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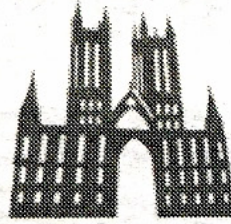
CITY & COUNTY EDITION

Lincolnshire Echo

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At the heart of all things local

Tuesday, February 12, 2008



Lincolnshire Echo Comment

TODAY'S parents are thought to have it easy.

TVs, computers, washing machines – they have never had it so good.

But along with the conveniences are the fears.

Today's children and teens are bubble-wrapped by parents contending with the menaces outside the family front door – car accidents, under-age drinking, gangs and paedophiles.

Children are constantly ferried from the school gate, into the car and home.

They read Internet articles on global warming and its effects on a world they have barely seen.

Scouting leaders are right in trying to get young people back outdoors.

This is not about nostalgia and its 'jolly hockey sticks' spirit.

Many child development experts want to end children's alienation from nature and the adverse effects on development.

Scouting should be given a Government role if it gets children into the great outdoors which, in future, they will be asked to save.