



# Seminar on Sexual Apologetics

Steve Willing

# Agenda

- Introduction: The Top Ten Myths of the Sexual revolution
- Week 2: Why sexual apologetics? The state of the Church
- Week 3: Defending Biblical sexuality to professing believers
- Week 4: Scientific basis for the Genesis paradigm (recorded)
- Week 5: Victims of the sexual revolution
- Week 6: Homosexuality, Transgenderism, and other variants
- Week 7: How we got here, where we're headed, what we can do

# Resources

- Weekly notes and PowerPoint at [www.swilling.com](http://www.swilling.com)
- Contact: [steve@willing.org](mailto:steve@willing.org)
- Christian Medical & Dental Association
- National Review
- Breakpoint
- The Public Discourse
- Recommended readings

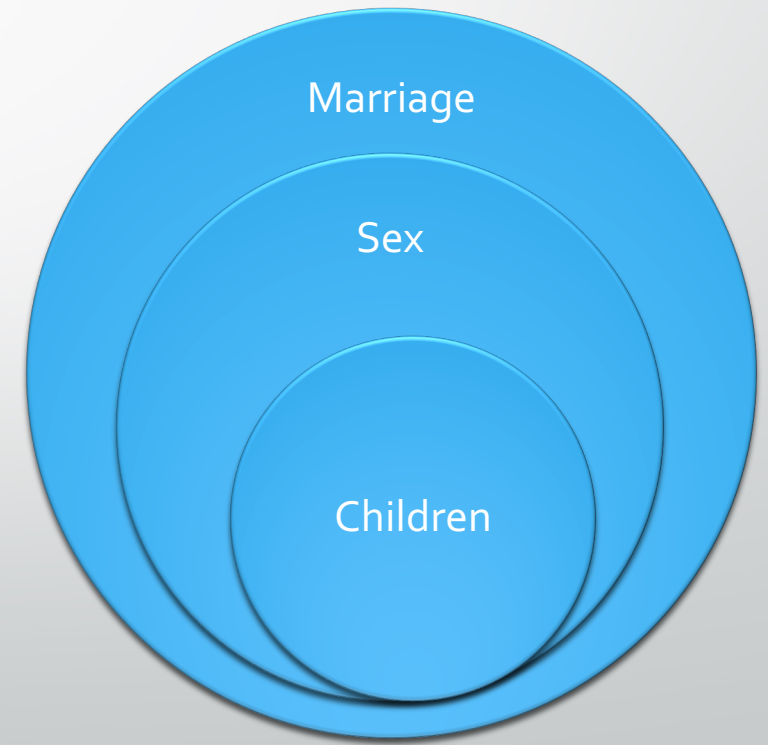
# The Sexual Revolution

- Long philosophical history
- Generally agreed that it took off in the 1960s
- More influenced by pop culture than 20<sup>th</sup> century philosophers
- Rejection of Judeo-Christian sexual morality
- NOT relentless

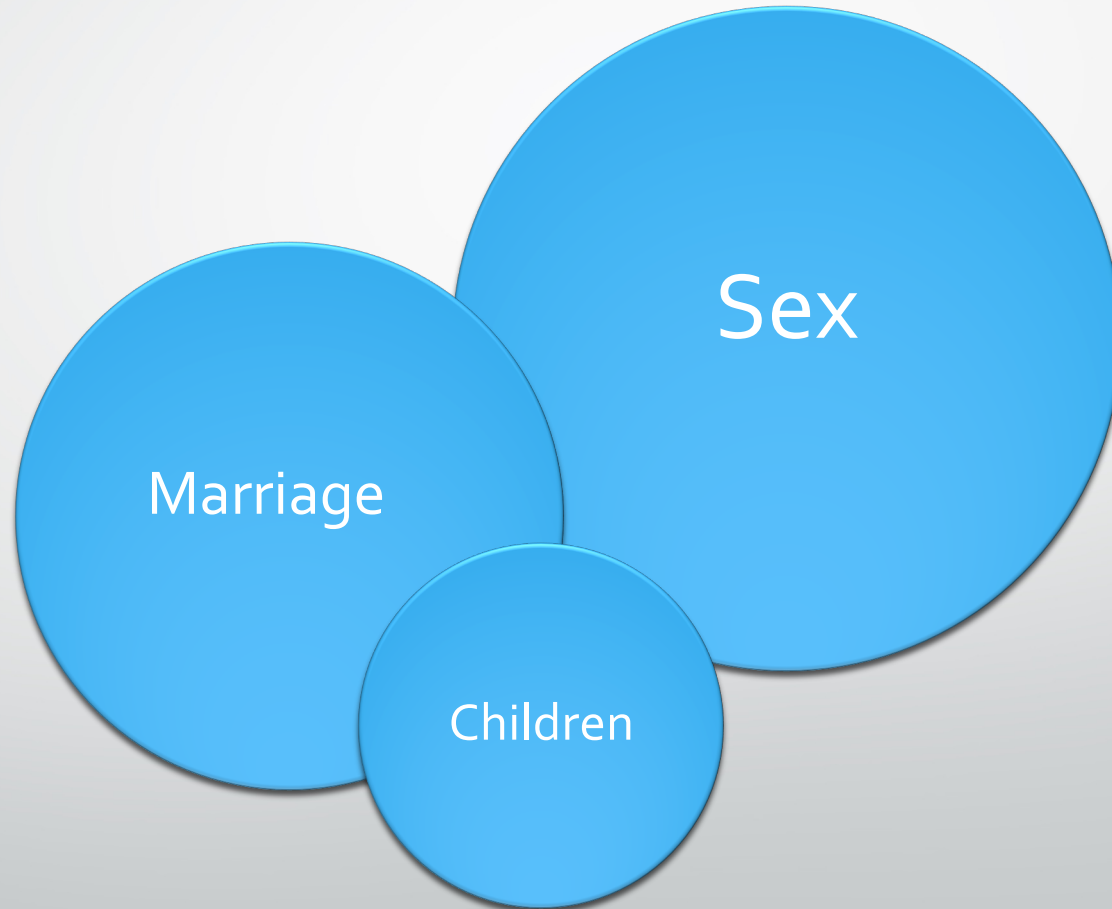


# Sexual revolution


- Severance of tie between sex and children (The Pill)
- Severance of tie between marriage and children (Divorce & Illegitimacy)
- Severance of tie between marriage and sex (pop culture)
- *Brave New World*, Huxley, 1932



# Sexual revolution







# Top ten myths of the sexual revolution\*

Organized thematically, not by significance

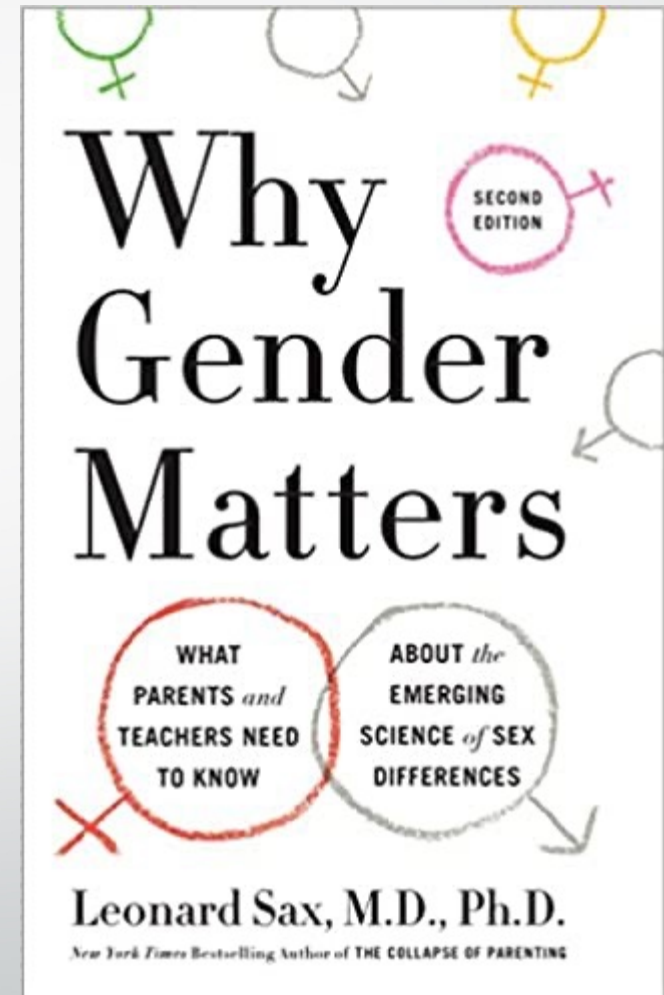


“Gender is a social construct”



# Facts

- Decades of research in neuroscience confirm there are concrete, persistent, and pervasive differences between male and female cognition
- These differences begin in utero and are already firmly established at birth
- Stereotypical gender roles, however, are strongly influenced by culture





January 2017

"The notion that sex matters fundamentally, powerfully, and pervasively for *all* of neuroscience (not just for reproduction) is an idea whose time indeed has come." Larry Cahill, Editor

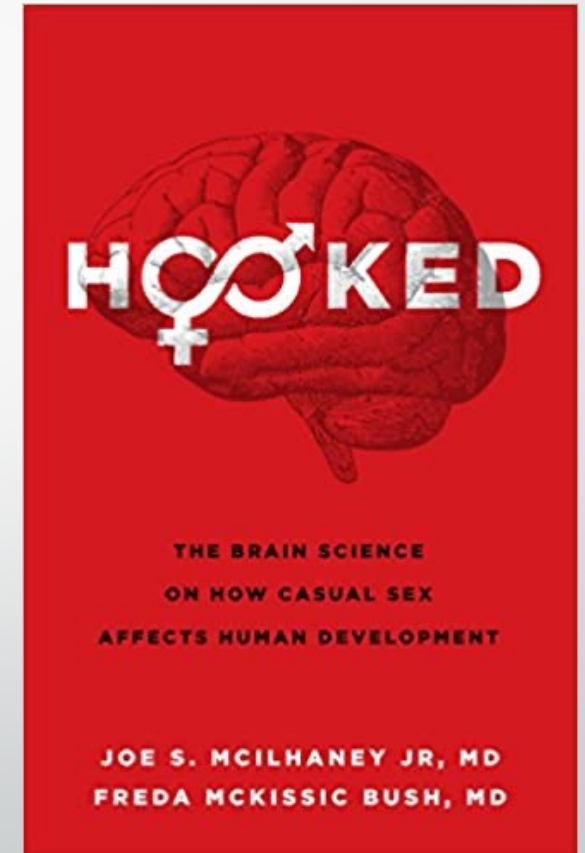


“Intercourse between consenting  
adults is harmless”



# Facts

- Consequences of non-marital intercourse:
  - STDs
  - Pregnancy
  - Emotional consequences
  - Neurological impact of dopamine, oxytocin
  - Social consequences

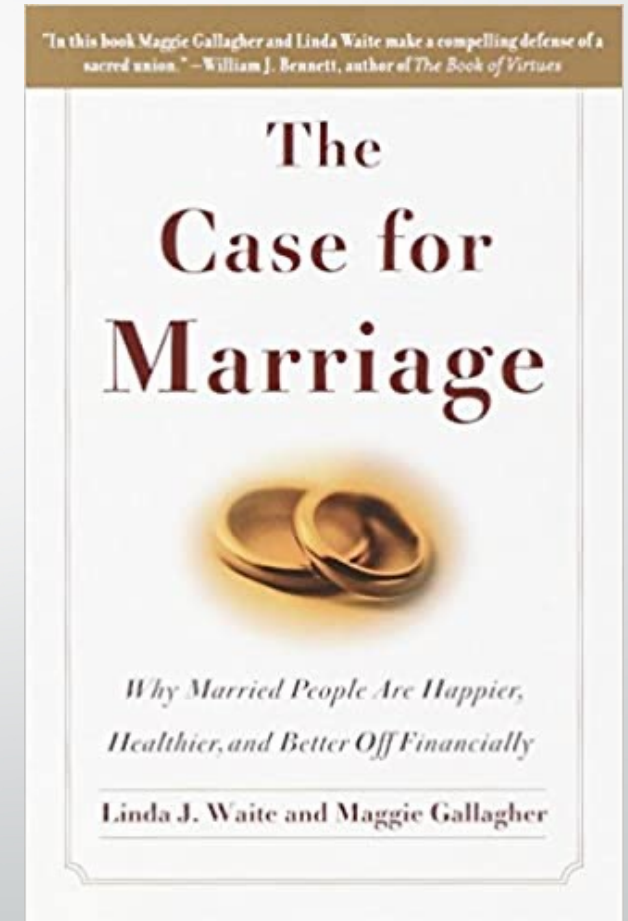





“Marriage is just a piece of paper”

# Facts

- Marriage:
  - Higher commitment
  - More other-focused
  - Safer
  - More prosperous
- Cohabitation: Less committed, less stable, less interdependent, more violent



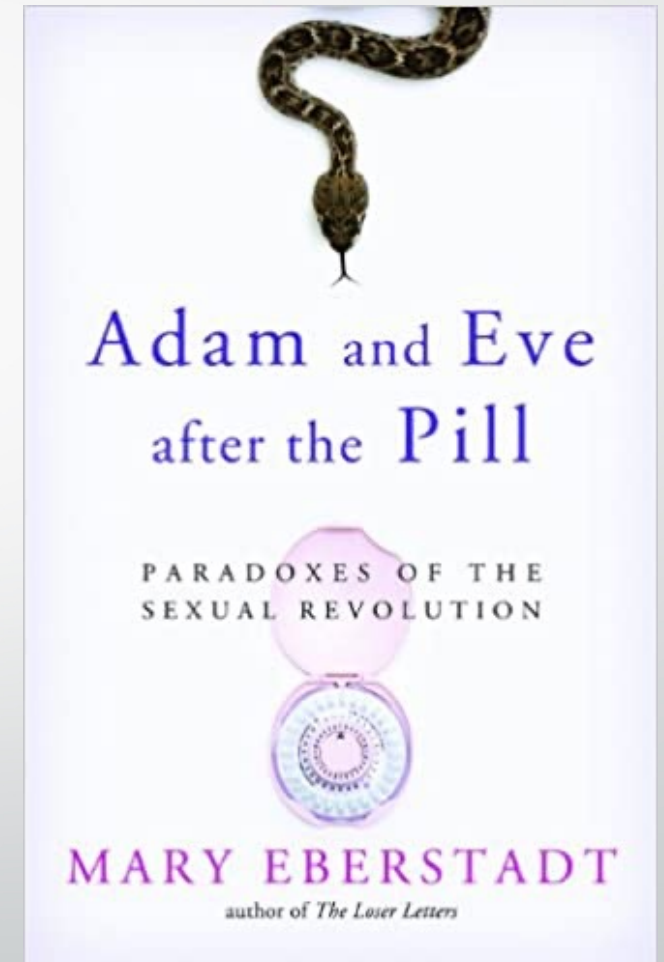


“The sexual revolution was a boon for  
women”



# Facts

- Decreased chances of marriage
- Decreased chances of motherhood
- Declining levels of happiness
- Increased chances of victimization

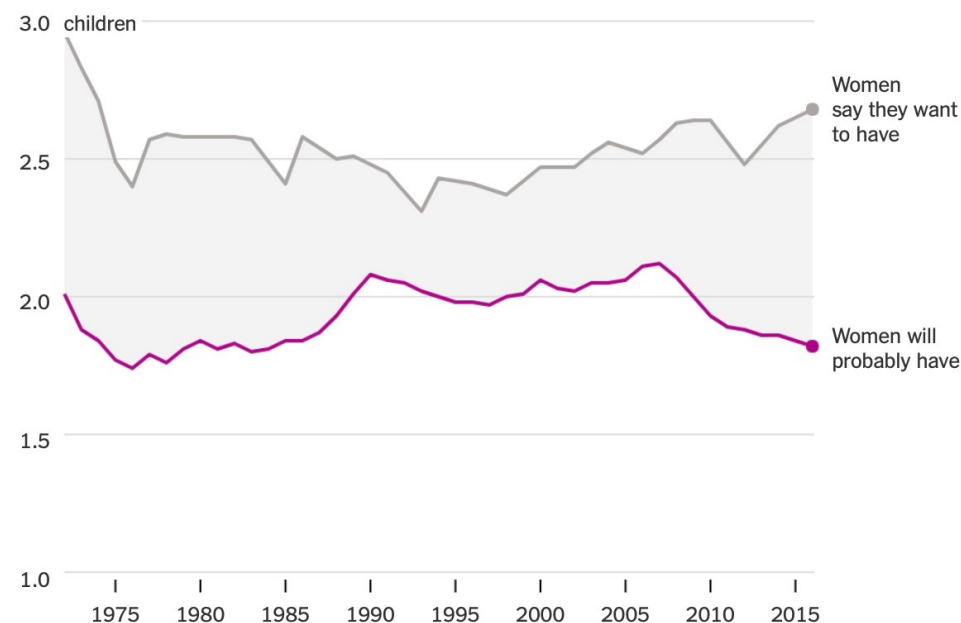


**TheUpshot**

## *American Women Are Having Fewer Children Than They'd Like*

“As a result, the gap between the number of children that women say they want to have (2.7) and the number of children they will probably actually have (1.8) has risen to the highest level in 40 years.”

Even as Desired Fertility Is Rising, Birth Rates Are Falling  
The average number of children that:



Sources: C.D.C. N.C.H.S. (total fertility rate); General Social Survey (ideal fertility)



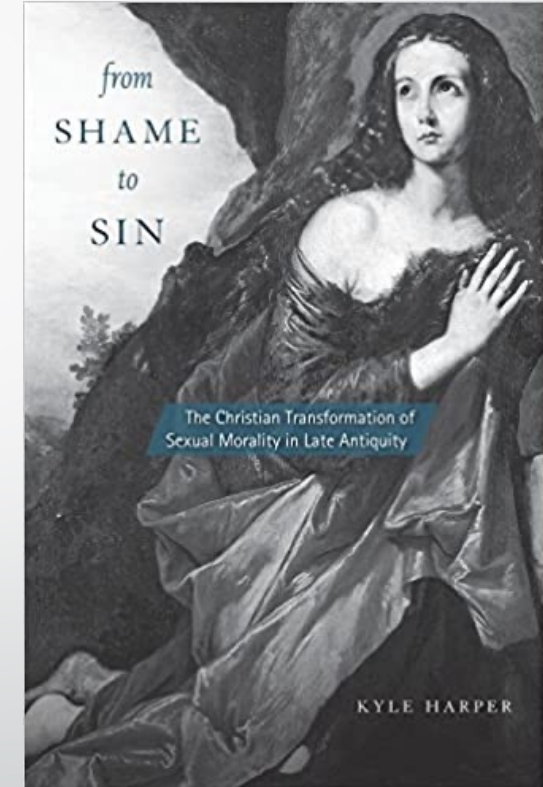
“Chastity and monogamy are  
oppressive”

# What are the alternatives?

- They've all been tried
- The outcomes were uniformly horrendous
- Imperial Rome, postrevolutionary Russia

# Facts

- Married people are happier, healthier, and enjoy better sex lives
- Societies, in turn, are more stable
- Christianity didn't impose the "patriarchy" – it overturned it
- The only ones negatively impacted are sexual predators





“We’re not responsible for sexual  
predators”



# Facts

- Historical data from Boy Scouts and Catholic Church show a spike in abuse cases during 70s and 80s
- Confluence model identifies three elements in formation of predators
  - Misogyny
  - Casual sexual orientation
  - Pornography

## Victims of the Sexual Revolution

October 15, 2020



by Steven Willing, MD

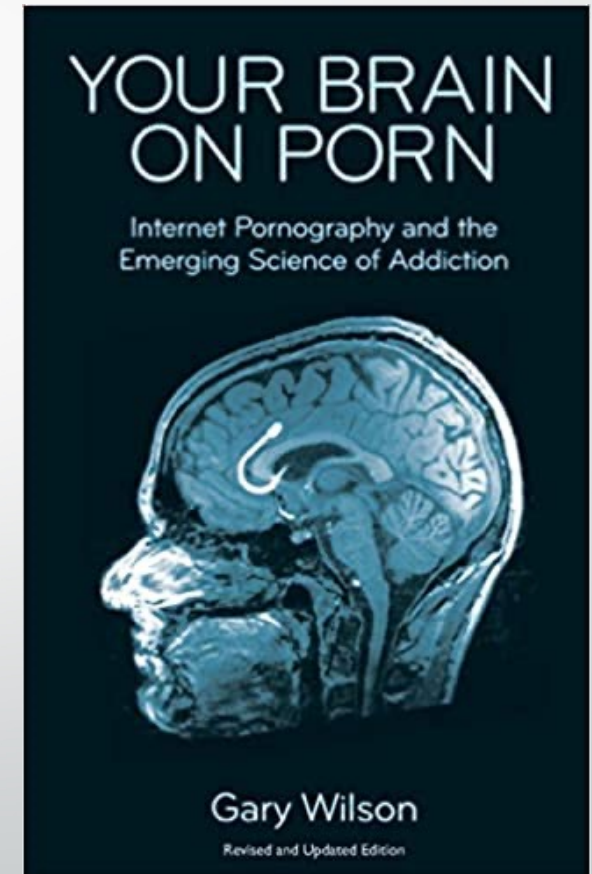




“Pornography doesn’t hurt anyone”

# Facts

- Addiction
- Impotence
- Impaired relationships
- Sexual predation
- [www.yourbrainonporn.com](http://www.yourbrainonporn.com)



## Relevant Research and Articles About the Studies

Below this long intro are many sub-sections containing relevant studies.

**Relevant Research** – first we have lists of studies that provide support for the claims made by YBOP. (See [Questionable & Misleading Studies](#) for highly publicized papers that are not what they claim to be.):

- Porn/sex addiction? This page lists [57 neuroscience-based studies](#) (MRI, fMRI, EEG, neuropsychological, hormonal). All but one provide support for the addiction model as their findings mirror the neurological findings reported in substance addiction studies.
- The real experts' opinions on porn/sex addiction? This list contains [34 recent neuroscience-based literature reviews & commentaries](#) by some of the top neuroscientists in the world. All support the addiction model.
- Signs of addiction and escalation to more extreme material? [Over 60 studies reporting findings consistent with escalation of porn use \(tolerance\), habituation to porn, and even withdrawal symptoms](#) (all signs and symptoms associated with addiction). Additional page with [14 studies reporting withdrawal symptoms in porn users](#).
- An official diagnosis? The world's most widely used medical diagnostic manual, *The International Classification of Diseases* (ICD-11), [contains a new diagnosis](#) suitable for porn addiction: “[Compulsive Sexual Behavior Disorder](#).”
- Debunking the unsupported talking point that “high sexual desire” explains away porn or sex addiction: [Over 25 studies falsify the claim that sex & porn addicts “just have high sexual desire”](#)
- Porn and sexual problems? [This list contains over 40 studies linking porn use/porn addiction to sexual problems and lower arousal to sexual stimuli](#). The [first 7 studies in the list demonstrate causation](#), as participants eliminated porn use and healed chronic sexual dysfunctions.
- Porn's effects on relationships? [Over 80 studies link porn use to poorer sexual and relationship satisfaction](#). As far as we know [all](#) studies involving males have reported more porn use linked to *poorer* sexual or relationship satisfaction. While some studies report little effect of women's porn use on women's sexual and relationship satisfaction, many *do* report negative effects: [Porn studies involving female subjects: Negative effects on arousal, sexual satisfaction, and relationships](#)
- Porn use affecting emotional and mental health? [Over 90 studies link porn use to poorer mental-emotional health & poorer cognitive outcomes](#).
- Porn use affecting beliefs, attitudes and behaviors? Check out individual studies – [over 40 studies link porn use to “un-egalitarian attitudes” toward women and sexist views](#) – or the summary from this 2016 meta-analysis of 135 relevant studies: *Media and Sexualization: State of Empirical Research, 1995–2015*. Excerpt:

*The goal of this review was to synthesize empirical investigations testing effects of media sexualization. The focus was on research published in peer-reviewed, English-language journals between 1995 and 2015. A total of 109 publications that contained 135 studies were reviewed. The findings provided consistent evidence that both laboratory exposure and regular, everyday exposure to this content are directly associated with a range of consequences, including higher levels of body dissatisfaction, greater self-objectification, greater support of sexist beliefs and of adversarial sexual beliefs, and greater tolerance of sexual violence toward women. Moreover, experimental exposure to this content leads both women and men to have a diminished view of women's competence, morality, and humanity.*

- What about sexual aggression and porn use? Another meta-analysis: *A Meta-Analysis of Pornography Consumption and Actual Acts of Sexual Aggression in General Population Studies* (2015). Excerpt:

*22 studies from 7 different countries were analyzed. Consumption was associated with sexual aggression in the United States and internationally, among males and females, and in cross-sectional and longitudinal studies. Associations were stronger for verbal than physical sexual aggression, although both were significant. The general pattern of results suggested that violent content may be an exacerbating factor.*

“But hasn't porn use reduced rape rates?” No, rape rates have been rising in recent years: “[Rape rates are on the rise, so ignore the pro-porn propaganda](#).” See [this page for over 110 studies linking porn use to sexual aggression, coercion & violence](#), and an extensive critique of the often-repeated assertion that an increased availability of porn has resulted in decreased rape rates.

- What about the porn use and adolescents? Check out this list of [over 280 adolescent studies](#), or these reviews of the literature: [review#1](#), [review2](#), [review#3](#), [review#4](#), [review#5](#), [review#6](#), [review#7](#), [review#8](#), [review#9](#), [review#10](#), [review#11](#), [review#12](#), [review#13](#), [review#14](#), [review#15](#), [review #16](#), [review #17](#). From the conclusion of this 2012 review of the research – *The Impact of Internet Pornography on Adolescents: A Review of the Research*:

*Increased access to the Internet by adolescents has created unprecedented opportunities for sexual education, learning, and growth. Conversely, the risk of harm that is evident in the literature has led researchers to investigate adolescent exposure to online pornography in an effort to elucidate these relationships. Collectively, these studies suggest that youth who consume pornography may develop unrealistic sexual values and beliefs. Among the findings, higher levels of permissive sexual attitudes, sexual preoccupation, and earlier sexual experimentation have been correlated with more frequent consumption of pornography.... Nevertheless, consistent findings have emerged linking adolescent use of pornography that depicts violence with increased degrees of sexually aggressive behavior.*

*The literature does indicate some correlation between adolescents' use of pornography and self-concept. Girls report feeling physically inferior to the women they view in pornographic material, while boys fear they may not be as virile or able to perform as the men in these media. Adolescents also report that their use of pornography decreased as their self-confidence and social development increase. Additionally, research suggests that adolescents who use pornography, especially that found on the Internet, have lower degrees of social integration, increases in conduct problems, higher levels of delinquent behavior, higher incidence of depressive symptoms, and decreased emotional bonding with caregivers.*

- Aren't all studies correlative? Nope: [Over 90 Studies demonstrating internet use & porn use causing negative outcomes & symptoms, and brain changes](#).

For a debunking of nearly every naysayer talking point and cherry-picked study see this extensive critique: Debunking “*Why Are We Still So Worried About Watching Porn?*”, by Marty Klein, Taylor Kohut, and Nicole Prause (2018). How to recognize biased articles: They cite [Prause et al., 2015](#) (falsely claiming it debunks porn addiction), while omitting over 50 neurological studies supporting porn addiction. For easy to understand presentations addressing many of the myths propagated by pro-porn researchers or bloggers, see 2 excellent videos by Gabe Deem: “*PORN MYTHS – The Truth Behind Addiction And Sexual Dysfunctions*”, and “*Porn Playbook: Deny, Disinform and Defame*”.



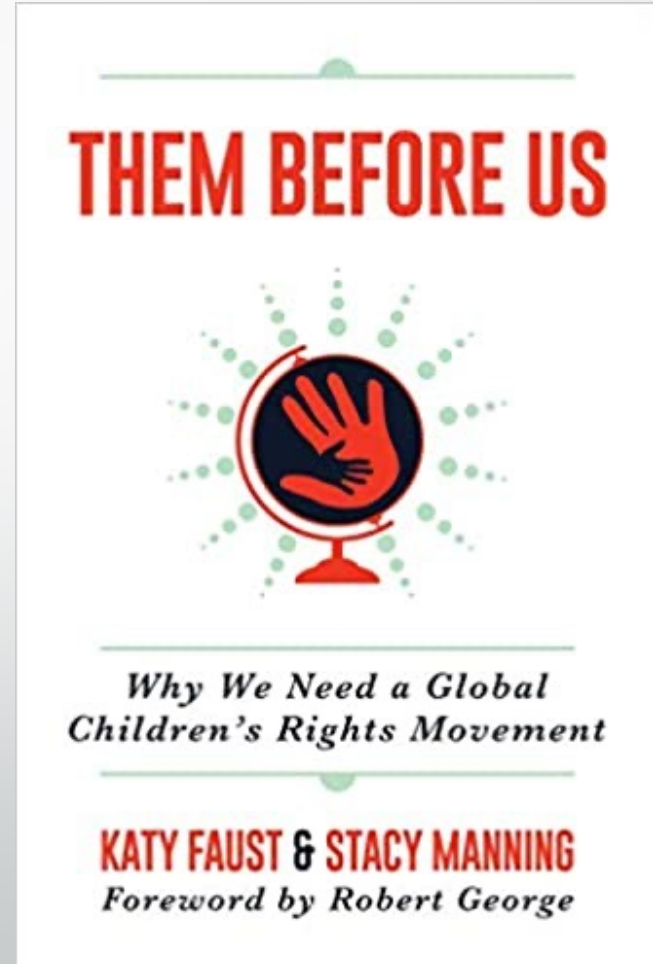



“The children will be fine”



# Facts

- Children treated as commodities
- Suffer from divorce
- Suffer from single parenthood
- Suffer from loss of genetic identity
- High risk of abuse
- ThemBeforeUs.com

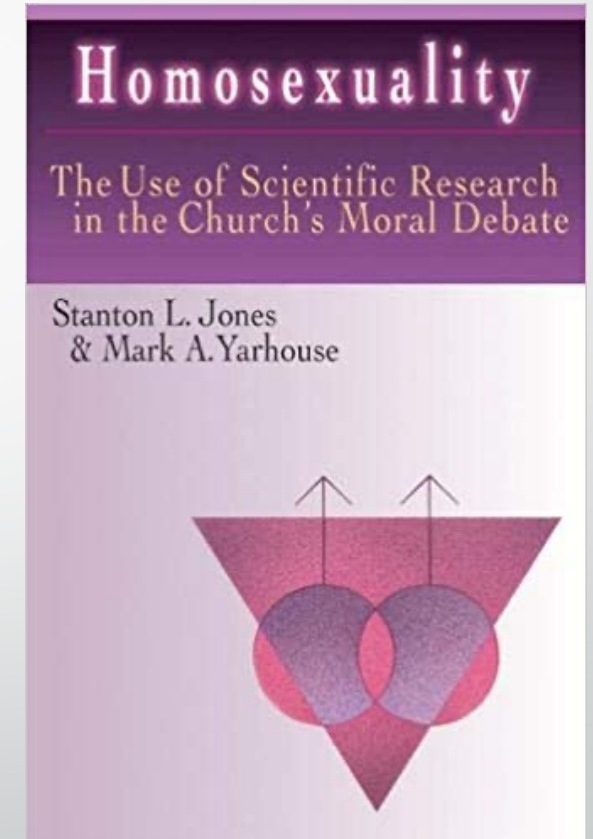




“There is no meaningful difference  
between homosexuality and  
heterosexuality”

# Facts

- Dire biological differences between anogenital intercourse versus vaginal intercourse
- Higher levels of promiscuity among male homosexuals (no gatekeeper)
- Impossibility of natural parenthood
- Higher levels of mental illness
- Cannot be explained by “minority stress theory”



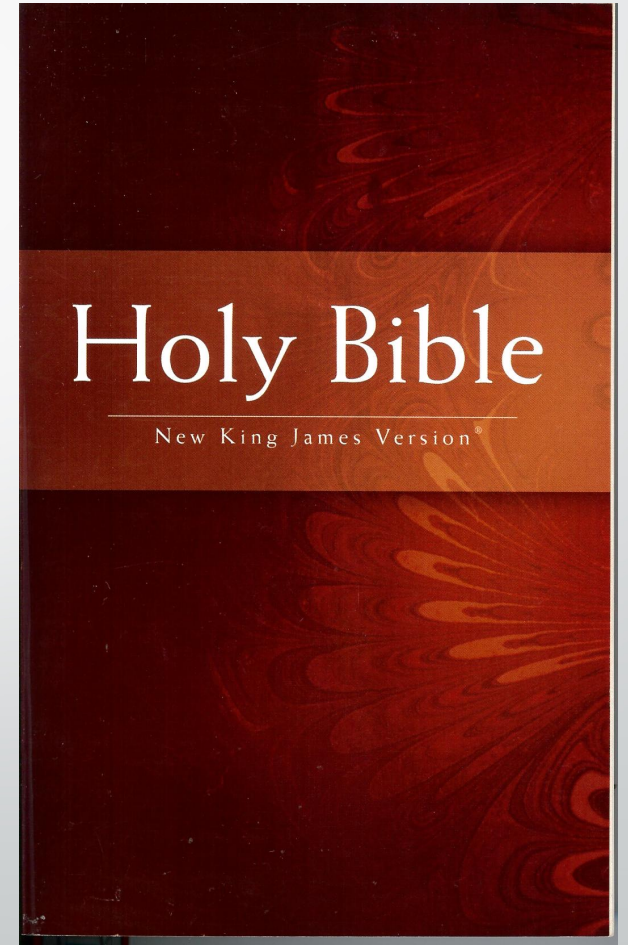


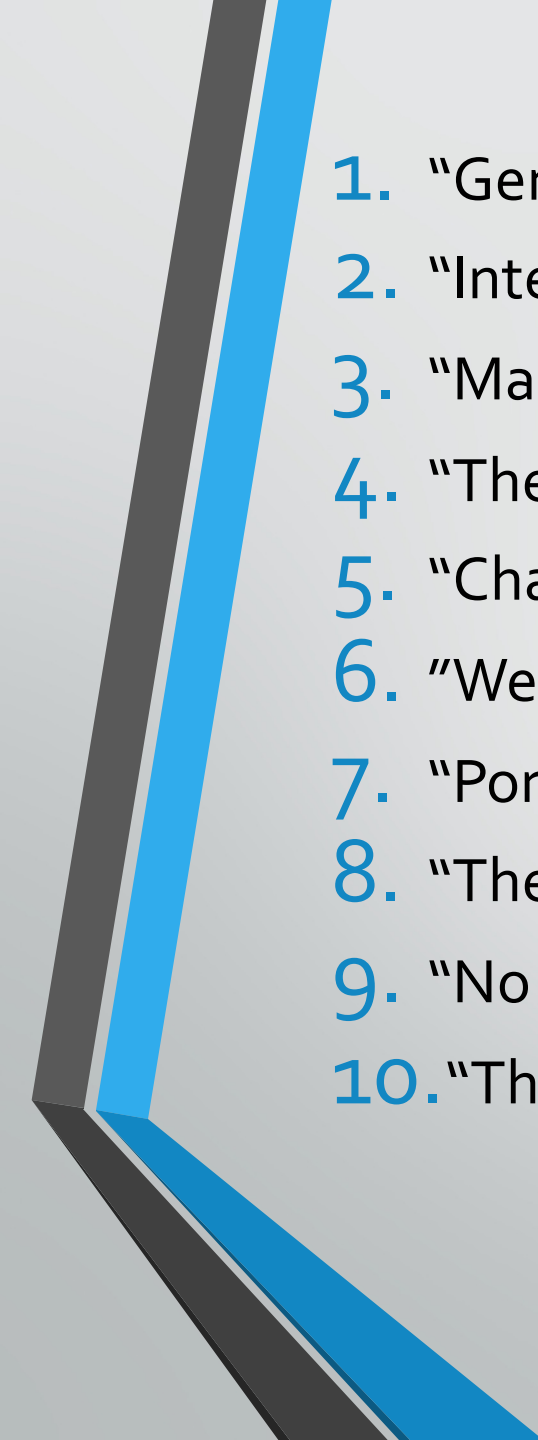


“That’s just the way God made me”

# Facts

- Cause of (exclusive) same-sex attraction unknown
- Transgenderism not grounded in biology
- Many inborn tendencies are harmful
- Human sexuality is malleable
- How one got there is irrelevant to whether it is harmless or harmful, moral or immoral



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1. "Gender is a social construct" – Weeks 3&4
  2. "Intercourse between consenting adults is harmless" – Week 4
  3. "Marriage is just a piece of paper" - Week 4
  4. "The sexual revolution was a boon to women" – Week 4
  5. "Chastity and monogamy are oppressive" - Weeks 4 & 5
  6. "We're not responsible for sexual predators" – Week 5
  7. "Pornography doesn't hurt anyone" – Week 5
  8. "The children will be fine" – Week 5
  9. "No difference between homosexuality and heterosexuality" – Week 6
  10. "That's just the way God made me" – Week 6

# Conclusion

- When it comes to sexuality, it is not Christianity that is in conflict with mainstream science. It is the current cultural narrative.
- These issues are complex. Opponents of Christian morality can cherry-pick data to support their own preferred narrative.