

Fast Facts

PORNOGRAPHY



“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

– *Matthew 5:27, 28 (NKJV)*

“Whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding; He who does so destroys his own soul.”

– *Proverbs 6:32 (NKJV)*

The Truth About Pornography ...

“I’ve lived in prison for a long time now, and I’ve met a lot of men who were motivated to commit violence. Without exception, every one of them was deeply involved in pornography – deeply consumed by the addiction. The F.B.I.’s own study on serial homicide shows that **the most common interest among serial killers is pornography.** It’s true.”

– Serial Killer Ted Bundy in an interview with Dr. James Dobson, January 23, 1989.

... Is That It’s Not Harmless!

“There is not a day that goes by that I don’t regret getting involved in pornography and eventually becoming addicted to it to the point where I no longer functioned as a normal adult.”

– Mark Johns, convicted rapist
Source: *AFA Journal*, October 1998.

Pornography: Myth vs. Fact

Myth 1: “Obscenity is a Matter of Opinion — It Cannot Be Defined.”

FACT: Obscenity has been defined!

The U.S. Supreme Court case of *Miller v. California* (1972) set forth a three-pronged test:

1. Graphic material that is obsessed with sex and/or sexual violence;
2. Material that is obviously offensive; and
3. Material that is lacking in serious value.

Myth 2: “The First Amendment Protects Obscenity and Pornography.”

FACT: The U.S. Supreme Court case of *Roth v. U.S.* (1957) stated that obscenity was “outside the protection intended for speech and press...”

The First Amendment does not protect slander, false advertising, or perjury. It also does not protect obscenity and child pornography.

Myth 3: “Pornography Doesn’t Hurt Anyone.”

FACT: The untold harm is clearly evident in the addictive or compulsive nature for many men, its direct role in the transmission and encouragement of sexually transmitted diseases, the way it shapes attitudes and values, and its relationship to rape and sexual violence.

Myth 4: “You Can’t Legislate Morality.”

FACT: Every piece of legislation is based on some moral conviction. Laws prohibiting murder and theft are based on the understanding that these actions are morally wrong and harmful to the common good.

Myth 5: “If You Don’t Like it, Don’t Buy it.”

FACT: Pornography is like pollution. The person who does the polluting isn’t the only person hurt by it. Like toxic waste, it is hazardous to the health of our families and children.

The Economy of Pornography

“The porn world now has all the trappings of a legitimate industry with considerable economic clout. Besides its own convention and trade publication, it holds marketing and legal seminars. It even has its own lobbyist.”

An American Addiction

“It is estimated that Americans now spend somewhere around **\$10 billion** a year on adult entertainment, which is as much as they spend attending professional sporting events, buying music, or going out to the movies. Consumer demand is so strong that it has seduced some of America’s biggest brand names, and companies like **General Motors, Marriott, and Time Warner** are now making millions by selling erotica to America.”

– “Porn in the USA,” *60 Minutes Special*, CBS News, November 23, 2003.

Porn Industry Plagued by HIV Outbreak

In April 2004, several of California’s pornographic movie studios announced plans to temporarily shut down their sets, after learning that two “performers” had tested positive for the HIV virus. Based on the results of these tests, the Adult Industry Medical Healthcare Foundation (AIMHF) announced that more than 45 men and women had voluntarily quarantined themselves from participating in any additional pornographic films.

– Source: “HIV Test Results Close Porn Studios,” CENTER FOR RECLAIMING AMERICA.

Pornography: As Potent as Heroin

During recent testimony at a Senate hearing on whether pornography is a form of speech protected by the First Amendment, or addictive material that should be unlawful, psychiatrist Jeffrey Satinover described how pornography is analogous to cigarettes, noting that "it is a very carefully designed delivery system for evoking a tremendous flood within the brain of endogenous opioids."

"It's time to stop regarding it as simply a form of expression. Modern science allows us to understand that the underlying nature of an addiction to pornography **is chemically nearly identical to a heroin addiction**, Satinover said."

– Source: "Porn Like Heroin in the Brain," *Family News in Focus*, November 19, 2004.

Resources

Books

Pornography: A Human Tragedy, Tom Minnery, editor, Tyndale House, 1987.

A Way of Escape: Experiencing God's Victory Over Temptation, by Jerry and Kirsti Newcombe, Broadman and Holman, 1999.

Organizations

American Family Association
www.afa.net

"Enough Is Enough!"
www.enough.org

Esther Ministries
www.estherministries.org

Pure Intimacy
www.pureintimacy.org

What's Being Done to Combat Pornography? Not Enough!

Ashcroft v. Free Speech

In April 2002, the United States Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional the Child Pornography Prevention Act of 1996 (CPPA) which prohibits "any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video, picture, or computer or computer-generated image or picture" that "is, or appears to be, of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct," and any sexually explicit image that is "advertised, promoted, presented, described, or distributed in such a manner that conveys the impression" it depicts "a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct." In the opinion, the Court found the CPPA to have no support based on *New York v. Ferber* (1982) since the CPPA **prohibits speech that records no crime and creates no victims by its production.**

–Source: *Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition* (April 16, 2002), U.S. Supreme Court Multimedia.

Federal Tax Dollars Going to the Propagation of Pornography

Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) receives over \$254 million per year from the federal government, according to the organization's 2002-2003 Annual Report. In addition to performing more than 227,385 surgical abortions, PPFA also:

- Co-produced a video designed to encourage children to openly discuss and experiment with sexuality;
- Marketed a six-inch ruler to teenage males that asks, "Does Size Matter?";
- Provided condom necklaces to teenage fairgoers in Oregon.

– Source: CENTER FOR RECLAIMING AMERICA

Pornography's Causal Link To Abu-Ghraib

Why are we shocked by these images from Abu Ghraib, but when the victims are women (or gay men) the images are called pornography or "adult entertainment?" Why can we easily see the violations of human beings in one set of images, but miss it in others? What if the Iraqi men had been forced to smile, could we be convinced that there was a newly formed "publishing and film production" company in Baghdad instead of sexual abuse and humiliation being perpetrated?

– Source: Donna M. Hughes, "Not Unfamiliar: Images of sexual abuse and humiliation in Abu Ghraib," *National Review*, May 6, 2004.

Pornography: A Problem for Everyone ... Including Pastors and Women!

The numbers are staggering!

- Promise Keepers reports that **one out of three men** who attended its rallies in 1996 admitted they "struggle" with pornography.
- **63%** of men attending "Men, Romance & Integrity Seminars" admit to struggling with porn in the past year. Two-thirds are in church leadership and 10% are pastors. (Source: *Pastor's Family Bulletin*, Focus on the Family, March 2000)
- A major Pentecostal denomination that operates a telephone hotline for pastors and their families says **25% of the calls involve porn addiction.** (Source: "Porn and the Pulpit," *AFA Journal*, June 2001)
- Focus on the Family reports that **one out of seven pastors** who call its toll-free help line say they **are addicted to pornography.** (Source: "Porn and the Pulpit," *AFA Journal*, June 2001)
- **51% of pastors** say cyberporn is a possible temptation. **37%** say it is a current struggle. **4 in 10 pastors have visited a porn site.** (Source: Leadership Survey, *Christianity Today*, December 2001)
- **34%** of readers of *Today's Christian Woman's* online newsletter admitted to intentionally accessing Internet porn in a recent poll.
- **One out of every six women**, including Christians, struggles with an addiction to pornography. That's **17 percent** of the population. (Source: "Dirty Little Secret," *Today's Christian Woman*, September/October 2003)
- More than **80 percent of women** with this addiction take it offline. Women, far more than men, are likely to act out their behaviors in real life, such as having multiple partners, casual sex, or affairs. (Source: "Dirty Little Secret," *Today's Christian Woman*, September/October 2003)
- The Kaiser Family Foundation found that **among teens online, 70 percent** have accidentally come across pornography on the Web. (Source: Kaiser Family Foundation)

FASTFACTS is published by the CENTER FOR RECLAIMING AMERICA -- an outreach of Coral Ridge Ministries - to inform citizens and offer vital resources so you can reclaim your community for Christ. Founder: Dr. D. James Kennedy, Executive Director: Dr. Gary Cass; (877) SALT USA (725-8872); cfra@coralridge.org; www.reclaimamerica.org. The ministry is supported by the contributions of concerned citizens like you. If you would like to support the CENTER, you can send your gift to: CENTER FOR RECLAIMING AMERICA, P.O. Box 632, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33302