## **Sexualization of Society**

Frank L. Reed

The tendency is for a society to become sexualized. That is, for people to think of everything in sexual terms. The powerful procreative drive is misused

When that happens it becomes difficult or impossible for women and men to view or think of each other as whole persons but rather to think of themselves and others as sexual objects. Such objectification reduces persons to bodies without other more important considerations. The innate, God-given drives are exploited for profits. In the current society (1950's-2000's) several factors have influenced this process.

-Gender as primary personal identity becomes sexual attractiveness

Make self sexually attractive

Instead of thinking of self as meaningful part of society

Instead of a total integrity

-Women in the workplace

Causes stress at home

Most productive hours spent away from home

Demands of business

To be attractive in appearance and behavior

"Work spouse" - co-worker who is available to meet needs during work hours while also having a spouse and family at home

-Birth control methods

Separates sexual activity from procreation

Sexual activity seen as recreational with no commitment required

Allows women same sexual freedom as men

Exploited by feminism

-Media

TV

**Shows** 

Advertisements

Movies and videos

Sets standards for sexual activity

Objectification of women

Roles of men and women

Desensitizes viewers to unacceptable behaviors and language

Actors and actresses become role models

Radio - "shock programs"

-Fads and styles dictate appearance and behavior

Displaying underwear

Trousers hung below boxers

Skirts that look like slips

Lace shown through or above fabric

Public appearances in PJs – just got out of (or ready to jump into) bed

Wet hair look – just got out of shower

-Loss of societal structure

Home – broken, single parent

Parents not home when children come home from school

School – out of control (have become national parent)

TV is national baby sitter for all ages

Neighborhood – people live as individuals instead of as communities

Loss of social structure requires added emphasis and demands on

internal personal structure.

## Loss of role models

-Language

Coarse and suggestive language commonplace even among believers Movies and video type games filled with sexuality

-Teaching that overemphasizes women's attire

Women and men and children should dress modestly

When will we talk to the men?

Books that purport to teach integrity advertise sinful behavior

-Pornography – images that incite improper sexual responses

Creates false intimacy

Creates false perception of availability vs. reality

Reduces people to bodies/objects

Types of porn

"Soft core" - images of people in little or no attire

"hard core" – images of people containing injury, blood, abuse, death

"kiddie porn" – images of children in improper situations

"phone sex" – live "phone actresses" -proves men have emotional longings

Porn is regressive behavior

Porn is creature worship

-Loss of characteristics of masculinity and femininity (acting like a gentleman or lady)

Results in emphasis on male and female bodies

-Divorce and broken homes

Children see parents as primarily sexual creatures

Fathers should be perceived as providers and protectors

Mothers should be perceived as nurturers and home-makers

Sexualization distorts perceptions of very young children and sets their self-concepts and behaviors and eventually destroys the fabric of society

Song of Solomon – do not awaken love until the time is right

**Feminism** 

1st wave late -1800's to 1960-women's suffrage

2<sup>nd</sup> wave - 1960 to 1990 – equal rights and pay, "reproductive freedom"

3<sup>rd</sup> wave – 1990 to present – aggressive, dominant women

Grrl/Gryl power

Feminization of men

Men dominated by women

Physical strength not needed in work place

Women gaining rights/power in all areas of society

Men not feel needed