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PORNOGRAPHY AMONG CHRISTIAN YOUTH AND THE ROLE OF THE
CHURCH IN COMBATING ITS MENACE

(A CASE STUDY OF J. T. AYORINDE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IN LAGOS
CENTRAL BAPTIST CONFERENCE)

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ABSTRACT

This research investigates the Role of the Church in Combating Pornography Menace among Christian Youths. The researcher was motivated to work on this topic due to his personal encounter with pornography victims during counseling sessions. Many innocent lives particularly the youth had been ruined due to their continual exposure to pornography. The purpose of this research is to examine what Christian churches are doing to combat pornography and its menace among the youth, most importantly the Christian youth. The issue of pornography has not been given better spaces for discussion within churches on “moral” ground. This study aims to qualitatively seek young Christian’s views and how their different churches are dealing with the issue of pornography. The instrument used by the researcher is a self-designed questionnaire. The total number of eighty-eight Christian Youth of J. T. Ayorinde Baptist Association in Lagos Central Baptist Conference was used as sample. According to this research, it is affirmed that pornography is prevalent in today’s youth culture, including Christian youths. The causes of pornography such as money-making venture, science and Technology, curiosity, socialization, cultural obsession, childhood trauma and others were examined in this study. In the same vain, the effects of pornography were also looked into. The research also affirmed that negligence on the part of the parents and the church to give sound biblical teachings on sex to their youth is responsible for pornography which later leads to sexual immoral practices among them. As a result of the findings in this research, recommendations were raised of how the parents, government and most importantly the church can be of help in combating the menace of pornography.

5.2 Conclusion

This research affirmed that pornography has its effects mostly on the youth today just as it plays a key role in sexual addiction. The act of pornography had led to rape and pre-marital sex. Pornography is a deathtrap, especially for men. Addictions to it send a soul to Hell. It is a cesspool that can drown those who choose to come to its water. No matter how sanctified a man is, he is always a candidate for its deadly influence.

This research disproves all sophisticated debate that claimed that pornography is harmless. It is a big problem to the people, most importantly the youth. Because pornographic materials are not only available but prevalent among the youths. Christian youths are not immune from the effects of pornography. Christian must

therefore, rise to develop a truly biblical view of sexuality and human relationships. Without Biblical safeguards, such as a good marriage, prayer, God's word, accountability, and the desire to keep a good conscience, a man will find himself easy prey for this ugly beast. Therefore the church should embark on Sex Education in order to arrest pornography and its effect, most importantly to save the Christian youths from its trap.

5.3 Recommendations

According to the findings in this research work, the researcher recommends the following:

Youth

Christian youth must break all friendships and relationships with anyone who is still involved in pornography.

Christian youth must have an accountability mentor who is trustworthy. Perhaps, someone who was once a victim may be in the best position to do this.

Christian youths should see pornography as an end time weapon of the Devil to destroy them.

Christian youths should embrace biblical teachings on sex and they should allow scriptures to guide them in all areas of life.

Individual Christian youth should get involved with a local decency group that is organized to fight pornography. These groups have often been effective in ridding their communities of the porno plague.

The individual youth should put off the television whenever pornographic programmes are aired.

Christian youths should desist from keeping bad company because they maybe influenced negatively.

Sound teaching on sexuality by the church should not be for the engaged or married couples only but be extended to the youths.

Christian youth should take a rigid stand against pornography and its effects.

Parents

Parents should be concerned about the type of books their children are reading, the kind of films and tape they are watching or listening to.

Parent should see it as their responsibility to educate their wards about the dangers involved in pornography

Parent should set a positive example for their children and time to discuss issues related to sexuality with them. It should never be neglected!

Government

Government should make laws and also use the existing legislation to prosecute those who distribute pornographic materials.

Church

The church should provide basic, accurate information about pornography and its effects on the youth especially the Christian youth.

The Church should incorporate behavioral goals, teaching methods, and materials that are appropriate to the age, sexual experiences, and culture of the youths.

Churches should team-up together to influence the government to make a strong stand against pornography.

Churches should raise powerful campaign against pornography in the church and as well in the society.

Churches should make use of the media to educate the entire nation on the consequences of pornography on the youths and the nation at large.

Churches should desist from all levels of lukewarmness and be committed to their beliefs and also reinforce their ministering to the youth (Youth Ministry).

The church should include activities that will address social pressures associated with pornography.

To crown it up, prayers must not be neglected. In the same vein, one must never hesitate to do so if there is need to go for deliverance ministration under an anointed minister of God through the help of the Holy Spirit (Obadiah 1:17).