

THE EVOLUTION OF LOST BOYS

INTRODUCTION: I have a grandson named Harris who is five years old...

1. He tells his parents and grandparents that he's going to be a preacher. His sermons are already "legendary."
 - a. Like his sermon on "*Jack and Daniel*" (???)
 - b. Or his sermon on "*Adam and Eve*" – "God made everything and one day He made Adam and He said, 'You need a wife.'" So He got Adam a wife. She ate that apple, gave it to Adam and everything got bad. God said, 'What happened here? You guys are in big trouble!' So Adam said, 'I told you not to give me *that* woman!'"
 - c. And his message about "*Light and Elijah*" – "And God said, 'Let there be light. And, Elijah, behold, you better watch out.' And then there was no food and no water. And the people said, 'Where did the water go?' Elijah drank it all!"
2. These comical illustrations point to an interesting observation: *Here is a little 5-year-old guy, interested in spiritual things, wanting to be like his grandpa preacher, but who does not yet understand the Gospel and who has not yet experienced conversion.*
3. **Question:** *What will become of him? Will he end up as a man of God or another "Lost Boy"?*
4. In other words, will **Harris Hutto** grow up in a Christian home, spend his pre-college years in Church, Sunday School, and youth groups, then go off to college, drop out of Church and shelve his faith, only to become another young man without a vision, future and hope for his life?
 - a. A statistic: one of the 80% of Christian kids who leave the church in college?
 - b. Another young single in a place like Charlotte: only 16% of young single men and 23% of young single women in church.
 - c. A man controlled by the *virtual world* of video games, Facebook friends and internet sex (porn)...
 - d. But unable to function as a man in the *real world*?
5. They're called "**Lost Boys.**" A label taken from the book and stage play by **J. M. Barrie:** *Peter Pan and Wendy* (1911)
 - a. Original play: Dec. 27, 1904: *Peter Pan: The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*
 - b. Peter's entourage of little boys who never want to grow up
 - c. They like *Neverland* ("Never" as in "I'll never grow up!")
 - d. But, deep down, they miss their "mommies"
6. Let me share with you some realities in **GuyLand** – the real Neverland that most American young men, ages 16-26, inhabit today...
 - a. Marriage rate per 1,000 lowest in 50 years
 - b. Single girls: fastest growing segment of real-estate market

- c. More women in college than men (first time ever in these last 20 years) 58% of BA degrees go to women!
- d. Sharp rise in single women 25+ years-old choosing to have children out of wedlock
- e. Matriarchal economy: 80% of all purchasing decisions made by women (reason for stupid men/strong girls ads)
- f. Feminizing of Christianity: Grace over duty. Women love grace-talk; men prefer to focus on duty.
- g. More women in Law School, Med School, Grad School than men
- h. 80% of all layoffs from work were men: Construction, Real Estate, Banking, Tech services, Engineering, Manufacturing
- i. Female industries on the rise: health care, information services, counseling services, retail, food services
- j. **Michael Whitmire:** *“The Lost Boys”* (Wall Street Journal; Nov. 5, 2009)

Too many boys arrive at their senior year of high school lacking both the skills and aspirations that would get them into, and through, college. At a typical state university, a gender gap of 10 percentage points in the freshman class grows by five points by graduation day, as more men than women drop out.

All this explains why colleges have been putting a thumb on the scale to favor men in admissions. There just aren't enough highly qualified men to go around. Determining that colleges practice discrimination doesn't take much detective work. Higher acceptance rates for men show that colleges dig deeper into their applicant pool to find them. The final proof: Freshman class profiles reveal that the women, with their far higher high-school grade point averages, are more academically qualified than the men. Interviews with admissions officers reveal that the girls' essays sparkle compared to the boys', and girls far outshine boys in extracurricular activities as well.

The real issue is the flagging academic interest among boys, a phenomenon that dates back only about two decades. It's a new issue to most Americans but hotly debated in countries such as England. So far, nobody has solved the boy mystery, but some countries are years ahead of the U.S. Australia has had some success with literacy-boosting programs for young boys. Until the code gets cracked, there's a national economic interest in keeping those male preferences in place—just for a few more years.

- k. Bleak picture: Women are going to college, buying homes, having children alone. Who needs men? Boys? And the “Lost Boys’ really don’t seem to care: passive, living with guy friends and off parents’ money; X-boxes, internet porn, hanging with friends, never dating but “hooking up. Full of fear and anxiety...but sooo cool!

7. These *Lost Boys* inhabit their own fictional world, a real Neverland, that sociologists call **Guyland...**

- a. **Michael Kimmel:** *GuyLand: The Perilous World Where Boys Become Men – Understanding the Critical Years between 16 and 26.*

- b. *GuyLand is the world in which young men live. It is both a stage of life, a liminal undefined time span between adolescence and adulthood that can often stretch for a decade or more, and a place, or, rather, a bunch of places where guys gather to be guys with each other, unhassled by the demands of parents, girlfriends, jobs, kids, and the other nuisances of adult life. In this topsy-turvy, Peter-Pan mindset, young men shirk the responsibilities of adulthood and remain fixated on the trappings of boyhood, while the boys they still are struggle heroically to prove that they are real men despite all evidence to the contrary.*

GuyLand is not some esoteric planet inhabited only by alien creatures. It's the world of everyday "guys." Nor is it a state of arrested development, a case of prolonged adolescence among a cadre of slackers. It has become a stage of life, a "demographic," that is now pretty much the norm. Without fixed age boundaries, young men typically enter GuyLand before they turn 16, and they begin to leave in their mid to late 20s. This period now has a definable shape and texture, a topography that can be mapped and explored. A kind of suspended animation between boyhood and manhood, GuyLand lies between the dependency and lack of autonomy of boyhood and the sacrifice and responsibility of manhood. Wherever they are living, whatever they are doing, and whomever they are hooking up with, GuyLand is a dramatically new tag of development with its own rules and limitations. Though GuyLand is pervasive – it is the air guys breathe, the water they drink – each guy cuts his own deal with it as he tries to navigate the passage from adolescence to adulthood without succumbing to the most soul-numbing, spirit-crushing elements that surround him every day. Guys often feel they're entirely on their own as they navigate the murky shallows and the dangerous eddies that run in GuyLand's swift current. All the while, many do suspect that something's rotten in the state of Manhood. They struggle to conceal their own sense of fraudulence, and can smell it on others. But few can admit to it, lest all the emperors-to-be will be revealed as disrobed. They go along, in mime.

- c. There is a "look" to GuyLand: short-cropped hair, waxed so that it sticks up, made to look like you just got out of bed; scruffy, unshaven face, or a goatee; a tattoo or more, and a "punk" facial expression.
- d. GuyLand comes with a "uniform": tee-shirts with slogans, always wrinkled; torn blue jeans or knee-length baggy shorts (never pressed!); flip-flops or tennis shoes; shirts that hang out of the pants; baggy sweaters; and colors and patterns that purposefully don't match.
- e. This is the uniform and look of three philosophies:
1. *Nihilism*: nothing really matters
 2. *Postmodernity*: there are no dress standards
 3. *Rebellion*: against something but not exactly sure what it is...probably Dad's values.
- f. GuyLand is like Eden in chapter two of Genesis
1. Bordered by 4 streams (rivers)

2. *Middle Class Values (materialism)*

3. *A sense of entitlement*

4. *Self-consumed narcissism*

5. *Fear of failure*

g. GuyLand stretches around the world where the *Lost Boys* are known by other names:

1. England: *Lads* who live in *Laddism*

2. Italy: *bamboccini* or *mammoni* (mama's boys)

3. Note: 50% of all Italian men, ages 25-34, live with their parents.

4. France: *Tanguys*

h. There is even a *motto* (a password) that gets you into GuyLand.

1. "*Bros Before Hos*" (i.e., brothers before whores=girls)

2. *GuyLand revolves almost exclusively around other guys. It is a social space as well as a time zone—a pure, homosocial Eden, uncorrupted by the sober responsibilities of adulthood. The motto of GuyLand is simple: "Bros Before Hos." Just about every guy knows this—knows that his "brothers" are his real soul mates, his real life-partners. To them he swears allegiance and will take their secrets to his grave. And guys do not live in GuyLand all the time. They take temporary vacations—when they are alone with their girlfriends or even a female friend, or when they are with their parents, teachers, or coaches.*

i. Surprisingly, girls are very welcomed in GuyLand

1. As "*Boy Toys*," "*Hookups*" or "*Hos*" (whores)

2. But never as full partners in life

3. *What about girls? Guys love girls—all that homosociality might become suspect if they didn't! It's women they can't stand. GuyLand is the more grownup version of the clubhouse on *The Little Rascals*—the "He-Man Woman Haters Club." Women demand responsibility and respectability, the antitheses of GuyLand. Girls are fun and sexy, even friends, as long as they respect the centrality of guys' commitment to the band of brothers. And when girls are allowed in, they have to play by guy rules—or they don't get to play at all.*

4. *Girls* have their "place" in life; it's just not in GuyLand.

5. *Women*, on the other hand, are to be feared, appeared or slept with, but never loved.

8. **GuyLand began long, long ago:** It appeared out of Lost Eden, the product of a shattered family, and the first vestiges of *The City of Man*.

a. A Lost Boy named *Cain* founded GuyLand.

b. Genesis 4 tells the story of "*The Evolution of Lost Boys*."

c. The sequel to "*The Emergence of Strong Women*"

9. **Genesis 4:1-24** – Sermon #4 of *The Gospel and Culture*

- a. Themes in Genesis 1-11
- b. The major issues the Gospel faces in reclaiming culture
- c. *The Good and Noble Life* (creation in Genesis 1)
- d. *Partners in Gospel and Grace* (The Historical Adam and Eve in Genesis 2)
- e. *The Emergence of Strong Women* (Eve's Daughters in Genesis 3)
- f. *The Evolution of Lost Boys* (Adam's sons in Genesis 4)

10. **Five Major Themes concerning "Lost Boys" in "Guy Land"**

I. LOST BOYS ARE WILLFULLY REBELLIOUS (Genesis 4:1-7)

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it." (Genesis 4:1-7)

1. In Genesis 3:20-21, God established Gospel Religion.

- a. *I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel. (Genesis 3:15)*

The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. (Genesis 3:20-21)

- b. **Blood-atonement** for the forgiveness of sins
- c. The only way to approach God: blood sacrifice
- d. Why? *The wages of sin...death*

*To the woman he said,
"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you."*

*And to Adam he said,
"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,*

*'You shall not eat of it,'
 cursed is the ground because of you;
 in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life. (Genesis 3:16-17)*

- e. **James M. Boice:** *Genesis; Vol. 1; pp. 192-193.*

We know as we look back on this event from the perspective of later revelation that it was not the blood of the slain animals that actually took away the sin of Eve and Adam. It was not the death of animals that permitted God to forgive sin and proclaim sinners just. The only death that could possibly do that was the death of Jesus, and the only blood that could cleanse was His blood. On the other hand, we understand that the death of the animals pointed to His death.

That is God's religion. It is the only religion by which anyone is ever going to get to heaven. In the last analysis there really are only two religions, whatever nation, tribe, place or period of history you consider. There is the religion of fig leaves, the religion of works. Or there is the religion of skins, the religion of God's perfect provision through the death of Christ.

2. But this religion offended Cain. He did not want to follow God's religion. Instead he *subtly rebelled:*

- a. Abel brought blood sacrifices to God
- b. Cain brought fruit: *the works of his own hands*
- c. And God **rejected** Cain's offer of self-righteousness
- d. *By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. (Hebrews 11:4)*
- e. Rooted in a **rebellious spirit**, according to the New Testament

Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones. But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively. Woe to them! For they walked in the way of Cain and abandoned themselves for the sake of gain to Balaam's error and perished in Korah's rebellion. (Jude 8-11)

3. One thing you will **always** find in every Lost Boy: *He is profoundly unspiritual, avoids Gospel religion and prefers self-righteousness.*

- a. 85% of all Lost Boys never go to church: *"Church is for girls, not for guys!"*
- b. If he does go to church, it's only because he's trying to get on good terms with a girl with whom he wants to have sex.
- c. He'll pretend spiritually until he gets what he wants.
- d. If he chooses a church, it will be one where...
 - i. He likes the worldly-sounding *music*

- ii. There are lots of “hot girls”
 - iii. The message is easy: *self-esteem, do-good, be nice, be cool*
 - iv. Values and traditions are made fun of and elderly, sober ministries are ridiculed: “hipster Christianity”
 - v. The pastor is young, cocky and crude
- e. *But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.*
(2 Timothy 3:1-5)
4. **Young ladies**, listen to me – a dad, a grandpa, and a seasoned “old” pastor: *Unless your boyfriend was committed to Christ and involved in a Biblical church before you met him, he is dangerous. Lost Boys reject the Gospel, rebel against Biblical authority, chafe under spiritual leadership and – hear me! – use God, Church, and religion to get what they want! Usually, a cute, nice girl!!!*

II. LOST BOYS ARE FILLED WITH ANGER (Genesis 4:8-16)

Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. (Genesis 4:8-16)

1. Cain kills Abel, his little brother, because he was *angry with God!*
 - a. *The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen?" (Genesis 4:6)*
 - b. A man filled with **a sense of entitlement** who is enraged when he doesn't get his way!
 - c. *We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. (1 John 3:12)*
2. Cain displays **resentment** instead of **repentance** when God lovingly confronts his unbelief, manipulation and rebellion.
3. Cain spilt blood – not the blood of sacrifice but the blood of his brother!
 - a. *And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. (Genesis 4:10)*

- b. Same question from God to Cain that was asked of Adam and Eve: “*What is this you have done?*”
4. Notice Cain’s two responses to God’s inquiry
- Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?"* (Genesis 4:9)
 - First:** The denial of *personal responsibility* for the welfare of others
 - And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."* (Genesis 4:10-14)
 - Second:** A *victim mentality* that thinks only of self but never shows remorse, repentance or restitution!
5. At the core: *Lost Boys are angry that other people, including God, have not given them all they want, when they want it. They are ungrateful, impenitent, self-focused, remorseless and value free. Their anger soon became lawlessness – no rules for them!*
6. **Christian Smith** and **Melinda Lundquist Denton** describe this lawless, angry spirit in these words:
- A worldview: *Morally Insignificant Universe*
 - Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers* (p. 157).
When a person lives in a morally insignificant universe...there is no natural law or world-historic struggles and achievements. There is no Creator who set humanity here and guides our lives and history with providence. There is no larger law-like order in nature that structures the moral living of the human race. There is little worth spending life to fight for that does not seem arbitrarily chosen. There is no judgment, no final retribution or punishment, not even a remembrance of one’s life or anything human after time and physics have run their course. There is...simply the given self and world and experience. Nothing more.
 - This is why Lost Boys live godless lives
 - Mark Sayers:** “*Looking Under the Surface of the Millennial Generation* (Christian Research Journal; Vol. 34; No. 1, pg. 17)
Understanding that the Millennials’ behavior is deeply shaped by this view of life and the universe is utterly key, whether such a view is held explicitly or implicitly. Even religious members of the Millennial Generation are affected by the overwhelming force of this worldview. They are left feeling embattled, with a fragile grip on their faith, and thus we see large numbers of Millennials leaving active Christian engagement in their mid-twenties.
7. Here is what the Lost Boy misses: “*Yes! We **are** our brother’s keeper! That’s what manhood is all about—protecting, providing for, guiding, governing, promoting the welfare of our brothers, sisters,*

wives, children, grandchildren, church, community and country. Men were not born to hunt, play paintball, lose themselves in X-box fantasies, hook up with girls, spend money on self and avoid all responsibility.

8. **Men were created by God to lead by example, by sacrificial love, and by a sense of duty. Boys want to play their whole lives; men want to care for others.**

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. (Ephesians 5:25)

Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered. (1 Peter 3:7)

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. (1 Corinthians 16:13)

III. LOST BOYS HOLD WOMEN IN CONTEMPT (Genesis 4:17-19)

Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. And Lamech took two wives. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. (Genesis 4:17-19)

1. Cain's great-great-great grandson, **Lamech**, is the first man to *corrupt* marriage and to introduce sexual immorality, polygamy and the contempt for women as a way of life.
2. Lamech purposefully violates God's constraints for marriage:

- a. One man, one woman, intimate for life

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

*"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man."*

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. (Genesis 2:18, 22-25)

- a. Lamech takes **two wives**: Adah and Zillah
- b. The first two "**boy toys**" in human history

- c. **James M. Boice:** *Genesis; volume 1; p. 212.*

Lamech was the first bigamist in history, and if the names of his wives are to be a guide (these names are all significant), he apparently chose women for their physical attractions rather than their moral stature of spiritual commitments. Adah, the name of the first, means “pleasure, ornament or beauty.” Zillah, the second, means “shade,” perhaps referring to a luxuriant covering of hair. Lamech’s daughter’s name, Naamah, means “loveliness.” Here was a culture committed to physical pleasure, beauty, and charm and not to those inner qualities that Peter describes as being “the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God’s sight” (1 Peter 3:4).

- d. Cain’s sons liked “hot” women; not godly ones.

3. The sons of Cain were driven by two sick sentiments toward women: **lust** and **contempt**

- a. A lust for their beauty and sexual services
- b. Using them to bear children for his city
- c. Contempt for them as individuals or soul-mates

4. Lamech’s treatment of his wives *Adah* and *Zillah* was guaranteed to do **three things**:

- a. Turn the two women against each other as sexual rivals
- b. Reduce them to second-class persons (things)
- c. Deny them the love and intimacy they wanted and needed

5. Why such contempt? *Lamech saw his great-grandmother, Eve, as a “strong woman” (perhaps a helicopter mom?), his sisters as manipulative, seductive females, his wives and daughters as possessions for his pleasure and pride.*

6. **Root Problem?** *Lamech feared intimacy with one woman!*

7. One of the *hallmarks of Lost Boys* is their sexual immorality and contempt for women.

- a. Hooking up, pornography, date rape, sexting, living together – anything, but marriage.
- b. *A livid fear of asking a young woman out on a date because it might lead to intimate love!*
- c. His words for girls: “Hos,” bitches, “boy toys,” and other (worse) sexually contemptuous terms.
- d. All a masking of his great fear: *Intimacy*

8. **Pornography is the Lost Boy’s worst problem and his greatest addiction! Sex without intimacy.**

9. **William M. Struthers** is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Wheaton College:

- a. *“The Effects of Porn on the Male Brain” (Christian Research Journal; volume 3, No. 5; p. 10-18).*
- b. *Pornography is a powerful force that has become increasingly widespread in Western culture since the advent of the Internet. As the culture has been “pornified,” the ways in which men, women, and sexual attitudes and expectations have been affected are of considerable concern. While pornography is influencing and shaping assumptions about identity, sexuality, the value of women, and the nature of relationships, little discussion has focused on the neurobiological*

aspects of its allure, addictive properties, and long-lasting effects. What if our sexual drive and our neurological nature are wired for intimacy and not just sensuality. Because we are embodied beings, the impact of viewing pornography hijacks the normal functioning of the brain and the maladaptive patterns we adopt have profound psychological and behavioral effects. It affects not only how we form memories and make attachments but also how we understand sexuality and how we view each other.

- c. Pornography treats women as **objects of contempt**
 - i. “pieces of meat” (Struthers)
 - ii. “the objectification and commodification of people”
 - iii. Girls/women turned into commodities for consumption
 - iv. Fantasies to be controlled, used, abused
 - v. “an object of consumption or a competitor against whom they compare themselves”
 - vi. A receptacle to receive filthy acts of contempt
- d. *Pornography creates a world today where the consumer (usually men) has the ability to bring up at their whim graphic (and sometimes interactive) depictions of nudity and sexual encounters. Women are perpetually available for their pleasure with minimal immediate consequences. People become disposable. In the Christian worldview, sexuality holds a privileged place in human relationships. Sexuality maintains both a sacred and a moral dimension in human life (Genesis 2:22-25). At face value our sexuality is the most obvious aspect of our embodied nature; it is the biological manifestation of our life-giving, procreative nature and evident in our reproductive organs. But if we understand sexuality as only a matter of biological reproduction (making babies), we miss a significant part of the story. Human sexuality is also about intimacy. In our culture, however, the term intimacy is often used to be synonymous with sexual intercourse. So as individuals feel the need for intimacy it is not uncommon for them to think that sexual activity is the only “real” form of intimacy. It is here more than anywhere else that pornography takes human sexuality out of its intended purpose—the establishing and deepening of intimacy between two human beings—and makes it a product to be consumed. Human beings become objects of consumption rather than individuals requiring dignity and in this process those involved in its production and its consumption are harmed. This harm is not only sociological and psychological, but also spiritual. The product, another human being’s nakedness or intimate moments, is consumed for another’s benefit. Whenever it fails to meet your standards for beauty or excitement, whenever it fails to stimulate your fantasy, or if you just become bored with the images, the people within are disposed of. The need for human intimacy is ongoing. Like food or water, intimacy is not met once and forevermore fulfilled. The desire for ongoing, deepening intimacy is in our nature, it is part of being made in the relational image of God. Intimacy is what drives us to know and to be known. It pushes us forward through life and is at the heart of our relational nature; it is part of our design—our wiring. If we understand sexuality as being first about intimacy, then viewing pornography becomes a voyeuristic invasion of the sacred space of another. Instead of being life-giving, it becomes destructive for the viewer as well as the one involved in its production. It provides a false, or counterfeit, way of feeding the need for intimacy.*

- e. *Intimacy is risky. One can get hurt by the girl!*
10. Eventually pornography's virtual contempt turns into real actions of contempt: *date rape, adultery, fornication, a one-night-stand (hook-up), sexist attitudes, foul speech, physical abuse, and other sexual offenses and acts of violence.*
11. **Men and boys:** Pornography leads to three serious consequences:
- Negative changes in the male brain
 - Retardation of spiritual and relational maturity
 - Ruin of all intimate relationships (isolation)
 - There seems to be a sensitivity to pornography that many men have built into their neurological wiring. The male brain seems to be built in such a way that visual cues that have sexual relevance (e.g., the naked female form, solicitous facial expressions) have a hypnotic effect on him. When these cues are detected, they trigger a cascade of neurological, chemical, and hormonal events. In some ways they are like the "hit" of a drug—there is a rush of sexual arousal and energy that accompanies it. How a man learns to deal with this energy and to form an appropriate response to it is part of becoming a mature adult. The psychological, behavioral, and emotional habits that form our sexual character will be based on the decisions we make.*
12. **Illustration:** I am **not** just speaking out of research magazines. I share with you men, tonight, the realities of a *pornographic life*.
- An e-mail I received from "Laura" last week (Friday; Sept. 23, 2011)
 - Not** a woman in our church...
 - Dear Pastor Ross, I just read your article in the CRI, Biblical Grounds for Divorce and Remarriage. I have a question. My husband has been, I will say addicted (he would not) to pornographic movies, magazines and images online. We have been married for 23 years. I did not find out until after the marriage and I also found out about 2 years after the marriage the he called girls over the phone and I guess has "phone sex" with them. I was very young and divorce was not in my vocabulary. I begged him to stop, he would tell me he did, but sadly never did. Six years ago he quit his job, refuses to get a job. He has severe depression and is mentally abusive to me. EVERYONE has told me to leave him. I do not want to go against God's will and am scared to leave him. Although I am unhappy and have so many other emotions, I feel deep down that I do not know if this is grounds for divorce. No one is aware of his first problem. We are financially stressed, but he still will not work. I have never been happy with him in the 21 years of finding things out. But I said, that I was the one with free will, and decided to marry him, I will have to live with my mistake. He said that if I ever leave him, he will kill himself, therefore making things even harder for me. I just want to know what do you think God's will is for me in this situation? I have stayed and pray all the time for him to change and for God to protect me and help me, but I think it is getting worse. I don't know what to do. Thanks for taking your time to read my email. God Bless, Laura*
13. Pornography and contempt in a Lost Boy's life always leads to the fourth characteristic of a Lost Boy...*violence.*

14. Immorality and violence always go hand in hand...

IV. LOST BOYS LIKE VIOLENCE (Genesis 4:20-24)

Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

Lamech said to his wives:

*"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;
you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say:
I have killed a man for wounding me,
a young man for striking me.
If Cain's revenge is sevenfold,
then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold." (Genesis 4:20-24)*

1. Cain built a *culture of violence*, known today as **The City of Man**

a. Polygamy, war, random acts of violence, revenge

b. *"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;
you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say:
I have killed a man for wounding me,
a young man for striking me.
If Cain's revenge is sevenfold,
then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold." (Genesis 4:23-24)*

c. The fragile male ego with a hair-pin trigger!

2. The male preoccupation with four dangerous things: sexual beauty, worldly music, war and violent competition

3. Here we find the "genesis" of **machismo**: *The macho man of violence replacing the godly man of restrained strength.*

4. **The Lost Boys** like violence: *violent video-games, violent films, fight clubs, mixed martial arts (for girls too), TV wrestling, boxing, wrestling, MMA with boy vs. girl, aggressive girls, catfights, paint-ball (welts 'n bruises), professional sports with "vicious hits."*

5. **Within GuyLand is "PlayStation Nation"**: millions of men and boys addicted to violent and pornographic video games:

a. 65% of American homes use video games daily; 80% of American homes have access to video games

b. The average age of a video game purchaser: 40

c. In 2008, 26% of Americans over the age of 50 played video games (9% increase over 10 years)

d. Typical/average game player: 35 years old (and been playing for 13 years, since age 22)

e. In 2007, the AMA reported that 90% of American kids regularly play video games, and 15% were addicted to them.

- f. In 2009, 8.5% of American youth between the ages of 8 and 18 showed symptoms of video-game addiction.
 - g. Results of video-addiction: *ADD, dropping grades, dropping out of school, increased violence, anti-social behavior, isolation, sleeplessness, depression, inability to hold down a job, loss of verbal communication skills, lack of friends, heightened stress, lying to parents, increased anger, loss of self-control of emotions, poor hygiene.*
 - h. 1 in 5 kids addicted to video games; more boys than girls.
6. This penchant for violence has two sick sides to it...
- a. **First:** It gives the Lost Boy the release for his rebellion, anger, contempt and frustration.
 - b. **Second:** It is **always virtual**. *He* never fights or goes to war. Other people do, as he watches their pain, their loss and their shame!
 - c. *The Lost Boy is a violent coward...*
 - d. Like Lamech: The man who wrote a braggadocious song about a man killing a little boy!
7. **The City of Man – GuyLand – has now come full circle. Cain killed his brother Abel, and five generations later, a man kills a boy...and brags about it to his two boy-toy wives!**
8. At the root of his soul, Cain, Lamech and other Lost Boys are really young men filled with fear!

V. LOST BOYS ARE DOMINATED BY FEAR (Genesis 4:13-16)

Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. (Genesis 4:13-16)

1. Cain and his Lost Boy sons live in constant fear. They fear God, other men, and *failure*.
2. So they avoid God and church, run from intimacy with women, live in a world of virtual macho men, express their anger in pitiful ways (they whine!), and never take any risks...none.
3. No risk of work, no risk of ministry, no risk of dating or marriage, no risk of self-sacrifice or giving.
4. *Life is safer in GuyLand, Neverland, a virtual internet world of Facebook, twittering, sexting and texting, chat rooms and MySpace* – a world of relationships I control at the push of a “delete” button on my iPhone, iPad, or laptop.
5. **What Lost Boys never can believe is this:** *Life as God designed it is the safest place on this dangerous earth.*
 - a. **Jesus Christ:** The safest friend alive who can take you out of GuyLand into the Kingdom of God

- b. **The church:** The shelter known as the *City of God* found in every City of Man. People of faith, not fear.
 - c. **A godly wife:** The only woman in the world with whom you'll find deep friendship, true intimacy and fulfilling sexuality.
 - d. **Your sisters in Christ:** those wonderful, beautiful and mysterious creatures who can lift you out of a life of vicarious violence and introduce you to a tenderness only a woman can give.
 - e. **Older Christian men:** Fellows who once travelled to GuyLand, came back to Christ's Kingdom, and lived to tell about it. They are here to help you become *a man of God*. And they'll share their stories and their lives with you, if you're not too afraid to ask them!
6. So...Lost Boys, here are you
- a. Repent of sin, trust in Christ, give yourself to Him
 - b. Join Christ Covenant Church: enter the City of God
 - c. Start dressing and talking like a man: new signals
 - d. Get mature male coaching on life's lessons
 - e. Ask a young woman out, treat her like the jewel she is, and let her civilize and tenderize your Lost Boy soul.
7. *Neverland is a myth. GuyLand is a nightmare. The Church is the place of hope, help and true happiness.*