Section 7 Conclusions

Based on the results obtained from this study, we draw the following conclusions:

- The use of Internet blocking software in schools cannot ensure school compliance with requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act because schools using the software do not set the products to block specifically what's required by law and because the blocking software is not capable of blocking specifically what's required by law. The blocking software underblocks many web pages that the courts could interpret CIPA to require blocked and overblocks access to many web pages protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

- The use of Internet blocking software does not protect children from exposure to many materials that are harmful to minors, so schools should explore less restrictive alternatives, such as adoption and enforcement of Internet use policies, media literacy education, directed use, and supervised use, in order to handle the problem. [10]

- The use of Internet blocking software in schools damages significantly educational opportunities for students, both by blocking student access to web pages that are directly related to state-mandated curriculums and by restricting broader inquiries of both students and teachers.