

The Road to Perversion Is Paved With Pornography

'Regular guys' becoming sexual predators of children.

Millions of men and boys are falling for the destructive myth that looking at "adult" porn is normal, healthy and harmless for "regular guys." Way too many are finding themselves handcuffed between two cops, under arrest for sexual conduct with a kid. The hook-ups with kids are occurring on the main streets of U.S. cities and the dark alleys of the virtual world.

Experts estimate that 50,000 sexual predators prowl the Internet for children every day. As long as myth trumps truth, the next estimate could be 10 times what it is today. Stopping predators before they ravage our kids and grandkids will be insurmountable.

The easy access to millions of pages of online porn is speeding up the dependence and escalation to harder-core material and more.

The centerfolds no longer gratify? There's an unending supply of harder-core images instantly available within a few mouse clicks and free for the taking. Want deviant? There's deviant beyond anything uncorrupted minds can fathom. Want some younger "stuff"? There's "pseudo" child porn where young-looking adults dress and act like teens and even toddlers sucking a pacifier and hugging stuffed animals. Want real child porn when the pretend doesn't do it anymore? It's traded for free by perverts in Internet chat rooms and encrypted Web sites, and for sale, and raking in billions. Want kids? There's a virtual playground full of kids ready to chat, instant message, and eager to send digital photos and videos to other "kids." Want a pimp for a hook-up with a kid? No need to risk being seen picking up a kid in a red light district. Their pimps and slave masters are online.

"Men fly in, are met by pimps, have sex with a 14-year-old for lunch, and get home in time for dinner with the family," said Sanford Jones, the chief juvenile judge of Fulton County, Georgia."¹

Stop and read it again until you get it. Men are flying home to dinner with the wife and kids after having sex with a kid. Who does that?

Most people can't even handle thinking about it, so they mix more myth and some truth to relieve their discomfort:

They're all pedophiles.

All child molesters are pedophiles.

There are more pedophiles than I realized.

Pedophiles probably get married and have kids to hide who they are.

Pedophiles are only into kiddie porn.

Regular guys stick with adult porn.

No guy I know would have sex with a kid.

I'm no guy who would have sex with a kid.

Not every guy who has sex with a minor is a pedophile. Most aren't. You may need to read that again too.

There is a difference between pedophiles who prefer to have sex with children and child molesters who prefer to have sex with adults but will have sex with a child if the situation presents itself. And it presents itself big time on the Internet.

For the kids' sake, educate yourself by reading *Child Molesters: A Behavioral Analysis*, authored by Ken Lanning for The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. spent 27 years investigating and apprehending child molesters of all types and training thousands of law enforcement officers the skills to do the same. America's parents and children are forever in his debt.

For the child, it couldn't matter less what the clinical definition of his or her molester may be. What should matter to the rest of us is stopping "regular guys" from becoming child molesters.

According to Gates and Goodman:

Half of the street-level prostitutes in Atlanta are believed to be under 18, according to experts. Others are booked through Internet sex sites and from social sites like Black Planet, where girls innocently post profiles. ... In March, police arrested a Canadian man meeting a 14-year-old girl he found through the Internet. ... Another man drove from North Georgia, with a bag containing a teddy bear, a love note and condoms, snorting methamphetamine on the way. He expected a 13-year-old girl, but instead found Heather Lackey, a corporal with the Peachtree City Police Department. ... During the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, one man kept boys and hosted sex parties nightly.

Recently a congressional committee heard the gut-wrenching testimony of a 19-year-old telling how he began operating his own commercial Web site where men could view sexually explicit photos he took of himself. Justin Berry's nightmarish story is that of a 13-year-old boy in a broken home allowed unsupervised access to a Webcam and the Internet. A lonely boy looking for friends and love in all the wrong places immediately "found" adult males who seduced him with attention, gifts and money. Personal meetings led to his sexual abuse, which led to him sexually exploiting other boys by encouraging them to join the sordid business.

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's latest weekly report indicates that its Cybertipline has received "2,589 complaints of unsolicited obscene material sent to a child" from September 1, 2002, through April 9, 2006. Worse yet are the "15,995 complaints of online enticement of children for sexual acts" in the last six years.

Here are just two recent media reports:

Lawmakers from both parties continued on Thursday to question the commitment of the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to halting the online exploitation of children. ... William W. Mercer, a U.S. attorney for Montana, testified that the caseload of the child exploitation section had increased 445 percent in the last four years, adding that federal prosecutions of child pornography and abuse cases increased to more than 1,500 cases last year from 344 in 1995.

The Department of Homeland Security's deputy press secretary appeared in a Maryland state court and refused extradition to Florida, where he faces charges of using the Internet to seduce a detective he thought was a 14-year-old girl. ... Over time, the authorities said, Mr. Doyle sent the detective "hard-core pornographic movie clips" and used the chat room service of AOL and his telephones "to have explicit sexual conversations." The sheriff's office said some of the exchanges "are too extraordinary and graphic for public release."