



## net.wars

By Wendy Grossman

NYU Press. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 256 pages. Dimensions: 9.2in. x 6.2in. x 0.9in. Full text online version at [www.nyupress.org/netwars](http://www.nyupress.org/netwars). Who will rule cyberspace And why should people care Recently stories have appeared in a variety of news media, from the sensational to the staid, that portray the Internet as full of pornography, pedophilia, recipes for making bombs, lewd and lawless behavior, and copyright violators. And, for politicians eager for votes, or to people who have never strolled the electronic byways, regulating the Net seems as logical and sensible as making your kids wear seat belts. Forget freedom of speech: children can read this stuff. From the point of view of those on the Net, mass-medias representation of pornography on the Internet grossly overestimates the amount that is actually available, and these stories are based on studies that are at best flawed and at worst fraudulent. To netizens, the panic over the electronic availability of bomb-making recipes and other potentially dangerous material is groundless: the same material is readily available in public libraries. Out on the Net, it seems outrageous that people who have never really experienced it are in a position to regulate it. How then, should...



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