

A.M.D.G.

Dear Bishop, school superintendent, high school principal, or pastor,

Are you willing to do what it takes to save young Catholics from a most vulgar sexual revolution, which has been tyrannizing our culture for forty years? A 2008 Cardinal Newman Society study found that 60% of Catholic college students believe that abortion should be legal and that premarital sex is not a sin. Fifty-seven percent say that same-sex marriage should be legal. Our Catholic young adults and teenagers have clearly been in free fall for decades. Even in homes where Catholic values are strongly emphasized, the children often fall into serious sexual sin as adolescents and young adults. Despite decades of chastity education programs in Catholic schools, very few Catholic teenagers and young adults know and love the unsurpassable teachings of the Church on sexuality. In 1979 the president of Planned Parenthood promised that “the only avenue in which Planned Parenthood has to win the battle is sex education.” Over the last 40 years, through school sex education courses and other avenues Planned Parenthood has won. The verdict is in. Our Catholic youth are in full crisis. The following is a serious, unique, realistic proposal for facing this monumental challenge.

I am a Catholic physician, have taught Catholic sexual morality to adults and adolescents for over 20 years, and am the author and publisher of the “incalculably valuable book,” *Sexual Wisdom: A Guide for Parents, Young Adults, Educators and Physicians*. As a father and sexuality expert I have asked myself what is the best possible sex education I can offer my children? In response I wrote an 18 lesson curriculum which became the enclosed book, *Sexual Wisdom for Catholic Adolescents*—a curriculum for parents to teach sexual purity to their own older adolescents. What was the result? It was wonderful. I found that my children developed extraordinary insights into family life issues. In the most amazing manner, they were able to contrast the wisdom of Catholic Church teaching on purity against the everyday experience and pressures of a most merciless, vulgar sexual revolution that they are engulfed in. Beyond this, I found a bonus in giving the course: the blessing to me of offering such beautiful teachings to my children and, through the course, to bond with them in a most unique way.

Due to the overwhelmingly positive experience of my own children and others with this course I wanted to make it available to everyone and, therefore, placed it as a free download on our web site at www.sexualwisdom.com, but found that parents don't want a free 180-page download. What parents want is a book that they can either read with the student or have the student read on his or her own. Though I hadn't planned on writing another book, seeing the need we edited and reformatted the course and have published it in book form: an easy-to-read, authentically Catholic course on sexual purity. But this course is too good, and so that isn't enough. We are at war against powers that are destroying our families, our culture, our health, our spirit and our souls and we are losing on every battlefield. Therefore, as the publisher, we propose to provide a copy of the book to the parents of 16-17 year old students in your high school(s) or parish and/or to adults for \$2 each, which is essentially our cost (retail price \$12.95) plus shipping. For schools we recommend that you send the books home with 11th graders in an envelope to the parents along with a letter (see enclosed example which may be reprinted on the school's stationery) that explains the options of a parent reading the course with the student or just having the student read it on his or her own.

Why does this program succeed while other chastity programs are a general failure? It is because other books, booklets, and programs are designed for 13-14 year olds and most are directed toward group presentations. With these restrictions, programs may provide a valuable introduction to the subject but they cannot address critical issues adequately. To do so would, and sometimes does, create serious scandal, especially in a group setting where students often raise inappropriate, delicate issues or speakers become overly enthusiastic about trying to reach students who have already made poor choices.

After decades it is clear that chastity courses or presentations, in themselves, are not an adequate answer to the crisis. It is like taking students to the movies and making them leave after the previews. They never get to see the main feature. We should not be surprised that this approach is frightfully inadequate for the current crisis. What is needed is information that fully addresses the issues and comes from the parents. And that is what this book offers. To continue the analogy, this course is like sending home a copy of the feature presentation so that the parents can watch it with the student, the student can watch it alone, or anyone can refer back to it at any time. We enclose with this letter a copy of an email from the physician who heads the local guild of the Catholic Medical Association. It, demonstrates how effective “showing the feature film” to a student can be, and mirrors the experience of my own children. Students yearn for the truth and they demonstrate remarkable insight into the distorted views of our culture once they have it.

Our church has repeatedly said that parents are the primary sexuality educators of their children* and this course gives parents the tools to do just that—to teach teenagers what they should know before they “leave the nest,” so that they get correct information from the home, not a distorted, profane view of sexuality from the street, the Internet, peers, Mrs. Clinton’s “village people” (such as inept high school sex education teachers), pop magazines, etc. The reality is that, for many reasons, most parents will not sit down and fully educate their children about sexuality. Realistically, the only way to get the Good News that only our church can give about sexuality to most students is through a program such as we propose. By the time most students are 18 they have already been indoctrinated by the culture and the parent’s opportunity is lost.

What we offer is an opportunity to make an immense difference in Catholic homes, most of which do not have a reliable reference on Catholic sexual morality. The best that a small percentage of Catholic homes have is the current *Catechism*, which by necessity skims the surface of many vital issues. Once an easy-to-read, comprehensive, authentic reference to purity is in the home, the consequences, beyond one student reading it, is anyone’s guess. Once educated, what effect will any one student have on the many people that he or she comes into contact with who have little understanding of sexual purity and who have no education in theology or sexual ethics? What if the father who subscribes to inappropriate magazines reads about himself in the book? What if the older sister is thinking about being involved in a sinful relationship with her boyfriend and reads that section out of curiosity? How many students who are ignorant of Church teaching would learn about the faith in conversations with students who have read this book? The blessings from this resource may occur on many levels.

* *The Truth and Meaning of Human Sexuality: Guidelines for Education within the Family* (1995) by the Vatican’s Pontifical Council for the Family. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 1632, 2221, 2223. *Familiaris Consortio*: 36, 37.

It might seem that a simple, inexpensive program like this that will provide a clear resource on Catholic sexuality to young people would be a surefire success. Unfortunately, it will not be the success it could be without support from Catholic Church leaders (who are specifically called by the Code of Canon law to support parents in family life education[†]) and there are many reasons why Church leaders may not initially embrace it.

Many Catholic leaders are very much aware of the crisis young people are in. Most are gifted and enthusiastic shepherds of Christ's flock and fully assent to Church teaching. Despite this, there are at least two reasons why Church leaders may fail to take advantage of our Publisher's Pledge program. First, many bishops, school administrators and pastors are busy people. They are distracted by many obligations and may fail take the time to consider a new program, no matter how it is presented. Second, this program is somewhat "outside the box" of the protocols and guidelines established for "chastity" or "family life" programs or resources. Many Church leaders are, by their nature, cautious individuals, which we should generally be grateful for. However, when the Church is facing a massive crisis which has been going full steam for two generations we do not need overly cautious leaders but leaders who are able to identify and implement realistic, cost-effective programs that offer young people the answers they are looking for. While we do not wish to be too bold, recall that Jesus never said "Blessed are those who are very busy" or "Blessed are those who follow protocols and guidelines." Rather, Our Lord said, and said most emphatically, "Feed my sheep."

There are no gimmicks to this proposal, which we are also making available to dioceses throughout the world. (We will email the computer files and permissions to any country in the world, at no charge, so that the books may be printed locally.) Within the United States, each high school, diocese or parish is responsible for all printing and transportation costs which must be paid up front. You may wish to ask donors with a particularly concern for this issue to cover the costs. To ensure that the books get home, schools may consider including them in the student's registration packets at the beginning of the year. The books are not to be distributed to students without parental consent. They are never to be used in group settings. For reference, the full course remains a simple download from our web site at www.sexualwisdom.com. Please also see our website for FAQs and other details of this program.

Parishes may wish to set up a table after each Mass for parents of older teenagers and other adults to pick up copies of the book. There are sample announcements for Masses and for parish bulletins and other information on our web site. Another idea is to distribute the books to the parents of confirmation students or to the parents of students attending chastity programs so that the students not only receive an inspiring preview, but receive the full message in a form that they can take home and study. In any of these settings we suggest that the parish request a \$5 donation as a fund raising opportunity.

For this Publishers Pledge, books must be ordered by the box. Within the United States, fill out an order form from our web site at www.sexualwisdom.com and mail it to us with a check to: Sex Education for Advanced Beginners, Inc. (or SEFAB), P0 Box 5574, Huntington Beach, California 92615. Allow four weeks for delivery from the time that your payment is sent to us.

If your diocese is outside of the United States, contact us at SWCABookOrder@live.com to arrange for the necessary documents to be sent to you by email for free, which you can then send to

[†] Canon 1063 §1

your local printer. In your email order, you must include a contact name, title, phone number(s), the diocese name and web site.

While there are many who readily share our excitement about this program, some Church leaders may not intuitively realize how simple, inexpensive, and effective this program can be. This is a time when the Church needs unambiguous leadership for the sake of the many youth who are constantly confronted with the worst kind of sexual and spiritual darkness. For decades there has been an extraordinarily powerful propaganda campaign that has turned young people away from Church's invitation to purity and holiness as the only way to achieve the peace we all most desire: the peace only Christ can offer. For decades this campaign has resulted in death from abortion, HIV and other diseases, the breakup of the family, epidemic illegitimacy, skyrocketing mental diseases such as depression and anxiety, social devastation and spiritual chaos. This is not a time for distraction, hesitation or anxiety. This is a time to step forward within the clear, repeated directives of the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church and "Feed the Sheep."

Please join other attentive, forward thinking Catholic high schools, dioceses and parishes in the United States and dioceses in other countries in this new program. We hope that through it and through the efforts of other chastity educators we can create a dramatic, effective and sustained counterattack in the battle for the hearts, minds and souls of our Catholic youth. **Are you willing to do what it takes?**

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It's time to play hardball with the Sexual Revolution