

## **Eradication of the Use of and Effects of Pornography Within the Church**

1 Corinthians 6:19-20— Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

1. We must acknowledge that we have a problem of pornography within our United Methodist Church and we must have achievable ways to acknowledge the issue and address the problem in order to eradicate the problem.
2. Pornography objectifies the body and does not provide the capability to see another person as the housing of the Holy Spirit which dwells within each person, and sees a person as an empty dwelling instead of a holy dwelling.
3. Within The United Methodist Church, we affirm that all lay and clergy persons should uphold the highest of sexual ethics, as provided by *The Book of Discipline*, and this resolution gives the church the abilities to provide parameters of accountability for lay and clergy persons.
4. Each pastor should have the light of God to share with their community, and when engaging in pornography, we cannot hold the light and life of God at its brightest, because we are objectifying the body instead of affirming and upholding a person's spirit.
5. This resolution was previously in *The Book of Resolutions* but was dropped in 2016, but the problem has not gone away and needs to be continually addressed.
6. Pornography also typically accompanies other sexual misconduct and is often a gateway to further sexual misconduct.