

Two sides of the same coin

By Bill Johnson



You and I are fully aware that America is in serious trouble - marked by godlessness and corrupt leadership at the highest levels (both parties). America - long ago - turned its back upon God. We are paying a great price.

Consider the following article from the American Thinker:

“The country just went through congressional elections that gave lawmakers an undeniable, thunderous mandate to oppose Obama’s radical left-wing juggernaut, and in particular, his odious immigration amnesty that will benefit 5 million or more illegal alien lawbreakers.”

On Nov. 4, the GOP flipped control of the 100-seat U.S. Senate, with a new total of 54 seats. The House GOP increased its majority, totaling at least 246 out of 435 seats. Republicans will be calling the shots in the new Congress that will be seated in January.

One of those who is standing out in one of the hottest most corrupt centers of our nation - Washington, DC - is Ted Cruz, U.S. Republican Senator from Texas. As you recall, Cruz was vilified for filibustering Obamacare for 21 hours in 2013. Yet he boldly and intelligently stood up for millions of us who were longing for a voice that would speak for “we the people” on the controversial subject regarding our health care.

Quoting American Thinker:

Yet when Cruz gave Republican senators,

who campaigned against the immigration amnesty, an opportunity to do something about it, 20 Republican senators gave American voters the one-finger salute.

While Congress was considering a spending bill to keep the government funded through the end of the federal fiscal year on Sept. 30, 2015, Cruz objected, raising a constitutional point of order against the \$1-trillion-plus monstrosity that, if it had been sustained, would have returned the fiscal legislation to the House to remove amnesty funding.

But they didn’t. After hours and days of arm-twisting, they rammed an abominable spending bill through Congress that funds Obama’s Democrat voter-importation program.

It was an easy vote. A gimme.

There was never, after all, a reason to rush an all-encompassing bill funding the federal government before appropriations ran out on Dec. 11. Instead of giving Obama virtually everything he wanted despite his party’s historic drubbing at the polls last month, lawmakers could easily have drafted a stopgap spending bill to carry them over to January, when Republicans will control both chambers of Congress and have greater bargaining power in negotiations with the president.

What many commentators are saying is this: So many Republican leaders lied to “we the people”. People like Sen. Majority Leader

elect Mitch McConnell (Kentucky) and Speaker of the House John Boehner (Ohio) spent millions of dollars in campaign ads saying they were going to stand against illegal immigration and dismantle Obamacare - yet in a two week period of time rather than push for a short term continuing resolution that would fund the federal government into February they lock-stepped with the president in funding a trillion dollar Obama budget that underwrote Obamacare, illegal immigration, the wiles of the EPA and other liberal causes.

Many of us scratch our heads and wonder: Why won’t our leaders represent their constituencies honestly?

It wouldn’t be so concerning and, yes, frightening if we didn’t know that decisions do have consequences. Corruption can, does and will effect our military, what constitutes marriage, our health and welfare - the make-up of our population, and so much more.

As Ted Cruz stated on the floor of the Senate on the December 11 weekend - those now elected out of office are playing to K Street (the lobbying center of Washington, DC) and by their end of career vote bringing goodies and toys to those whose hire many of them will now be under in their new high paid jobs.

This disgusting, corrupt political reality that is before us is only one side of the coin.

I hope you will read my personal note for the other side of the same coin.



From the desk of Bill Johnson

“the other side of the coin”

The years go by and our perspectives deepen and widen. We see trends - both positive and negative.

There is the war in the world that increasingly is squeezing us and that we are going to feel. This is one side of the coin.

We have been reporting and offering commentary on these concerns: the advance of Islamism, the Muslim Brotherhood permeating all levels of our government by invitation of our leaders, the godless agenda of the Obama White House, and the willful blindness of many politicians.

By the grace of God, we should be learning to walk with God - seeing His hand and His wisdom working into and through our lives.

By the grace of God, we are growing in our ability to discern, to prepare, to “stand therefore having our loins girt about with truth and putting on the breastplate of righteousness.” (Ephesians 6:10-19)

In saying all of this, I see great concerns on the horizon. I think many of you do too. The work that we have been about for many years - defending the constitution and conservative principles and opposing pornography, obscenity and indecency - pales by comparison to what is before us.

However, that doesn't delegitimize what we have stood for in anyway.

In fact, we need to be increasingly vigilant in pursuing holiness without which no man shall see the Lord. [Hebrews 12:14] See page 7 as yet a further evidence of the degradation taking place due to horrid decision making, lack of discernment, and

widespread reprobation.

Needless to say, Godliness is desperately needed. We see the need for the power of God in our lives!

Spiritual warfare is the other side of the coin! Sadly, and predictably, most are oblivious to this vital dimension!

How do we stand up for righteousness and holiness in our every day lives?

How does a person keep themselves from premarital sex or from lustful thoughts?

How does a man or a woman stay faithful to their mate and/or not seek out pornography on the Internet when no one is looking?

How do we boldly stand up in our every day lives like Ted Cruz did before his peers in the Senate and say vital things - rationally and rightfully calling out his colleagues for taking an oath to abide by the Constitution as they have defied that very oath - lying to their constituencies?

As you know, our children are being targeted for wickedness in this world via advertisements, peer pressure, cell phones, movies, television programs, books, magazines, and godless education at all levels.

What is going to keep them from destruction?

Most of you reading this are committed Christians.

We are engaged in a very real war!

So again, - on one side of the coin is the battle in the world in regard to national and international matters that do affect us. It is vitally important that we don't fall asleep at the switch. We need to care. We need to be involved by using our voices and our minds to call, write and perhaps even show up at a hearing. Voting is another important part of being a Christian/citizen. Praying for our leaders, too, is commended by the Bible.

The spiritual is the other side of the coin. Both sides are often neglected, but more is at stake if one neglects, ignores and/or denies this side of the coin - this aspect of

life. The consequence is eternal as in heaven or hell. But also this hell can include a living hell on earth.

The spiritual: Consider this scripture from II Peter 1:3-11

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Please pray for us that God would be glorified! We feel the responsibility heavily in these days.

Here's how we are sensing that we are being led as we desire to be fruitful in service.

In the context of America's moral/spiritual declension, may we be a people of prayer!

We have therefore been promoting a book on prayer in our newsletter entitled: “The Next Great Awakening” Dr. Terry Slachter/ Read his article on page 3. Slachter is a former pastor of 25 years.

Slachter will be addressing a gathering on Friday, January 16 at ADA headquarters. Spiritual warfare is the other side of the coin, and we won't be neglecting it.

What happens when an entire generation forgets?

by Terry D. Slachter



One of the most heart wrenching verses of the entire Old Testament is found in Judges 2:10 *“After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel.”* (NIV) This new generation, we are told in the next few verses, did evil in the eyes of the Lord, forsaking the God of their fathers, following the gods of the nations around them.

In the Bible, the length of a generation was 40 years. If that is the case, within 40 years after the passing of the “Joshua Generation” an entire new generation emerged whose parents never bothered to tell them about God and what He had done in the past. Without recording the historical facts and rehearsing the personal testimonies to the next generation, it should not surprise us how past events, no matter how significant, quickly fade away and become meaningless to succeeding generations.

This “new generation” that begins in Judges 2:10, sadly illustrates for us what happens when an entire generation forgets God and what He has done. People begin to fashion idols and seek messiahs to help them in their times of trouble. The increase of idolatry naturally increases the level of violence and immorality in society (Rom.1:28). And the level of evil increases with every succeeding generation in a society that has forgotten about God and what He has done. In the case of the “Judges Generation”, the Israelite society had become so perverse that they began to look like Sodom and Gomorrah (Judges 19).

Do you remember what life was like here in the United States a generation ago? If you

are old enough to remember how things were 40-50 years ago, you might remember a time when it was safe for children to walk home from school without the slightest fear of being molested. You might remember a time when doors went unlocked, or when the 8:00 PM family hour on television was truly “family friendly”. What has happened to us as a nation and as a society over the past 40 years? Why is my grandson presented the perverse comedy show “Two Broke Girls” during the family hour, when 40 years earlier, I was watching family friendly shows like “The Brady Bunch” at 8:00 PM?

We could list several reasons for this 40 year decline in our culture such as Supreme Court cases that have increasingly chipped away at our Judeo-Christian values in the public arena. There has also been an insidious movement to rewrite our national history expunging all Biblical references and Christian history from our text books and national monuments. We could even add to our list the hypocrisy of our political leaders and the public immorality of our cultural heroes and icons. But I want to add another reason that may come as a shock to some of us. I blame the Christian Church.

We are raising an entire generation of young people who are Biblically and spiritually illiterate. Over the past 20-30 years, the church has forgotten the Great Commission. Instead of going out into our neighborhoods, we expect our neighbors to enter our ever-growing church facilities to hear the Gospel message. This makes as much sense as a farmer who spends countless hours and resources to ready the fields for planting, but then dumps the seed on the floor of the barn.

I have a news flash for today’s Church living in a post-Christian culture—many of our neighbors don’t have a clue of what the church is even about? Some of them don’t even know who Jesus is or that the church is all about Jesus. Some young people would no more step into a church than they would a VFW hall. A whole new generation of people are growing up here in the United States who will likely never learn about God and what He has done through His

Son Jesus unless the church awakens and moves out of its comfort zone, sowing the seed of the gospel extravagantly as in Jesus’ parable of the sower. Why should this younger generation look for hope and meaning through the idols of this world when there are still thousands of churches and Christians in every state and city in America who have an eternal message of hope and love to share?

Join with me in praying for the Church. Pray that the Lord will move with His Spirit to revive the American Church as He has in the past. There have been at least five Great Awakenings in this country, each has propelled the Church into the streets with the Gospel message, transforming the culture and shaping the history of our nation. If God was able to breathe new life into the dying churches of ages past, transform entire communities, and launch new missionary movements . . . why should we doubt his ability to do it again in our day?

To set the pace for 2015, American Decency Association has scheduled Terry Slachter to address our audience on the vital subject of *“Could Another Great Awakening Happen in 21st Century America?”*

“Why pray for a sinking ship” some say. Terry Slachter asks “Why should we doubt His ability to do it again in our century?” We need God’s help, we say here at ADA!

What: “Could Another Great Awakening Happen in 21st Century America?”

When: Friday, January 16, 2015 - 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Who: Dr. Terry Slachter, Executive Director of Project Phillip and Project Phillip Publishing

Where: American Decency Association
203 E. Main Street, Fremont, MI

Contact information: 231-924-4050 or
email: kimberly@americandecency.org

Thank this company for its bold public statement

In "site"ful information at americandecency.org

Giving by EFT



Every year beginning just after Thanksgiving, Sunbeam Bread reaches out to remind its customers that Christmas is a time to "reflect on our beliefs and remember those around us, especially those less fortunate."

For 75 years, Sunbeam has put their faith into action by labeling their bread packages with an iconic image of Little Miss Sunbeam kneeling with folded hands and praying Jesus' words in Matthew 4:4, "Not by bread alone."

Sunbeam's message is encouraging, inspiring and timely.

Sunbeam Bread is a product of Quality Bakers of America (QBA) Cooperative and is owned by leading U.S. wholesale bakers and serves over 40 states. Together, these baking companies help bring people back to remembering what's important in life.

Thank Sunbeam

Please take just a moment to send an email and thank Sunbeam and QBA President Norm Trapp for sharing its annual message of inspiration and faith.

Then, the next time you buy bread, look for the Sunbeam package!

Quality Bakers of America, Inc.
1275 Glenlivet Drive - Suite 100
Allentown, PA, 18106-3107
Email: info@qba.com

Have you ever visited our website, americandecency.org?

At americandecency.org you will find archives of our "Decency Minute" daily radio program, links to news reports which will keep you informed, vital videos, and upcoming events.

At americandecency.org you will also find ways to take action against the evils in this world by making a phone call or sending an email. Here, you will also find an archive of our newsletters and bulletin inserts, full of interesting and pertinent information.

Stop by americandecency.org today and learn about cultural polluters and computer protectors. Relax and read an article or two written by our staff that point to biblical values and constitutional rights.

Come to www.americandecency.org and see what we have to offer.



American Decency is on Facebook and would love for you to "like" us. We post our recent e-mail updates and list upcoming activities and events. This is a great way to keep up-to-date and share our articles with your Facebook friends.

EFT stands for electronic funds transfer. When an electronic funds transfer takes place, money is exchanged without the use of cash, check, or any other sort of medium. This is made possible because banks nationwide are connected electronically to each other.

When you set up an EFT account with the ADA, you are authorizing ADA's bank and your bank to make an electronic funds transaction in which the amount you specify will be debited from your account at your bank and credited to ADA's account at their bank. It's that simple.

If you would like to set up such an account, please contact us at (231) 924-4050 or see the enclosed response card.

American Decency Frontline
Vol. XXIV, Issue I
Published monthly by
American Decency Association

Bill Johnson, President and Founder
bjohnson@americandecency.org

Lisa VanHouten, Executive Assistant
Kimberly Cargill, Administrative Asst.
Chris Johnson, Technical and Web
Development

P.O. Box 202
Fremont MI 49412-0202
Phone: 231-924-4050
Fax: 231-924-1966
www.americandecency.org



We Don't Need a New Kind of Family

by Chris Johnson



ABC Family's slogan, "A New Kind of Family," will be given a whole new meaning when its planned reality television show, *My Transparent Life*, airs in the near future.

From the creative minds of Ryan Seacrest Productions comes the story of one boy's difficult family life as his parents get divorced ... and his dad transitions from being "Charlie" to being "Carly."

That's right, the network Pat Robertson founded to be a safe place for family entertainment will soon be preaching the gospel of transgender sexuality to America's youth.

Probably best known as the host of the competitive singing show, "American Idol," Seacrest has developed a media empire, including his own production company. *"At RSP, we love family stories, and we couldn't be more excited that ABC Family is helping us share this heartwarming story of how an ordinary teenager grapples with a challenging and unexpected family situation. We feel audiences will find Ben's story relatable on a number of different levels, because at the end of the day, family is family unconditionally."*

The Hollywood Reporter points out that ABC Family is not the first to broach this once-taboo subject:

"My Transparent Life also comes as transgender-themed programming is on the rise. Amazon's Transparent — a comedy about a father (Jeffrey Tambor) transitioning to a woman and how his three grown children navigate the change — is already being hailed as one of the year's best series. Orange Is the New Black's Laverne

Cox also earned an Emmy nomination for her role on the Netflix original, marking the first openly transgender actor to do so. HBO is also teaming with exec producer Lena Dunham for a documentary about the transgender clients of a bespoke Brooklyn tailor. Not to be outdone, MTV has Laverne Cox Presents: The T Word, a documentary about seven transgender youths as well as scripted comedy Faking It, which features one of primetime's first intersex characters. Meanwhile, corporate sibling VH1 has enlisted Tyra Banks to produce a transgender docuseries called TransAmerica, which chronicles eight transgender millennial women."

While the existence of this trend is disturbing, ABC Family's candidate is especially concerning based on the network's name and pedigree. How can a network built on the family use its programming to advance the disintegration of that foundational unit of society?

There is a term for divorced parents and a transgender father; it's "broken family."

All of this comes in the midst of the slow build of an undercurrent of the idea of gender identity, and especially gender reassignment surgery. There has even been criticism of the practice from those who have undergone the procedure and now live with deep regret.

One example, a British man named Matthew Attonley underwent surgery and other procedures to become "Chelsea." He now wishes to live again as a man.

"I have always longed to be a woman, but no amount of surgery can give me an actual female body and I feel like I am living a lie.

It is exhausting putting on make-up and wearing heels all the time. Even then I don't feel I look like a proper woman...

I have realised it would be easier to stop fighting the way I look naturally and accept that I was born a man physically."

Another example is Dan "Danielle Berry"

Bunten who had sex reassignment surgery in 1992. Here is his advice to those considering the operation:

"Don't do it! That's my advice..."

I can speak the transgender party line that I was a female trapped in a male body and I remember feeling this way since I was 4. But, it's never that easy if you look at it sincerely and without preconception. There's little question that a mid-life crisis, a divorce and a cancer scare were involved in at least the timing of my sex-change decision. To be completely honest at this point (3 yrs post-op) is not easy, however, I'm not sure I would do it again. I'm now concerned that much of what I took as a gender dysfunction might have been nothing more than a neurotic sexual obsession..."

And just one more example is Walt Heyer who had the surgery and came to regret it.

In his own words, *"My perfectly good body parts had been amputated. Years of looking like and living as a woman did not bring the promised treatment or relief. I still suffered from psychological issues which needed to be properly diagnosed and treated.*

I turned to Jesus Christ, who surrounded me with His loving people. Through their unconditional love, I finally received treatment for dissociative disorder and now I am restored as a father, husband and man."

Walt found grace in the eyes of the Lord and now runs SexChangeRegret.org which argues against the validity of transgender "orientation."

Will ABC Family's and these other network's new programs touch on these perspectives?

I think we all know the answer to that.

If you want to better inform yourself on the issue of sex change regret, go to Walt's website at SexChangeRegret.org.

Victoria's Secret - Selling Lies With Lingerie

by Lisa Van Houten



To paraphrase Willie Nelson – mamas don't let your babies grow up to be ...Taylor Swift. That is, unless you want your little girls to degrade themselves and display their bodies for the pleasure of men.

Last month CBS aired the erotic Victoria's Secret "Fashion" Show – its yearly parade of nearly nude models in erotic lingerie. Joining the display was singer Taylor Swift who performed two songs while dressed in lingerie herself as she engaged in the same sexualized posing and antics as the models – including provocatively flirting with other women, the Victoria's Secret models.

Swift, who earlier in her career had for the most part maintained a wholesome and scandal-free image, has now bought the lie of Victoria's Secret, equating femininity with eroticism. A lie which will be emulated by the young girls who idolize her.

Drawing in young girls is the modus operandi of Victoria's Secret as they attempt to establish new generations of customers. Several years ago VS began their "PINK" line of lingerie marketed to girls as young as 12.

Since then, the Victoria's Secret lingerie show has featured a segment modeling their "PINK" line of lingerie for young girls. This year teen idol Arianna Grande, from the children's TV network Nickelodeon, performed on the runway as Victoria's Secret models paraded lingerie from the "PINK" line.

But eroticism wasn't the only thing Victoria's Secret was pushing on their

televised lingerie show. The program also featured rock singer, Hozier, who performed his song, "Take Me to Church," which derides Christianity.

Hozier has stated: *"The song was always about humanity at its most natural, and how that is undermined ceaselessly by religious [organizations] and those who would have us believe they act in its interests."*

Here are some of the lyrics to the song mocking the Christian Church which was performed while Victoria's Secret "angels" paraded lingerie.

Take Me to Church

*"... Every Sunday's getting more bleak
A fresh poison each week
'We were born sick, '
you heard them say it
My Church offers no absolutes
She tells me, 'Worship in the bedroom.'
The only heaven I'll be sent to
Is when I'm alone with you—
I was born sick,
But I love it ...
Take me to church
I'll worship like a dog
at the shrine of your lies
I'll tell you my sins and you can sharpen
your knife ..."*

Obviously Victoria's Secret has an agenda that isn't just about selling a product. They are selling an ideology which worships sex, self, and sensuality along with a warped view of beauty and femininity.

The Victoria Secret "Fashion" Show began by boasting of having "the most beautiful women in the world." But these tall, thin, women with perfectly portioned bodies and long, flowing hair are not the epitome of beauty.

Some of the most beautiful women in the world wouldn't be caught dead in Victoria's Secret lingerie. They are godly women like my 85 year old mother whose hands, wrinkled by age and hard work, fold in prayer each day for her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Or Vivian, a dear woman of God in her nineties, whose body may be a bit stooped and weak, but whose faith is strong and shines to all those around her. These are just two of the most beautiful women I know. I'm sure you have your own list.

As Proverbs 31:30 reminds us: *"Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."* May all the young women buying the lies Victoria's Secret is selling along with their lingerie, learn that vital truth.

ADA is one of the few ministries which has kept pressure upon Victoria's Secret and their advertising ploys. We again are providing a list of the sponsors who empowered the Victoria's Secret "Fashion" Show on CBS. As we've put pressure on the advertisers each year, we see fewer and fewer mainline corporations sponsoring this show. However, there are still a number of companies who need to hear from you!

They include: **Pantene** shampoo and **Downy** fabric softener – both **Procter & Gamble** products. P&G was also a big sponsor of Victoria's Secret last year. Other advertisers include, **Visa**, **Snickers** candy, **Duracell**, **Sprint**, and **Pandora Jewelers**.



Procter & Gamble

A.G. Lafley - President and CEO
1 Procter & Gamble Plaza
Cincinnati OH 45202
Phone: 513-983-1100
mediateam.im@pg.com

Do We Really Live in a Rape Culture?

by Chris Johnson



What is Rape Culture? BuzzFeed asks, and I position my cursor over the link, ready to learn. After all, feminists have spoken a lot about America's supposed rape culture, especially on college campuses, over the past few weeks.

The controversy came to a head with a Rolling Stone article about a University of Virginia rape victim - a case which was later shown to be very poorly investigated by the reporter and which claims showed serious discrepancies. Nevertheless, the article inspired "soul-searching" on the part of that and other universities in regards to their campus-life.

"'Rape culture' is a culture in which sexual violence is considered the norm — in which people aren't taught not to rape, but are taught not to be raped." Rape culture, I think we can all agree, is a bad thing. The question, then is, are we living in one?

The problem with this charge by feminists, as with those of race-baiters, is that it paints too broad a spectrum of culture as villains. While virtually everyone agrees that it would be wrong for a police-officer to shoot an unarmed, surrendering suspect, no matter how deep their tan, when an officer of one color shoots a suspect of another color, everyone who is the same color as the shooter is labeled a racist. The resulting defensiveness is simply absorbed as proof of racism.

Similarly, when a woman is the victim in an alcohol fueled gang rape (whether the Rolling Stone story is accurate or not, such cases have doubtless occurred), and the term "rape culture" is introduced, all men are labeled as potential rapists, and the resulting defensiveness is absorbed as proof of this "rape culture."

Whether ours is a "rape culture" must depend on what we mean by "sexual violence." BuzzFeed points to a Cosmopolitan article which presents an expanded definition, adding to the traditional and terrifying idea of intercourse with a gun to the victim's head, for example.

"'Gray rape is a sexual encounter that falls 'somewhere between consent and denial,' where 'both parties are unsure of who wanted what.'"

This may be one of the few instances where Cosmopolitan is qualified to define something, particularly as it seems to be a term they have coined (and which many feminists reject).

"Many experts feel that gray rape is in fact often a consequence of today's hookup culture: lots of partying and flirting, plenty of alcohol, and ironically, the idea that women can be just as bold and adventurous about sex as men are. How can something so potentially empowering become so damaging...?"

A generation ago, it was easier for men and women to understand what constituted rape because the social rules were clearer. Men were supposed to be the ones coming on to women, and women were said to be looking for relationships, not casual sex.

But those boundaries and rules have been loosening up for decades, and now lots of women feel it's perfectly okay to go out looking for a hookup or to be the aggressor, which may turn out fine for them — unless the signals get mixed or misread."

In Professor Alan Bloom's classic, "The Closing of the American Mind," (which I'm on my second attempt to get through,) he spends some time on the conflict between sexual liberty and feminism.

"The sexual revolution marched under the banner of freedom; feminism under that of equality. Although they went arm in arm for a while, their differences eventually put them at odds with each other, as [Frances de] Toqueville said freedom and equality always would be."

The feminist taking part in "hook-up culture" on campus demands at once sexual liberty and sexual restraint.

I hope the reader understands at this point that it is not my desire to blame the victims of rape, "gray" or otherwise. I am not blaming the women that "feel it's perfectly okay to go out looking for a hookup" for their assaults. In the case that men have such a right, women do too, but our current sexual climate is good for no one. I blame the whole system.

The point is not that we have a rape culture, but that we have a culture absorbed in sex. It's not that sexual violence is the norm; it's that public sexuality is the norm. The sexual revolution accomplished some good - sex is not shameful, and ought to be enjoyed - in its intended context. The problem which feminism and the sexual revolution have both saddled us with is the removing of any such context.

As Alan Bloom later explained, *"Libertinism allows for what even Rousseau called the greatest pleasure. **But in making sex easy, it can trivialize, de-erotize and demystify sexual relations.**"*

The problem on our college campuses and in the culture at large is that sex is everywhere; it's at the center of everything; it IS everything - it's the center of virtually every advertising campaign, every election, every rising and falling star, ... and that makes it nothing.

As Bloom recounts in one anecdote, *"I once asked a class how it could be that not too long ago parents would have said, 'Never darken our door again,' to wayward daughters, whereas now they have rarely protest when boyfriends sleep over in their homes. A very nice, very normal, young woman responded, 'Because it's no big deal.'"*

Not to advocate disowning wayward children, but if the fruit of the sexual revolution is that sex is "no big deal," is that really progress? Can we really say that

[Continued on Page 8]

What is Rape Culture?

by Chris Johnson



[Continued from Page 7]

men and women have flourished as a result of this cheapening of sex?

In terms of the present controversy, when the act is considered by the culture in general to be "no big deal," should we be expected to be incensed when it is forced on someone who doesn't want it?

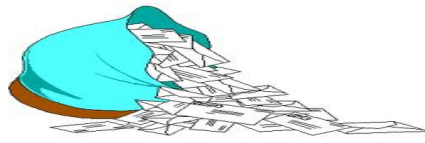
The truth is that sex IS a big deal. It is a big deal because its misuse can ruin a person's life and leave them feeling violated and scarred.

While Christians are often maligned as being anti-sex, the truth is we don't think less of sex than the world does, but MORE of it. Today's culture sees sex as a fun physical activity, but the Bible tells us it is a gift from the Divine for married couples to enjoy and to unite them as "one flesh."

John Stonestreet of Breakpoint challenges Christians to embrace that truth.

"So what does all this mean for us, the people of God? At a minimum, it means that now is no time for the church to stop pretending that violating God-given sexual norms is innocuous. Now is not the time to change our views in order to be 'relevant' or 'heard.' The chickens are coming home to roost, you might say. We need to strengthen our voices about God's design for human flourishing, tell our young people as clearly and consistently as possible that sex is a beautiful gift of God intended for marriage—that is, that permanent union of male and female, which is intended as a picture of Christ and His Church. And we need to be quick and ready with the offer of Christ's redemption to any life broken by these lies of the sexual revolution."

What people are saying



Thank you for all the work you do on our behalf. EVERY day there is just one story after another of attacks on our religious freedom. ... We are grandparents to 3 and almost 4 children; I know I am not to fear, but yet I do fear the world they will grow up in if we all just sit back and think nothing can happen to our religious freedoms in America. Again, thank you for standing for us. ... God bless you all, and keep standing firm!

R&J. B.

We are standing behind you with prayer. Thank you for your work.

God Bless,

T&U. E.

Thank you for your unwavering faithfulness and commitment to God and country. May the LORD use your love and sacrifice and hard work to change hearts and bring glory to God in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Keep on! With you,

E&J. P.

You and your American Decency radiate God's image in our community. May God continue to touch your every step of your earthly journey.

G.H.

There have been many times that I am in the store and an email I have read comes flashing in my mind and I walk away from an item that I intended to buy. I know that people say it's only 1 box but those boxes add up to a hefty total.

D.S.

Praying for you – a voice in the wilderness.

"What is required of us is to be FAITHFUL."

Thank you for your service!!

D&J. V.

Bill:

It was very interesting reading your story and journey to becoming a Christian and seeing the similarities with my own

journey, even to the time periods and experience with my own father. I may have been a little more of a "hippy" than you were but the changes God made in my life once I realized and confessed He was my only hope for salvation still amaze me. Overnight he removed the desire to get high. Of course I lost a lot of friends (my roommates didn't want to hear about what I was learning) but he brought new friends to walk along with me in my new life. Thank you for your heart and your dedication to following the path God has set before you. I pray for you to continue to have an open heart. God bless,

R. J.

My succinct reply to Kellogg's: 'I doubt these people eat much Kellogg's breakfast products; now I don't either.'

I appreciate your faithfulness.

J.V.

Your November newsletter Frontline is so good and we are so thankful for your good work. We want to send you this extra donation. We can never thank you enough for standing strong and courageous in the fight for goodness and honor to our Lord.

I have written to the Hallmark Co. and returned my rewards card which I will no longer be using. Thank you,

G&M. T.

Our hearts are heavy for our country. Keep up the good work—our prayers are with you.

B&J. W.

I would like to commend and thank each of you for your good work and dedication to the cause of Christ. The quality of so many of your articles in the newsletter and online are superior! God bless you all!

N&B. W.

Thank you for being God's voice for truth and justice.

C&D. V.

You are an instrument of Blessing by the Lord to us. Thank you. In Christ's Love,

L.D.