

Porn-Proof Your Family

*It's a slippery slope
into moral chaos*



BY JAMES C. DOBSON, PH.D.



IS PORN A PERVERSION OR PREFERENCE?

In any debate on pornography, there is one phrase that will always be brought up. “Well,” the liberal will argue, “one man’s pornography is another man’s art. Who is to judge?” A culture that cannot say what is obscene, and insist on its definition, is a society in deep moral trouble. One can always find a pervert, of course, who sees art in pictures of a woman or child being bound, tortured and sexually molested, but a healthy society does not allow a sick mind to dictate its judgments about what should be illegal.



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Recommit Yourself To “Porn-Proof” Your Marriage

Oh yes, and what about that word pervert? Take a good look at it. I predict it too is on its way to the burial ground of words no longer acceptable. Things and conduct considered perversions just a few years ago are now considered mere “preference” or “orientation.” None of us, we are told, has the right to describe someone else’s conduct as perverted.

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We are making a value judgment by using such a word—we are saying it is bad, should be punished, deserves condemnation.

When we lose the ability to use words to make such judgments, the slippery slope becomes extremely steep. At a recent conference of sexologists, a paper was delivered suggesting that pedophilia, the sexual attraction some men feel toward prepubescent children, may have to be redefined as an “orientation” rather than the perversion or sexual deviation it is.

PORNOGRAPHY CAN DESTROY YOUR FAMILY

Having served on the Attorney General’s Commission on Pornography in the 1980s, I can say with certainty that obscenity of all varieties has two dangerous characteristics. First, it is as addictive as hard drugs. Thirteen-year-old boys who are particularly vulnerable to sexualized images can be captured and held in bondage for the rest of their lives. That’s why it is so important to monitor what your children see on the Internet or on the screen. Their future marital experience can be damaged by addictions that have their genesis in early adolescence.



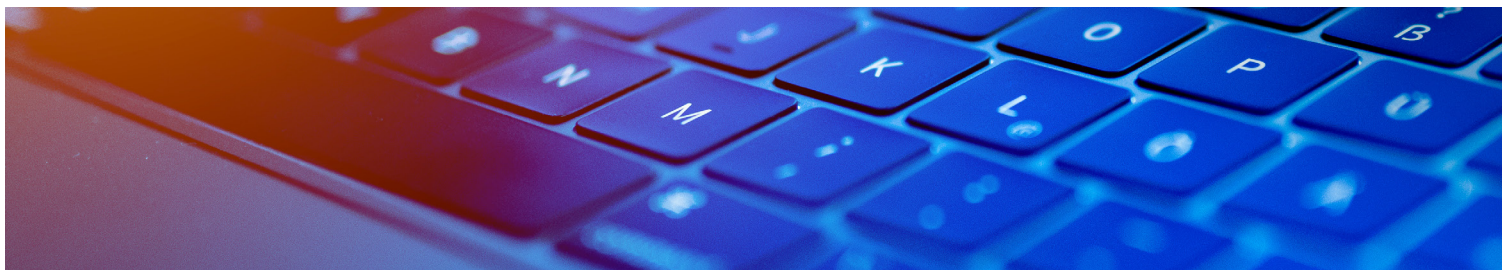
CLICK TO LISTEN

| *What Are They Watching: Protecting Your Kids from Pornography*



The second characteristic of obscenity is that it is progressive in nature. Salacious images quickly become boring. The response to it moves quickly toward harder and more violent behavior. It requires more and more exposure to achieve stimulation. The addiction then becomes all consuming and demanding, moving in time to a lust for paraphilias (abnormal sexual behavior). It can lead the most vulnerable to bestiality, child molestation, heterosexual and homosexual violence including the kind of sadomasochistic experience depicted in *50 Shades of Grey*. It can also lead to homicide, such as that committed by serial killer Ted Bundy. I talked to him the night before he was executed, and he begged me to warn parents about exposure to pornography in kids. Does it always take victims in these deadly directions? No, but in far too many cases, it does. This is why child pornography is highly prized by many men, and why so many innocent boys and girls are brutally murdered each year.

Believe me! I have seen all of this and much more in the FBI files. Obscenity is evil beyond my ability to describe it. Obscenity destroys marriages, twists and warps boys and girls, and ultimately destroys the men who are addicted to it. Now, women have their own versions of filth.



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Pedophiles and Pornography

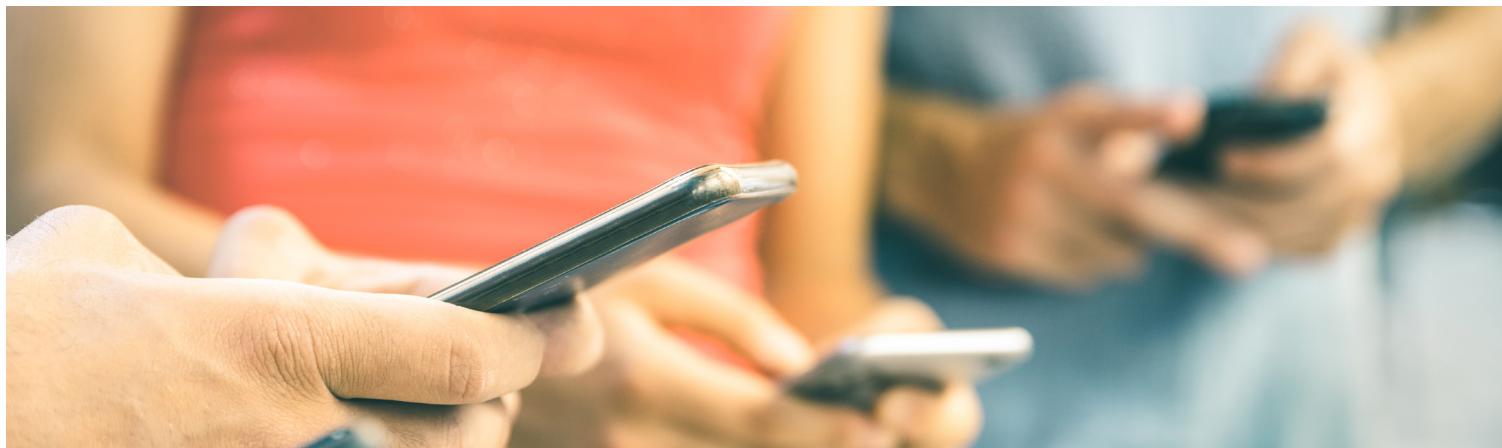


All addictions eventually become a family affair. Pornography is no exception. It often destroys sex in marriage because men become hooked on a way that their wives usually resist. That creates terrible fights between them. He wants her to do things that repel her. Also, visual images and masturbation become a substitute for sexual relations between a husband and wife.

It can destroy your family.

PROTECT YOUR KIDS

It has become a daunting task for mothers and fathers to shield them from enticements of every stripe, including those that now inhabit the Internet. I hope you will read very carefully what I am about to write now, because it explains why this matter is so significant. Porn and smut pose an awesome threat to your boys. A single exposure to it by some thirteen- to fifteen-year-olds is all that is required to create a full-blown addiction that will hold them in bondage for a lifetime. It is more addictive than cocaine or heroin. That was one of the conclusions drawn during the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography, on which I served. It is a huge cultural problem. More than 40 percent of pastors are afflicted by it! How did they get that way? By exposure to graphic materials that set them aflame. This pattern is responsible for untold numbers of divorces and dysfunctional marriages. Availability of the Internet has increased the incidence of this tragedy immeasurably.



CLICK TO READ

Media and Technology Advice for Parents

I strongly urge you to get television sets, computers or DVD players out of the bedroom. Locate them in the family room, where they can be monitored and where the amount of time spent on them is regulated. And you must set the filters on their phones and other handheld devices. How can you do less for your children?

It is also our responsibility to watch various forms of entertainment with our boys and girls when they are young. What you see together can present teaching situations that will help them make the right choices for themselves when they are older. Our children may resist our efforts to screen out the filth and violence that now permeates their world, but they know it's right to do so. They will respect us for saying, "God gave us this home, and we're not going to insult Him by polluting it with foul programming." However, in order to make this judgment, you have to be watching with your children to know what requires your attention.

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May I suggest that you read and discuss the following verse from the writings of the apostle Paul:

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Philippians 4:8, KJV

For over four decades, Dr. James Dobson has been America's leading authority and advocate for the family.

This material is excerpted from Dr. Dobson's [*Life On The Edge*](#), Dads and Sons, Children At Risk and

Dr. James Dobson's Newsletter, [*It Can Destroy Your Family*](#).

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