

# SHENANDOAH'S SAFE HOME SUNDAY Info Sheet

## RESOURCES

For additional information on the digital revolution, pornography, apps, screen time, and the digital discipleship of children and teens, visit these websites:

[www.axis.org](http://www.axis.org)  
[www.digitalkidsinitiative.com](http://www.digitalkidsinitiative.com)  
[www.sexualintegrityinitiative.com](http://www.sexualintegrityinitiative.com)  
[www.youthministrymedia.ca/infographics](http://www.youthministrymedia.ca/infographics)  
[www.josh.org/resources/apologetics/research](http://www.josh.org/resources/apologetics/research)  
[www.harvestusa.org/blog](http://www.harvestusa.org/blog)  
[www.fightthenewdrug.org](http://www.fightthenewdrug.org)  
[www.protectyoungminds.org](http://www.protectyoungminds.org)

Facebook Groups with helpful information:

- ✓ Common Sense Media
- ✓ Gabb Wireless
- ✓ Screensmart Families
- ✓ Digital Parents by WebSafety

## FAST FACTS

- 93% of boys and 62% of girls are exposed to Internet pornography before the age of 18. The average age of first exposure to Internet pornography is 11.
- 66% of teens and young adults have received a sexually explicit image from a peer and 41% have sent one.
- 70% of boys and 23% of girls have spent more than 30 consecutive minutes looking at online pornography on at least one occasion. 35% of boys and 14% of girls have done this on more than ten occasions.
- The 12-17 year-old age group is the largest consumer of Internet pornography.
- Only 3% of boys and 17% of girls have *never* seen Internet pornography.
- 70% of teenagers make an effort to conceal their digital behavior from their parents.

## THE “DIGITAL HOME INVASION”

*HOME INVASION is the crime of entering a dwelling with the intent to harm the lawful inhabitants. This definition perfectly encapsulates what internet pornography is doing to our homes.*

“Pornography is anything we use for sexual titillation, gratification or escape – whether it was intended for that purpose or not.”

Tim Chester, *Closing the Window: Steps to Living Porn Free*, InterVarsity Press, 2010

“Pornography is anything that the heart uses to find sexual expression outside of God’s intended design for relational intimacy. It is anything that tempts or corrupts the human heart into desiring sexual pleasure in sinful ways.”

“Living in a ‘Porn is the Norm’ Culture” (HarvestUSA.org)

## ACCESS and AVAILABILITY

*Internet pornography is so easy to find that approximately 34% of internet users have experienced unwanted exposure while engaging in harmless activity. Successful searches have literally become child’s play. With that in mind, here are the 5 most common places children and teens are engaging pornography:*

### (1) GRANDPARENT’S HOUSE

*WHY?* Grandparents often have high-speed internet access without knowledge of digital safety.

### (2) LATE AT NIGHT BEHIND A CLOSED DOOR

*WHY?* Ease of access and total privacy.

### (3) FRIEND’S HOUSE

*WHY?* Technology policies vary from house to house. It is simply a matter of convenience and availability.

### (4) ON A FRIEND’S SMART DEVICE AT SCHOOL

*WHY?* “My parents aren’t checking *my friend’s* phone.”

### (5) VIA TEXTING, SNAPCHAT, and OTHER APPS

*WHY?* Hard to trace and easy to erase. Pictures are saved to locked “photo vault” apps designed to look like a calculator, clock, video game, or time management app.

## SOME COMMON “CULPRITS”



## HELPFUL BOOKS

### MINI-BOOKS

“Equipped”

(mini-book from *Covenant Eyes*)

Download for FREE today at

[www.covenanteyes.com/equipped](http://www.covenanteyes.com/equipped)

“A Parent’s Guide to Understanding Social Media” . . . Mark Oestreicher

“A Parent’s Guide to Understanding Teenage Brains” . . . Mark Oestreicher

“A Parent’s Guide to Understanding Sex and Dating” . . . Mark Oestreicher

### DESIGNED TO USE WITH CHILDREN

“Good Pictures Bad Pictures: Porn-Proofing Today’s Young Kids”

. . . Kristen A. Jenson

“Good Pictures Bad Pictures JR.: A Simple Plan to Protect Young Minds”

. . . Kristen A. Jenson

### DESIGNED TO USE WITH TEENS

“52 Ways to Connect with Your Smartphone Obsessed Kid”

. . . Jonathan McKee

### DESIGNED FOR TEENS TO READ

“Every Young Man’s Battle”

. . . Stephen Arterburn

“Every Young Woman’s Battle”

. . . Shannon Ethridge

“The Teen’s Guide to Social Media”

. . . Jonathan McKee

### DESIGNED FOR PARENTS

“Every Parent’s Battle: A Family Guide to Resisting Pornography”

. . . Dan S. Spencer III

“Managing Your Family’s High-Tech Habits” . . . Arnie Cole

## THE “DIGITAL HOME DEFENSE”

### ANTHEM: Strategies for Fighting Lust . . . JOHN PIPER

**A** – Avoid the sights and situations that arouse unfitting desire.

**N** – Say “NO” to every lustful thought within five seconds.

**T** – Turn the mind forcefully toward Christ as a superior satisfaction.

**H** – Hold the promise and the pleasure of Christ firmly in your mind.

**E** – Enjoy a superior satisfaction.

**M** – Move into a useful activity away from idleness and vulnerability.

## DETER PROTECTION BEGINS WITH RELATIONSHIP

### PRISON [ vs. ] FORTRESS

The fundamental difference between a prison and a fortress is the location of the enemy. In prison, the enemy is locked *in*. In a fortress, the enemy is locked *out*. In both cases, the enemy is clearly defined. Your kids and grandkids will view digital safety as a prison unless the conversation surrounding your decisions to keep them safe is built on a foundation of authentic love, mutual trust, and open dialogue.

## DETECT SHINE A LIGHT ON AN APPROACHING THREAT

Questions to identify a potential threat to your home’s digital safety:

- 1) Has your home had an open, honest conversation about pornography?
- 2) Do you know the function of every app on your child’s phone or tablet?
- 3) Do you know the nature of your child’s digital communications?
- 4) Do you have an “open phone policy” with your child?
- 5) Does your child have his/her phone/tablet in their room overnight?

## DENY LOCK THE DOORS

The enemy wants to “steal, kill, and destroy” your family. (Jn. 10:10) We want to deny his access. Here are a few suggestions . . .

### RECOMMENDED:

+ *Covenant Eyes*

+ *Qustodio*

+ *Gabb Wireless Smartphone*

### FOR MORE COMPLETE RESEARCH:

[www.consumersadvocate.org/parental-control-apps](http://www.consumersadvocate.org/parental-control-apps)

[www.protectyoungeyes.com/best-iphone-parental-control-software](http://www.protectyoungeyes.com/best-iphone-parental-control-software)

## DEFEND ENGAGE WITH DECISIVE ACTION

### WHAT DO I DO WHEN MY CHILD HAS ACCESSED PORNOGRAPHY?

1. Control your anger.
2. Go after their heart, not their behavior.
3. Keep a discussion going about biblical sexuality.
4. Examine your own heart. Are you living God’s design for sexuality?
5. Take steps to restrict access while engaging with ongoing accountability.
6. Don’t let up or give up. Shepherd them forward in their spiritual lives.
7. Evaluate whether or not outside counseling is necessary or beneficial.