Pervasive Porn: Exploring the Personal and Social Costs of Pornography
McKenna Conference Center at the University of Notre Dame
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on January 31, 2015

Pornography has emerged as a serious social problem in the internet age, due to ease of access and the explicit nature of modern pornographic material. Research and experience testify that the consequences of pornography consumption reach beyond the individual consumer and producer to society at large. Especially concerning is the growing prevalence of pornographic exposure among children; teenagers comprise one of the largest cohorts of internet pornography consumption. The problem is pervasive. Children, persons suffering from addiction, loved ones and family of those suffering from addiction: all are harmed by the ubiquity of pornography. The consumption of pornography carries decisively social consequences and is a matter for social concern.

This conference seeks to provide sound scholarship along with personal testimony and therapeutic experience in an effort to better understand the personal and social costs of pornography in modern society, and to explore means of addressing the porn problem with a specific regard for the well-being of the youngest and most vulnerable among us.

Schedule:
8:30 Welcome/Refreshments
9:15 Opening Remarks (Auditorium)
  Tiernan Kane, President, Students for Child-Oriented Policy
9:30-10:45 Pornography Addiction, Industry, and Relationships (Auditorium)
  William Struthers, Professor of Psychology, Wheaton College
  Kirk Doran, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Notre Dame
  Mark Regnerus, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin
  Chair: Vincent Phillip Muñoz, Director, Tocqueville Program
11:15-12:30 Pornography, Women, and Children (Auditorium)
  Mary Anne Layden, Director, Sexual Trauma and Psychopathology Program at the Center for Cognitive Therapy, University of Pennsylvania
  Donna Hughes, Professor and Carlson Endowed Chair of Gender and Women’s Studies, University of Rhode Island
  Mary Leary, Professor of Law, Catholic University of America
  Chair: Christine Caron Gebhardt, Director, Gender Relations Center
12:30-1:30 Lunch (Lower Level)
1:45-3:00 In Principle: Philosophy and the Law (Auditorium)
  Christopher Tollefesen, Professor of Philosophy, University of South Carolina
  Gerard Bradley, Professor of Law, University of Notre Dame
  Chair: Daniel Philpott, Director, Center for Civil and Human Rights
3:30-4:30 Theological Perspectives on Pornography (Auditorium)
  Fr. Peter Ryan, SJ, Executive Director, Secretariat of Doctrine and Canonical Affairs, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
  Gabriel Reynolds, Professor of Islamic Studies and Theology, University of Notre Dame
  Chair: Leonard DeLorenzo, Director, ND Vision

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