

# False Intimacy: The Counterfeit of Pornography

Scripture Passages  
(taken from the English Standard Version)

## INTRODUCTION

Current sermon series: Song of Solomon

The next 3 weeks:

### SERMON mini-SERIES

*False Intimacy*

#### This Week

### The Counterfeit and Consequence of Pornography

The Road that Leads to Destruction

What is God's will for your life?  
1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

Sin against yourself  
1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Wired for Intimacy:  
How pornography hijacks  
the male brain

1. It changes the way you think
2. Countless on ramps, but few exits
3. Unable to see women as should
4. Less responsive in all things

False Intimacy in Marriage

Breaking Free from Porn in a Porn-saturated world

**Application** – *What are you going to do?*

#### 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

3For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. 7For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

#### 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

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#### Romans 8:5-14

5For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. 6For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. 8Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. 10But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. 12So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

## **SERMON mini-SERIES: False Intimacy**

Study Guide for Personal or Small Group Growth

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – Hope Community Church (written by Pastor Cor Chmielecki)

*Week One – The Counterfeit and Consequence of Pornography*

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

### **Opening Questions:**

- How has culture come to view pornography? How has the internet, TV, movies, etc. provided ongoing challenge in this area?
- How has pornography been experienced in your life? Do you have a starting point (similar to Pastor Cor) where pornography showed up? Was it another person that influenced you - like a friend?

### **Digging into the Topic:**

#### **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8**

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1. God's will is often sought in looking for a job, or deciding to marry someone, or traveling overseas. But, in this passage God's will is clearly seen to be "your sanctification." How are you affected by the truth that central to God's will is that you would be sanctified? What does this mean for you as you seek to live for the will of God?
2. What does the passage describe as "sanctification?" List them out. Then pick one. What would it look like for the Gospel to be pulled through this area of your life? In other words, how will you experience the grace that God has for you and contend/fight/DO because of his grace?

#### **1 Corinthians 6:18-20**

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1. Are there other ways that you've heard it explained that when a person sins sexually, they sin against their own body? What do you make of the principal contention that pornography significantly re-wires the mind? Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why?
2. Were any of the resources or quotations especially impactful, alarming, sad, or challenging? Which one? Why do you think it impacted you?

3. Pastor Cor listed 4 ways in which pornography can hijack the male mind. Are there any that especially resonated with you? How have you experienced this in your own life?
  1. It changes the way you think
  2. Countless on ramps, but few exits
  3. Unable to see women as should
  4. Less responsive in all things
4. Quote: Today, real naked women are just bad porn.” Naomi Wolf, New York Magazine, The Porn Myth  
What emotions and comments does that quote elicit in you?

### **Romans 8:5-14**

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1. List out in columns the 2 ways of living listed in the passage – Life according to the Spirit and Life according to the Flesh. Comment on the two lists.
2. What is one concrete action (recall Jill asking Cor: what are you goin’ do?) you’d like to take in this area in response to what God has done for you in the Gospel?

### **For Further Reading:**

Bill Perkins, *When Good Men are Tempted*, Zondervan (2007)

Harry Schaumburg, *False Intimacy*, NavPress (1997)

William Struthers, *Wired for Intimacy*, IVP (2009)

[http://nymag.com/nymetro/news/trends/n\\_9437/](http://nymag.com/nymetro/news/trends/n_9437/)

<http://yourbrainonporn.com/garys-presentations-and-articles>

<http://www.cnn.com/video/data/2.0/video/us/2010/07/28/am.intv.dines.pornland.cnn.html>

<http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/taste-see-articles/anthem-strategies-for-fighting-lust>



# SONG OF SOLOMON

DATING. MARRIAGE. SEX. ROMANCE. GOD.

# CLASSIC HOPE QUOTE

## Regarding Sex

“Just go on the internet. There’s tons of good resources there.”

Steve Treichler



The image features a central point where a piece of clear glass has shattered, with numerous sharp, jagged fragments radiating outwards. The background is a solid, deep black. Overlaid on this scene is the text "FALSE INTIMACY" in a large, white, bold, sans-serif typeface. The text is arranged in two lines: "FALSE" on the top line and "INTIMACY" on the bottom line. The shattering glass effect is most prominent in the center, partially obscuring the middle of the words. The overall composition is high-contrast and visually striking, suggesting a theme of broken trust or shattered illusions.

**Week #1: The Counterfeit of Pornography**

**Week #2: Out of Bounds Sexuality**

**Week #3: Redemption from False Intimacy**



**FALSE  
INTIMACY**

# The Road that Leads to Destruction



DOING THE MOST GOOD. <sup>SM</sup>

# The Road that Leads to Destruction



DOING THE MOST GOOD.™

HOME

PROGRAMS THAT HELP

WAYS TO GIVE

Anti-Pornography

Housing and Homeless Services

Music

SAWSO

Missing Persons

Recreation

Community Care Ministries

Youth Camps

Disaster Relief

Adult Rehabilitation

Combating Human Trafficking

Christmas Charity

Elderly Services

Upcoming Events

Code of Conduct for Men

Spanish Anti-Pornography Resources

Taking Action

White Ribbon Against Pornography

Anti-Pornography Books

Anti-Pornography Articles & Reports

Sexual Addiction Treatment

Anti-Pornography Videos

Anti-Pornography Websites

**“...Whose consciences are seared...”**

# 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8

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# A Pastor's Transparency

# Preliminaries

- There's grace for those who go through this and grace for those who are kept from it.

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- The assumption is that *everyone* has been impacted by this in some manner.
- Hope is here to help in every way possible.
- God gets the final word.

False Intimacy:  
The Counterfeit and  
Consequence of Pornography

# False Intimacy: The Counterfeit and Consequence of Pornography

## 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

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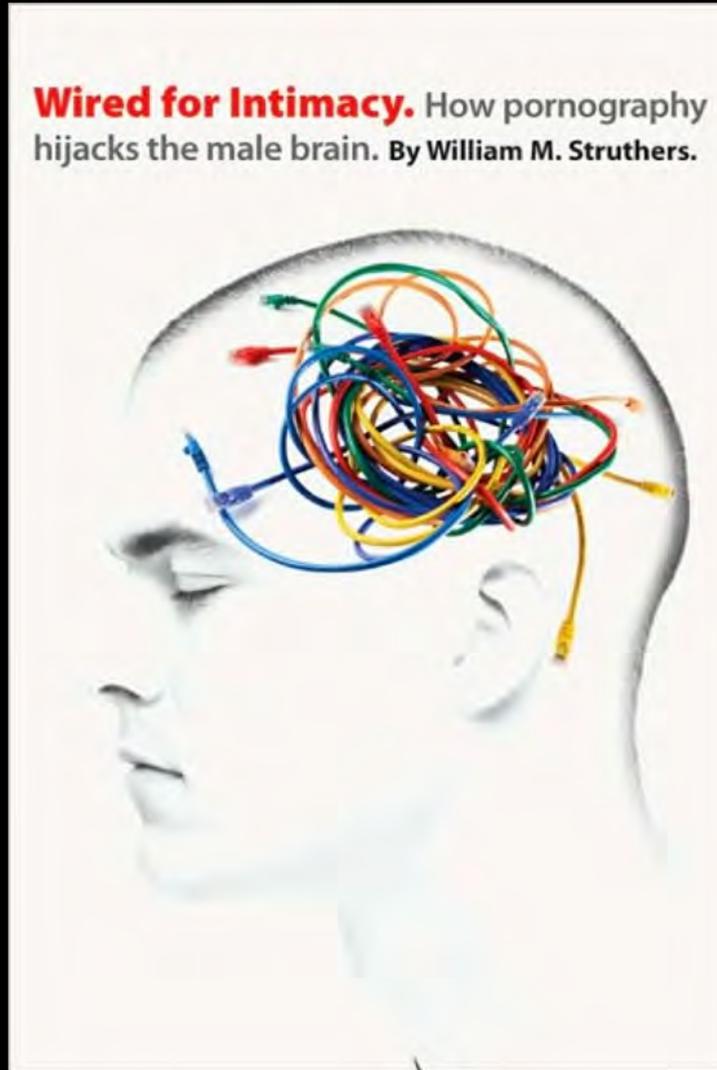
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The “experts” agree!

# Wired for Intimacy: How pornography hijacks the male brain

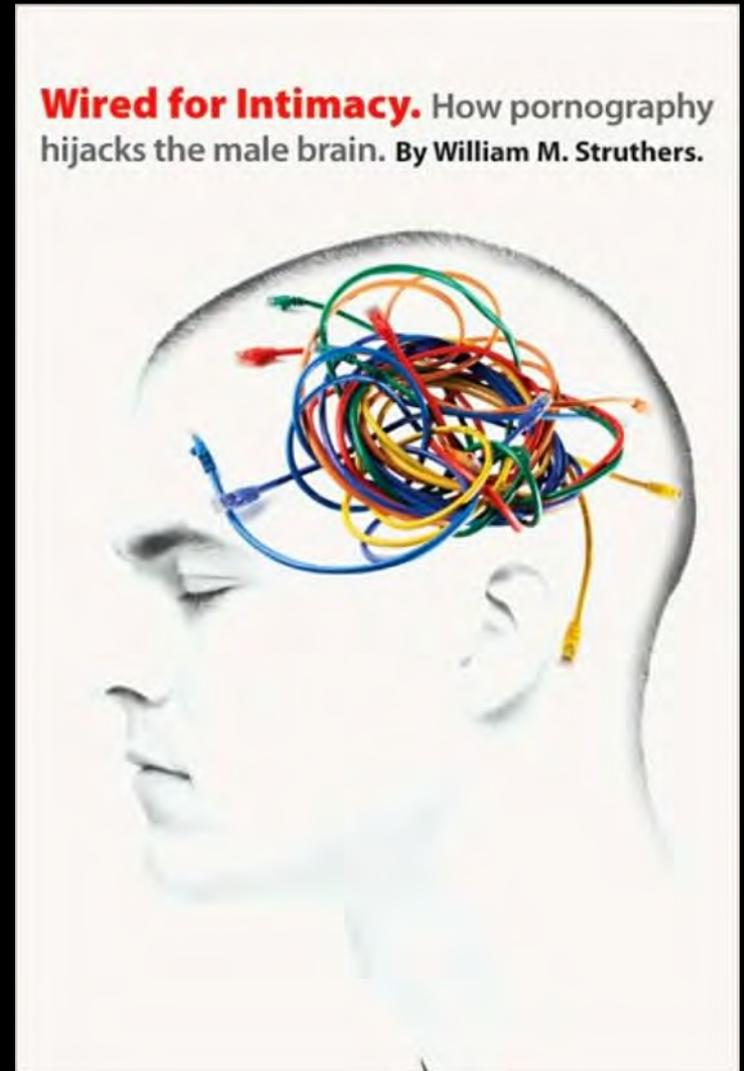


# Your Brain on Porn

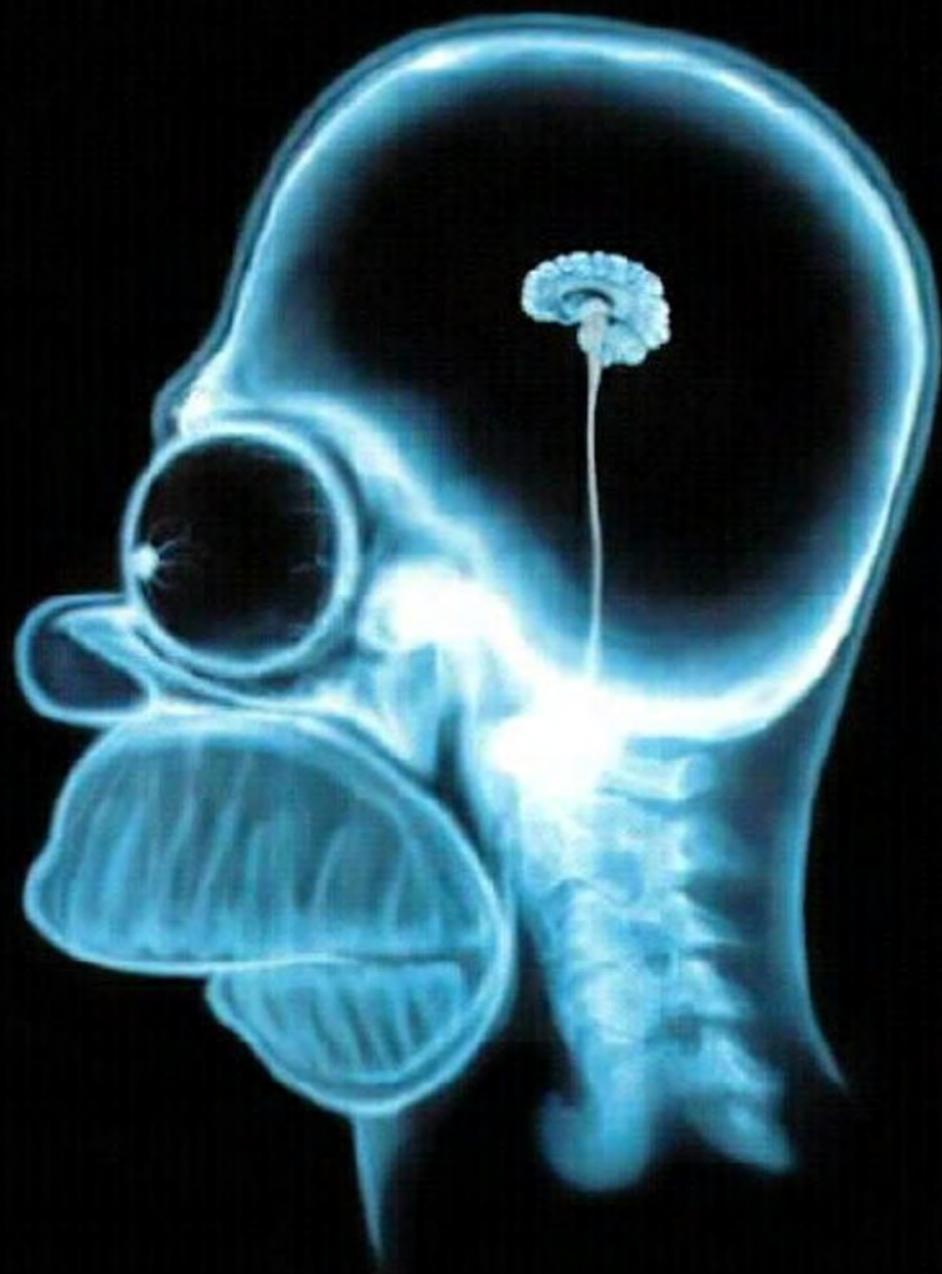
## #1: It changes the way you think.

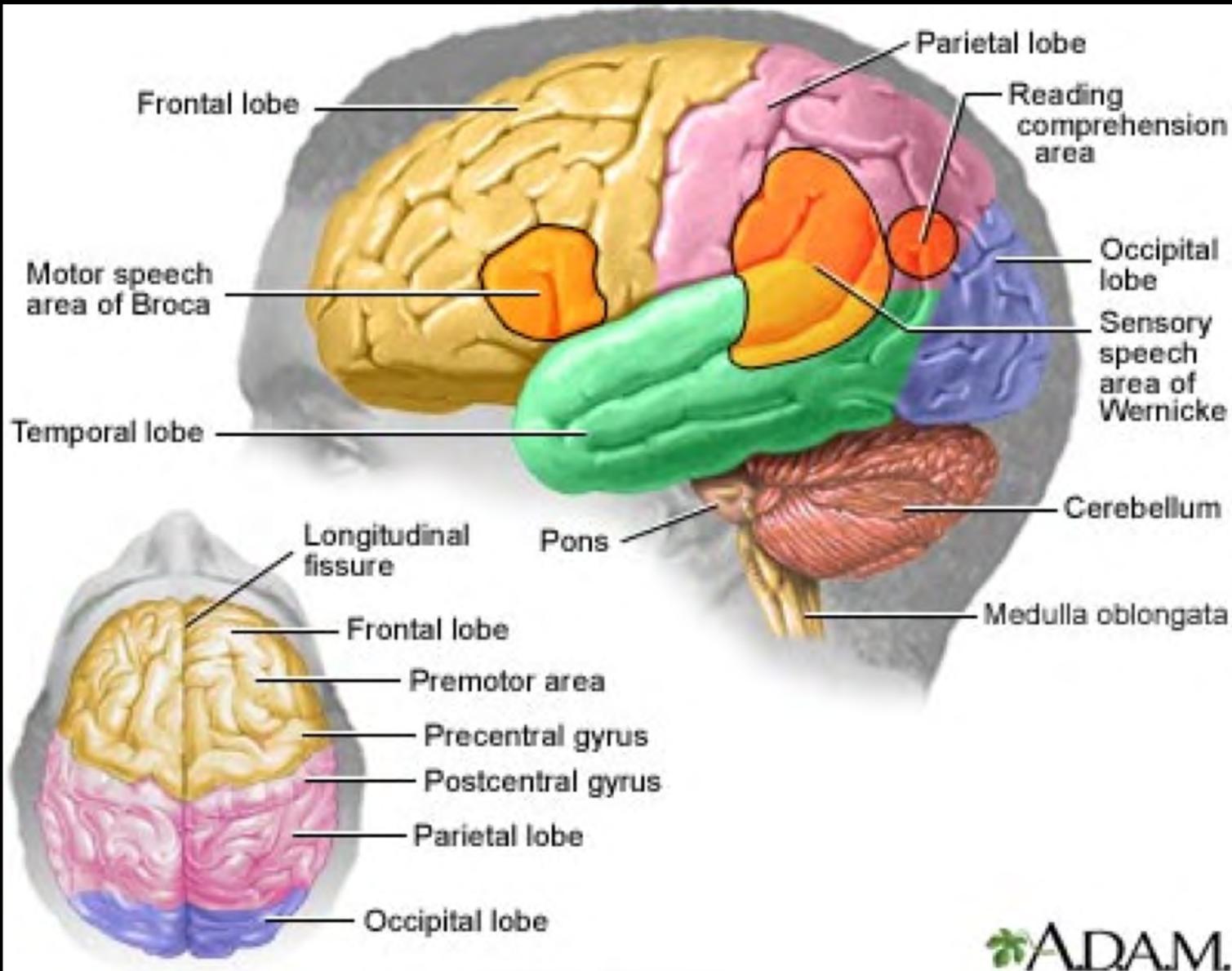
“Repeated exposure to pornography and the objectification of the female body changes the way our brains see each other. Repeated exposure to any stimulus results in neurological circuit making. That is how we learn.”

~William Struthers









# Your Brain on Porn

## #1: It changes the way you think.

“Over the years the pervasiveness of pornography has rendered men *less* sexually responsive to real women...

For most of human history, the erotic images have been reflections of, or celebrations of, or substitutes for, real naked women. For the first time in human history, the images power and allure have *supplanted* that of real naked women. Today, real naked women are just bad porn.”

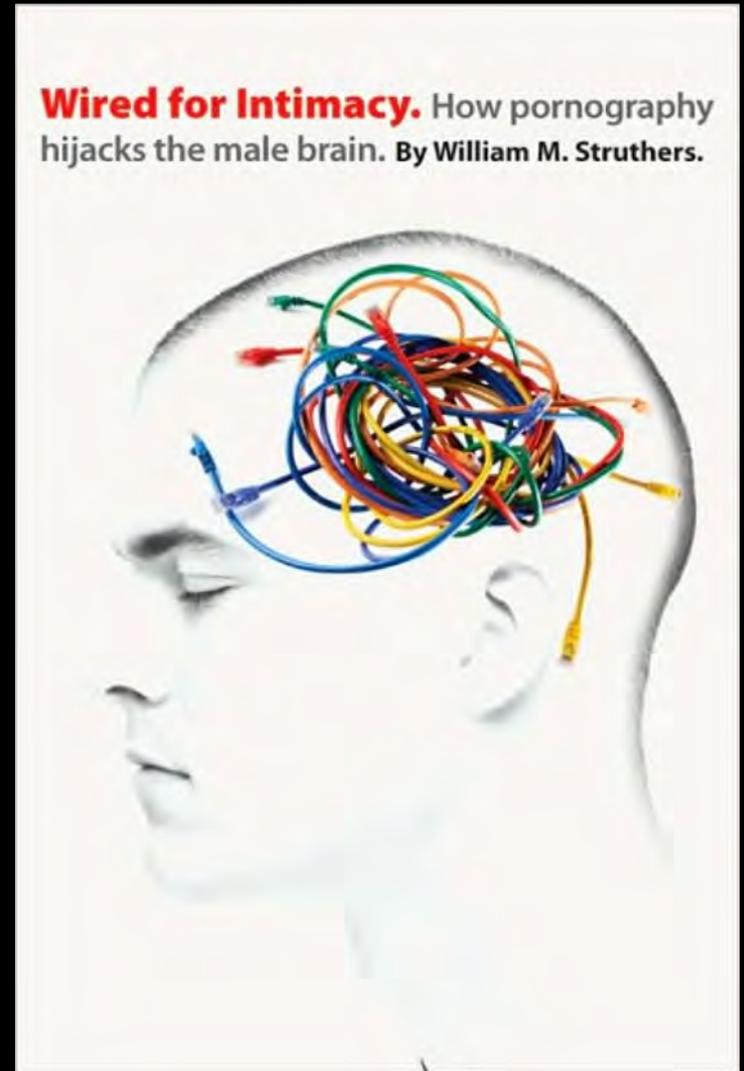
~Naomi Wolf, New York Magazine, The Porn Myth

# Your Brain on Porn

## #2: Countless on ramps, but few exits

“Just as food is consumed and digested by the body, pornography is consumed by the senses and digested by the brain...however, there is no process for the ‘waste’ products associated with pornography to be removed.”

~William Struthers

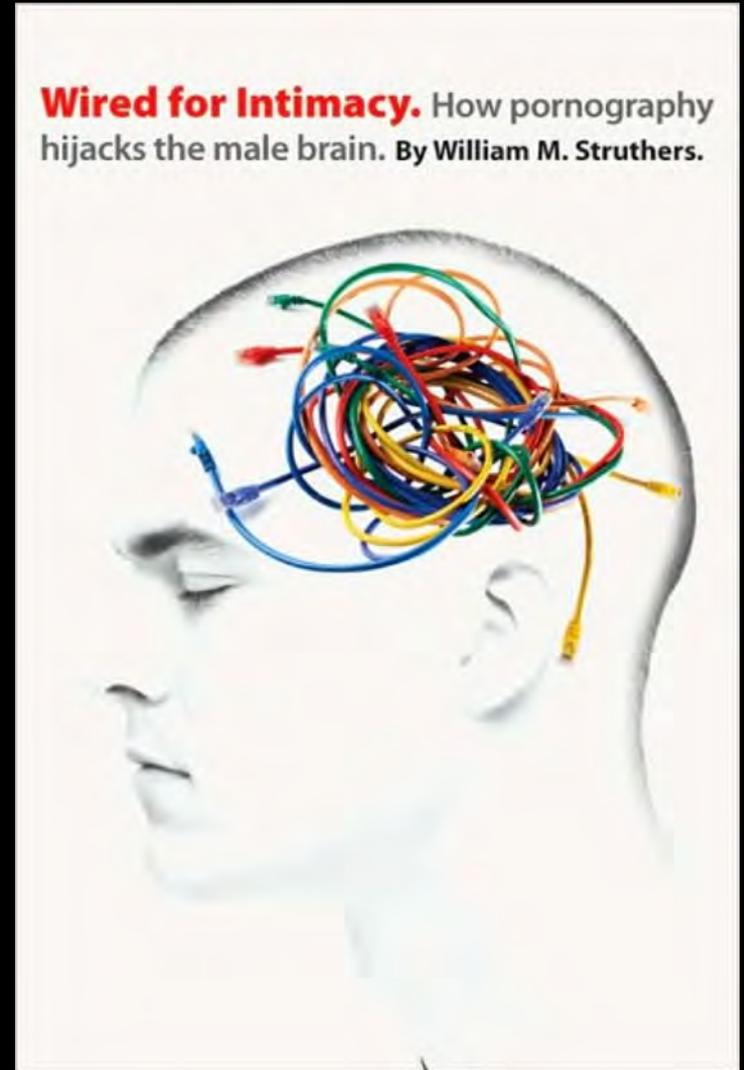


# Your Brain on Porn

## #3: Impedes relationships

“Pornography shapes and rewires men in such a way that they become unable to see women as they should...[Due to porn use] men develop psychological and behavioral habits that prevent relational fulfillment.”

~William Struthers



# Your Brain on Porn

Chandler: I was just at the bank and there was this really hot teller, and she didn't ask me to go do it with her in the vault!

Joey: Same kind of thing happened to me! Woman pizza-delivery guy comes over, gives me the pizza, takes the money, and leaves!

Chandler: What? No "Nice apartment. I bet the bedrooms are huge?"

Joey: No! Nothing!

Chandler: You know what?

We have to turn off the porn.



# Your Brain on Porn

Addict: I can't get the pictures ...out of my head when having sex, and I am not really focusing on the girl but on the last scene I watched.

Interviewer: Do you think porn has in any way affected your sexuality?

Addict: I don't know. I started looking at porn before I had sex, so porn is pretty much how I learned about sex. It can be a kind of problem to think about porn as much as I do, especially when I'm with my girlfriend. It means I'm not really present with her. My head is somewhere else.

# Your Brain on Porn

#4: Less responsive in all things

# Your Brain on Porn

“Unnaturally strong explosions of synthetic experience and sensation and pleasure evoke unnaturally strong degrees of habituation. This has two consequences. As the first, soon we hardly notice anymore the fleeting whispers of pleasure caused by leaves in autumn, or by the lingering glance of the right person, or by the promise of reward that will come after a long, difficult, and worthy task. The other consequence is that, after awhile, we even habituate to those artificial deluges of intensity. . . . Our tragedy is that we just become hungrier. More and faster and stronger.”

~Robert Sapolsky, Stanford University

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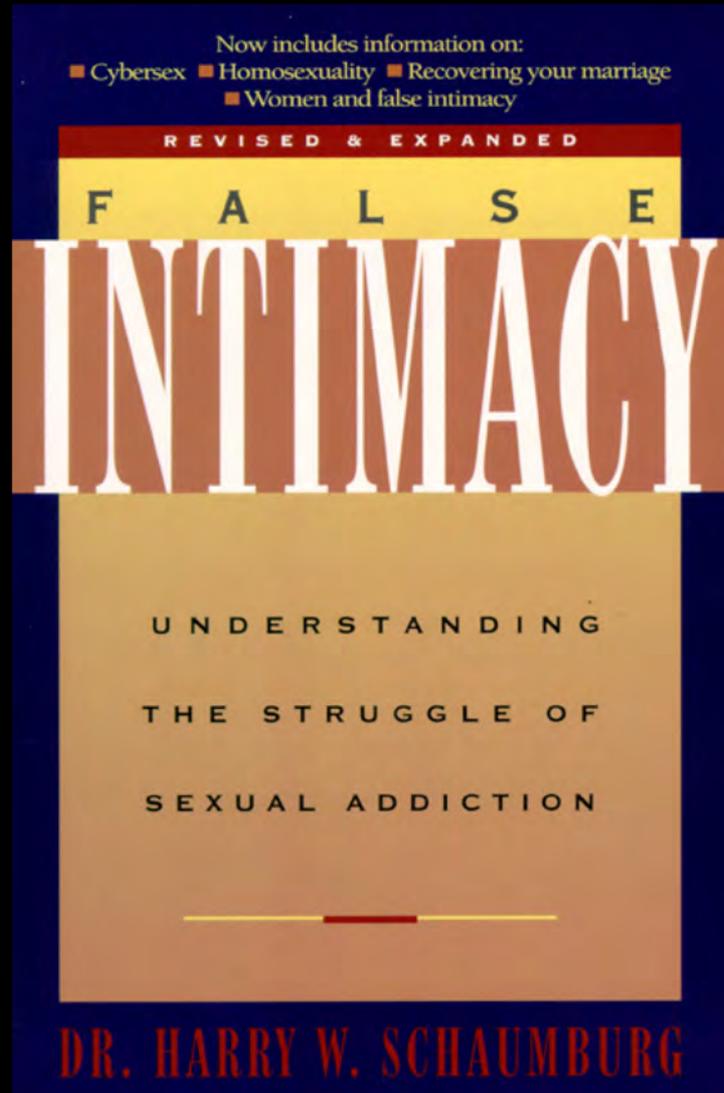
Is that me?

# Is that me?

“If your sexual tastes have changed, so has your brain.”

~Gary Wilson, Your Brain On Porn

# False Intimacy in Marriage



# False Intimacy in Marriage

*A note to wives*

“I’m caught and I can’t get free.”

“I’m caught and I can’t get free.”

It is NOT:

1. Finding the silver bullet
2. Sexual sobriety
3. Behavior management
4. Better boundaries
5. Accountability groups
6. Prayer of deliverance
7. Better internet software

# At the intersection of Gospel and Sexuality

## Romans 6:20-22

<sup>20</sup>For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

# At the intersection of Gospel and Sexuality

## Romans 6:11-14

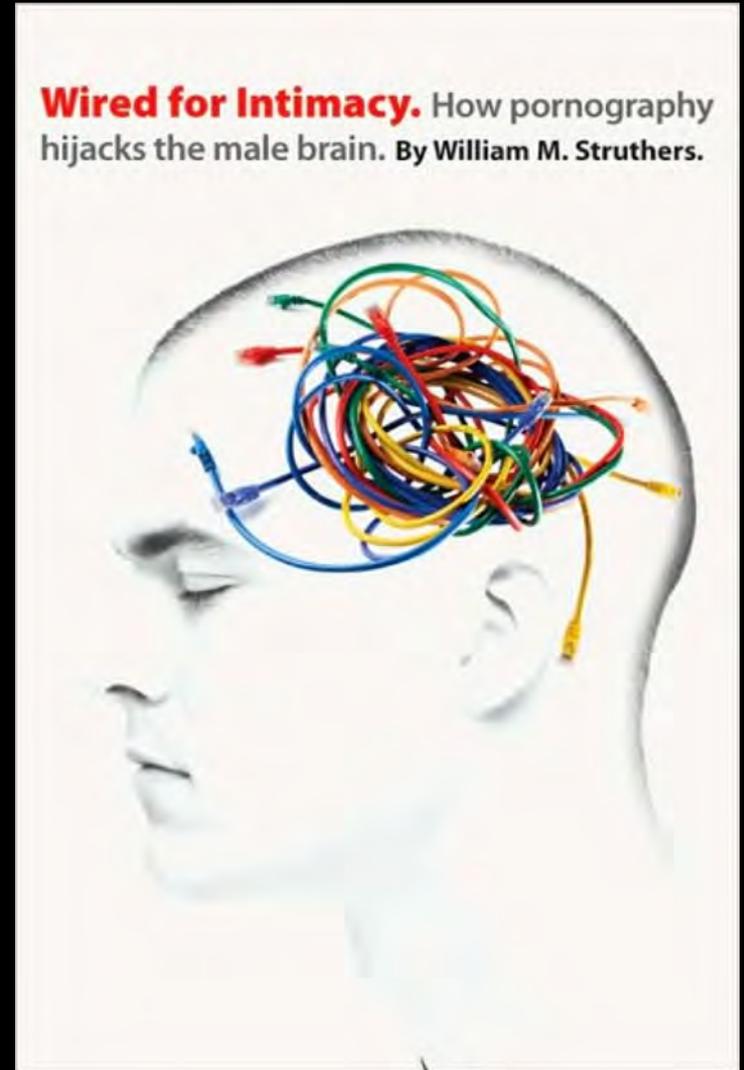
<sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. <sup>12</sup>Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. <sup>13</sup>Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

# Wired for Intimacy:

## How pornography hijacks the male brain

“Purity is as much a matter of the mind as it is of the body, and it’s important not to separate the two.”

~William Struthers



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# At the intersection of Gospel and Sexuality

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<sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. <sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

# At the intersection of Gospel and Sexuality

## Psalm 119:9-11

<sup>9</sup>How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. <sup>10</sup>With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! <sup>11</sup>I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.



**FALSE  
INTIMACY**