?

Melissa: Not a whole lot of my family. The only person I would say would be my younger sister who just turned 12. She's the one who kind of is like, "Oh, watch this video about this slime." Not ... Yeah, I'd say her only and then my father, he's more into like, "Well can I take the older boys. I'm going to take them to see The Avengers, the new movie that just came out a few weeks ago."

Interviewer: Yeah.

Melissa: So he's more of that type. And then my mom has like zero patience while he's there. So she'll like, "Here, sit on the tablet just sit down." But that's [crosstalk 00:15:49]. Yes.

Interviewer: How about friends at school?

Melissa: Friends at school, I don't think so. They've never said anything to me. I know they always want to go to their friends' house who live down the street from us. But I always have them come over to the house, and you guys can play outside in the back or the sprinkler. Just because I'm still ... I don't know. They're still my babies. I'm not there yet. I can't just let them go.

Interviewer: 6 and 7, that's pretty young. Yeah.

Melissa: The lady lives like three houses down, but I'm just ... I don't know. I have this weird thing, I can't.

Interviewer: You're mama!

Melissa: Yes!

Interviewer: So who primarily helps them if they get stuck or if they need to get started, technology?

Melissa: I would say my husband.

Interviewer: Okay. So he's more the techy in your family.

Melissa: Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer: And we talked about who makes decisions about purchases. Tell me about the decision to buy tablets, the three tablets.

Melissa: What was it for? I think it was Christmas when we got them. So they had tablets prior, and then they just ... One of them broke, the other one just stopped working because it was just so old.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Melissa: So they were really ... They needed a new one. So I was like, why not? And I think we went to buy them this past Christmas? No, not this Christmas, the Christmas before. Yeah, and that was kind of it. They kind

of lost interest after they saw the rest of the toys and like I said, we try and keep em outside as much as possible.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah. Okay. So what do you feel like you've had to guide them the most on in terms of like the content on the television, and YouTube, and the games?

Melissa: I think a lot ... Because I'm very active on social media.

Interviewer: Oh, okay!

Melissa: And I'm in some of the [inaudible 00:17:49] groups and stuff, and I seen this lady, I can't remember her name. She posted a video of something of a video supposed to be ... It was like on YouTube, and it was a children's thing, but as you watch it, at first you could see if you walked by or glanced by, you would see oh, okay. Cartoon stuff.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Melissa: Or whatever. But then as you sit there watching it half way through it, the person playing with these dolls started doing sexual things with the dolls. And after that I was like, "Yeah, no."

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: So that's why they have to sit with us when they're on YouTube. And the volume has to be up, I mean, not too loud, but it has to be up where we can hear it. Just because after that I was like nope. And then I actually graduated from a parenting class, what was it? Back in January? And that was one of the biggest focus on was those, and they showed us a bunch of different videos that were children linked, but really weren't.

Interviewer: So that was a parenting class where?

Melissa: It was through Journey Mental Health.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: And it was a brand new course, it just started. I was the runner up, like the first trial.

Interviewer: Wow!

Melissa: It went really well.

Interviewer: Great! I'm really interested in like going to that, thanks!

Melissa: You're welcome.

Interviewer: Let's see. Some of these are a little repetitive. So when you're kind of making ... So you have definite ideas, like you've been saying, about you'd like the kids to stay outside so your family activities are a lot of outdoor things. So did you ... Are you thinking about your own child ... Where does that come from?

Melissa: I think it's our own childhood. I would say mine and my husband's because we were ... You know, you read Facebook posts and it makes you sit and think. I don't remember my childhood ever being on a computer. Maybe a couple times like when it first ... When the internet kind of first came out and we had dial up.

Interviewer: Yeah!

Melissa: I remember my mother and me arguing all of the time, like, "Get off the internet!" Because she couldn't use the phone or her call would come through and it would bounce me off.

Interviewer: That's right.

Melissa: So, I mean, those are like the memories I have of that.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Melissa: But as far as ever being like behind the screen, I never did. My best memories were at summer camp, or outside me and my sister, we're a year and a half apart and we walk. Like, we lived in Middleton and our backyard was like woods. And we were walking to the woods and it would lead us to some golf course, and just going on adventures. Those were my memories. So it was like the last thing I ever want my kids to do is say, "Well we never did this."

Interviewer: Yeah.

Melissa: So that's, I think, our biggest thing because that's why we push them to do so many things. My kids are in sports all year long.

Interviewer: Oh, okay.

Melissa: All of them. Well, except the baby.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Melissa: My three year old just started soccer this spring, so it was his first sport. So yeah, we're a busy family!

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah! So they don't have a lot of time.

Melissa: No, not at all. Especially not in the summer. They do two sports all summer long.

Interviewer: Right, right.

Melissa: And then Lucas only does one with his summer school going.

Interviewer: Right.

Melissa: Yeah.

Interviewer: Do you think about when you're making decisions. So you're filtering out violence, you're monitoring YouTube really closely. What other things are you worried about?

Melissa: I think just the way society is kind of set up. My seven year old, he's really into music and skateboarding, and things like that.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Melissa: He started taking a little turn when he started, you know, he started listening to the pre-young Justin Bieber.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Melissa: Where he liked him, he liked to do his hair, and then as he got older, of course, Justin Bieber changed throughout the time. Well my son wanted to change along side him. So I think that was a big thing too because he went from not caring really what I put him in. [inaudible 00:22:09] "No mom, I want to wear skinny jeans with tears on them."

Interviewer: Yes!

Melissa: He'll love the shaggy look, and then he wanted shirts like that had I think it was a shirt with a gun on it, and I said no.

Interviewer: That's interesting because we often hear about girls having self image, but you are going to have five boys going through it!

Melissa: Yes! So I'm just like, oh my goodness. I mean now we've compromised. He doesn't really listen to Justin Bieber anymore, but he's still into the

skinny jeans. He's still loving the little shaggy little hair. So there's some things that we kind of, "Okay, you know what? That's fine." But my thing is I just don't want them to grow up too fast on me. And that's kind of where it is where even some of the cartoons I've even seen nowadays it's just ... They're way advanced than what my cartoons were when I was a kid. So I just ... I don't know.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah. You're right. It is a big difference. Yeah. So do you think about if something's educational or not? Does that concern you?

Melissa: Definitely, yeah. That aspect, like I said, that's kind of the biggest thing when it comes to the kids' tablets is all the apps that I would say 75% of those apps are from the kids' teachers.

Interviewer: Oh.

Melissa: That they get ... Yeah, they send you pamphlets with them all on there with the codes to get in. And then, of course, we have it's called the Dojo app.

Interviewer: Oh, yeah!

Melissa: Yeah, so we do a lot of communication through there too. Just, you know.

Interviewer: So that's in [inaudible 00:23:58] school district?

Melissa: Yep.

Interviewer: Ah, I haven't talked to those teachers. I've talked to other teachers, but not [inaudible 00:24:02]. So I'll have to contact them.

Melissa: Yeah, so like with the Dojo, you've heard of the Dojo before?

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Melissa: So it's easier because I can just see what my kids are up to.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Melissa: And this was like an hour ago. So there's my son right there planting.

Interviewer: Wow.

Melissa: Yeah, so it's really nice.

Interviewer: And then do parents like?

Melissa: Yeah you can like the status, you can comment on it. There's my son right there. He was in the [inaudible 00:24:30] parade this past week.

Interviewer: And that's all through the school app?

Melissa: Yeah, the school. And with Lucas, they do blogs.

Interviewer: Oh!

Melissa: So she has a blog page just for all the kids and stuff like that.

Interviewer: And does she post there?

Melissa: Yep, she posts pictures of ... Yep! She posts daily on ... Maybe not daily. I would say about every other day, every other two days. Sometimes daily. It's kind of like ... Right now it's end of school year so they've been posting daily.

Interviewer: Right, right.

Melissa: Yup. They got a lot of school projects and stuff like that so projects. She'll even email me all the pictures she's took of my son on his special day. So yeah, a lot of communication.

Interviewer: Yeah! So you use social media and you've been getting advice from there it sounds like. Are there any other resources? Specifically about screening media practices? Family practices around screens?

Melissa: I wouldn't say too much. Like I said, a lot of social media and I did do that graduation thing for the parenting class, and I would say that's about it. A lot of it is more of like kind of go with the flow, a little bit? I just kinda get a sense and feel and kinda do what I feel is best for my children and our beliefs and stuff like that.

Interviewer: So the school is definitely sending you advice?

Melissa: Yup.

Interviewer: And that sounds like it's been helpful.

Melissa: Yeah, that helps, yeah.

Interviewer: The pediatricians?

Melissa: No, not really the pediatrician. He doesn't ... Trying to think.

Interviewer: Does he ask about screens?

Melissa: He does because one of my children's eyes weren't the best of sight and he was like, "Out of curiosity-" You know?

Interviewer: So it's not a routine thing?

Melissa: No, it's not a routine. And like, my three year old, right now he wants to sit literally to the screen like literally to his nose. We're really on him right now and he just started this, I want to say ... This past week. He's like, he'll just grab bed and he'll sit as close as he possibly can to that TV.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Melissa: So now we literally, we had to tape his chair to the floor and I said, "You cannot move this chair."

Interviewer: So what advice ... So from the parenting class and from your social media, what advice is useful?

Melissa: I think like I said when people find stuff like that YouTube video, and then it's more of the like ... I wouldn't say advice, it's more like warnings. This is what we found out, this is what we've seen, this is what's going on. So then I take a lot of that into consideration and kind of like research on it a little.

Interviewer: Yeah, it sounds like information and research, kind of knowing what ... Because you can't know everything about YouTube.

Melissa: Yeah, exactly.

Interviewer: And television. So just having information in kind of nuggets.

Melissa: Yeah, it's simple and easy.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah. Okay, is there anything that really has not been helpful to you? Or something you would like to have learned?

Melissa: Not really, I feel like that they should have more information and stuff. Like I said, I only get it really from social media and not with the [inaudible 00:28:08] community.

Interviewer: Right.

Melissa: So it's like you don't really see a lot of other programs or anything that tells you, "Hey, this is kind of going on, or these are-" You know?

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Melissa: So I feel like they don't have a lot of those. It would be nice to have some, that way everybody could kind of keep in the loop and you know. Because ultimately we want our children to grow up to be responsible, safe, caring little children. Well adults, I should say. But yeah.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Melissa: But it's hard when you don't know what's going on and you kind of have to-

Interviewer: Things are changing constantly.

Melissa: Yeah! So it's just like ugh.

Interviewer: It's hard to keep on top of everything. So it sounds like you feel pretty comfortable in the structures that you've put in place, so the television you've limited, you have rules for YouTube, you have rules about ... You got the password on the tablets.

Melissa: Mm-hmm (affirmative), yep!

Interviewer: So it sounds like those structures have kind of really helped you and so you're pretty comfortable with that. Do you think you'll have questions as the boys get older.

Melissa: I think so just because I'm not really up to speed with all the new video games there are, new television shows. You know, they come out with shows all the time. I barely find time to watch TV myself.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Melissa: You know?

Interviewer: Yeah.

Melissa: I'm always on my phone between work and just everything else I never do. So it's kind of ... I think that's my worry and why I would wish or hope for somebody, or even a group or mothers, or something like that along those type ... To be like, "Hey, well this is kind of what we learned. These are the bumps that we had."

Interviewer: Yeah, mm-hmm (affirmative)

Melissa: "Here, we want to help out anybody else who tried to avoid that situation."

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Melissa: But I feel like that's why I'm so passionate about putting my children in sports because they love sports, they do. But they also know that between grades, their room, anything else, that affects their sports. So, I mean, we played sports all our lives, too. And we knew that if we're not on top of our homework or whatever, grades, whatever, we would lose that.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Melissa: And that's where all of our friendships were formed.

Interviewer: Right, right.

Melissa: So.

Interviewer: Yeah, and your kind of sense of well being.

Melissa: Yeah.

Interviewer: I can't remember what I was going to say. Next question. Let's see ... I was asking about the future and ... I can't remember. Okay, well the last questions are really to get more a sense of you. I feel like I have a sense of your childhood and how that's formed. But just ... Oh, I know what I was going to ask. It's about your social media. So that one video you saw came from a [inaudible 00:31:18] moms group?

Melissa: Mm-hmm (affirmative), yeah.

Interviewer: Okay. Are you on like common sense media, which is more kind of media advice for parents?

Melissa: No.

Interviewer: Okay. Are there any other kind of social ... Is there any other social media that is specific?

Melissa: Not really. I think I have a lot of mom groups between I guess ... With Non-Toxic, all that type of like just stuff in our homes and foods.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: I'm not perfect at it, but I've been trying to swap out a lot of ... Whether it's lotions and my kids are really sensitive when it comes to certain lotions, so I found this one. She's a friend of mine through social media. She sells Poofy Organics, I think it's called? Everything's like natural, and I did my

homework on it. And it's really safe for the kids. Here swapping things out. But it's a lot of like just being able to make sure my household is safe, completely safe for my children. God forbid they get into a lotion or cleaning product.

Interviewer: Right.

Melissa: I know nothing ... If they're going to be sick or something, then I know they're not going to die from it. You know?

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Melissa: So I think that's like a lot of those types of groups that I'm in.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm (affirmative) And so media sometimes gets mentioned as part of kind like a happy, healthy, safe household?

Melissa: Yes.

Interviewer: That makes sense, yeah.

Melissa: So they don't really have a whole screen section, but-

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah, yeah. So you're kinda social media. That's your kind of media outlet. And your husband?

Melissa: He's ... I won't say he's the same. He has social media, he's not really in tuned, I guess.

Interviewer: Is he a gamer? Is that something he does?

Melissa: Yeah, he is a gamer. He is a gamer. I give you that. And that he rarely gets a chance to play. But between us, the five boys, he works all the time, and then he comes home and he's like, "Okay." And we're building stuff for the kids lately. He got all the kids to build tool boxes with him like as a project. So we try and keep them busy and doing outdoor stuff. Right now they are gardening, two weeks ago and had them pulling out all the weeds. My mom always makes ... She's not making fun of us, but she's like, "Oh my God, they're so cute!" She lives like literally three houses down from me, and she drives by our house to go anywhere. And she saw all of them, up to my one year old, pulling weeds out. Yeah, so she was like, "Oh my God!"

Interviewer: Nice! That's so funny.

Melissa: So we do a lot of outdoor stuff, like fishing and that.

Interviewer: Okay!

Melissa: No, but he is a gamer. That's why he has his little man cave.

Interviewer: Oh okay, that's right! You mentioned that.

Melissa: Yeah.

Interviewer: So that's really it, all the questions about technology. The last question is optional, again. It's to get some more background information to make sure we're getting a diverse sample. So would you describe your whole family as Hispanic?

Melissa: Yep.

Interviewer: Okay, and could you tell me your highest level of education?

Melissa: I graduated and then did some college.

Interviewer: Okay, and your husband?

Melissa: He did the same as well.

Interviewer: Okay.

Melissa: And he's actually going back to school in the fall.

Interviewer: Oh wow. And running his own business?

Melissa: Yeah, he's doing like a business program, stuff like that, so he can get that because he's actually opening up with his best friend. They've been friends since they were like in diapers. So yeah, he has the business background, but now he wants a business background as well. He's like ... You know.

Interviewer: Oh I see, so his friend already had it?

Melissa: Yeah. So they're doing this.

Interviewer: So that would be construction? And right now he's doing?

Melissa: He's doing construction as well, yeah. They'll just branch off onto their own.

Interviewer: Okay, and you do paid work as well?

Melissa: I just ... Well, right now I do caregiving from home as far as being able to talk to clients and working with them, as far as finding good matches for them through Care Wisconsin, and I have my actual clients on the West side of Madison.

Interviewer: Oh, I see!

Melissa: Yeah and then I do some surveying here and there, just for some extra cash.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Melissa: Yeah. But mostly I'm with the kids! I love them but, ugh! I'm ready to go back serving a little longer, then one day up the week, so. I told them that's why they're starting daycare this coming week. It's time for me to go out of my house.

Interviewer: Yeah, so you're looking forward to that it sounds like.

Melissa: Yeah.