

SEXUAL FORMATION AND THE WAY OF JESUS

MATTHEW 5 : 27-30

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

SEX IN WESTERN CULTURE

What Teenagers Are Learning From Online Porn

American adolescents watch much more pornography than their parents know — and it's shaping their ideas about pleasure, power and intimacy. Can they be taught to see it more critically?

By MAGGIE JONES FEB. 7, 2018

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For around two hours each week, for five weeks, the students — sophomores, juniors and seniors — take part in Porn Literacy, which aims to make them savvier, more critical consumers of porn by examining how gender, sexuality, aggression, consent, race, queer sex, relationships and body images are portrayed (or, in the case of consent, not portrayed) in porn.

—NY TIMES

THE SUCCESS OF THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION

The sexual revolution was “The destigmatization and demystification of nonmarital sex and the reduction of sexual relations in general to a kind of hygienic recreation in which anything goes so long as those involved are consenting adults.”

—MARY EBERSTADT

THE JESUS REVOLUTION AND THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION

SEXUAL SIN AND SPIRITUAL DEFORMATION

1 CORINTHIANS 6 : 12-20

“I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but I will not be mastered by anything. You say, “Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both.” The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.” But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit. Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

First, and contrary to conventional depiction, the sexual revolution has proved a disaster for many men and women; and second, its weight has fallen heaviest on the smallest and weakest shoulders in society—even as it has given extra strength to those already strongest and most predatory.

—MARY EBERSTADT

RESPONDING TO THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION

FEAR OF DESIRE

MORAL STANDARDS + WILLPOWER = HOLINESS

I know of no greater failure among Christians than in presenting a persuasive point of view on sexuality. Outside the church, people think of God as the great spoilsport of human sexuality, not its inventor. In a sex-saturated society, even true believers find it hard to accept that traditional Christian morality offers the fullest, most satisfying life. The Pope utters pronouncements, denominations issue position papers, and many Christians ignore them and follow the lead of the rest of society. Surveys reveal little difference between church attenders and nonattenders in the rates of premarital intercourse and cohabitation. Surveys also show that millions of people have left the church in disgust over its hypocrisy about sex, especially when priests and ministers fail to practice what they preach.

—PHILIP YANCEY

MORAL STANDARDS + WILLPOWER = FAILURE

FOLLOW YOUR DESIRE

**The term sex-positivity was coined by Wilhelm Reich.
“The sex-positive movement does not, in general, make moral or ethical distinctions between heterosexual or homosexual sex, or masturbation, regarding these choices as matters of personal preference.”**

Sexologist Carol Queen

**“it's a simple yet radical affirmation that we each grow our own passions on a different medium, that instead of having two or three or even half a dozen sexual orientations, we should be thinking in terms of millions.
"Sex-positive" respects each of our unique sexual profiles, even as we acknowledge that some of us have been damaged by a culture that tries to eradicate sexual difference and possibility.”**

DESIRE + CONSENT = FREEDOM



Opinion

What's Lust Got to Do With It?

Why would a woman go home with a man, decide she's not attracted to him but have sex with him anyway?



“Getting naked and having sex with strangers is hard. We portray it as fun and we pretend it’s fun. But people crave intimacy, which is not easy to create in a hookup. That’s why Britain just appointed a loneliness minister.”

—JOANNA COLES

U.K. Appoints a Minister for Loneliness

By CEYLAN YEGINSU JAN. 17, 2018



Tracey Crouch, left, Britain's under secretary for sport and civil society, is to coordinate the government's response to loneliness. Stephen Pond/Getty Images for Sport England

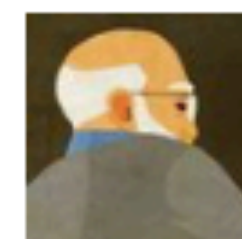
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The same bleak view of sexuality is inculcated in even young children. A video put out by Children's Television Workshop, widely used in sex education classes, defines sexual relations as simply "*something done by two adults to give each other pleasure.*" No mention of marriage or family—or even love or commitment. No hint that sex has a richer purpose than sheer sensual gratification.

—**NANCY PEARCEY**

DESIRE + CONSENT = DISILLUSIONMENT

JESUS, DISCIPLESHIP AND SEXUAL FORMATION

1 THESSALONIANS 4 : 3-8

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

**LEARNING CONTROL,
SUBMITTING TO THE SPIRIT**

HOW?

A VISION OF CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY

CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY

CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY

1. THE STORY WE LONG FOR

The very word sex comes from a Latin verb that means to cut off or sever, and sexual impulses drive us to unite, to restore somehow the union that has been severed. Freud diagnosed the deep pain within as a longing for union with a parent; Jung diagnosed a longing for union with the opposite sex. The Christian sees a deeper longing, for union with the God who created us.

—RUMORS OF ANOTHER WORLD

Sexual intimacy is a sacred pointer to something even greater, something truly out of this world. In one sense, we are never more Godlike than in the act of sex. We make ourselves vulnerable. We risk. We give and receive in a simultaneous act. We feel a primordial delight, entering into the other in communion. Quite literally we make one flesh out of two different persons, experiencing for a brief time a unity like no other. Two independent beings open their inmost selves and experience not a loss but a gain. In some way — “a profound mystery” not even Paul dared explore — this most human act reveals something of the nature of reality, God’s reality, in his relations with creation and perhaps within the Trinity itself.

—RUMORS OF ANOTHER WORLD

CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY

1. A REMINDER OF THE TRUE STORY

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2. A HOLISTIC INTEGRATION

CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY

1. A REMINDER OF THE TRUE STORY

2. A HOLISTIC INTEGRATION

3. TIED TO OUR TRANSFORMATION

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1. A REMINDER OF THE TRUE STORY

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3. TIED TO OUR TRANSFORMATION

4. A WITNESS TO THE WORLD

SEXUAL FORMATION AND THE STRUGGLE WE FACE

PORN

“The more society loses touch with reality, especially in relationships, the more people do not know how it is supposed to be, how to react with other people, the more they turn to porn. They look at this fantasy and believe it should be their reality. They retreat further and further into their illusion because porn can never be real. It does not work in real life. Porn is a sickness.”

—JAN MEZA

“The largest users of Internet porn are between the ages of twelve and seventeen. And porn producers increasingly target adolescents... Porn targets the mid-teens to the mid-twenties.”

—CHRIS HEDGES

PORN IMPACTS

PORN IMPACTS

1. OURSELVES

PORN IMPACTS

1. OURSELVES

2. OUR RELATIONSHIPS

PORN IMPACTS

1. OURSELVES

2. OUR RELATIONSHIPS

3. OUR CULTURE

“There is no dignity when the human dimension is eliminated from the person. In short, the problem with pornography is not that it shows too much of the person, but that it shows far too little.”

—POPE JOHN PAUL II

MASTURBATION

**ST AUGUSTINE AND SIN :
LOVE TURNED IN ON ITSELF.**

For me the real evil of masturbation would be that it takes an appetite which, in lawful use, leads the individual out of himself to complete (and correct) his own personality in that of another (and finally in children and even grandchildren) and turns it back: sending the man back into the prison of himself, there to keep a harem of imaginary brides. And this harem, once admitted, works against his ever getting out and really uniting with a real woman. For the harem is always accessible, always subservient, calls for no sacrifice or adjustments, and can be endowed with erotic and psychological attractions which no real woman can rival. Among these shadowy brides he is always adored, always the perfect lover: no demand is made on his unselfishness, no mortification is ever imposed on his vanity. In the end, they become merely the medium through which he increasingly adores himself....

—C.S. LEWIS

it is not only the faculty of love which is thus sterilized, forced back on itself, but also the faculty of imagination. The true exercise of imagination, in my view, is

- (a) To help us to understand other people
- (b) To respond to, and, some of us, to produce art.

But it has also a bad use: to provide for us, in shadowy form, a substitute for virtues, successes, distinctions, et cetera which ought to be sought outside in the real world — e.g., picturing all I'd do if I were rich instead of earning and saving. Masturbation involves this abuse of imagination in erotic matters (which I think bad in itself) and thereby encourages a similar abuse of it in all spheres. After all, almost the main work of life is to come out of our selves, out of the little, dark prison we are all born in. Masturbation is to be avoided as all things are to be avoided which retard this process. The danger is that of coming to love the prison.

—C.S. LEWIS, *YOURS JACK*

**THE HAREM WITHIN
ABUSING THE IMAGINATION
LOVING THE PRISON**

EPHESIANS 5 : 3

But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.

Abigail Haworth

@AbiHaworth

Sun 20 Oct 2013 04.00 EDT



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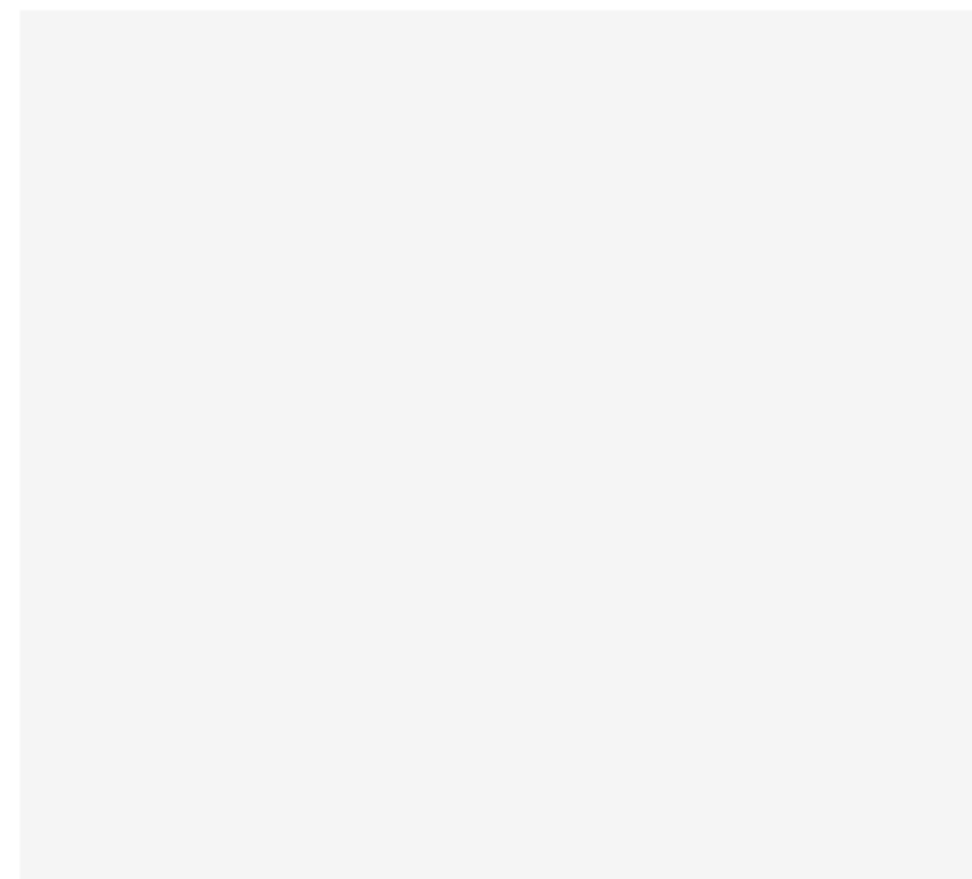
Why have young people in Japan stopped having sex?

What happens to a country when its young people stop having sex? Japan is finding out... Abigail Haworth investigates







▲ Arm's length: 45% of Japanese women aged 16-24 are 'not interested in or despise sexual contact'. More than a quarter of men feel the same way. Photograph: Eric Rechsteiner

Ai Aoyama is a sex and relationship counsellor who works out of her narrow three-storey home on a Tokyo back street. Her first name means "love" in Japanese, and is a keepsake from her earlier days



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“SEKKUSU SHINAI SHOKOGUN”

DATING

Dating apps are like Amazon Prime to deliver you hot people.

—MY FRIEND

Tinder and Hookup-Culture Promotion | Vanity Fair

Nancy Jo Sales •

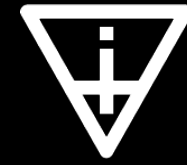


“There have been two major transitions” in heterosexual mating “in the last four million years,” he says. “The first was around 10,000 to 15,000 years ago, in the agricultural revolution, when we became less migratory and more settled,” leading to the establishment of marriage as a cultural contract. “And the second major transition is with the rise of the Internet.”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

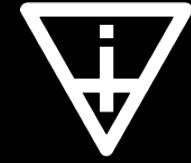
“Guys view everything as a competition,” he elaborates with his deep, reassuring voice. “Who’s slept with the best, hottest girls?” With these dating apps, he says, “you’re always sort of prowling. You could talk to two or three girls at a bar and pick the best one, or you can swipe a couple hundred people a day—the sample size is so much larger. It’s setting up two or three Tinder dates a week and, chances are, sleeping with all of them, so you could rack up 100 girls you’ve slept with in a year.”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE



“TINDERELLAS”





“TINDER KING”



“I sort of play that I could be a boyfriend kind of guy,” in order to win them over, “but then they start wanting me to care more ... and I just don’t.”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

‘Its like ordering Seamless, but your ordering a person”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

**“It’s rare for a woman of our generation to meet a man who
treats her like a priority instead of an option”**

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

“They start out with ‘Send me nudes,’ ” says Reese. “Or they say something like ‘I’m looking for something quick within the next 10 or 20 minutes—are you available?’ ‘O.K., you’re a mile away, tell me your location.’ It’s straight efficiency.”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

“If he texts you before midnight he actually likes you as a person. If it’s after midnight, it’s just for your body”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

“I hooked up with three girls, thanks to the Internet, off of
Tinder, in the course of four nights, and I spent a total of
\$80 on all three girls”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

Nick, with his lumbersexual beard and hipster clothes, as if plucked from the wardrobe closet of Girls, is, physically speaking, a modern male ideal. That he fulfills none of the requirements identified by evolutionary psychologists as what women supposedly look for in mates—he’s neither rich nor tall; he also lives with his mom—doesn’t seem to have any effect on his ability to get rampantly laid. In his iPhone, he has a list of more than 40 girls he has “had relations with, rated by [one to five] stars.... It empowers them,” he jokes. “It’s a mix of how good they are in bed and how attractive they are.”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

**“I had sex with a guy and he ignored me as I got dressed
and I saw he was back on Tinder”**

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

A few young women admitted to me that they use dating apps as a way to get free meals. “I call it Tinder food stamps”

—TINDER AND HOOKUP CULTURE

LONELINESS
SEXUAL DESIRE
PRIDE

REVERSING AND REDEFINING LOVE

THE 4 LOVES

1. EROS

2. STORGE

3. PHILIA

4. AGAPE

THE 4 LOVES

1. AGAPE

2. PHILIA

3. STORGE

4. EROS

**PREMARITAL SEX/
LIVING TOGETHER**

SUBPRIME RELATIONSHIPS

**If intimate relationships were mortgages,
we might call these sub-prime commitments.
They are high-risk projects with little or no collateral
security. Unfortunately, just like sub-prime mortgages,
these relationships are designed to fail.**

—JONATHAN GRANT

—Only 1 in 5 cohabiting relationships end in marriage.

—Cohabiting significantly increases the likelihood of divorce.

—Woman who cohabit multiple times before marrying divorce more than twice as frequently as those who live only with their future husband.

—Serial monogamy—that is, a string of consecutive sexual relationships—actually hinders eventual marital satisfaction, while sexual experience before marriage is a good indicator for an increased likelihood of infidelity within marriage.

—**DIVINE SEX**

When the Bible speaks of love, it measures it primarily not by how much you want to receive but by how much you are willing to give of yourself to someone. How much are you willing to lose for the sake of this person? How much of your freedom are you willing to forsake? How much of your precious time, emotion, and resources are you willing to invest in this person? And for that, the marriage vow is not just helpful but it is even a test. In so many cases, when one person says to another, “I love you, but let’s not ruin it by getting married,” that person really means, “I don’t love you enough to close off all my options. I don’t love you enough to give myself to you that thoroughly.” To say, “I don’t need a piece of paper to love you” is basically to say, “My love for you has not reached the marriage level.”

—TIM KELLER

COMMITTING SEXUAL FRAUD

SEXUAL FORMATION

VISION + POWER + PRACTICES = RESTORATION

ROMANS 7 : 6

**We serve in the new way of the Spirit,
not in the old way of the written code.**

INDIVIDUAL FORMATION

COMMUNAL FORMATION

1 THESSALONIANS 4 : 3-8

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; **and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before.** For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

REJECTING SEXUAL FRAUD

**COMMUNITIES OF
DISCIPLINE AND DELIGHT**

Neurobiologists have shown that while most brain development stops sometime in childhood, the brain's "joy center"—located and observable in the right orbital prefrontal cortex—is the only part of the brain that never loses its capacity to grow.

As Dr. James Friesen and his colleagues explain: When the joy center has been sufficiently developed, it regulates emotions, pain control and immunity centers; it guides us to act like ourselves; it releases neurotransmitters like dopamine and serotonin; and it is the only part of the brain that overrides the main drive centers—food and sexual impulses, terror and rage. Without sufficient "joy strength" we spend the rest of our lives trying to fill the deficit.

—JONATHAN GRANT

THE COMPASSION OF JESUS

THE COMPASSION OF JESUS FOR THE STRUGGLE

THE COMPASSION OF JESUS
FOR THE STRUGGLE
FOR RESTORATION



KINTSUGI







**A PURE AND SPOTLESS BRIDE
WITHOUT BLEMISH**

**“We all have to choose between two ways of being crazy,
the foolishness of the Gospel and the non-sense of the
values of our world.”**

—JEAN VENIER

SEXUAL FORMATION AND THE WAY OF JESUS