Protecting Innocence: Real Solutions, Not Just Scary Statistics

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Role Play #1: Initiating an introductory discussion about pornography

Scenario: You are looking at a family pictures on your social media network of choice with your child.

- Cue 1: "These are fun photos of people we love, but do you know there are also very inappropriate
 pictures on the Internet called pornography? Pornography means disrespectful pictures, videos or
 even cartoons of people without any clothing on. Have you ever seen pornography?"
- Cue 2: "Sometimes when I'm on the Internet, I've accidentally seen pictures that make me feel very uncomfortable. They show naked people treating each other in very disrespectful ways. It's called pornography. Have you ever seen anything like that?"
- Cue 3: "I really like sharing these pictures with you. Sometimes friends or even family members share very bad or inappropriate pictures or videos that show people without any clothes on. These pictures are called pornography. Have you ever seen anything like that?"

Role Play #2: Discussing your child's exposure to pornography after they've reported it to you

Scenario: Your child comes to you and asks if they can tell you something that is bothering them.

- Cue 1: "Thank you for telling me about what you saw online. I'm so sorry you were exposed to such inappropriate and horrible images. They are called pornography. I can see we need to talk more about how to keep pornography from hurting you. Can I ask you a few more questions? (Ask where they saw it, on which device, who they were with, how often.)
- Cue 2: "Thank you for having the courage to come and tell me about what you saw. I really appreciate your honesty and how you are working to protect yourself from pornography by not keeping your exposure to it a secret. Would you mind if I asked you a few more questions about what you saw?" (Ask where they saw it, on which device, who they were with, frequency.)

Role Play #3: Discovering your child watching porn or finding a history of porn searches on a device

Scenario: You either come upon your child looking at porn on a device or you discover searches for porn in the history of a device.

- Cue 1: "I see what you're doing. Please turn it off (and give me the device). I want you to know that I love you, and we are going to work through this together."
- Cue 2: "I need to talk with you about something. Recently I found some searches and websites for pornography on the iPad (or other mobile device). I'm not mad at you, but I need to understand why they are there. Could you tell me how you first found out about pornography and how long you've been looking at it?"

Other Helpful Resources:

Jeffrey J. Ford, LMFT, has a video "The Five Cs: What if my child has been exposed?" on YouTube

Many more parent/child scripts are available in Jennie Bishop's book Planned Purity at www.purityworks.org.

Kristen A. Jenson <u>www.PornProofKids.org</u> "Porn is Tricky! SMART Parents Assist Kids to Understand Feelings", www.gpbp.info *Good Pictures Bad Pictures: Porn-Proofing Today's Young Kids*

White Ribbon Week program for schools http://womenfordecency.org/white-ribbon-week.html