Extended Warrenties

This article is about values, the values that our children learn at home, in school and through social interaction in our community. But before I talk about those values, I want to share an observation on another value, that is the value of an extended warrenty. Growing up as I did in the 70s, and 80s and now living as an independent adult in the 90's I am personally aware of how the cost of the things we use every day keeps going up and up, while the quality of some of many of those things, like, clothing, electronics, and appliances has not improved with the price. I say this because while I was home in Los Angeles, we had to replace both our VCR and our Televsion. The Television was 8 years old and purchased new at a great price, to replace it with one that the salesperson said would last nearly as long would cost nearly twice what I had paid 8 years prior. The VCR was a 'cheapo' that we bought a year before, and the dilema was do we buy another 'cheapo' for the same price, or spend 3 times the money for something the salesperson said was better, but offered no garuntee of longer life. After deciding to fork over the big bucks for the stuff they said would last, both salespeople (at different stores mind you) nearly insisted that we get the extended warrenty, because in their words, you never know what could happen. Oy!

This experience taught me many things, including how dependent Kim and I are on our TV and VCR, thank goodness The Practice and ER were in reruns . But most of all the experience taught me that no matter how well you plan, no matter how much you spend on something