



SEXUAL INTEGRITY INITIATIVE

A resource of CPYU and Project Six19



5 REASONS YOU NEED TO BE TALKING ABOUT SEX IN YOUR HOME

| By Jason Soucinek

The world around you is already talking about IT.

Two out of every three shows on TV include sexual content. Only one in ten of those shows speak of the risks or consequences associated with early sexual activity. Further, the average age youth are first exposed to pornography is 11 years old. You may think you are protecting your child by monitoring what they watch or listen to, but even if they only watch the evening news, your son or daughter is receiving a sex education.



If YOU don't, someone else will.

More than half of 7th to 12th graders say they have looked up health information online in order to learn more about an issue affecting them or someone they know. In addition, the websites teens turn to most have inaccurate information or communicate values different than what their parents would share if given the opportunity.

God is not quiet on this subject – you should not be either.

Genesis 1 ends the creation story by saying, “God saw all He had made, and it was very good.” In the original language the closing line is melodic. It has a rhythm to it. It’s as if God is singing over his brand new world – *it is very good*. Sex is a part of this creation. Often we can forget this and treat it as something different or set apart, but it too was very good. Over and over again this is how scripture speaks of and protects the boundary of this gift by communicating its purpose within the covenant of marriage.

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5 REASONS YOU NEED TO BE TALKING ABOUT SEX

We were sexual before we were sinful.

Often when we talk about sex we forget the entirety of the story we've been written into. It's easy to start with the sin of sex outside marriage. However, that is not where the story starts. It begins in the garden, with Adam and Eve, and it speaks of sex in ways that go beyond "no" and "yes." Sex is about God's love for His creation and is a gift for humanity to enjoy as they multiply and fill the earth. Not only is sex a good gift from God for procreation, but He has given it to us for the purpose of becoming one in marriage, expressing intimacy, and experiencing mutual pleasure. The story begins with a creation that God calls very good and it isn't until the third chapter of Genesis that the fall of man occurs.

By sharing you are protecting your children.

In our sexualized culture it is paramount that you communicate your values before the world does. By acting on your God-given responsibility to speak sexual truth into your home, you are protecting your children. However, this is not about communicating a list of restrictions and "don'ts." Rather, it's proclaiming true sexual freedom by sharing the full and wonderful breadth of experiencing and indulging one's sexuality within the covenant of marriage between one man and one woman - the parameter established in God's grand design as the sex-maker. This means sharing from scripture, knowing your story, and repeating it often.



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For additional information or resources to help kids navigate their sexuality, visit the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding and Project Six19's Sexual Integrity Initiative website at SexualIntegrityInitiative.com.

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