

Pastors Learn About the Growing Sex Industry at Indianapolis Forum

Bruce Smith
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Banner over the doorway at the Lovin' Life Center.

When Rev. In Jin Moon, founder of Lovin' Life Ministries and our senior pastor, gave a sermon Aug. 21, 2011 on the problem of sex trafficking, I immediately wanted to develop a program centered on the issue and the problem of pornography, too. My interest was due to the fact that I had been teaching abstinence education through the Free Teens program and had learned about the explosion of pornography in the United States. Her words struck me:

The church is in the business of saving souls. The spiritual deprivation, the coldness of the world that people might feel is somewhat taken care of when people go to church. The promise that somehow the divine would always look after every one of us is a wonderful promise to a lot of people, and that's why they go to church, they tithe, and they want to hope for something better. But when we're talking about brothels or human trafficking becoming extremely profitable at a time when we are suffering severe economic recession, we realize that this is an area of our society that exploits the soul. It destroys the soul of individuals and turns them into empty carcasses, the living dead that we see all around." Rev. In Jin Moon



Abstinence educator Bruce Smith lectures on pornography.

“Stopping the Porn Culture – A Pastor’s Forum” was put together by our team at Lovin’ Life Ministries - Indianapolis to address the pressing need for more awareness about both pornography and sex trafficking. The one-day event began with prayer and the 39-minute edited version of Rev. In Jin Moon’s sermon given on Aug. 21, 2011. The participants were able to hear our senior pastor lay out the significance of this issue and the need to address it. Members of the Lovin Life community, as well as several pastors attended the sessions. Pastor Alida Lark, the daughter of one of the 172 Clergy, Bishop Damon Roach of First Christian Missionary Baptist Church, attended in her father’s stead. After the Forum she commented, “I reported to my father about this conference, and I would love for you to do this at our church.”



Rev. In Jin Moon's sermon on sex trafficking set the tone for the forum which drew pastors and Unificationists.

Pornography

Conferees then watched a video interview with Gail Dines, a professor of sociology and women’s studies at Wheelock College in Boston. She has written several articles and books including, *Pornland: How Porn Has Hijacked Our Sexuality*.

The video is short but powerful. Prof. Dines tells viewers that pornography is shaping attitudes and behavior regarding how men in view sex and relationships with women. “Men I have interviewed say that they want to play out the porn sex that they see on women’s bodies,” says Dines, adding that “They [men] are watching lots of it, and the average age of first viewing of porn is 11 or 12 years. For such men their first exposure to sex often is pornography. Because of pornography, young boys have nothing else to compare sexual relationship to, so this seems like the norm for a sexual relationship.” Her presentation made clear that because of pornography, the view of woman gets stripped of what is called love, and there is no understanding intimacy in relationships. In the video Dines says: “I have interviewed men who tell me that they would prefer to view pornography than have sex with a person.” She cited a 2003 study from the Matrimonial Lawyers Association which found that approximately 56 percent of divorce cases involve one party in the marriage who has an “excessive interest in pornographic websites.”

I then presented a lecture titled “How it’s easy out here for a pimp: How a porn culture grooms children for sexual exploitation.” This free slide presentation offers the insights of experts who studied the porn industry and its effects not only on kids, but the greater society as well.



Guests listen raptly to the deluge of information.

Human Trafficking

Deputy Attorney General Abigail Kuzma, who co-chairs the Indiana Protection of Abused and Trafficked Humans Task Force (IPATH) gave an excellent luncheon lecture. She collaborates with FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Labor, as well as the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and the Marion County Prosecutors Office. She presented along with Sgt. Jon A. Daggy, a 23-year veteran of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department. Both speakers documented how insidious the problem is by unveiling various layers of human trafficking of which sex-trafficking is just one part. According to Ms. Kuzma, sex trafficking is the second-largest and fastest-growing criminal industry behind the illegal arms trade. Her slide presentation noted that human sex trafficking is a \$32 billion-a-year industry and that between 14,500 and 17,500 men, women and children are trafficked into the United States each year.



Deputy Attorney General Abigail Kuzma gave the luncheon talk.

The program concluded with the Fall of Man lecture, which illustrated to the participants why the people of God need to comfort God's suffering heart and liberate His/Her Pain. Throughout the day, we had 21 guests, including a representative from the Marion County Drug-Free organization, three prominent pastors, and 17 Indianapolis church community members.

Contributed by Bruce Smith in Indianapolis.