

# GiftsToGive Children and Social Media: A Conversation Scheduled



*GiftsToGive  
Children and  
Social Media*

Is Social Media safe for your kids? Are your kids safe on the internet? Is social media damaging the human touch and our social fabric? Our friend Bob Branco is spearheading this event, to help elevate the conversation and raise awareness with two wonderful key-note speakers; Maria Martin & Robert DiGiantomaso. This is a community event, there is no cost and open to all.

**WHEN:** Thursday evening, April 2, 2015 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** The GiftsToGive Philanthropy Factory, Acushnet.

**TICKETS and/or RESERVATIONS:** Tickets are free and available online by calling 508-717-8715 or possibly at the door if we have not sold-out. **SEATING IS LIMITED** – so reservations are recommended!

Bob Branco is a New Bedford native. He attended sight saving classes until the fifth grade. At that time, he was transferred to the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown,

Massachusetts where he graduated in 1977. Bob attended college and has held various jobs for the past 30 years. He believes in verbal contact, looking out for everyone's well-being, lots of family time, a quality education, and the desire to hear what children have to say.

Maria Martin is a concerned mother of two teenagers. Maria lives in Billerica, Massachusetts, is very concerned about what her children are learning in school and what and how they are learning in general. She will also be discussing modern technology trends, and will ask some very important questions. "Is social Media the departure from human touch?" "Can we survive without interaction?", "Why can't we continue to ask our older relatives for information that they would know a lot more about than a Wikipedia article?", "Can we continue to use paper on the job in case of a major computer crash?"

Assistant District Attorney Robert DiGiantomaso, from Bristol County District Attorney, Thomas Quinn's office, will talk about the most serious 'negatives' of technology to include cyber-bullying and sexting and the legal and social consequences that may result. He will also address potential long-term consequences which may negatively impact a child's future ability to obtain jobs, housing and admission to college.

We will also be providing delicious sandwiches and other treats directly from the culinary arts department at Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School. We'd be grateful to anyone attending this event for bringing new or "gently-used" toys, books, clothing, or anything else for a local child in-need.

Details at [www.giftstogive.org](http://www.giftstogive.org)

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