

DO YOU AGREE WITH JESUS?

QUESTION: Is pornography harmless?

We live in a sex-saturated society. Everywhere you turn, sexuality is being peddled and promulgated. From clothing to perfume to hamburgers and alcohol, showing skin and flinging sexual innuendos is the marketing strategy of choice. With this constant bombardment of all things sexual, many have turned to viewing pornography in numbers that stagger the imagination. Even a cursory glance online often brings up something that was not intended for viewing by those who strive for purity. Pornography is a multi-billion dollar industry in our nation, and the number of those addicted to it is expanding exponentially. Many claim that viewing such in the privacy of their own home, even in the company of their spouse, is perfectly acceptable. The prevalent thinking is that it does not harm anyone, so it must be okay. Is pornography harmless, and are we “prudish” for opposing it?

Jesus states, “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: but I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart” (Matthew 5:27-28). Jesus would also tell us that the beginning of every kind of evil takes place in the heart, or mind, of man: “But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies” (Matthew 15:18-19). While it is certainly right for a husband and wife to enjoy sexual intimacy (Hebrews 13:4), it is not permissible for them to find enjoyment and arousal in the viewing of others engaged in such acts.

Pornography is an insidious evil and a plague upon our society that must be removed. It is absolutely impossible for a person to think wrong and act right. That which rules our hearts and minds ultimately rules our actions. Marriages and homes will continue to reap the whirlwind that has been sown through pornography. Let us seek to be pure in heart and in mind, and rid ourselves of the evil of pornography.

Do you have a question that you would like for us to consider together, or a comment regarding what has been written? If so, please contact us at sixthavenue@bellsouth.net, or write to us at the Sixth Avenue Church of Christ, 1501 Sixth Avenue, Jasper, Alabama, 35501.