

Let's look back in 2017. Where once again Porn finds a way!

Porn always finds its way into our lives. Porn

is everywhere. It's at a place where the question is not if you have seen porn in a day, but what kind?! Most of us are not aware that we are seeing porn anymore or it's influence in how we dress or live. So when someone says they got caught watching porn, I usually take it they mean they were going to a porn 'tube' site, like the famous PornHub and not being aroused by the magazines in the checkout stands at the grocery store. Both are to arouse something in us.

Not only has the production of porn become massively diverse (with the growth of women directors) but the distribution of porn has also contributed to pay per view and cable/satellite porn subscriptions. Cable porn in particular has grown massively over the past two years with Transsexual porn being added this past year.

PornHub launched a <u>sex education website</u> which coincides with it's tube video site! Sticking with sex education, <u>Planned Parenthood</u> is still the largest sex educator in the country. Another popular sex education website is

<u>Scarleteen</u>. Though these websites have influenced and continue to do so, I think the greatest sex educators out there are parents! What do you teach your kids about sex? If you read the Bible, you should have plenty of lessons to share for sure! <u>Song of Solomon</u> anyone?

A trend we found in 2017 with popular porn was having middle aged women engaged with a younger looking teen. Usually it's the other way around, but can you believe it...now it's the other way around. Older women with young teen boys.

To me it seems that the more we move forward with the free porn experiment the more old arguments start seeming weird and outdated. 'Porn is what men watch' is one of those myths that has been debunked again and again. Yet I still hear it all the time. Every man's battle!? Women are watching and reading more and more sexual material. Not just women, but young girls! More porn is being produced by women, but don't let that make you think this kind of porn is not of the hard core genre as opposed to that 'man made porn.' Some find this unfathomable, but it is true. BDSM and the like is not just produced and watched by men anymore! So the constant adage of 'men are degrading women in porn' sounds a bit old fashioned now. why? Because women are into it! So it is still degrading? Sex culture is changing very fast. Too fast for the arguments that are put forth.

You have certainly heard '**Porn is bad for society**' right? Though I would tend to agree on moral & religious reasons, the society seems to be doing fine with it! Rape is not skyrocketing but in actuality the reverse is possibly happening. Maybe a society can function quite well with free porn? Marriages might be jeopardized by porn, but who's to say the reasons for that are just old fashioned ways of thinking about it? Christians will need to re-think there arguments in the years to come on many subjects including gay marriage and the legalization of weed, which is becoming the new normal in this country (if it's not already blase to the younger generation.)

When discussing porn, you need to be more specific than ever! Have you ever heard a preacher go off on how porn sucks? What kind of porn are you referring too anyway? Is all erotic literature (even in the Bible) porn? It's important because when you say porn is bad, the younger population hears, "sex & sexuality is bad." Porn is sex, and they (students) have seen it. So the words Porn and sex are used interchangeably often. There is an association between the two. (So when saying, 'porn suck,' they might think you mean sex sucks.) The short of it is our cool phrases don't work much anymore (i.e. love not porn, porn sucks, fight porn) as we are muddled on what porn is today. It's all quite confusing at times. But when we say porn is bad, we can easily be mis-educating people by having them think we mean sex is bad. We need to be more thorough. And I fear this has happened in Church history. Many in

the church have <u>extreme anxiety</u> dealing with sexual issues in there life. And unfortunately, the Church is not a safe place to discuss sexual matters. But to be fair, it is not only the Church that struggles with this. Not many places probably are safe.

Movie players like Amazon Prime or the Roku have grown in there sensual content. The Roku allows for many different movie apps (even hidden ones) that carry many old school sex films or straight up tube site style porn. Some are edited down, and others are not. Use your parental features on any device you have in your home if you are wanting to block content, just like you would on your cable. Amazon also includes edited porn films,(even the famous Adam & Eve productions) but they are edited down to where there is little nudity. The phone is the numero uno device were porn is being accessed by many. There are many apps like snapchat and Instagram, yes and even Pinterest where pictures can be found. Bottom line is if your interested in seeing pictures of sex, there is plenty everywhere. But Roku by far has the most hard core free stuff available when it comes to home movie boxes. Netflix has many sensual movies, but I have not seen any porn studio movies on it as of yet.

There are several facts claiming that around 78% of kids' exposure to porn happens at home. And, living in the digital world

where there are softcore to hardcore things available on the internet, these stuff can pop up everywhere. (Footnote)

Lesbian porn is huge in North America simply because women like to watch it too! Male on male porn is in its second year on cable (like Xfinity). And there is much of it to watch. As lesbianism porn has always been readily acceptable and easily accessed, so it is becoming with the "other," gender. Since the same sex marriage passed the amount of gay porn available has come out of the closet, so to speak. Never was there gay porn available on cable until the last couple years. It certainly is a trend that is popular and growing.

There is also a growing number of movements in the country sounding off on the dangers of porn. Some are in the religious community and others are not. Feminist are split on this subject of porn more now than ever. I encourage anyone interested to read the different viewpoints. As amateur porn becomes more and more popular on the internet (50% of what is available on the web), the kinds of porn produced becomes more varied and vast, which in turn will put a cog in the wheel of traditional thoughts and arguments (i.e. 'people make porn for the money'). It's simply not 100% true. More and more people are making porn because they like to make porn! For Free! Go figure?

CAM porn is vastly growing as a business due to the demand of social interaction with the actress/actor. This is a 1 billion or so dollar business, and I would imagine it will grow. CAM porn for those that do not know is when a person records and interacts with an web based audience from there home, using there internet camera, whose primary purpose is to arouse the viewer. For some it is a way to make 'easy,' money. But for the consumer it meets relational needs of sorts I imagine. It is certainly a step up from the simple viewing of a picture or watching a video that was shot 5 years before. You can chat with this person and tell them what you would like to see. Is it regulated you ask? Well, we think so and certainly hope so as it seems to be quite dangerous if minors are on a site or maybe even doing there own CAM show! But CAM sites are easily accessible on the web with million of viewers and members.

Sexting continues to be a growing problem in every state of the Union for those under age. When presenting in the Jr. High schools in my city, students are all to familiar with receiving semi nude or nude pictures through their phones by the time there in the 7th grade. Again this is blase to many young people as they continue to navigate there world of free sexual material. They are saturated with porn culture. They no nothing else.

One of the greatest influences of sexual identity has always been our peers; those we look up to. Those in the entertainment world have more access to

there fans than any other time in history. But the entertainment world is not just TV. I would say much of the younger generation is influenced by what they gravitate towards on Youtube. There called Youtubers and they produce their own videos to a audience of young students which in turn create a sub culture of sorts with merchandise that is fitting for a good sub-culture! It's the Youtube version of the radio DJ's in my day. I used to listen to Frazer Smith of KLOS fame. "Too Hip!" That was the phrase he made popular. Or I can remember listening to the Dr. Demento radio show. Today, for the younger generation, it's Youtubers! And it is through these producers (many, young students themselves) that ideas, worldviews, opinions and even propaganda gets out to the ears of human sponges (i.e. youth). It might be that this is more of an influence on young people than the porn available to them. This is hard for many older people to understand, but it is happening all over. Don't believe me, look at the numbers and be blown away! These are the top Youtubers in the world. Notice how many subscribe to there channels! It's massive.

- No. 7: NigaHiga 19.3 million subscribers. ...
- No. 6: Fernanfloo 20 million subscribers. ...
- No. 5: VanossGaming 20.2 million subscribers. ...
- No. 4: Smosh − 22.6 million subscribers. ...
- No. 3: ElRubiusOMG 23.5 million subscribers. ...

- No. 2: Germán Garmendia (HolaSoyGerman.) ...
- No. 1: PewDiePie 54.1 million subscribers.

This is a clear reminder that there are two worlds that we are living in. A digital, online world, and the natural world and how they intertwine is sometimes not very consistent with one another. The online life might be completely different with the natural. Our society is trying to figure out how to regulate and legislate this digital world, as many of us function ever day in these two realms still being somewhat responsible & productive people. But every now and then, the world's become different from each other to where you become shocked at the digital life of a person you "thought you knew." Ever heard that line before?

Well that ends my 2017 review. It will no doubt be challenging as we enter into 2018 in many ways. Use this information to get an understanding of the culture, and in turn a better grasp of your own views. I included some links throughout the blog for further reading if interested. Deal with the fear that you might have. Use kindness to others, as the Lord showed us. He did a great job engaging his culture.