

High Noon Summit protects True Parents' legacy from erosion by pornography

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The framework of High Noon was founded in 2013 as the Blessed Marriage Project (BMP) with a \$100,000 donation by David and Mitsue Wolfenberger, who are in the 2,075-couple blessing group. Its original focus was to provide marriage enrichment for blessed couples, its main offering being the Energize! Couples Retreat. The programs were led by Unificationists working as professional marriage educators and facilitated by three second-generation blessed couples. Since its inception, the BMP has served hundreds of blessed couples across America.

In 2015, the BMP began responding to what was revealed to be a major threat quietly decimating blessed couples -- internet pornography. The more we explored the topic, the more it became apparent how much pornography has infiltrated the blessed family community. High Noon was formed to offer support and resources to individuals and loved ones dealing with pornography issues. The Wolfenbergers currently donate \$250,000 per year to address the pornography epidemic facing blessed

families.

High Noon exists to create a culture of sexual integrity, in which people experience congruency in thought and action in alignment with God's sexual values. This creates an environment of joy, openness and true sexual intimacy.

High Noon provides sustainable pornography recovery, marriage enrichment and heavenly sex education based on Unification Principles.



1. How does High Noon understand pornography?

Porn has alarming effects on a person's psyche and this is magnified with the introduction of the internet. Internet pornography is a sudden phenomenon that has had unexpected consequences. Porn used to be something difficult to get hold of: You had to leave your house and look for it. Often you had to pay for it and once you were done with whatever you had gotten hold of, you had to start over and do it all again.

The internet allows people access to porn from the comfort of one's own bed. It's free and has become unlimited. This combination offers a form of super-stimulation that the brain was not designed to handle.

It wasn't until recently that people thought to take a moment to examine what kind of effect it is having on people. As more research comes out, it is becoming more evident that a) pornography harms individuals, relationships and has societal repercussions b) A staggering number of people are using pornography and experiencing its side effects.

Internet porn affects the brain in ways similar to other addictive substances or behaviors -- alcohol, cigarettes, drugs, gambling, etc. Porn has also been proven to shape sexual expectations and preferences. This is especially alarming given the typical age people begin using pornography (the average age being eleven years old). Imagine an entire generation that has over a decade's experience with hardcore porn by the time they graduate university. We make huge efforts to protect young people from anything that can cause them harm during their formative years (putting age restrictions on substances and activities), but porn has had open reign.

The blessed family community has not been immune. Pornography has broken blessings and created apathetic husbands and wives with little interest in creating a thriving marriage. The effect on young people has ranged from being wrought with guilt, not being able to figure out how to break free, to becoming jaded, entitled and fully expecting to continue their porn habit into marriage. Neither is a good recipe for a vibrant blessing.

Explaining the concept of sexual integrity and sharing the effects of pornography is a great way to introduce non-members to the Principle in a way that is relevant and provides value for their lives. We fully expect to go in this direction in the future, but for the time being High Noon's priority is blessed families. We are facing a crisis regarding young people's readiness to receive the blessing and capabilities in creating a healthy marriage. Furthermore, we believe we must first become healthy and whole in the area of sexual integrity before we can offer it to other people.



2. *What is the main content of High Noon and what are your methods to resolve the issue?*

High Noon has three focuses:

Pornography education and recovery support

We travel around giving talks on the effects of pornography, creating healthy conversations within communities around a topic that has previously been taboo. We help people feel comfortable discussing these issues, remove the stigma from having struggles with porn and convey the importance of addressing this topic on a continuing basis.

On the other side, we invest a lot of energy into creating resources that support people in breaking free from porn. Currently we have a ninety-day online recovery program, basic training for parents and others who want to know how to effectively talk about porn and support someone through recovery, and a spousal support program for the spouses of those dealing with porn addiction.

Sex and purity education curriculum for parents

Rather than continuing to respond to people struggling with porn, our ultimate goal is to prevent it

entirely. "School of Love" is the name of our curriculum for parents to teach their children about purity and sex. Parents can learn what kind of conversations to have with their children from childhood to adolescence and all the way to adulthood in order to educate them on their growing bodies, the value and sanctity of sex and to prepare them to receive the blessing and begin a sexual relationship.



Heavenly Intimacy Education

After receiving the blessing, our responsibility is to fulfill the blessing by creating a radiant relationship with our spouse. The most foundational aspect of this is creating a healthy sexual relationship that both sides are satisfied with. After all, the sexual union of a man and woman is where God comes to dwell on earth. However, there has been sparse education for blessed couples on how to create a fulfilling sexual relationship and few couples have been able to do so on their own.



3. Do you use different approaches when instructing men and women? Do both males and females participate in the same session of Ascend? Is this strictly a male issue?

Porn is commonly thought of as a male issue. However, there is a surprising (and growing) number of women who also struggle with pornography. While the approach to addressing a porn habit is the same for men and women, we are strict on separating the two groups. Men support men, women support women and the two genders go through recovery entirely separately.

For more information on this vital topic, please contact members of the High Noon staff:

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