

# STEWARDS OF SCRIPTURAL SEXUALITY

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## **Pornography**

Utah Senator Tom Weller introduced legislation that will force internet service providers to filter porn. Memories of McCarthyism, the Spanish Inquisition and restrictions of Communism cause many freedom loving Americans to shudder at restrictions. Yet they exist. Theft, fraud, murder, rape, etc., are legally punishable. Even freedom of speech is restricted. Try yelling “fire” in a theater as a joke or slandering someone. There are those who claim pornography is not bad. Mireille Miller-Young of the University of California, Santa Barbara, claims that porn is not socially harmful and that “*many find sexual expression, release, connection, identity and sexual freedom within it.*” Biblical Christians would disagree. The content of pornography - fornication, adultery, orgies, homosexuality, lesbianism, incest, bestiality, sexual child abuse, misogynism, the degradation of womanhood, etc. - are contrary to Biblical standards. (Deut. 27:20-23; Rom. 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 5:1-5 & 9-11; 1 Cor. 6:15-18; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 4:19; Eph. 5:3-4; Col. 3:5-6; 2 Pet. 2:7-8; Jude 7) Sexual activity involves psychological as well as physical factors. Repetition of immoral behavior can embed a perverted sexual psyche seeking illicit sex. Pornography serves as a psychological schoolroom.

## **Negative Aspects of Pornography**

Gail Dines, a feminist scholar and leading voice against pornography, has found that internet porn is highly negative. Obscenity laws are already in place against it. Title 18, Section 1465 of the US Code prohibits “the production and transportation of obscene materials for sale or distribution.” Patrick Trueman of the Justice Department’s Anti-obscenity Unit is calling on officials to enforce the law. Matthew Schmitz, literary editor of “First Things”, writes: “*Pornographic activity may be private, but its harms are inescapably public.*” The current rash of sexual harassment reflects a pornographic type psyche. Who knows how many rapes have been pornographically stimulated? According to one survey, boys are inducted into porn addiction at the age of 11. Both male and female porn addiction disrupts and often destroys marriages when spouses prefer pornographic fulfillment to a wholesome marital sexual relationship. Those addicted can find information

and help via a web search for “*Pornographic Addiction Help*”.

## **Positive Aspects of Scriptural Sexuality**

God created human sexuality. It should be highly treasured and Scripturally controlled. Christian weddings are joyful events celebrating the beginning of a lifetime of sharing togetherness. Marital sexual fulfillment, flowing from love, is a beautiful, wonderful, pleasantly fulfilling experience. It’s actually, a “good work” enjoyed by God himself! It’s the key to the reproduction of children to be loved, cherished and enjoyed. While porn is rooted in selfish self-serving sexual satisfaction, Scriptural sexual love is unselfish - prone to sharing, giving, possession and being possessed. (1 Cor.7:2-5; 13:4-7) Language reflects cultural thought. The Slovak word for a male entering marriage is “*ozenit sa*”, indicating a man possessing a woman. The word for a female is “*vydat sa*”, indicating a woman giving herself over to a man to be his possession. Scripturally, a husband should lovingly possess his wife to be her provider, protector and preserver. A wife should lovingly aid him as “*helper*” (Gen. 2:18) in his responsibilities. Such marriages are like a beautiful turning wheel of serving and sharing, spinning around the hub of love.

*The stability of society rests upon  
the marital rock of Scriptural  
sexuality.*

## **Sexual Lust Condemned**

While proper sexual love is highly condoned in Scripture, sexual lust is condemned. “*Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*” (Matt. 5:28) The N.T. Greek word for lust is “*epithumesai*”, indicating a desire to covet what is forbidden. Webster defines it as “*an excessive sexual appetite, especially seeking immediate or ruthless satisfaction.*” Eph. 5:4 goes as far as to condemn even foolish obscene talk and coarse joking.

## **RELATED RESOURCES**

[www.selc.lcms.org](http://www.selc.lcms.org) - Personal Stewardship

“*Marital Stewardship*”

“*Rules for a Happy Marriage*”

“*Same Sex Marriage Issues*”