

Addiction, Pornography & the Gospel

A 21V Chapel

Nov. 1st, 2023



Introduction

Mrs. Gruchow and Mr. White



21st Century Learning



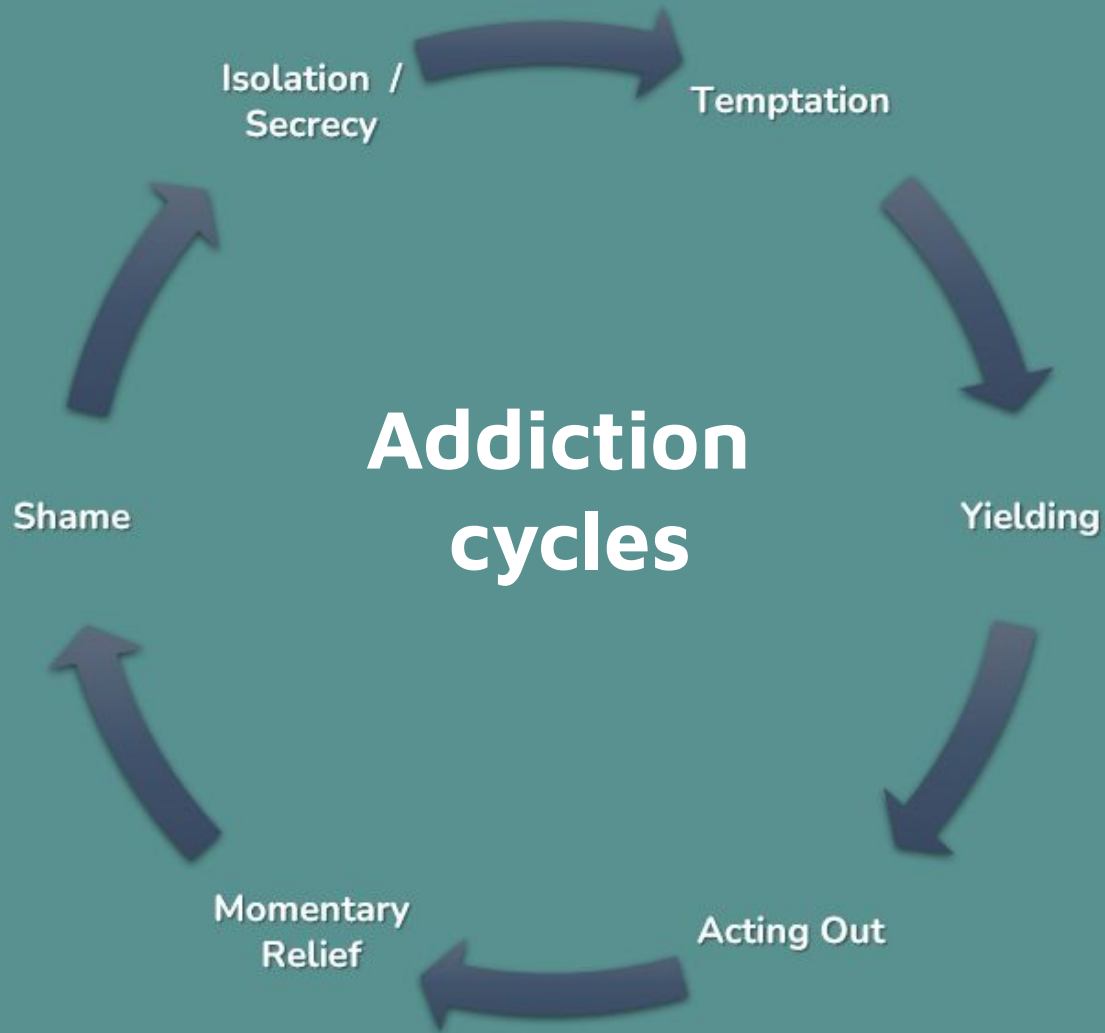
Signposts of Healthy & Harmful Behavior



What is your focus?



allen watkin, DDR museum,
Berlin, 2011



The ugliness and myths of pornography




What are we talking about?

- Printed or visual material
- Containing the explicit description or display of sexual organs or activity
- Intended to stimulate, embarrass or control

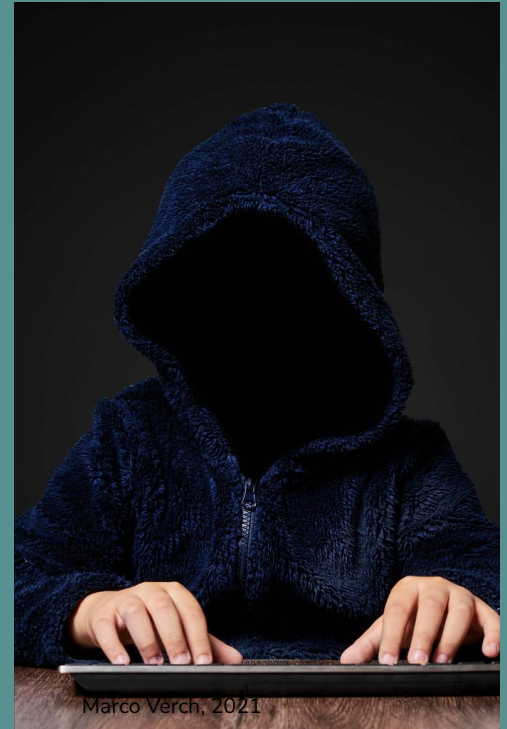


Pornography is ugly

- Distorts reality
 - Rewires your brain
 - Drains the joy out of life
 - Steals confidence
 - Robs your future self
 - Invades your life
 - Corrupts your imagination
 - Porn is often addictive
 - Destroys understanding of true intimacy
 - Lessens commitment, satisfaction, and fidelity
 - Normalizes violence
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It's so easy

- Internet is everywhere
- Some websites are free
- Seems anonymous
- Less supervision
- Dehumanizing



Marco Verch, 2021



Pornography myths

- It's private, no one gets hurt.
- It's not cheating on anyone.
- Sex is everywhere and isn't that important.
- Everyone watches it, it's normal.
- If I don't know what to do, I'll be rejected.



More Myths...


- If I don't watch this, I'll be laughed at.
- I'm not as bad as ____, because at least I don't ____.
- It isn't really lusting.
- It will help you know how to have sex later.
- It doesn't affect families (mine or anyone else's) or marriages.
- It's free.

**Anything good
to say?**





Biblical Sexuality

- Sex is God's idea
 - Commitment \Leftrightarrow Pleasure
 - Connection \Leftrightarrow Communication
 - Sex is important, but minor
 - Relationships are for giving, not taking
 - We are Mirrors and Signs
- 


Doesn't God delight in me no matter what I do?

God is a refiner!





Is a healthy lifestyle worth it?

- Reality is better
 - Better regulation
 - Confidence in your faith
 - Heavenly rewards
 - Trust is relational currency
 - Free mind
 - No competition
 - More energy (possibly)
 - Kinder, gentler friendships
 - Synergy can create virtue
 - Deep connections take time
- 



For those who haven't been exposed

Stay healthy!

Be aware!

If you fall, don't stay silent.

Be an upstanding brother or sister.



If porn found you

The internet is PG-13

Accidents happen

Keep “safe search” on!!!

Don't give in

Live loved

For those who have been abused

Any exposure was wrong.

These are secrets you should not keep.

God knows abuse too.

Forgiveness is needed, but that does not mean you trust foolishly.

God is a God of salvation, healing, and redemption.



Kintsugi photograph by Haragayato, 2016

Healing Cycles



For those who are struggling

If you want the pearl,
leave the inland desert,
and wander by the sea.

Even if you don't find it,
at least you've been
near the water.

Be a warrior! Desire something
powerfully! Saddle your horse
and get ready for the quest.

Don't accept a crown
made of this visible sky.

Wait for what Gabriel brings.

Be energetic in the work
that takes you to God!



Sanai
(1080-1136)

Anchored for Flight
Maari Christante

Find the root

Pornography is a symptom

Look for drivers

Get prayer



Strategies for life



Remember the gospel

Jesus came to seek us

Jesus lived to show us

Jesus died to forgive us

Jesus rose to redeem us

The Spirit is available to empower us

We are set free to love God and love people





Tech can fight tech

Is it better to have your tech or a vibrant life?

Accountability software

Curate your content

Filters

Timers

Have a friend set the code

HALTS!

We are most weak when we are

Hungry

Angry

Lonely

Tired

Stressed

There are Godly strategies for each of these!



Resources

Fight The New Drug

CovenantEyes or EverAccountable

TakeltDown

Center for Christian Counseling

Crisis Text Line (Text HOME to 741741) or
chat online

xxxChurch.com

Christ Church Madison series on Sexuality



People you might talk to

Your parents

Your youth leaders or pastor

ALCS Staff & Faculty

Trusted family or adults



Follow up

Optional:

- Tell us how we could have addressed this topic better.
- Put your name down and request help.

Turn in paper to the front or your small group leader

Discussion Groups

For 4th period today, please go to the following rooms:

GIRLS

6th grade: Miss Bartel - Room 118
7th grade: Miss Haynie - Room 120
8th grade: Mrs. Johnson - Room 214
9th grade: Mrs. Lundgren - Room 212
10th grade: Mrs. Strubbe - Room 203
11th grade: Mrs. Gruchow - Room 126
12th grade: Mrs. Coplin - Room 213

BOYS

6th grade: Mr. Butler - Room 123
7th grade: Mr. Thies - Room 208
8th grade: Mr. Miller - Room 124
9th grade: Pastor Gilmore - Room 207
10th grade: Mr. White - Room 201
11th grade: Mr. Vaughn - Room 117
12th grade: Mr. Lehnherr - Room 202