

Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by Bigmoish - 22 Dec 2015 21:56

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Due to a recent discussion on the forum, I'd like to hear what the masses think about viewing pornography and masturbating. Is it selfish?

I am only looking for absolute answers.

If you're not sure, come back when you are sure.

If you think it depends on one's age, race, marital status, religion, etc....too bad.

Feel free to add your two cents in the comments.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by startrekuser - 22 Mar 2017 12:22

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I can, but that doesn't answer my questions.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by cordnoy - 22 Mar 2017 13:10

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[startrekuser wrote on 22 Mar 2017 12:22:](#)

I can, but that doesn't answer my questions.

Il think it does.

If you can satisfy her without lust, then it might be an indicator that your lust for her is really lust for yourself.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?

Posted by Shlomo24 - 22 Mar 2017 20:33

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Meaning, you're using the lust selfishly.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?

Posted by startrekuser - 23 Mar 2017 01:31

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Thank you for responding and trying to help. Your answer doesn't yet answer my question.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?

Posted by cordnoy - 23 Mar 2017 04:54

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[startrekuser wrote on 23 Mar 2017 01:31:](#)

Thank you for responding and trying to help. Your answer doesn't yet answer my question.

My apologies.

B'hatzlachah

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?

Posted by Hashem Help Me - 23 Mar 2017 05:10

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[startrekuser wrote on 22 Mar 2017 02:08:](#)

I was thinking about this question today and I have some thoughts and questions. On these forums, we always talk about lusting after women, including our wives and label that behavior as a bad thing. Don't people, especially men, have natural lustful urges? Why is that bad and is there a difference between natural urges and a lustful feeling? Aren't these urges something that can be used for good or evil? If you lust after your wife and you have relations, isn't the lust a good thing if you satisfy her? It's not just selfishness b/c you've used that urge to do good.

I'm curious what others have to say about this. Of course, if you involve yourself in porn or you masturbate, you've used that urge for evil. It's a very strong urge though, and difficult to resist esp. when you don't have a wife or your wife is unwilling or unable to have relations. It takes strength to resist the urges in those cases.

Hashem does not want us to lust after our wives and therefore have relations. Listen to "The chosson shmuess you wish you had but never got" by Simcha Feuerman in the shiurim section of the site. He delicately and patiently educates us on how to view sex from a healthy Torah perspective. He deals sensitively with our natural urges etc. Masturbation is very selfish, bordering on narcissist, even if we are not harming others. It is a hyperfocusing on self soothing pleasure, to a level like nothing else I know. Yes, the nisayon is challenging, but we can b'ezras Hashem rise above it - and for most of us, there is no other choice. If we don't overcome it, it will destroy us.

You should have a lot of hatzlocha on your journey. We are here to help.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?

Posted by startrekuser - 23 Mar 2017 17:50

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Thanks. I downloaded them. That's a lot of shiurim listening to do.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?

Posted by Hashem Help Me - 23 Mar 2017 22:18

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Worth every minute.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by gibbor120 - 28 Mar 2017 17:10

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startrekuser, I recommend looking up Love Vs Lust in the Dov quotes. Yes, we have natural urges, but there is a difference between loving your wife and expressing it in an intimate way, and between having an urge, and "using" your wife as an outlet.

One, is an expression of "love", and the other is an expression of "lust". I beleive that most of our intimate experiences are a mixture of motivations. (I'm not a fan of black and white thinking. I think most things are somewhere in between.) The more we are motivated by love, the more the experience will create a bond. The more it is motivated by lust, the more distance it will create. Are you connecting with your wife, or only with her body parts?

We'd like to tilt the balance to love as much as possible.

I hope this helps.

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by Markz - 01 Feb 2023 04:13

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[gibbor120 wrote on 28 Mar 2017 17:10:](#)

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I hope this helps.

Hi startrekuser, did you find any gold in this or in the podcasts HHM suggested?

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by sleeepy - 16 Feb 2023 17:38

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is the question "is it selfish or altruistic?"

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by sleeepy - 16 Feb 2023 22:50

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[sleeepy wrote on 16 Feb 2023 17:38:](#)

is the question "is it selfish or altruistic?"

or is the question "is it selfish or altruistic ?"

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by sleeepy - 16 Feb 2023 23:38

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[sleepy wrote on 16 Feb 2023 22:50:](#)

[sleepy wrote on 16 Feb 2023 17:38:](#)

is the question "is it selfish or altruistic?"

or is the question "is it selfish or altruistic ?"

is it selfish or selfless you mean?

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Re: Is pornography and masturbation selfish?  
Posted by sleepy - 19 Feb 2023 05:50

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[sleepy wrote on 16 Feb 2023 23:38:](#)

[sleepy wrote on 16 Feb 2023 22:50:](#)

[sleepy wrote on 16 Feb 2023 17:38:](#)

is the question "is it selfish or altruistic?"

or is the question "is it selfish or altruistic ?"

is it selfish or selfless you mean?

hmmm,looks like no ones home...maybe theyre busy doing selfish or selfless activities...

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