

Children and Pornography

- **General Population Statistics - 2006**

- 4.2 million pornographic websites – 12% of total websites.
- Pornographic pages: 420 million
- Daily pornographic emails: 2.5 billion (8% of total emails)
- Internet users who view porn: 42.7%
- Average daily pornographic emails/users: 4.5 per internet user.
- Monthly pornographic downloads (peer-to-peer): 1.5 billion (35% of all downloads)
- Internet pornography sales: \$4.9 billion

- Top Ten Reviews.com

- **Child Pornography**

- 100,000 websites off illegal child pornography
- Approx. 20% of all internet porn involves children
- More than 20,000 images of child pornography posted online every week (Nat'l Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 2003)
- \$3 billion annual industry (2005)

- **Pornography and the Church**

- 50% of men in attendance at 1996 Promise Keepers conference involved with pornography within one week of attending the event.
- 51% of pastors say cyber-porn is a possible temptation; 37% say it is a current struggle (CT, Leadership survey, 2001)
- 20% of received by Focus on the Family's Pastoral Care Line are related to issues of pornography and compulsive sexual behavior.
- 57% of pastors say that addiction to pornography is the most sexually damaging issue to their congregation (Christians and Sex Leadership Journal Survey, 2005)

- **Women and Pornography**

- 28% of those admitting to sexual addiction are women.
- 34% of female readers to *Today's Christian Woman's* online newsletter admitted to intentionally accessing internet porn. (2003)
- 1 out of 6 women, including Christians, struggles with addiction to pornography (2003, *Today's Christian Woman*)

- **Effects of Porn on Marriages**

- 47% of families said pornography is a problem in their home (Focus on the Family survey, 2003)
- 2/3 of 350 divorce lawyers said internet played a significant role in the divorces in the past year, with excessive interest in online porn contributing to more than half such cases (American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, 2003)

- **Children's Use of Pornography**

- Average age of first internet exposure to pornography: 11
- Largest consumer of internet pornography: 12-17 year olds (2007)
- 20-30% of adult internet porn traffic is children (NRC report, 2002); largest consumers are 35-49 years of age.
- 9 out of 10 children between the ages of 8-16 have viewed porn on the internet, in most cases unintentionally (London School of Economics, 2002)
- 21 million 5-19 year olds have cell phones. Worldwide revenue from mobile phone porn was expected to rise to \$1 billion in 2005.
- 26 children's character names linked to porn links (eg. Pokemon and Action Man)
- 1 in 5 children (10-17 years old) receive unwanted sexual solicitations online (Youth Internet Safety Survey, US Dept. of Justice, 2001)
- 29% of 7-17 year olds who would freely give out their home address; 14% of 7-17 year olds who would freely give out their email address. (TopTenReviews.com)

- **Affects of Pornography on Children**

- Sexual identity develops gradually throughout childhood and adolescence with reaching sexual capacity between ages 10-12.
- Memories of experiences that occur at times of emotional arousal are imprinted on the brain by an adrenal gland hormone (epinephrine) and are difficult to erase.
- So, viewing porn can potentially condition some viewers to having recurring sexual fantasies and temptations to act them out.
- Exposure to porn short-circuits and/or distorts the normal development process and supplies misinformation about sexuality and self identity.

- Can lead to sexual satisfaction being tied to photos and thus hinders natural behavior with opposite gender.
- **Ted Bunde's Testimony** [YouTube - Ted Bundy Final Interview - Part Two](#)
- **A Ministry of Awareness and Prevention**
- Face denial – Don't assume: "Not my kids!"
- Avoid shaming
- "Just say no!" Does it work?
- Don't expect a quick fix
- Offer seminars for parents
- Provide information about internet filters and guidelines for internet use
- Teach: God cares about our thoughts
- Affirm: Thinking about sex is normal.