

“It’s not enough to teach our girls to say, ‘No!’ We must also teach our boys not to ask.”

This is a quotation observed in the New York cottage at the Tamassee Daughters of the American School at Tamassee, South Carolina. How true, and how needed! Our Lord, who called it *committing adultery* in the heart when a man looks upon a woman to lust after her (Matt. 5:27-28), does not have a double standard which forbids and condemns fornication on the part of a female, while either countenancing or overlooking it on the part of a male. In the New Testament we are told *to flee it* (1 Cor. 6:18), *abstain from it* (1 Thess. 4:3), and *put it to death* (Col. 3:5). It is a *work of the flesh*, and those who practice it shall not inherit the kingdom of God (Gal. 5:19-21). Such cannot enter into the gates of the heavenly city (Rev. 21:27), but shall have their part in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone (Rev. 21:8).

An article in the “**Northwest Arkansas Morning News**” of March 24, 1993 illustrates how much people are more focused upon the unpleasant consequences (symptoms) of their sexual misbehavior than they are upon the sinfulness of that sexual misbehavior. Realize it or not, they are saying, “*Spare us from the unpleasant and undesirable results of our conduct, but don’t dare label our conduct as wrong.*” The article was titled, “**Genital HPV Infection One of Nation’s Most Common.**” A gynecologist is quoted as saying, “*The media has made promiscuity and premarital sex acceptable.*” But God calls it “**sin**,” and sin persisted in leads to hell. An infected teen-aged girl is quoted as saying, “*Then I was angry at the media. They convince you that if you practice safe sex (by using a condom) that it protects you from everything.*” “**Safe sex**” in this context is willful sin with a deliberate effort to avoid only the immediate unpleasant temporal consequences and no thought given to its spiritual and eternal consequences.

An article in “**The Baton Rouge Advocate**” of March 18, 1993 had this heading: “**Baltimore’s teen contraceptive program.**” Here are two quotations from the George F. Wills article: “*In 1990 nearly 10 percent of Baltimore girls aged 15 to 17, almost all unmarried, gave birth. That is why in 1993 the city is embarking on a program to make Norplant, a long-term (five year) contraceptive implant, available to teen-age girls at school clinics and elsewhere.*”

“*The case against the program can be put concisely: By substituting chemical protection for moral restraint, it sends a message of resignation regarding behavior once considered deviant and reprehensible but now redefined, in the name of ‘realism,’ as normal.*” And: “*Now consider some numbers provided by Douglas Bersharov and Karen Gardiner in The American Enterprise journal. This year 10 million teen-agers will engage in 126 million acts of sexual intercourse resulting in one million pregnancies, 406,000 abortions, 134,000 miscarriages and 490,000 births, about 64 percent (313,000) of them illegitimate. In 1988, 11,000 American babies were born to females under 50. In 1990, 32 percent of ninth-grade females (14 and 15) had sexual intercourse. Seventeen percent of 12th grade girls have had four or more partners.*”

You will notice that almost nothing is said about the boys or men (except as “*partners*”) who are equally responsible. All of the “*solutions*” to this frightening and growing problem have not even slowed it down, let alone stopped it. But these “*solutions*” all have this in common: We must not, can not, and dare not condemn the conduct by calling it wrong or sinful. So we just continue to deal with the “*symptoms*,” while leaving the “*disease*” (whose spiritual consequences will make the physical consequences pale into insignificance) alone.