

Published in The Australian

Letter to the editor – Porn at X-roads (February 28, 2007)

March 1, 2007

The recent push by the pornography industry to increase exposure of Australians to pornographic images and videos should cause us to say enough! The whole notion that in some way pornography, even that of a non-violent nature, enriches us as a nation and as a culture should be exposed for the clearly fraudulent assertion that it is. We all live in a country that values and respects freedom but we still put limits on what people can do and experience. This is because there are some things that have always been seen to demean and degrade the human person. Pornography is one of those. It is about time that we were willing to acknowledge the large and growing body of data that connects exposure to pornography with damaging social behaviour. If we wish to have a nation that respects women, that discourages infidelity, that encourages healthy intimate and lasting relationships, that reduces the risk of rape and that conveys to young people that they can have emotionally secure marriages, then we need to say clearly that pornography should be avoided because it does significant harm. There is nothing normal about the use of pornography. It distorts perceptions of reality. Just ask yourself if any reasonable parent would want themselves, their spouse and their children to be surrounded by neighbours who regularly use pornography and who think that there is nothing wrong with encouraging others to do the same.

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