

Popcorn and Pornography

PURPOSE

To illustrate the danger of viewing pornography in any of its forms

MATERIALS

- Popped and unpopped popcorn kernels

LESSON IDEAS

1. Hold up a kernel of the unpopped popcorn. Ask if the kernel will pop if you:
 - a. Freeze it
 - b. Jump on it
 - c. Bite it
 - d. Soak it in water
2. Ask, “What is the only thing that will make the popcorn pop?” (heat)
3. Help the listener understand:
 - a. Heavenly Father has placed in all of His children a power to create life. Along with that power He has given us desires and passions toward those of the opposite gender.
 - b. These urges and desires remain relatively quiet and dormant (like the popcorn) unless we tamper with them. Pornography has been designed by Satan to “heat” those desires so they rise within us.
 - c. Those who view pornography will constantly have to fight those urges and desires and may find themselves unrighteously using these divine powers to create life. Those who avoid pornography in all of its forms will not face the same struggle.
4. You may want to share the following quote by President Gordon B. Hinckley:

“You live in a world of terrible temptations. Pornography, with its sleazy filth, sweeps over the earth like a horrible, engulfing tide. It is poison. Do not watch it or read it. It will destroy you if you do. It will take from you your self-respect. It will rob you of a sense of the beauties of life. It will tear you down and pull you into a slough of evil thoughts and possibly of evil actions. Stay away from it. Shun it as you would a foul disease, for it is just as deadly. Be virtuous in thought and in deed. God has planted in you, for a purpose, a divine urge which may be easily subverted to evil and destructive ends”
(*Ensign*, Nov. 1997, 51).
5. Testify that our gifts of creation are from God and will largely remain dormant if we do not look at pornography in any of its forms.

