

Pornography: A societal plague - the silent victimizer



Years ago I was told by my friends at AFA that it is difficult to raise support in a ministry that fights against pornography and indecency.

Nonetheless, it is this concern that has brought me into the battle and it is this concern that I address as we complete another year.

Very recently I received three phone calls from women who found us on the Internet. None are financial contributors nor do they receive our newsletter or email alerts.

The plague of pornography is ubiquitous, reaching into hearts and homes everywhere.

I'm sharing a couple of accounts because I know that even among those of you receiving this newsletter, there are loved ones going through similar situations or it may be you being victimized by pornography.

My first caller from the east coast called to say that what she was sharing with me she had only shared with one other man. In studying our webpage, she said she saw a sincerity and realness that was rare.

Her husband of over 20 years, though a sweet man, had lied to her repeatedly regarding his pornography addiction. She had had it.

She had been out of state for a week or so, and when she returned home she discovered that he had been renting X-rated videos from a Family Video store. Having recently recovered from cervical cancer, she was convinced (rightly or wrongly) that his lifestyle was a contributor to her cancer.

This woman's heart was broken. It was clear from her voice. She had gone through this over and over again. She didn't know what she was going to do without him, but she couldn't live with him any longer.

I spoke with her husband as well. He, too, was heartbroken. He loved his wife and feared that they were, in fact, finished.

I referred them to Pure Life Ministries for counseling, hoping they could work things out. After several conversations with both of them, I recognized that it will take the husband truly turning his life to Christ to eradicate pornography from his life.

The following is the contact that many pro-family organizations refer people to. It is called Pure Life Ministries. It is located



Contact:

Pure Life Ministries
14 School St.
Dry Ridge, KY 41035

By Phone:

888.PURELIFE - order / information
859.824.4444 - administrative offices

just to the south of Cincinnati, Ohio in Kentucky.

My second call was from a young home-schooling mother. The couple went to a Bible-preaching church. She discovered pictures on her husband's iPhone where he had taken pictures of himself nude in various poses and sent them via his phone.

She was shocked and could hardly talk about it. She was seeking counsel as to what to do, when and how to confront him.

We conversed several times. I provided her with the website for Purelife Ministries and urged her to make a phone counseling appointment.

In addition, I referred her to a friend who has counseled porn addicts himself for many years. He responded to my email requesting his help by stating the following:

Hey Bill,

Thanks for writing ... [T]alking to such women is exactly what my wife does. She wrote a book last year called "Shattered Vows." The heart and soul of what we do is working with couples to salvage marriages. Debbie's number here is 952-746-3880. ...

Mark

ADA recommends both of these sources of help for those caught in the web of pornography and for their hurting loved ones.



*Mark R. Laaser, PhD
Faithful and True Ministries, Inc.
15798 Venture Lane
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
phone: 952-746-3880*



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

Pain and sorrow

My dad passed on March 10, 2008 at the age of 84. In many ways, I'm glad he doesn't have to see what is taking place in our nation. For example, the government takeover of General Motors. Dad was a Chevrolet-Oldsmobile dealer.

As we came out of the 50s, Americans shared similar values of right and wrong. Generally speaking, television was not undermining the Judeo-Christian value system (on which America was founded). Fatherhood and motherhood were portrayed in a positive light. Youngsters weren't exposed to images of heated physical exchanges and of lesbian and homosexual kisses - heavy sexual scenes that leave nothing to the imagination.

We have gone through a "golden age". We have experienced a prosperity beyond what any people have ever known, job opportunity accompanied by abundant personal peace and affluence - year after year.

It seemed that it would never end. America has been a blessed land. We were in fact a nation founded and grounded upon the Word of God.

America has been drifting for some time. Church historians have written that the drift was already occurring in the 1920s. Little by little the church was accommodating to liberal theology that came out of Europe. Living for and under the authority of God's Word increasingly became a rarity as many American churches began to accommodate to liberal preaching and teaching.

There have been telling signs of a falling away for a long time, though God's grace has been longsuffering. His mercy has been deep and wide.

Yet, God is Holy and Just. His word makes it clear. He is loving, but He IS Holy. He



was patiently gracious to Israel, but, when they continued in their rebellion, God dealt justly and with great firmness. America has heard God's Word down through these many years of blessing. The warning has been sounded across this land via Christian radio, Christian television, its vast publishing houses, Christians schools, colleges and seminaries and, yes, by way of its churches.

Review the book of Judges: lawlessness, corruption at the highest levels, idolatry, human sacrifices, greed, lust.

America. America. See any similarities? Wink at sin year after year. Play a little church along the way. Pleasing people.

We have sensed it. The National Day of Prayer on the first Thursday of May a core of God's people have gathered and prayed that very familiar promise from II Chronicles 7:14. *"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."*

We have known that we were in trouble.

Is it possible that, as with Israel, God has taken His hand of protection off from America? Is this just the natural consequence of a nation that has turned its back upon God and His commandments?

In just a relatively short time we find ourselves facing issues from which we may never recover.

- (1) Elevated unemployment
- (2) Advancing socialism
- (3) Government takeovers of banks and large corporations
- (4) A weakening of the dollar
- (5) A lessening of opportunity & advancement for our children and grandchildren
- (6) A confusion regarding our military role in Afghanistan, Iraq and around the world
- (7) Unprotected borders
- (8) The legalization of abortion
- (9) Our airwaves are a national disgrace and an anathema to God.
- (10) Increasing godlessness in our educational systems
- (11) National division seemingly increases with each presidential election season.

In spite of these discouraging signs, we are privileged to be in ministry and to be supported by people who share in our sorrow and burden for America and our children and grandchildren. Thank you, dear friend.

We cannot promise success in the David vs. Goliath challenges we face, but by God's grace I again can tell you sincerely that each person in our office loves the Lord and is faithful to Him in the calling we have been given. By His grace, we desire to continue to fight on with heart, soul and love for Jesus.

The need is great! You and I are needed.

by: Chris Johnson

Since 1993, American Decency Association has been a part of the Evangelical Counsel for Financial Accountability, a ministry devoted to keeping its members honest in its finances. As such, Dad and I attended a seminar recently held by the ECFA to instruct and encourage churches and ministries in fiscal matters.

You can imagine how excited I was to spend the day with all the money people from every ministry in West Michigan. I anticipated a boring day full of spreadsheets and graphs and discouraging numbers, but I was surprised and encouraged by what I learned. It wasn't about numbers and minus signs and red ink as much as it was about the attitudes and practices that defined these ministries. The speakers shared their knowledge and expertise in their field, and it was often helpful and encouraging even to me. I was especially inspired by one of the workshop leaders, Brian Kluth.

Brian Kluth's ministry is a rare one. His passion is to teach the church to be generous with the money God has given them. When he told us that for the last 40 years giving to parachurch ministries has been on a steady decline, that was hardly news to us. ADA has for many years watched the year-end total fall, even as our battle becomes more strenuous.

That being said, at this point I would like to make it clear that I am not writing this to ask for donations. That is not the purpose of this article.

We all love to hear about how God miraculously provides for his people. Kluth has many great stories about not only being blessed by receiving amazing, unexpected gifts, but by responding to God's call to give those gifts. We have all heard the heartwarming stories about the Christian with a real need and nothing to meet it but faith, and God provides with a miracle through a check in the mail or a gift on their doorstep.

Have you ever stopped to think about how it got there? Someone had to put that

check in an envelope, lick the seal, stamp it, address it, and carry it to the mailbox and put the flag up. How many of us are willing to give that up and send it to someone you barely know or don't know at all?

During the seminar, Dad got an email from political activist, Gary Bauer. Gary Bauer's ministry, American Values, has backed a certain conservative candidate up for election in New York. They sent an email out asking people to contribute to this man's campaign. He had 107 gifts in response. This was what he had to say. "For months I've been reading and responding to messages about how sick and tired you are with politics as usual. I'm grateful to the 107 individuals who made a gift online or phoned in a donation yesterday. But I've personally answered more than 107 angry e-mails from individuals expressing their frustration with liberal politicians in both political parties. For those of you who did not respond, what is it going to take to get you to invest in our work?"



Our fists have closed so tightly on our money in America. Right now we are in a hard economic climate, and some of us simply don't have extra money. For some this is true, but for some of us it is only an excuse. How much would you have if you gave up fast food, or Starbucks, or (in my case) gave up that accessory for your car, or skipped one month's deposit into your savings account? Every Christian has learned at some point in his walk that everything we have belongs to God. Do you really act like it? Or when your check comes on Friday is it 10% is God's and the rest is mine? I will tell you right now, that is me. That is how I have

been. Actually, He has been lucky when he gets 10%. I can't write this as someone who has seen firsthand God's blessing when we are generous. I can say it as someone who was convicted by one who has. I can also say that at this time in my life, I don't have a lot of extra to give. I am 20, with no degree, newly married, and we live in Michigan. Do I need to say more? But I am pledging to do more, and to give up some extra amenities to be generous to the causes that are bigger than me.

We can rant and rave about our country and our world and our culture falling apart, but we can't complain that the organizations aren't there to hold it in check. Whether you are passionate about politics, decency, feeding the hungry, evangelism, teaching children, etc., if you cannot open your hands and give GOD'S money to these organizations, you forfeit all right to complain.

ADA is so thankful for those of you have opened your fists and allowed us to use the assets God has charged you with. We also realize that many are in an extremely tight place financially right now, and it is simply impossible to give what you have. We understand and pray for those situations.

For those of us who are not in those situations, I would encourage you, wherever you are reading this, whether you are at your desk, on your couch or at the kitchen table to get up, go get your checkbook, and send a gift to a cause that you are passionate about. Again, I'm not asking you to send us money. In fact, you know what? Don't. It's not that we need it any less than anyone else, but this is not about fundraising.

God's kingdom has enough resources to accomplish so much more, but it is going to take your sacrifice to get it done. Is there something worth you giving \$50 to change? It starts with you. Don't assume everyone else is going to do it. They are no more likely to do it than you.

IT STARTS WITH YOU.

Pornography is NOT victimless

Pornography is not victimless. It had its evil clutches on my husband since he was 15 years old. It all started with a seemingly innocent art/drawing book, that had a drawing of a nude woman. That started the lusting and masturbation, which went on to include porn magazines, bra, underwear and lingerie ads in the Sunday newspaper, "R" and "unrated" movies rented from the video store, many hours on the internet searching for and finding porn, and even entering a friend's home without his permission to "borrow" his stash of sleaze.

During the first eight years of our marriage, I was unaware of my husband's struggle. He was a Christian and grew up in a Christian home. He attended church and Bible studies. I would NEVER have believed that he had this addiction. I had no idea that my husband's lack of interest in making love to me was because of this addiction. (He didn't need or want me...he had his airbrushed babes who were perfect in every way in his imaginations.) Many nights I cried myself to sleep, wondering, what was wrong with me.

When I learned of his addiction (I found it on my computer by accident), he told me everything, we went to counseling and he started to attend Sexaholics Anonymous. Later I joined S-Anon, a support group for friends and family of sex addicts. These groups helped tremendously. My husband had tried to break himself of this many, many times, but it was only through the accountability of the group, along with Christian counseling and having it all exposed to the light that he has remained sober now for almost 6 years.

Anonymous source

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American Decency Association
Bill Johnson, President and Founder
E-MAIL: bjohnson@americandecency.org
Lisa VanHouten, Executive Assistant
Kimberly Cargill, Administrative Assistant
Chris Johnson
P.O. Box 202
Fremont MI 49412-0202
Phone: 231-924-4050
Fax: 231-924-1966
www.americandecency.org



Truth for Life

By Bill Johnson



"Pam is a no-nonsense, tell it like it is speaker who got the attention of 750 high school students and delivered a message about sex, drinking, drugs and [their] consequences. ..."
A high school administrator

What a great opportunity we had in early October to bring one of America's most dynamic youth speakers to a couple of schools in West Michigan!

We had heard and seen Pam on her powerful video/DVD "Sex Has a Price Tag" many times. Her presentations to a live audience is something to behold. She really connects with a young audience.

Below are quotes from two public school administrators:

'Best assembly I have ever attended at ... in the 18 years I've been here' was just one of the quotes that was made by a staff member after listening to Pam deliver her message to our student body. Pam is a no-nonsense, tell it like it is speaker who got the attention of 750 high school students and delivered a message about sex, drinking, drugs and [their] consequences. Every high school student should listen to Pam and her message.
Sincerely,

....
[name withheld by ADA]

[Pam's] production 'Sex Still Has A Price Tag,' lasted about an hour and captivated our students and staff. [Our school] was exposed to many facts and stories that resonated with our community.

After Mrs. Stenzel's presentation, I spoke to students about her material. I received many favorable comments from nearly every student. I have never had a guest speaker so universally endorsed. After speaking to students, I spoke to the staff. Five staff members told me that Mrs. Stenzel's presentation was the best they had ever seen. Nearly every other staff member provided me with positive comments.

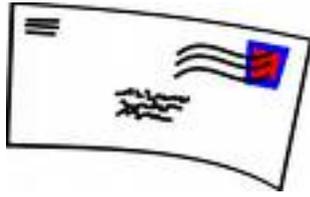
I must admit that prior to that event, I was nervous about allowing Mrs. Stenzel to speak. Sex topics are highly political and often a point of contention with parents. I notified parents prior to the event and received a few negative emails. After the event, I received a massive amount of positive emails. The 'risk' was well worth the potential fall out.

I very much appreciated the opportunity to have Pam Stenzel speak at [our school]. I would advise any group concerned about teenage sexual activity to consider her presentation.
Thank you,

.... , Principal
[Name withheld by ADA]

We are pleased to announce that another school in West Michigan has scheduled Pam to speak in December and another is very interested. If you have seen "Sex Has a Price Tag" then you will join us in rejoicing that hundreds of kids have recently been warned, exhorted and encouraged by Pam's powerful message. ADA has covered the costs of these presentations so there is no cost to the schools. Your gifts have helped to make this possible.

Letters from our supporters



Bill, I regret that I need to tell you about a new TV Show that has gone from interesting to disgusting. Perhaps you already know about it.

The show is "Flash Forward" on ABC at 8:00 pm on Thursdays. It started out okay, and even got a decent write-up in World Magazine. ... your letters give me such hope and courage -- certainly not for our culture or our nation -- but just knowing that you continue to keep up your standard of holiness and strive to pass it on to the rest of us, gives me comfort. It is heart breaking to see what the mind of man can come up with, and not even recognize evil for what it is., and to expose our children and push this upon them. Well, I won't go on, but do know how very much you and Jan are appreciated.

BW
Royal Oak, MI

One has to ask themselves why seniors who 'claim' to be overwhelmingly conservative in their values support one of the most rabidly liberal organizations around, i.e. AARP.

One Hollywood liberal after another is paraded across the pages of their publications, as though their value systems are worth emulating, and one failed liberal policy after another is lauded with its constituents membership money. And now AARP sees fit to market pornographic videos to its members under the guise of "Learn Something New." I refer to the November 2009 issue of the AARP Bulletin, Vo. 50, No.9, p.41. Advertisement headline: "SEX. IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW." And a few quotes from the full page ad: "Nothing is left to the imagination", "the videos themselves are an instant aphrodisiac", "A 'visual encyclopedia' of stimulating sexual fun."

Now that AARP has sold out seniors with their support of the new health care initiative will they finally decide that enough is enough and stop buying their products? Probably not.

Bob
Michigan

To Whom It May Concern,

I am signed up with Facebook and thankfully one of my friends on this social service gave me your website. Thank God for that! I thought that the decency of America was going down the drain with no one responding to the increased nudity on television and lack of concern for Christianity. Your organization makes me proud to be an American again and has restored my faith in good people seeking to do right for our current and future generations. Here's a link I found concerning the Two and a Half Men boycott that you are sponsoring: http://bit.ly/Fox_News. Thankfully others are reacting appropriately as well to the indecency on television!

Sincerely,
L.H.
Junior at the University of San Francisco

Cosmo Censorship

Although I don't care for 'sensationalizing' sexuality, I strongly oppose the Victorian self-righteous censorship you promote, and I tell the managers so. W.C.

... It is an absolute shame that this kind of stuff is so casually marketed. I'd be embarrassed to buy one. B.S.



An advertiser response that needs a response

Reebok makes it clear they are not pulling their ad from one of the most destructive TV programs airing.

Reebok wrote the following in response to expressions of concern regarding their ad on the CW show *Gossip Girl*. [see pg. 8]

"Thank you very much for your feedback. All consumer feedback is helpful, as it provides us with an understanding of the public perception and opinion of our products and marketing.

"Like all brands, Reebok advertises during programming that attracts our target audience. While we respect and welcome your opinion, we are not considering pulling our ads at this time.

"You can, however, be assured that your feedback will be relayed directly to our marketing team."

Regards,
Reebok Corporate Communications

One person's reply to Reebok:

Shame on you, then! Do you know the rising epidemic we have in this nation of STD's among our youth? Do you even care that you are promoting it by these types of episodes about casual sex? Girls as young as 12 are experimenting in oral sex because Hollywood tells them "go ahead, it feels good!". I will NEVER buy a Reebok shoe again. I will encourage my family and friends to stay away from your shoes too. Word of mouth can kill a business and you are despicable in your advertising practices. What, you want our youth to be sterile or DIE?

*check out my blog at
<http://nemapunkin.blogspot.com/>*

ADA note: We have enclosed a postcard to Reebok for your convenience.

A Warning and A Challenge

by Lisa VanHouten



This article includes a special challenge to all readers, but perhaps especially to our female readers.

While traditional gender roles have changed somewhat in our culture, from my observation it is still typically women who do the weekly grocery shopping. And so, I'm sure most women reading this are more than familiar with the slew of tawdry magazines filling the checkout aisles. Everything you don't want to know about the latest celebrity scandal is emblazoned across the headlines. But of course the worst of the lot of checkout magazines is *Cosmopolitan*.

It's hard not to be aware of the sexually graphic headlines of Cosmo – they stare us in the face every week. This month's cover headlines include: "Foreplay Men Crave – Touch His Secret Erotic Spot" and "What He Thinks During Sex – The Crazy, Dirty ... Stuff That Goes Through His Head When You Two Get Naked". These headlines are explicit enough. There is no way I will even give examples of the content of the articles. Suffice it to say, the magazine reads like a dirty sex manual, teaching young women to prostitute themselves for the pleasure of men.

One quote I will include that isn't of the typical pornographic nature of Cosmo, but does convey the message given to young women is this – a "tip" from a guy surveyed for one of the above titled articles, who states: "*After it's over and girls try to cuddle, I just get angry. How*

are there still girls alive who don't know that we hate this? ..." Basically, *Cosmopolitan* tells young women, 'just let men use you and discard you.' Cosmo, which claims it "empowers" women, does nothing more than demean and dehumanize them. It teaches the young women reading that their worth is based on their sex appeal and their purpose is to be nothing more than a sex toy.

And it is mostly young women who buy the magazine and buy the lies. The target audience is 18-34 year olds and Cosmo brags about being the number one magazine sold to college-age girls. I have family members in that age bracket. It grieves me to think that young women I care about could be swayed to degrade themselves by this pack of lies.



Not only is it degrading, it is downright perverse. This month's issue gives women lessons on tying knots for bondage sex! The article actually includes a step-by-step diagram of how to tie a slip knot to bind a person's wrists! Without describing further, please take our word for it – *Cosmopolitan* is nothing more than outright pornography.

However, back to the challenge to all, but especially women, reading this alert. Take a look at those around you next time you're stuck in line at a checkout lane. Look at the vulnerable young women who struggle with self-image after being bombarded by the false image of femininity put forth by the likes of Cosmo. Notice the children who have Cosmo's explicit headlines and cleavage-baring photos foisted upon them at their own eye level.

And think about the men who can easily be impacted by such sexually-charged material, even Christian men who can be lured into a lifestyle of lust.

Look at these, our neighbors, whom the Lord calls us to love. How can we then not do something about such degrading, damaging filth? How can we just walk through the line and turn the other way while Satan's lies are being sold to those around us?

One small form of protest is to turn the magazine over. While this may temporarily hide the sleazy cover, we know it's only a momentary fix until someone flips it back around. And, as we've reported before, Cosmo has recently been placing pornographic ads on the back of their magazine. This month again they have an image implying group sex of six nude men and women posed provocatively. The ad is for D&G Fragrances (see our previous alert on this at: <http://www.americandecency.org/campaigns/campaigns/grocery-checkout-lanes/>)

And so the challenge. Don't walk away, but step out of your comfort zone. Pick up a Cosmo magazine and ask to speak to a store manager. In a friendly but firm manner express your concern that such lewd material is being sold in a family marketplace. Urge them to remove *Cosmopolitan* from the checkout lanes. And be persistent. If Cosmo is still there next week repeat the process and urge your friends and family members to join you. I can almost guarantee you, it won't be easy. Your knees may shake and your palms may sweat. Your heart will race and your face may feel flush. Confrontation is never easy. But read Ephesians 6:10-20 or I Corinthians 16:13,14. Remind yourself that while you may be weak, Christ is strong.

And let us know of your accounts. You will be an encouragement to us as well as to others. We can make a difference if we don't turn the other way when the sleazy of *Cosmopolitan* stares us in the face.

Two Insults

Action Needed

“Two and a Half Men” and “Eastwick”

By Lisa VanHouten



In monitoring television, I'm grieved over the constant flow of indecency over the airwaves, the smuttiness and crudeness seems never ending. But what outrages me even more is when I see the mocking portrayal of Christianity. I can't recall the last time I saw a positive portrayal of Christian faith, a respectful depiction of clergy and believers. Yet think of the backlash if, instead of Christianity, Islam or other religions were made the butt of jokes by Hollywood.

In the last few days alone we've come across two television shows that denigrated our Holy God.

On the crass show *Two and a Half Men*, known for its incredibly crude, sexual “humor” and vulgarity, this week's episode made mockery of God and prayer. The main character, a womanizer named Charlie, is upset because his girlfriend wants to have breast reduction surgery. His sexist, sophomoric comments and behavior make it clear that her body is all that matters. Charlie “prays” to God, seeking divine intervention in stopping her, stating: “...Of all the gifts you've bestowed upon me, none are a greater testament to your glory than Chelsea's heavenly breasts. ... She's thinking of tampering with your great work. ... Turn her to the path of righteousness and bodaciousness.” When he convinces his girlfriend to live with her back pain and not have the surgery, he “praises” God, stating: “Thank you Lord, you speaketh through me.” What blasphemy! Substitute “allah” in this scene and the advertisers would have fled from sponsoring the program.

Then on the show *Eastwick*, with the theme of witchcraft and the occult, the character who presumably is the devil tells one of his “witches-in-training” that being cursed is the “greatest gift”. He states: “God curses Adam and Eve after they eat of the tree of knowledge. And what does He curse them with? What is this terrible thing He inflicts upon them? The curse of self-awareness. They come to know desire,

lust, passion, greed, fear, hatred, anger, ambition, gluttony, jealousy. Everything that makes life interesting.” According to the producers of *Eastwick* the curse of sin is actually a gift!

Don't let these insults to our God go unanswered. Contact the advertisers and let them know that their sponsorship of this mockery is an offense to you.

Wal-Mart and Walt Disney were two advertisers which sponsored both of these episodes:

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. – Wal-Mart
Michael T. (Mike) Duke – President, CEO, and Director
702 SW Eighth Street
Bentonville, AR 72716-8611
Phone: 479-273-4000
Fax: 479-277-1830
email link: <http://walmartstores.com/contactus/feedback.aspx>

The Walt Disney Company – Walt Disney Pictures
Robert A. Iger – President, CEO, and Director
500 S Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA 91521-9722
Phone: 818-560-1000
Fax: 818-560-1930

I would add this regarding the above advertisers. Here are two of America's icon companies. For many years, people like you and me have helped make these companies what they are. One can only wonder how many letters, phone calls, faxes, emails these companies have received over the years urging them not to place their advertising dollars behind programming fostering godlessness, homosexuality, lesbianism and other perversions. Yet, here we find these American favorite companies again needing to be targeted for sponsoring trash. When the day of reckoning comes, there is a lot to be answered for.

Patriots in the Making



By Chris Johnson

After so many years of apathy and political laziness from the American people, are our elected leaders anxious to listen to our newfound voices? As millions of Americans for the first time in their lives tell their leaders exactly what they expect from them, do our politicians reach out to represent us as best they can? The answer, as we have all seen, is a resounding and disappointing no. It seems that through our lethargy we have succumbed to an oligarchy.

As I run across quotes from the great founding fathers of this country, I am constantly amazed at how completely they saw the threats to the government that they drafted. “If ever a time should come, when vain and aspiring men shall possess the highest seats in Government, our country will stand in need of its experienced patriots to prevent its ruin.” - Samuel Adams.

Several months ago, there were very few “experienced patriots.” But I believe that with every law that is proposed that breaks down our various liberties and empowers the state, there are more individuals who join the ranks of concerned citizens trying to chase down our derelict government. And with every fight, win or lose, we gain valuable experience. With the wisdom earned from that experience, we will one day take back our government.

Samuel Adams was full of wise and prescient quotes. Here is another: “If men, through fear, fraud, or mistake, should in terms renounce or give up any natural right, the eternal law of reason and the grand end of society would absolutely vacate such renunciation. The right to freedom being the gift of Almighty God, it is not in the power of man to alienate this gift and voluntarily become a slave.”

Ultimately we must remember that our country, our government, and our liberty is in God's hands.

“Gossip Girl” – advertisers promote every parent’s nightmare

By Lisa Van Houten



Advertisers for CW’s “Gossip Girl”

Reebok International Ltd – Reebok Shoes

Uli Becker – President and CEO
1895 J. Foster Blvd.
Canton, MA 02021
Phone: 781-401-5000
Fax: 781-401-7402
email: corporate@reebok.com

The Walt Disney Company – Walt Disney Pictures

Robert A. Iger – President, CEO, and Director
500 S Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA 91521-9722
Phone: 818-560-1000
Fax: 818-560-1930

AT&T Corp.

William J. Hannigan – President
One AT&T Way
Bedminster, NJ 07921
Phone: 908-221-2000
Fax: 908-532-1675

Burlington Coat Factory Warehouse Corporation

Thomas A. (Tom) Kingsbury – President and CEO
1830 Route 130
Burlington, NJ 08016
Phone: 609-387-7800

Verizon Communications – Verizon Wireless

Ivan Seidenberg – Chairman and CEO
140 West St.
New York, NY 10007
Phone: 212-395-1000
Toll-free: 800-621-9900
Fax: 212-571-1897

We all know television is a virtual wasteland – both cable and network channels. In order to “pick our battles” and narrow our focus, most of our television monitoring has tracked programming on the main networks – CBS, ABC, NBC, and FOX. However, one cable channel, the CW network, has built a reputation for a lineup of sleazy programs geared toward teens and young adults. Shows on the CW network include tawdry, sex-filled soaps such as remakes of *Melrose Place* and *Beverly Hills 90210* as well as a number of other lewd shows. One such program on the CW network is *Gossip Girl*.

The theme of *Gossip Girl* revolves around the sexual exploits and high school drama of upper-class New York City teens. Teenage promiscuity, illicit sex void of meaning or consequence, is common fare on *Gossip Girl*. The network has even arrogantly advertised *Gossip Girl* with promos showing sexually provocative scenes along with tag lines such as “Every Parent’s Nightmare” and “Mind-Blowingly Inappropriate”. And sadly, the show lives up to these adverse claims – and then some.

More recently, the CW network has promoted a November 9 episode which pushed the limits even further with a repulsive storyline of a “threesome” between teens. The two girls and a guy, college freshmen, are shown living by their self-expressed credo “college is for experimenting” - while they worked through a written list of ‘life-experiences’ that viewers are taught are ‘must-dos’ for teens. The list went from wild drinking games to repulsive group sex. Without getting too graphic, the lewd scene depicted explicit and repugnant images of girl-girl kissing and the guy taking turns with the two girls, concluding with the three in bed together.

The CW network (a joint venture between CBS and Warner Brothers) without regard for the harm they cause, foist these irresponsible themes upon impressionable youth! They sell “cool” in the form of underage, out-of-control drinking, recreational sex with no physical or emotional consequences, and vile pornographic acts. Group sex – a theme you might expect to find in hard-core videos – has made its way to television and on a show geared toward teens!

Recently on the conservative Sean Hannity show I heard a discussion among a panel of guest commentators about irresponsible shows such as “Gossip Girl” and their harm to our youth. While concern was expressed, I couldn’t believe how little indignation was shown. The consensus was that parents should just turn the channel. Well, turning the channel won’t help the millions of teens who don’t have concerned, involved parents. Are these youth not deserving of protecting from the damaging influence of such content? Where is the outrage that this disgusting material is even broadcast over the public airwaves??

[The sponsors of this group sex scene](#) include Verizon Wireless, Apple Computers, K-Mart, Old Navy, Reebok, AT&T, Dove soap, Chap Stick, Burlington Coat Factory, Dr. Pepper, Motorola and numerous others.