

The Lowedown

A monthly newsletter from the life and ministry of Dave & Jennifer Lowe

February 2006

Are We a Porn Nation?

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That was the question we wanted to address last month through our biggest outreach of the year.

Coming back from the Christmas break, we had only one week to get the word out regarding our program. We had rented out the largest room on campus and we were hoping and praying for a packed room of over 1000 people.

We plastered the campus with posters, we took out ads in the campus newspaper and we alerted the local news media outlets about the upcoming event.

We passed out thousands of business cards to students on campus, urging them to take an anonymous online survey and making them aware of our speaker coming to campus.

We also prayed. A lot.

A few days before the event, the local newspaper ran a story highlighting our event. Then the campus newspaper ran a preview story on Monday, just two days before the event.

On the day of the event, we found out that KCRA, the local NBC affiliate decided to send a reporter to cover the event.

Our one week promotional blitz paid off. Between 800 and 900 students showed up to hear Michael Leahy, founder and president of a ministry known as "Bravehearts", share about the power and dangers of porn in our

culture today.

Using powerful media clips and his own personal story, Leahy warned students about the power of the sexual imagery that they are exposed to today.

Leahy defined pornography as any material that is designed to arouse us sexually, and can include advertising, magazines, books, movies, music and websites.

"No generation before you has ever been exposed to more sexual imagery," Leahy said. "But there is a fallout: Such imagery leads to eating disorders, increase in sex crimes, date rape and so on. Through such media saturation and the overwhelming volume of porn, the idea is that 'porn is the norm' on many college campuses."

Toward the end of the presentation, Leahy took a short break, warning the audience that he was about to talk about spiritual things. Though everyone had the opportunity to leave, most stayed to hear Leahy share how a relationship with Jesus could fulfill our deepest longings and desires for intimacy; longings that pornography promises to fulfill but never quite delivers.

After collecting the comment cards, we determined that 18 students made decision to trust Christ that night.

Later that night, KCRA covered the event on their 11:00 news. Our campus newspaper ran

a story covering the event as well.

We are very proud of our staff and students who worked tirelessly to help pull this event off and we are thankful to your for your partnership, which enables us to address such important issues with students on campus.

Please pray for us as we follow-up those who made decisions, and pray also for our students to live lives of freedom from the slavery and bondage that comes from society's version of love and sex.

Praise and Prayer

- Praise God for the turnout and the results of our Porn Nation outreach
- 40+ students from UC Davis attended our Christmas Conference over the break!
- 70 international students attended a Potluck sponsored by Bridges, our ministry to international students.
- Pray for 40 students to attend summer projects and pray that at least 15 of those 40 would go overseas.
- Pray for Jen and me as we're still trying to figure out what we'll be doing for our summer.
- Pray for our relationships with each other and with the Lord and pray that we would have wisdom as leaders.