

# American Decency Association

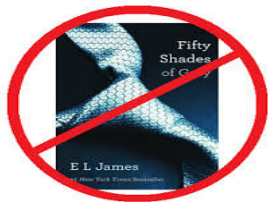
PO Box 202, Fremont, MI 49412 231-924-4050 www.americandecency.org

Encouraging Christians to guard their hearts

February 2015

## Shining Light on “Fifty Shades of Grey”

by: Steve Huston



Righteous Job made a covenant with his eyes (Job 31:1). David, a man after God’s own heart, said, “I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes...” (Ps 101:3). As children you may have sung, “O be careful little eyes what you see,” but do you give much thought to what you put before your eyes today? Whether a movie, television, music or books, **beware** of the entertainment you allow into your home and into your mind.

**Everything** we put before our eyes affects the way we think. It moves us toward godliness or toward worldliness. It helps or hinders family relationships and our relationship with God. These things either build a community up or work to

its destruction. Christians are called to walk in “holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:” (Heb. 12:14). One should no more expect to find a Christian filling their mind with worldliness or filth than one would expect to find a health food store which offers sugary junk foods; it just isn’t right. After all, as Pam Stenzel writes, “*Your thoughts become actions; your actions become your CHARACTER!*” This is one of the many reasons that worldliness must be reined in and why meditation upon God’s Word is paramount.

*Fifty Shades of Grey* is a book and soon-to-be released movie that will affect all areas of our culture and will impact future generations of girls and boys alike. Even if they don’t watch the film themselves, the culture they find themselves in has been infected and changed by the skewing of love and truth.

*Fifty Shades of Grey* takes the beautiful act of intimacy which God has designed for a husband and wife, an act of love and

protection, an act of giving and completing; and warps it into a lust-filled act of deviancy where physical pain, selfishness, and insecurity are made out to be the norm. It promotes violence during times of intimacy and the idea that “no doesn’t mean no.”

It moves us toward degradation and a breakdown of the family and a lessening of our moral senses. The fact that this movie is even offered in a public venue is proof that as “the envelope is pushed,” society follows. What society tolerates today, it will embrace tomorrow.

The church isn’t immune to this drifting either. A Barna Group study disclosed that 15% of Christian women admit to looking at pornography at least once a month. In comparison, 30% of non-Christian women use pornography at the same rate. Statistics for men indicate 64% of Christian men and 65% of non-Christian men admitted to frequent porn use. Notice

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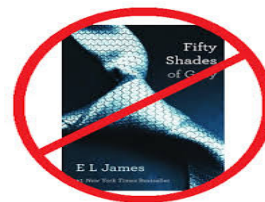
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THINK ABOUT SUCH THINGS  
PHILIPPIANS 4:8

that these figures only include those who admit to using pornography.

The same Barna study revealed **“there is no difference between the percentage of Christians who have read *Fifty Shades of Grey* and the percentage of all Americans who have read the book.”**

Knowing the theme of *Fifty Shades of Grey*, that statistic is as startling as it is revealing. It demonstrates that conformity to the world is rampant within the Christian community. It shows that millions of Christians would rather justify their sins rather than be justified from them.

We must protect our children and ourselves from those things which would turn our minds from God to the skewed thinking of this world. We are responsible to speak the truth into our churches and into society. Many

don't like to hear the truth, but the light must be shown into this dark world and these evil times. Satan has always twisted the truth and he continues to do so today. The Bible tells us about real love and the importance of thinking on things that are pure and lovely. What we think on changes us for good or for bad.

Wal-Mart is one of many retail stores that is moving society to think in an unhealthy manner. While Meijer has chosen not to carry *Fifty Shades of Grey*, Wal-Mart is promoting this book and the movie as well as several other deviant online products.

Now that you're informed, you should wrestle with this issue. Will you conform or be transformed? You need to decide if you really believe that pornography – whether it's in secret or blatantly displayed for all to see - is wrong or if you believe it is acceptable.

**You must choose** to take a stand and let Wal-Mart know you expect them to stop carrying items such as *Fifty Shades of Grey*, or **you must choose** to do nothing. Your action or lack thereof will betray the belief of your heart.

**Pray First!** This IS spiritual warfare. Our society, children, and churches are under attack.

**Then** make a phone call. Write an email. Encourage others to act, too! Call your local Wal-Mart asking them to remove this book. Tell them it's unacceptable and damaging to our families and society. Email Wal-Mart's CEO at [Doug.McMillon@wal-mart.com](mailto:Doug.McMillon@wal-mart.com).

Also, call your local theater and ask them not to show the movie *Fifty Shades of Grey*.

**Finally**, focus on the truth, spending time in and meditating on the Word of God that you may stand.

**“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”**  
**(Phil. 4:8)**

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