

A Disturbing New Recreation

Decades ago, sinful recreation probably would refer to some mischievous fun of trivial betting and stealing. But how times have changed! The media this past week exposed a shocking new recreation amongst our young people – recreational sex. The adjective “recreational” is used to describe this new indulgence of our lost youths because the sex they engaged in is purely recreational. In other words, the sex is meant to be a playful experimentation, an entertainment of some sort, done to kill boredom and time.

The players of this new sinful recreation are not adults (although they play too). But the players are teens. They know well that they are not yet able to handle the crises of pregnancy and the duties of marital life. But in recreational sex, just like any other form of recreation, it is a form of amusement. The rules apply only during the game. When the game is over, responsibilities end. But sadly to say, in this new sinful recreation, the consequences are permanently damaging, and even innocent unborn lives can be murdered and lost.

But still, teens play it. They play it in cyberspace. But cyberspace, of course, is only virtual reality. It is unreal. So, they play it real. And they play it in all kinds of way that even adults would not dare to engage in. In a news programme this past week, a mother discovered her daughter’s picture in the net that completely shook her off the ground. She was with a school girl in a physical act. And there were also pictures of school girls in uniform kissing and in other form of physical acts.

What has happened? If our school girls are so sexually daring, what then about the guys? If our teens are so bold, what then about our adults who go unchecked in their weekly sexual recreation at Batam?

Why are our young minds so opened? They are many factors. Without reiterating them here, I am sure you know what they are, and what drives it. If Singapore even praises erotism as a new art, we are surrendering our virtues and values to evil.

But how is the church to respond to this?

1. We need to call it a sin. To help our young generation, we need to realize the damage the new sexuality can cause. It can distort our thinking and injure the conscience. In a Straits Times article this past week, Andy Ho writing about pornography calls it humanly degrading.

2. We need a healing and recovery ministry. We should not just stop at pointing out the evil. We need to provide spiritual help to those who need it from us. Only the church that is unafraid to face such moral challenges will affect people’s lives with the gospel.

3. Church and parents should be concerned about the spiritual lives of our young people. We keep saying that they are our future leaders. A vision like this is good, but unrealistic, if we don’t even pay attention to their present spiritual lives. They need to find Christ and his will. They need to find happiness in Christian love and care. They need spiritual guidance and mentoring. Telling them to be what we want them to be can actually sometimes backfire. Teens don’t think so far. They need love from us today. If they don’t find it from parents, and church friends, they will find it in cyberspace and a promiscuous world.

By Pastor Cheah Fook Meng