



PROVERBS



Wisdom for Living As Disciples

WISDOM FOR SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS

RESEARCH OVERVIEW

– More than 2 in 3 people watch pornography regularly.



93% of Men



58% of Women

RESEARCH OVERVIEW

- **44% of children between the ages of 9-16 experience regular exposure to sexual images.**
- **Pornography associated with unsafe sexual health practices and may strengthen attitudes supportive of sexual violence.**
- **Pornography exists within a broader sociocultural context.**
- **48,700 divorces were granted in 2023**
- **Around 1 in 5 Five Australian children experience parental separation before the age of 18.**

(Quadara, A., El-Murr, A., & Latham, J. (2017). The effects of pornography on children and young people: An evidence scan. Melbourne, Australian Institute of Family Studies. Available at <aifs.gov.au/publications/effects-pornography-children-and-young-people>.)

(Australian Bureau of Statistics. 2023. Marriages and Divorces, Australia. <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/people-and-communities/marriages-and-divorces-australia/latest-release#divorces>.)

(Kim Halford. 2018. How will my divorce affect my kids?. University of Queensland.)

OBSERVATIONS

- Society advocates that the purpose of sex and relationships is pleasure and self-glorification.**
- An increasing breakdown of loving relationship.**
- Very real danger that knowledge, belief and understand of sex and relationships will be influenced more by pornography than by God.**

Proverbs 5:1-14

1 My son, be attentive to my wisdom;

incline your ear to my understanding,

2 that you may keep discretion,

and your lips may guard knowledge.

3 For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey,

and her speech is smoother than oil,

4 but in the end she is bitter as wormwood,

sharp as a two-edged sword.

Proverbs 5:1-14

5 Her feet go down to death;

her steps follow the path to Sheol;

6 she does not ponder the path of life;

her ways wander, and she does not know it.

7 And now, O sons, listen to me,

and do not depart from the words of my mouth.

8 Keep your way far from her,

and do not go near the door of her house,

9 lest you give your honor to others

and your years to the merciless,

Proverbs 5:1-14

10 lest strangers take their fill of your strength,
and your labors go to the house of a foreigner,

11 and at the end of your life you groan,
when your flesh and body are consumed,

12 and you say, "How I hated discipline,
and my heart despised reproof!

13 I did not listen to the voice of my teachers
or incline my ear to my instructors.

14 I am at the brink of utter ruin
in the assembled congregation."

Proverbs 5:20-23

**20 Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a forbidden woman
and embrace the bosom of an adulteress?**

**21 For a man's ways are before the eyes of the Lord,
and he ponders all his paths.**

**22 The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him,
and he is held fast in the cords of his sin.**

**23 He dies for lack of discipline,
and because of his great folly he is led astray.**

Proverbs 6:25-35

- 25 Do not desire her beauty in your heart,
and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes;**
- 26 for the price of a prostitute is only a loaf of bread,
but a married woman hunts down a precious life.**
- 27 Can a man carry fire next to his chest
and his clothes not be burned?**
- 28 Or can one walk on hot coals
and his feet not be scorched?**
- 29 So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife;
none who touches her will go unpunished.**
- 30 People do not despise a thief if he steals
to satisfy his appetite when he is hungry,**

Proverbs 6:25-35

31 but if he is caught, he will pay sevenfold;

he will give all the goods of his house.

32 He who commits adultery lacks sense;

he who does it destroys himself.

33 He will get wounds and dishonor,

and his disgrace will not be wiped away.

34 For jealousy makes a man furious,

and he will not spare when he takes revenge.

35 He will accept no compensation;

he will refuse though you multiply gifts.

Proverbs 6:32-33

**32 He who commits adultery lacks sense;
he who does it destroys himself.**

**33 He will get wounds and dishonor,
and his disgrace will not be wiped away.**

Proverbs 7:21-27

**21 With much seductive speech she persuades him;
with her smooth talk she compels him.**

**22 All at once he follows her,
as an ox goes to the slaughter,
or as a stag is caught fast**

**23 till an arrow pierces its liver;
as a bird rushes into a snare;
he does not know that it will cost him his life.**

Proverbs 7:21-27

**24 And now, O sons, listen to me,
and be attentive to the words of my mouth.**

**25 Let not your heart turn aside to her ways;
do not stray into her paths,**

**26 for many a victim has she laid low,
and all her slain are a mighty throng.**

**27 Her house is the way to Sheol,
going down to the chambers of death.**

BIBLICAL VIEW

Purpose of sex and relationships is to glorify God.

This is achieved through:

- Intimacy**
- Offspring**
- Gratitude**

1 Corinthians 7:2–5

2 But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. 3 The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. 4 For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. 5 Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

Genesis 1:28

28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Ephesians 5:22–27

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

25 Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

OUR CHOICE

**THE FEAR OF THE LORD
(WISDOM)**

**Glorify God through
intimacy, offspring and
gratitude.**

**THE FOOLISHNESS OF SIN
(FOLLY)**

**Seek pleasure and self-
glorification.**



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