

EFFECTS OF PORNOGRAPHY ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Jill C. Manning in her testimony before the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights Committee on the Judiciary at the U.S. Senate on Nov. 9, 2005 stated: “The research indicates that the majority of Internet users are married and the majority seeking help for problematic sexual behavior online are married, heterosexual males. The research indicates pornography consumption is associated with the following six trends, among others.”

Pornography’s Effect on Marriage and Family

1. Increased marital distress and risk of separation and divorce.
2. Decreased marital intimacy and sexual satisfaction.
3. Infidelity
4. Increased appetite for more graphic types of pornography and sexual activity associated with abusive, illegal or unsafe practices.
5. Devaluation of monogamy, marriage and child rearing.
6. An increasing number of people struggling with compulsive and addictive sexual behavior.

(The above trends reflect a cluster of symptoms that undermine the foundation upon which successful marriages and families are established.)

Pornography’s Effect on Children

The Effect on Children Where an Adult is Consuming Pornography in the Home:

1. Decreased parental time and attention.
2. Increased risk of encountering pornographic material.
3. Increased risk of parental separation and divorce.
4. Increased risk of parental job loss and financial strain.

When a Child or Adolescent is Directly Exposed, the Following Effects Have Been Documented:

1. Lasting negative or traumatic emotional responses.
2. Earlier onset of first sexual intercourse.
3. The belief that superior sexual satisfaction is attainable without having affection for one’s partner, thereby reinforcing the commoditization of sex and the objectification of humans.
4. The belief that being married or having a family are unattractive prospects.
5. Increased risk for developing sexual compulsions and addictive behavior.
6. Increased risk of exposure to incorrect information about human sexuality, long before a minor is able to contextualize this information in ways an adult brain could.
7. Increased likelihood of viewing less common practices like group sex, bestiality, or sadomasochistic activity as more prevalent than they are.

Remember that Pornography distorts their view of sex.

It creates an appetite of self-gratification and an attitude of selfishness. As they prepare for a loving relationship with their future spouse, help them guard against sexually explicit material and images that can adversely affect loving sexual marital intimacy.