

MORALITY FORUM UPDATE

July 2004

Morality Forum Action

Porn Destroys Civilisation

By Dianna Van der Stok

Mrs. Van der Stok was married in 1995 and has a daughter aged three years. This article originally appeared as a letter to the Watford Observer at the end of May.

Recently a shop was opened in Watford selling hardcore pornographic videos and DVDs. In an article in your paper, the owner and the manager of the shop said that they softly target women and young people just over eighteen.

Mr. Tim Hemming said, "Just as long as they are over eighteen, anybody can walk in through the door. At the end of the day it makes the world go round doesn't it? From the nature of his products, I would suppose that Mr. Hemming meant free sex makes the world go round!"

In the 1940s Professor J.D. Unwin of Cambridge University, who was a follower of Freud, made a study of 88 civilisations in an attempt to prove that Freud's theory that underneath human struggles, there are a lot of sexually struggles was historically correct. Freud proposed that people should express their sexuality freely and there should be no standards. The nuclear family, Freud said, is just an invention and is not important.

What Unwin found changed his mind completely. In every one of the 88 civilisations studied – Rome, Greece, Egypt, etc and right up to the present – whenever a strong family and marital fidelity was prevalent, the civilisation prospered. The civilisation would rise with energy and power – people committed to family are committed to society and nation. This was the time of greatest art, science and culture. This was the time of creativity and vitality.

On the other hand, whenever there was widespread promiscuity, premarital sex, infidelity and same-sex relationships the civilisation was dead within three generations – with no exceptions!

So, I would kindly correct Mr. Hemming. Free sex and promiscuity do not make the world go round.

What is the situation in Britain today? Rates of sexually transmitted disease among teenagers (including AIDS) have doubled from 1991 to 2000 (1,322,910). The reason – promiscuous sexual behaviour. The teenage pregnancy rate here is the highest in Europe. High school (and even primary school) students are encouraged to experiment with sex in any way they want. People are taught not to worry about the consequences of free sex. Britain has a divorce rate of 63% and less and less marriages. Each day 600 babies are aborted. There has been a tenfold increase in crime since the 1950s.

In this situation Mr. Hemming targets anyone over eighteen to "get in through that door" and, he hopes, contribute to his millions. I want to ask Mr. Hemming how important his millions are when set against the degradation of our society, which I have described? Does his shop contribute to the health and prosperity of Watford? Is it in the public interest?

The pornography business is nothing to do with a desire to serve others and serve society. It is simply selfish. Porn generates selfishness, especially in the vitally important area of the relationship between man and woman. It does not inspire people to live for the sake of each other. Rather, it encourages each to use the other and later discard them for someone else.

Love is what brings people together. Marriage and family life can give us unequalled experiences of love and inspire us to share this and contribute to society. Porn annihilates people's spirit and gives a wrong idea about the opposite sex. The consequences can be to destroy the mutual trust and respect between spouses.

For those as yet single, it can cause a whole life of disappointment trying to find love where it can not be found. It can lead to other consequences like incurable diseases or sexual offences.

Despite the fact that the Council was pushed into giving a licence for this shop, my experience with public opinion in Watford and around, tells me that

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Dirty Supermarket

Sainsburies are selling some highly offensive and immoral, so called 'Laugh Cards' in their stationary area. The wording on some of these cards is crude and vulgar. A correspondent writes, "In my local Sainsburies, these cards are visible as soon as you enter the store. Even small children can see and read them. An assistant manager, who was sympathetic with my views, removed them when I complained. Unfortunately the cards have all been put back as the local manager can not remove them without permission from his head office." If you shop in Sainsburies, why not tell the manager what you think. Their new Chief Executive is currently canvassing customer opinion about how their stores are serving the public!

Positive Action

North London members recently took part in a protest demonstration outside the House of Lords, to concentrate their minds on the crackpot Gender Recognition bill which, far from bringing about gender recognition, will make it possible to hide your real gender.

Teachers back morality

At the annual conference of the third largest teachers union, great concern was expressed about the content of teenage magazines. Delegates voted to campaign for the age classification used for films and video games to be extended to magazines.

Teachers accused the publishers of best-selling titles such as Sugar, Cosmo Girl and Bliss of 'cynically targeting primary school children' with free gifts and offensive language. "They glamorise promiscuity in a way that damages the emotional development of children at their most vulnerable," said Ralph Surman, the deputy head teacher of

Cantrell Primary School in Nottinghamshire and father of three daughters.

Sex education is being used as a 'fig leaf' for lewd articles about getting and keeping boyfriends and problem pages are full of advice about orgasm, oral sex and the size of sex organs, say the teachers. "We are exposing these children to a high level of continuous harm by the very inappropriate material chosen to boost sales."

Teachers are even offered much the same material as teaching aids and it is very encouraging to see them speaking out against the secularisation of our young children. Please check your daughter's magazines. It is not safe these days to assume that they are harmless.

If you feel the need to complain, write to; Teenage Magazine Arbitration Panel, c/o PPA, Queens House, 28 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JR. Telephone 020 7405 0819.

Euthanasia

Christopher Howse wrote an article in the Daily Telegraph on 17th July entitled 'Euthanasia by Stealth'. He stated: "A bill before Parliament details ways in which doctors will be prohibited from keeping alive patients unable to communicate. The law would prohibit a doctor or nurse giving a patient water or food – so that he or she died of dehydration... The Mental Capacity Bill makes provision for murderous behaviour. It is not why nurses and doctors do their jobs."

We have all been asked by the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child to write the our MPs and also the leader of the House of Commons, Peter Hain, to try to get this insidious bill blocked.

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Porn Destroys Civilisation

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at least 70% of Watfordians are against the existence of this porn shop. In Harrow, Barnet and Hertsmere there are no sex shops or Lap Dancing clubs because of the public opinion.

Beatles was rather the music of my parent's generation but I do love the refrain "Money can't buy me love". Promiscuous lifestyles end up in frustration and unhappiness. Money will not buy you love Mr. Hemming and promiscuity will not bring us happiness.

If you want to serve Watford I advise you to close that shop as well as the other 24 you have. I advise

you Mr. Hemming to experience the power of unselfish marital love and parental love and start worrying about what kind of world your own beloved children will inherit. ☺

Write Letters

Letters to MP's, Managers and officials are effective in influencing the way that their organisation works. Public opinion still counts for a great deal.

How is it possible?

by Bryan Warner

Where did family and social values go? How did it become possible for me to read a headline in the Daily Telegraph saying, "Under-16's given implants to cut pregnancy rates"? I remember very well what family life was like before 1939 and I remember very well how puzzled I was by the changes in the fifties and sixties.

My childhood-to-teen years were spent in a Christian country called England, where it was perfectly normal to go to church on Sunday with my father, who was a lorry driver and the goalkeeper in the local football team. The local schoolmaster, the local policeman and the local vicar were all deeply involved in the local community and they all set, and expected to see, their own high standards reflected in us.

We absorbed respect for others, concern for others, honesty and self-respect with our three R's. We absorbed goodwill, tolerance, the reality of sin and a respect for some guiding force beyond our understanding with our hymns and sermons and the example of the parson. We absorbed the facts of honesty being the best policy and the shame of being exposed to the public scorn and disapproval from our neighbours by the inevitability of being caught by the constable.

We only had one boy who was caned in the village school, but we knew that he richly deserved it and it was a salutary lesson to the rest of us. None of us were surprised when he ended up in jail in later life. The constable bicycled in stately progression round the parish and was inclined to give miscreants a cuff round the ear rather than a court appearance. That seemed to keep petty crime to a minimum.

Don't think that our community was some idyllic island of tranquillity. It wasn't. We indulged in a lot of mischief, which sometimes involved a degree of vandalism and there was a certain amount of petty crime but the aggression and malice of today was not there. Occasionally a couple 'had to' get married before the birth of their first child and a very few committed real crimes and went to court, all of which was regarded by everyone else as disgraceful behaviour.

Where did this idea of acceptable behaviour come from? As a Doctor, writing in the Telegraph put it, "...moral values were signalled, not only by leaders in their personal behaviour, but by many laws and social policies which reflected a Christian view of what was right and wrong. This was because the people initiating those policies

actually held those views and could safely assume that others did too." Result — a relatively law abiding and harmonious society!

We returned from the services after the war and set about getting back to normal. We did get back to normal in many ways but I was certainly left with a feeling of having wasted my years of military service fighting for freedom from autocracy, as society crumbled about me in a bureaucratic nightmare.

As the good Doctor put it, "An intellectual culture arose, particularly in the social sciences and associated professions, which quite explicitly abandoned Christian values. It also declared that holding any values at all — and, thereby, the making of moral judgements — was no business of theirs or the states. This culture came to hold considerable power by dominating the many government advisory bodies; the law commission, established in 1965 being a classic example.

It was this which destroyed censorship, gave us abortion on demand and divorce on demand. It abolished discipline in schools, gave free contraceptives to unmarried and under-age youngsters and foisted amoral sex education on innocent young children. This maintains such a powerful and all-embracing world view, permitting no logical argument or fact from the real world to influence it, that any dialogue is impossible."

Under-16s given implants to cut pregnancy rates, said the headline. Government figures show that 2,500 schoolgirls, some as young as 14, have been made infertile for up to three years (Causing how much damage to their ovaries?). Doctors are not obliged to tell children's parents what they have done to them. Have we gone from stupidity to madness? Dr. Anne Szarewski of the Margaret Pyke Centre apparently said, "In a strictly religious family parents could not contemplate that a daughter under 16 might be sexually active. It is easier for those women if they do not have the contraceptive pill laying around."

Women?? Now that it has reached the point where it is virtually impossible to protect our own children, it is surely past time that we went back to 'old fashioned' standards.

The government is currently pushing for Religious Education. to emphasize a secular approach. Don't you think that Christopher Jamieson has a point (Daily Telegraph 19th May) when he points out that we need to teach religion? I have talked to many hundreds of student R.E. teachers who would do just that, if they were left alone to do it. Those who pour scorn on that idea should be treated as the sick people that they surely are.

The Harrow(ing) story of Ann Summers By Basil Gurney

In the swinging sixties, a housewife decided it would be a bit of fun to market saucy lingerie and set up a 'house party' scheme. She gathered a roomful of local wives of an evening and displayed and sold her wares. The business took off and expanded into local reps running parties. Then, what had been hatched as a bit of fun in the sixties turned out to be not a swan, but a vulture.

The avaricious and exploitive moved in and decided to set up shops. Finally the pornographers took over and sailed as close to the wind as they could while still trading in the high street. Sex toys, lewd designs, lewd games and videos were added to the stock list and the generation of lust replaced the 'bit of fun'.

These sordid and degenerate shops are now likely to turn up in your town shopping centre. One appeared at the beginning of May in the St. Ann's shopping centre in Harrow, much to the disgust of families with young children. Morality Forum went into action at the end of the month. The Harrow Observer ran an article on 20th May under the banner headline "Centre is 'wrong' place for sex shop", which invited readers to express their views. The manager of the St. Ann's centre apparently held the view that concern was unnecessary.

A letter, which was published in the Harrow times of June 10th, put matters well in perspective. It reads, in part, "I am writing regarding the sex shop in the St. Ann's shopping centre. Having sex shops in shopping centres is a sign of a totally morally and spiritually bankrupt society.

Roy Jenkins, the former Labour Home Secretary, was the main instigator of the permissive society, which has had devastating consequences for family life in Britain. He said, '... the permissive society is the civilised society'. When asked, years later, what he thought of the permissive society he would not answer. He knew full well that the answer to

that question was ever increasing levels of crime, divorces, abortions, teenage pregnancies and social problems in general.

Family values are the key and blue print for stable societies. Sex shops degrade the sex act, which was intended to be a holy expression of love. Such shops trivialise sex and treat it as a fun thing. Responsibility, love, commitment and fidelity are not considered by those making money out of sex. What message does this send out to vulnerable young people when it appears to be condoned by responsible adults?"

Over 1,000 signatures were gathered in two days on a petition opposing the store and the promoters were convinced that they could rapidly gather many thousands more. On 17th June the Harrow Observer published a statement from the store spokesman saying that the store was doing well. The paper reports that the shop does not need a sex shop licence because unless more than 1% of sales are classed as hardcore pornography. The Rampant Rabbit is classified as a massage tool and therefore not pornographic!

News Snippet

Violent Films

Quentin Tarantino, the producer of some of the most violent films ever made has decided that he wants to make films that contain even higher levels of violence! People in Britain and other nations have already lost their lives through sick minded people copying the violence enacted in some of Tarantino's films. It beggars belief that such films were ever allowed to go on general release. For certain, more lives will be lot through people copying the violence seen in the films. Mr Tarantino is obviously a very misguided and irresponsible person.

Please write to your MP and the Board of Film Classification, 3 Soho Square, London W1V 6HD

ADDRESSES

Your MP:	House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA Tel: 020 7219 3000
Adv. Standards Authority:	2 Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HW Tel:020 7580 5555 Fax: 7323 4339
Board of Film/Video Classification:	3 Soho Square, London W1V 6HD Tel: 020 7439 7961 Fax: 7287 0141
Broadcasting Standards Commission:	7 The Sanctuary, London SW1P 3LS Tel: 01233 237 700 Fax: 01233235 870
Head of Programme Complaints Unit:	BBC, Broadcasting House, Portland Place, London W1 1AA Tel: 08700 100 222
Internet Watch Found'n:	E.View, Coles Lane, Oakington, Cambs. CB4 5BA Tel: 020 7233 0554 Fax: 7233 0397
Media March:	PO Box 53, Cheltenham GL53 7ZQ Tel: 020 8467 6452
Family and Youth Concern:	Elizabeth House, 39 York Road, London SE1 7NQ Tel:020 7401 5480 Fax: 7401 5471
Media Watch:	3 Willow House, Kennington Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 0NR Tel: 101233 633 936
SPUC	5/6 Saint Matthew Street, London SW1P 2JT
The Christian Institute	26, Jesmond Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4PQ 0191 281 5664 Fax: 0191 281 4272
Pure Love Alliance:	19 Rose Way, Lee, London SE12 6DN Tel: 020 8318 9313
Morality Forum:	43 Lancaster Gate, London W2 3NA Tel: 020 7723 0721 Fax: 7724 2262