



October 25-31, 2020

White Ribbon Against Pornography (WRAP) Week is intended to educate the public about the extent of our society's pornography problem. WRAP also creates a unique opportunity to raise the issue of pornography within faith communities.

***This article is part of the statement "Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography," the bishops of the United States give a word of hope and healing to those who have been harmed by pornography and raise awareness of its pervasiveness and harms. Additional resources, including the full statement text, can be found at [www.usccb.org/cleanheart](http://www.usccb.org/cleanheart).***

## The Beauty and Vocation of the Human Person

From the beginning of creation, God's beautiful plan for human love was inscribed on the human heart and in the human body. All men and women are created in the image of God and called to love. Jesus fully reveals our identity and vocation and shows us the way of love as a gift of self. The human body speaks a language of gift and communion and has great dignity. It should be treated with the greatest respect. As persons, we are meant to be loved and not used.

All of us are called to chastity. In marriage, chastity takes the form of faithful and fruitful love and includes the sexual expression of that love. While sin damages our relationship with God, our own selves, and others, it does not have the last word. Jesus redeemed us and makes it possible for us to live a life of freedom in the Holy Spirit.

## Why Is Pornography Wrong?

Sexual love is a gift meant for marriage alone. All pornography is immoral and harmful, and can never be justified, including within marriage. Using and/or producing pornography is a sin against chastity and against human dignity.

*Catechism of the Catholic Church CCC2354*

The sin of pornography needs the Lord's forgiveness and should be confessed in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Its use is also often linked with other sins including adultery and the crime of human trafficking. Pornography objectifies people and brings hurt and pain. It is an illusory substitute for real relationships and intimacy, which in the end bring true joy.

## Mercy and Healing in Christ and Through the Church

The Church is called to be a "field hospital" for the wounded of the world. No wound is out of the reach of Christ's redeeming grace. Christ is our hope! The Church proclaims the truth about love, sexuality, and the dignity of each person, and she seeks to provide the Lord's mercy and healing for those harmed by pornography.

## You Are Not Alone

Many good people struggle with the sin of pornography and are striving to cultivate chastity. You are not alone. Jesus is with you, and the Church offers you love and support. Trust in the Lord's mercy and his power to free and heal you. If you or someone you love is struggling with a pornography addiction, resources to help can be found at:

[www.usccb.org/cleanheart](http://www.usccb.org/cleanheart)  
[endsexualexploitation.org/resources](http://endsexualexploitation.org/resources)  
<https://www.foryourmarriage.org/>  
<https://chastity.com/>

“When you decide firmly to lead a clean life, chastity will not be a burden on you: it will be a crown of triumph.”

– St. Josemaria Escriva

“Purity prepares the soul for love, and love confirms the soul in purity.”

– John Henry Cardinal Newman

“To be pure, to remain pure, can only come at a price, the price of knowing God and loving him enough to do his will. He will always give us the strength we need to keep purity as something as beautiful for him.”

– Mother Teresa

“[God] has assigned as a duty to every man the dignity of every woman.”

– Pope John Paul II

## Prayer

### Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, God,  
in accord with your merciful love.

In your abundant compassion,  
blot out my transgressions.

Thoroughly wash away my guilt;  
and from my sin cleanse me.

For I know my transgressions;  
my sin is always before me.

Against you, you alone have I sinned.  
I have done what is evil in your eyes.

You desire true sincerity,  
and secretly you teach me wisdom.

Cleanse me that I may be pure.  
Wash me, and I will be whiter than  
snow.

You will let me hear gladness and joy;  
the bones you have crushed will rejoice.

A clean heart create for me, God;  
renew within me a steadfast spirit.

*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pray for Us!*

## Statistics

From the American Sociological Association  
in August of 2016:

- Married people who start watching porn are twice as likely to get divorced as those who don't
- MULTIPLE STUDIES SHOW: 40 million Americans say they regularly visit porn sites
- 70% of men aged 18 to 24 visit a porn site at least once per month
- 1/3 of internet porn users are women

*Morality in Media was established in 1962 to combat pornography. In 2015, the name was changed to National Center on Sexual Exploitation. They founded the White Ribbons Against Pornography Campaign, which takes place each year at the end of October to coincide with Respect Life Month.*



This brochure sponsored by  
the Catholic Daughters,  
Court Margaret Mary.  
New members welcome.  
[www.mitchellcda.com](http://www.mitchellcda.com)

WRAP is one of the Catholic Daughters nationally supported programs. Each year our court financially supports the National Center on Sexual Exploitation in addition to participating in the WRAP campaign to spread awareness.