

Questions Raised at the Special BSP Session  
on Sex and Marriage on April 12, 2008  
Answer Provided By Edmond Lo

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1. If a dating couple, when they kiss, their hands are traveling each other's bodies, including their sex organs, is this behavior acceptable?

Answer: Question already addressed in the session. Please listen to MP3 file on the BSP web.

2. The same couple is watching 18+ XXX movie. Is this behavior acceptable?

Answer: Based on the "GAPs" developed at the special session, I would say pornography contradicts GAP 3 – don't see a person as an object for self-gratification.

3. If both questions above are not acceptable, why? Is it a sin in Catholic value?

Answer: Yes, both behaviors are not acceptable as explained above. Both are lustful desires and lust, as explained in the session, is a grave sin, significant enough to cause us to go to hell as Jesus explained so forcefully in his sermon on the mount (see slides 20 to 23 of handout).

4. Can a homosexual person that is not lustful and has no sexual intercourse go to heaven?

Answer: The Church teaches against the homosexual act, not people with homosexual orientation. It is an admirable thing to do if a person with homosexual orientation understands that the homosexual act is evil and is, therefore, willing to suppress his or her disordered desires in order to follow God's command. So, my answer is yes, it is possible.

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5. Can contraception used to prevent the spread of sexual disease, e.g. HIV, is considered as sinful?

Answer: Using contraception to prevent the spread of sexual diseases is a bandage approach. The real solution lies not in bandaging it over, but in fixing the causes for the outbreak of the disease, including the need for chastity. If, through education and promotion, people understand sex properly and are willing to live in chastity (not to be confused with abstinence), the spread of sexual diseases will be put under control at the root level. Contraception is a grave sin in and of itself. “And why not say...that we may do evil that good may come of it? Their penalty is what they deserve.” As St. Paul explained in Romans 3:8, it is not acceptable do evil (contraception) for the sake of achieving a good result (prevent HIV).

One common objection to this answer is that since people in some under-developed countries fail to understand chastity and the real meaning of sex and HIV is running rampant among them, why not encourage them to use condoms as a temporary measure to stop the outbreak? As has been proven in some African countries and China, the use of NFP methods, particularly the Billings method is no less effective and practical than condoms as a “quick fix”. People are able to learn the method very quickly and put it into effective use. As we learned from the example of Cain in Genesis 4, capital sins, including lust, can engender other sins. Why continue to use contraception and get embroiled in a sinful state when better and moral alternatives are available?

6. What about arranged marriage?

Answer: Some people may have difficulty in taking the initiative to socialize and to reach out to the opposite sex in order to find a life-long partner for marriage. I think “match-making” is perfectly ok as long as it does not affect a person’s right to choose somebody to whom he/she will freely offer his or her own self (which is the first “F” of FTFF).

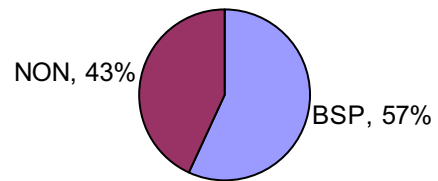
**SPECIAL BSP SESSION ON SEX AND MARRIAGE**  
**APRIL 12, 2008**  
**COMMENTS MADE BY THE PARTICIPANTS**

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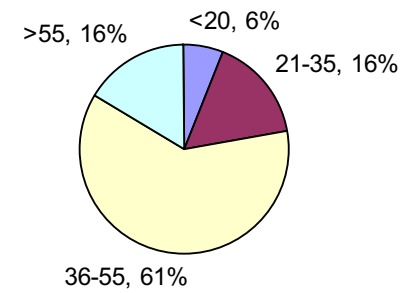
The following are the comments they gave:

- It's better to talk more on real life.
- To have a session for the youth, to help them to understand as well.
- Good idea, help to break down taboo surrounding the topics of sexuality and relationships. Thank You.
- We should have more of this kind of session in Church.
- The GAPS were explained clearly, would be nicer if more practical applications are discussed.
- Very good, hope more seminars in the future.
- How can this message of what true love is be presented to our youth before their dating age?
- Is there any conflicts from GAPS for sex#1 (FTFF) against Natural Family Planning?
- Excellent presentation of a complex issue.
- Can body massage trigger adultery?
- This is helpful seminars.
- Very informative, interesting and practical to real life.
- Very well organized and very well presented.
- Please arrange to have more of these presentations.
- More witnesses to explain the relationship between 2 sex. Comments will make us understand more.
- Thanks for the effort,
- Not enough time to cover the topics - What is true love? How do we know the one we date are suitable for us?
- Suggest make a GAP for "Marriage is a Covenant"

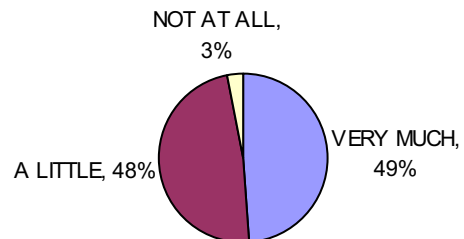
## BSP/NON-BSP PARTICIPANTS



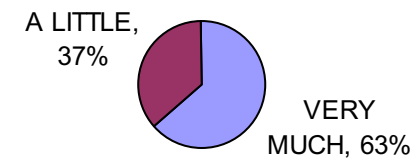
## AGE ALLOCATION



## DID PRESENTATION CHANGE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF SEX?



## PRESENTATION HELPFUL FOR UNDERSTANDING CHURCH TEACHING ON S&M?



# HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT THIS SEMINAR?

