

PCA Parent Pages

Valuable information for parents intentional about raising godly and responsible children.

How Do I Talk to My Son about...Pornography

We no longer have the luxury of only trying to prevent our children from being exposed to pornography, we must take steps to prepare them for when they will see inappropriate images and depictions on the computer, iPad, smart phone, etc. But, thank you Lord for the wisdom we find in Proverbs chapter 5 – if I didn't know any better, I might think this chapter was written specifically to guide parents in a purposeful conversation with their sons about this issue!

Proverbs 5

- **Verse 1-2 Pay Attention!**

- Verses 1-2 set the stage – dads, this is a conversation YOU must have!

- **Verses 3-11 Yes, she's attractive...at first...but wait!**

- Her lips drip honey and her speech is smoother than oil – that's Hebrew for "she's fine!" Men, we are hard-wired to find women attractive – that's exactly how God designed us – which is exactly why Satan works so hard to corrupt and destroy what God designed for good. Of course you could mention that the woman in pornography isn't real...she's "air-brushed" – but that seems to be a meaningless concept to a man...she's either attractive or not, who cares why?!

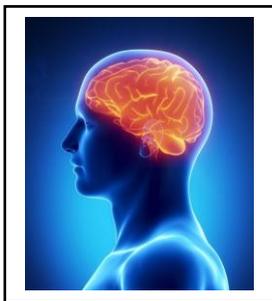


- BUT (love that word in the Bible)...the other shoe is about to drop! Listen to how Solomon describes this:

- *But in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to the grave.*

- WOW – that sure doesn't sound like a great place to go...down to death, straight to the grave...what's he talking about that's so bad?

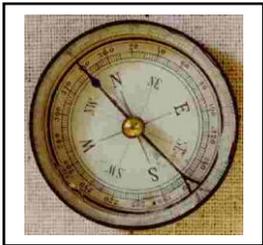
- The "death" Solomon is referring to isn't just the death that Scripture tells us is our proper wages for sin...no, I believe that Solomon understands that the "other woman" of pornography leads to the death of intimacy and trust between a man and his soul-mate. Research is now coming out that demonstrates and a long exposure to pornography actually wires the pleasure center in the brain to respond to lust, not love...to 2 dimensional pictures, not 3 dimensional beings. We are beginning to see a new consequence of pornography – men, when married, are unable to perform sexually with their wives because their brains are short-circuited from pornography.



- Study in *Psychology Today* confirms what the Book of Proverbs says!
 - A recent study in *Psychology Today* found that men who regularly viewed Internet pornography actually lost their ability to perform in real-life sexual relationships. Another study in Italy labeled this phenomenon as “sexual anorexia.” Here is an excerpt from that study:

Web porn simply numbs men’s pleasure receptacles, desensitizing responses to the neurochemical dopamine. This is a chemical associated with reward and, in young men, researchers believe that gorging on Internet porn simply shuts down the physiological sense of reward from sex. Because the Web allows for so many different—and, if the user so chooses—ever more intense stimulations, the mind-body continuum begins to feel nothing at all.

- What about the interesting statement in verse 6 where “she gives no thought to the way of life; her paths are crooked, but she knows it not.” How could she not know that what she is doing is wrong and degrading not only to herself, but to all women?



- What many people fail to realize is that many young, attractive women in the porn industry were victims of sexual abuse at a young age. Their moral compass when it relates to matters of sexuality has been severely damaged – and instead of taking advantage of these young women by continuing to ogle them, we should be protecting them and giving them the dignity they deserve whether they know it or not!

- Verses 7-11 also warn you of some other consequences
 - You give your best strength to others – your wife gets the leftovers of your sexual desires
 - Lest strangers feast on your wealth – a porn addiction can be very, very expensive as you create an unquenchable appetite for more
 - At the end of your life you will groan – there are numerous sexually transmitted diseases that you open yourself up to by engaging in promiscuous behaviors

- **Verses 12-20 There is a solution to satisfy your sexual desires – MARRIAGE!**

- May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth.



- One of the most profound movies of recent years was the 2009 movie *It’s Complicated* with Alec Baldwin and Meryl Streep. Baldwin leaves his first wife for a younger model – and then realizes too late that what he really wants is to enjoy all the hard work and rewards of his original wife and children. Remember that divorce not only adversely affects you, but also your children!

- **Verses 21-23 Your secret sexual sin isn’t a secret – God knows!**

- Don’t be foolish – can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned (Proverbs 6:27)? Do not be deceived. God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows (Galatians 6:7).