**Children under 10 shouldn’t be given a cell phone.**

**By Megan**

Do you think it is appropriate to see a young child with an expensive phone? I think children under 10 should not be given a cell phone. Today around one in four children 7-10 year olds own a cell phone .Sir William said that children under the age of 8 shouldn’t own a cell phone. I think this because smaller children are more likely to lose their cell phone, if they were given a phone they might spend all of the time texting and not listen to their parents. My last reason is that they could be text bullied.

Children under 10 years old are more likely to lose or break their cell phone. Also if they carry their phone around with them there’s a chance they might drop it. If they went around boasting to all the other children than one of the other children could steal it. Adults will still lose or break their phones. So children under 10 are more likely to lose theirs. Usually when a child says that their phone has been stolen, they have just misplaced it.

Another reason why children under 10 shouldn’t be given a cell phone is that most of the other children their age won’t have a cell phone. So if they always texting who would they be texting? I understand that some children have one to text their parents to ask them come pick them up from netball or rugby practice or if they miss the bus. But the school would have a phone so they could ask at the office to use it. Most of the parents at rugby or netball practice will have a cell phone that they could borrow. I you need to pick them up from some where the parents should organize it before hand.

How would you feel if your child was text bullied? Text bulling is when a child receives mean or hurtful texts from someone else, anybody could send these texts. Anyone could be text bullied but the bullies are more likely to target smaller children, age six and up, because it would upset them more. One could argue that there was bulling before cell phones but cell phone has increased the issues.

These are just some of the many reasons why I think children under 10 shouldn’t be given a cell phone. They could be text bullied, they could lose their cell phone or they could always be texting and not listen to their parents. So is it worth it? You decide.

* <http://wiki.answers.com/Q/Why_should_children_not_have_cell_phones>
* <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/4163003.stm>