

ADA's 25th anniversary dinner a resounding success AFA extends match grant challenge to help commemorate

On Friday, July 30 more than two hundred supporters, friends, and family gathered with the staff and board of American Decency Association to celebrate 25 years of ministry service.

Bill Johnson, President of ADA, gave a welcoming word. Pastor Chris Starr, Bill's son-in-law, opened with a word of prayer. A delicious dinner was served followed by ministry in song ("Guard Your Heart") by Buddy Smith, Vice-President of American Family Association. The prelude to the song was sung by four of Bill and Jan's grandchildren ("Be Careful Little Eyes What You See").

Pam Stenzel gave a challenging and well-received message that held the rapt attention of everyone. Pam was true to form - engaging her listeners!

Pam spoke about the burdens of her heart: (1) for parents to step up and be parents - loving your kids but not being afraid to discipline them and enforce boundaries, (2) that wrong choices (no matter the age) lead to negative consequences, (3) that standing and living for what is of God will endure and will build up, but going against God's standards ultimately damages and destroys.

Pam's message blessed many and is being discussed even days after.

Next on the evening's agenda was a 60 minute video presentation of ADA/AFA of MI ministry activities. The video began with the powerful Casting Crown song: "Slow Fade." The song played in the background to pictures of battles that our ministry has fought over these 25 years - Abercrombie & Fitch, magazines at checkout counters, porn shops we have picketed, Victoria's Secret, and many other battlefronts.



Pam Stenzel addressing an audience in Fremont on Friday, July 30 as supporters & friends of ADA gathered

"Slow Fade" is an apt song title, for that incremental degradation within individual lives and our culture is what we warn of and stand against. Allowing sexual imagery, perversion, to take root in our lives and society leads to downfall, and that is what we attempted to show in this segment of our video presentation.

Here is a portion of the lyrics:

*Be careful little eyes what you see
It's the second glance that ties your hands
as darkness pulls the strings
Be careful little feet where you go
For it's the little feet behind you that are
sure to follow*

*It's a slow fade when you give yourself
away
It's a slow fade when black and white have
turned to gray
Thoughts invade, choices are made, a price
will be paid*

*When you give yourself away
People never crumble in a day
It's a slow fade, it's a slow fade*

"Slow Fade" by Casting Crowns

Other portions of the video included interview clips from a former State Representative/U.S. Congressman, former Chief of Police, local activists and friends and leaders of other ministries.

The video also presented numbers of television interviews that Bill has done including local news interviews in West Michigan as well as interviews with Buchanan and Press, MSNBC; Scarborough Country, MSNBC, CNN Newsstand and others on a wide variety of subjects that our ministry has engaged in over the past 25 years.

The video concludes with a section that includes pictures of friends and volunteers showing their loving involvement at mailings, pickets, ministry activity. The pictures are accompanied by a moving song that was the theme of the evening "Lord, You've Been Faithful."

If you would like a copy of this commemorative DVD, contact our office at 888-733-2326 or order your copy of the DVD by filling in the enclosed response card.





**From the desk of
Bill Johnson,
president**



**“We give thanks for
25 years of ministry.”**

I haven't had so much fun in a long time. I mean that sincerely! I'm referring to ADA's recent 25th anniversary that we celebrated July 30.

Here were two ladies from the Ann Arbor area - two of the first ones to arrive - coming in to find a seat. When they told me their names, I remembered immediately who they were. They are faithful supporters of this ministry and have been from the 1980s. They fought against pornography in their area when we met back then. With smiles of joy on their faces, they said they continued to give all these years because they knew that God wanted them to!

What a joy that brought to my heart! They came, they said, because they knew that it was very important to me. I wept privately more than once during this amazing night.

One of my former pastors was there. He was a man that was here at the very beginning stages of this ministry. He was one of our first board members and spoke up at key times even working to get pastors involved on the local ministerial association.

There was a friend whom I once taught with and her husband (both dear friends) who brought their high school-aged son - a very good hockey player. I told him that I hoped to come see him play hockey this coming year. His Mom said "I'm not sure he'll be playing next year. He's fed up with locker room stuff." I said "Wow! Good for you that you are outraged by filth." The jury is out on what he ultimately will do, but good for him for having moral sensibilities. Congratulations mom and dad!



AFA's Buddy Smith with Bill Johnson and Steve Ensley, President of AFO

And then, this, dear friend!

I received an email from Buddy Smith, Vice-President of American Family Association stating the following: Tim (Wildmon) asked me to bring you/ADA a check Thursday for \$5,000.00 and we decided to let you know in case you wanted to use it for a matching funds appeal.

We were overwhelmed by this act of amazing grace and generosity. With gratitude and thanks to AFA, we decided to use their gift as a match challenge. Here are the details of this challenge:

1. A match grant challenge extended by American Family Association for \$5,000.

AFA will match any gift given to mark this special 25th anniversary of the American Decency Association up to \$5,000.

2. The funds must be received between July 30 and August 30.

In closing, one of the highlights for me was that I heard several comments: "What a memorable evening. I had no idea the breadth of involvement and impact that this ministry has had over these many years. The video really needs to be shared with your many supporters who weren't able to be with you on this special event."

Help us accomplish that. Either call our office at 888-733-2326 or fill in the enclosed response card indicating your interest in receiving our 25th anniversary dvd.

Lastly, the highlight for me was the encouraging crowd of people who traveled from near and far because "they felt led to be here." Thank you for coming.

Bill



I detest pornography - as it hits again

by Bill Johnson



Recently my wife Jan and I went out for a little date. We drove through the countryside to the town of Whitehall where we had dinner.

As we wound our way back home through a beautifully forested area (the home for a number of summer camps), we were near a large Boy Scout Camp.

I reminisced as we traveled by. I was both a Cub Scout and later a Boy Scout. With my Dad, who was an assistant Scout Master, I did a lot of camping in those wonderful days. I also attended the National Jamboree in Colorado Springs and was a Life Scout (one level short of an Eagle Scout) and was a member of the Order of the Arrow as was Dad. Great memories. Wonderful influences.

Then the next morning I read this tragic headline from the Grand Rapids Press.

Court documents reveal details on why Twin Lake Boy Scout camp director was charged with possessing, distributing child pornography

BLUE LAKE TOWNSHIP — *Hours before FBI agents descended on the Gerber Boy Scout Camp with a search warrant this month, someone was trying unsuccessfully to delete pornographic files from Camp Director Scott Allan Herrick's computer, including images of men performing sex acts on young boys, according to court documents.*

Herrick, 39, appeared in federal court Thursday on charges of receiving, distributing and possessing child

pornography. If convicted, he could face up to 25 years in prison.

Investigators allege Herrick was sharing hundreds of videos and images online with file names indicative of child pornography. Some of the images being used as evidence include sex acts being performed on prepubescent boys, and "a child in a Boy Scout uniform with his genitals exposed," according to an arrest warrant affidavit submitted by an FBI agent. ...

http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2010/07/court_documents_reveal_details.html

Along the way in the ministry of ADA so many personal accounts have been shared with me regarding the devastating impact of pornography. It was, and remains, ever the silent victimizer with many phony defenders claiming "Pornography is victimless" and "What is pornography to you may be art to another."

Years ago by the grace of God, I was saved from the darkness of pornography and pointed effectively to victory over this filthy bondage. Many others have won the victory. It is very much possible!

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We live in a day where so many are silent regarding the damaging/destructive impact of pornography. Human nature is such that if you don't hear anything about it you think that it isn't doing any harm.

Where are all the Christians? Men of God? Women of God? Christians?

Through our collective silence we have lost an awful lot of ground - at the checkout counters, department stores, airwaves, cell phones, Internet, etc., etc., etc..

Pornography victimless? It seems like it --- due to the chicken-hearted silence.

By God's grace, many of us can do better in being salt and light in this challenging age.

If you or someone you know is caught in the web of pornography, there is help available! Two sources we recommend are the following:



Pure Life Ministries
14 School Street
Dry Ridge KY 41035
Phone: 859-824-4444
Toll free: 888-PURELIFE



Faithful and True Ministries, Inc.
Dr. Mark Laaser
15798 Venture Lane
Eden Prairie MN 55344

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U.S. Wrong to Strike FCC Indecency Policy

by Bill Johnson



I was asked on an MSNBC news show interview shortly after the Janet Jackson Super Bowl “wardrobe malfunction” whether I thought the FCC should involve itself more aggressively in enforcing the FCC standards for indecency.

My concern then is the same as now. In our local communities the police prevent our societies from becoming lawless. Without their intervention, basic patterns of human civility would be tossed out the window.

The FCC is given the responsibility of enforcing established standards to safeguard time-honored standards of decency within society. Many of us have watched with great concern the degrading of American airwaves since the 1960s.

If only that degradation was merely a pet peeve of some and nothing more. However, it is tragic and concerning to see the filth, profanity, and violence that is piped over our airwaves.

We are losing America (if we haven't already) in part because we have allowed reprobates to win control of our airwaves. These “entertainment moguls” have learned to manipulate the legal system so as to open the airwaves to sexual immorality, pornography and indecency – desensitizing our eyes, ears and moral conscience with little to no concern for the children, families and morality of this country.

I say all of this to report the following via Pat Trueman, former head of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Enforcement Section at the Justice Department. His press release (below) reports yet another attack upon standards of decency. If this ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the

2nd Circuit (known for its liberal decisions) is ultimately upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court even the “F word” could become commonplace over the public airwaves.

Press Release:

U.S. Court Wrong to Strike FCC Indecency Policy

Contact Patrick A. Trueman
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703-938-1776

For Immediate Release

Washington, DC (July 13, 2010) = “A ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals for 2nd Circuit today declaring unconstitutional the Federal Communications Commission’s indecency policy seems foolish on its face,” said Patrick A. Trueman, former chief of the U.S. Department of Justice Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section in Washington, D.C. “How is the American public to understand that federal judges don’t know that use of the “F-word” is indecent during prime-time television?” This ruling only increases the public’s belief that government is out of touch with the public and out of step with the U.S. Constitution, Trueman added.

The court found that FCC policy was, “unconstitutionally vague” and creates a “chilling effect” on broadcasters. Trueman said, “There is nothing vague about federal indecency law which has been in effect for decades and has always been thought to prohibit the “F-word on primetime television. Trueman predicted that there will be no chilling effect on broadcasters if the U.S. Supreme Court upholds this bad ruling. “Broadcasters will have a green light to pump indecent language and perhaps much more into the homes of families at will.”

“Rock singer Bono has no more right to shout, “f***ing brilliant” in the homes of unsuspecting American families than we would have in his,” Trueman said. “He made himself an uninvited guest of those families that believed honorees at the Grammys would respect the norms of civilized discourse on broadcast television.

Similarly, the indecent comments of singer/actress Cher and actress Nicole Richie are out of place in the homes of those families who thought that network television represented a safe haven for family viewing.

Trueman represented the Family Research Council and Focus on the Family in filing a “friend of the court” brief in this case; *Fox Television Stations v. Federal Communications Commission*. He is currently heading up the War on Illegal Pornography, a national coalition effort to get federal laws against illegal adult pornography enforced. His websites include <http://pornharms.com> and <http://www.youtube.com/user/PornHarms>.

The opinion in Fox Television Stations v. Federal Communications Commission may be found here: <http://voices.washingtonpost.com/posttech/indecency.pdf>

[MIM President Robert Peters had the following comments:](#)

Part of me sympathizes with the broadcast TV networks. The FCC’s broadcast indecency enforcement “policy” is a mess because of federal court decisions, because enforcement policies change with changes in presidential administrations, and because the FCC Commissioners and FCC Enforcement Bureau don’t always see eye-to-eye when it comes to broadcast indecency.

I also think that both the public and broadcasters would benefit if the FCC did its homework (with input from the public and industry) and crafted a more coherent policy.

The truth of the matter is, of course, that a “more coherent policy” shouldn’t be needed. In particular, when it comes to the well-being of children, broadcasters should know what is and isn’t appropriate and act accordingly. If they don’t know, they shouldn’t be broadcasters. ...

[Taken from a Morality in Media Press Release, June 15, 2010]

Boycott Abercrombie & Fitch

by Lisa Van Houten



A&F's return to publishing its pornographic Quarterly is a return to an arrogant, intentional push to promote and encourage a destructive lifestyle of sexual promiscuity and deviant behavior with no regard for the thousands of expressions of outrage and concern they've received over the years and no regard for the damage done to the young people from whom they profit.

Not only is A&F back to its old ways, they have "upped the ante" – with images that are even more graphic and explicit, more pornographic than in any of the previous editions.

This is how we described the 2003 A&F Summer Quarterly: *"As has become common for A&F, the quarterly features dozens of nude photos of college-age youth – assaulting the senses with full nudity, partial nudity, frontal nudity, rear nudity. The "catalog" contains over 30 images of complete nudity – both female and male – often in sexually explicit poses, in pairs and as well as group settings."*

Now seven years later this new Quarterly has gotten away from the pretext that it has anything to do with clothing – the publication is nothing but pornographic pictures from the beginning to end. There are over 60 images of full nudity – both male and female. Interestingly, two-thirds are pictures of male nudity, presumably targeting the market of homosexual men.

The Quarterly also features many homoerotic photos of young men in sexualized poses with other men. It also includes girls with girls - embracing and kissing.

Another very disturbing theme of the Quarterly is of the dozen images that not only suggest or imply group sex, but overtly promote such perversity. Numbers

of images of one male and multiple females are erotically posed together.

Then there are the photos of a topless female engaged with a police officer in a squad car, a male with a video camera pointed up the skirt of a female, and a girl in a demeaning sexual position.

And while each photo is singularly offensive and damaging, the messages sent by the Quarterly as a whole is what is even more troubling.

Our youth are being targeted. Parents are being undermined. A&F knows that many adults are not in favor of Abercrombie & Fitch and avoid it. A&F also knows that many kids don't avoid it. Do you want your young person to frequent stores that deal in pornography? I know you don't nor do I!

Abercrombie & Fitch is not doing well financially says a former employee. His view and that of some other young people is that A&F's effort to sexualize its product again with the return of the catalog is a move of desperation.

Youth have largely turned their back on A&F. A&F isn't cool. The clothing isn't cool. Many youth aren't interested in wearing its brand name, though Abercrombie & Fitch hard-headedly still wants to think so.

I went through A&F's newly released catalog for myself.

Here are my impressions as I went through the catalog page by page. (178 pages).

Shots of a so-called A&F studio with photos of young people presumably auditioning for the A&F Quarterly reveal a smiling security guard at the gate with totally nude male and female posing in front of the A&F camera.

Other photos include:

- * A close up shot of this couple – fully nude
- * Fully nude male
- * Male on male shots

- * Fully nude shots of females with genitalia covered, but with full breast shots
- * Fully nude couple making out
- * A male sandwiched between two female lovers nude – several pages of this
- * Three females posed together
- * Two females posed together – intimate with kissing and touching
- * Lots of male nudity

Why would anyone with a semblance of morality want to give a dime to Abercrombie & Fitch?

Why financially empower a morally bankrupt company which undermines time-honored standards of moral civility, placing

What you can do –

1. Do not shop at Abercrombie and Fitch, or its subsidiary stores, "abercrombie kids" and "Hollister."
2. Return any merchandise you have purchased from them.
3. Let the mall where you shop know that you are disappointed in their tolerance of such immorality in a family marketplace.
4. Tell others about the immoral practices of A&F and encourage them to avoid supporting this evil corporation.
5. Ask your church or school to take a public stance against Abercrombie.
6. Call ADA at 888-733-2326 for a copy of our A&F petition and circulate it at church and among your family and friends.



Match Grant Challenge offered for \$15,000

Meeting this challenge is key for ADA in these difficult days

On July 9, we received the following email

I know your ministry continues to struggle as many are. We would like to try to help again. We will match any new or increased gifts given from 8/1/10 through 12/31/10 up to a total of \$15,000.

A new gift is any amount given by someone who has not given in 2009 or 2010. An increased gift is any amount given by an individual that exceeds the amount the person gave in 2009 (you would add all 2010 gifts from an individual and all 2009 gifts from that person and we would match the excess amount of 2010).

Please let me know if you any questions.

May God richly bless you and your family and your ministry.

A personal note responding to this gracious and generous match grant offer

We want you to know we are committed to the long haul in this ministry. Our 25th ministry anniversary made it clear that we are prayed for, loved and supported!

Nonetheless, no ministry can have a vital impact without continued growth and development. No ministry can grow in its impact without the addition of new members and people with new invigoration to get involved, support and to sacrifice.

There are numbers of people receiving this newsletter who care deeply about this ministry and the concerns that we focus upon, yet who remain on the sidelines in terms of their financial support of this ministry.

In order to press on, we have to be able to provide for our staff. Without substantial strengthening, we will not be able to accomplish this area of need.

There are numbers of you that have given faithfully and generously since even the late 1980s. It was a great joy to see a number of these precious friends at our July 30th dinner. We have relied upon them for a long, long time. Words can never adequately express our deep gratitude and love for you.

By God's grace, we do need their continued help. Make no mistake about that. However, we now need more than ever before a solid core of others to prayerfully stand with us as faithful supporters to help empower us to move onward and upward as we do our best to engage this wicked culture with the calling God has given us.

Are you a person or family that reads this newsletter regularly and sincerely? Are you a person that cares deeply about God's call "to pursue holiness without which no man shall see the Lord?" Have you sometimes thought "I appreciate American Decency and I need to do more financially for them?" This match challenge is meant for persons like you. May God touch numbers of you to join hands with us financially in faithful and significant ways. Thanks!