

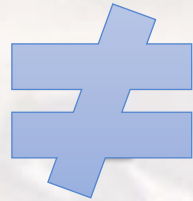
The background of the slide features a soft-focus photograph of several hands of different skin tones reaching out and holding each other in a supportive grip. The hands are positioned in the center and lower half of the frame, creating a sense of unity and care. The lighting is warm and natural, highlighting the textures of the skin.

Theology of the Body The Heart of the Gospel Revealed

Keynote address: TOB conference

TOB developments

TOB



Teaching of the
church
on sexual morality

A serene sunset scene over a calm lake. A wooden pier extends from the bottom center towards the right. In the distance, a small boat is visible on the water. The sky is a mix of blue, orange, and yellow, with soft clouds. Three wooden-textured text boxes are overlaid on the image, arranged diagonally from the bottom left towards the top right. The background shows a line of trees on the left and distant hills under the sunset sky.

Application

The uniqueness
of TOB

TOB in the
big picture



challenged parents
and educators

Confusions on
sexuality and gender

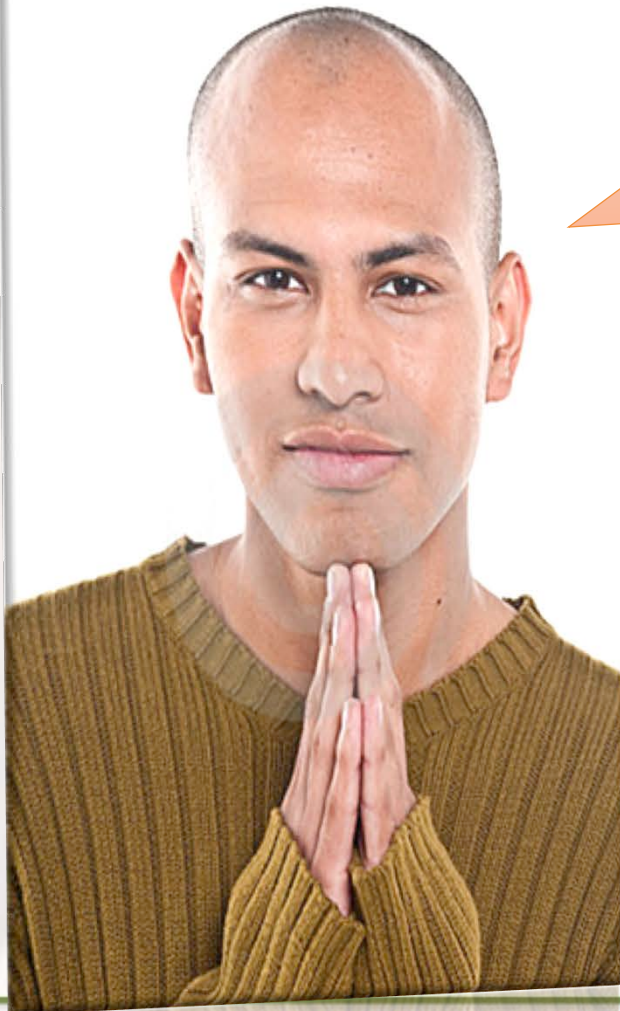
Conflicts with
Christian teachings

Porn

Promiscuity

Many others

We believe



Sex with love is good

Sex without love is...
not so good... but
permissible if we
don't hurt anyone



The TOB Conference: HUMAN LOVE in the DIVINE PLAN

The roots

Right and wrong depends on the balance of harmful and beneficial consequences of our actions



My body is something I have, not some body I am





It is ok for me to use my body as I want as long as I don't hurt anyone...

.... so, please use this

All you need for sex to be morally good is **love**

... and for sex not to be bad: **consent** and **protection**



Sex with love is good

Sex without love is not so good

premarital sex

casual sex

masturbation

pornography

prostitution

homosexual sex



Teen pregnancy



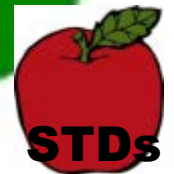
abortion



addictions



AIDS



STDs

I use my body

I can do what I want as long as...

Is that true?



The TOB Conference: HUMAN LOVE in the DIVINE PLAN



Before we even consider any theology of the body, we need to look at the big picture: the world have embraced a very false philosophy of the body

It is not the teachings of the church that should be questioned but the teachings of the world that Christians should question



The uniqueness
of TOB

TOB is theology, not morality

Theology (theos+logos) is a “word” about the logic of God

... from the **W**ord of God

Moral theology is a primarily a word about God too

The ultimate goal of TOB is teaching us about who God is and what God’s logic is, according to the Revelation of Jesus Christ

The questions...

Why did He make
us sexual beings?

Why did God create us
men and women?

What is the meaning
of being human?





Creation is creative and has many creative ways to reproduce. Sex is only one of them. So, why are we sexual?



There are ways of being sexual, but not male and female? Why male and female?



Let us ask
Christ, the
man... and God



What is God?



The mystery of God

God is a mystery:

we know much more about what
God is not than about what God is

God is an eternal, unchangeable loving act of
Father and Son, and that love is itself a
Person...

And that makes God 3 persons in 1 love



Who am I?

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I am awesome

Scripture
has it...

“Then God said, “Let us make
mankind in our image...

So God created mankind in
his own image, in the image
of God he created them;
male and female he created
them.

(Gn 1:26,27)



The mystery of the human person

We are a mystery to ourselves so that
continue to dig deep into our nature
to attempt to crack the mystery

But we are revealed the most
important key (just in case we miss it
and with it we miss the meaning of
our lives)

We are male and female so that we
are like God, “little less” than a God in
the world





Traditional theology: being in the image of God means that we are free, like God is free: we are the only personal animal

TOB: being in the image of God means that we are sexual to reflect God's communion of persons and we are free because love is free: we are the only animal with a personal sexuality

Experience vs knowledge

Experiential knowledge (personal) vs. theoretical knowledge: “what you said is true, but not very useful”



“if what the church teaches is objectively true, then human experience—subjective as it is— should offer confirmation of that truth.”

TOB for Beginners, 34

We have become experience junkies today

We truly learn through experiences: “I know because it happened to me”

We grow through experiences

Who gets to experience sex... as God planned it?





God's experience

From eternity
(=unchangeably) God enjoys
his eternal love (self-giving) of
a Son giving himself
unconditionally to the Father
and the Father loving (=
generating) his Beloved Son,
and that experience is not
something but someone, the
person of the Holy Spirit



“Let us create mankind” (Gn 1:26)

=

Let us share our happiness with a creature capable of sharing the experience we are experiencing

I am created to experience how it feels to be God, with God and never without God

Personal happiness is not fully happiness, unless it is shared

TOB beyond moral sexuality

- Meaning of life: a sincere gift of self is divine
- Persons are made by God for God and for each other
- Human sexuality is more than biological sexuality: it is the realm where we get to experience God's plan most deeply: a total vision of man
- Not about teachings, but about a call to experience in the right experience of sex, the experience of God



TOB is meant to help us
~~to know~~ experience God's
happiness

human sexuality is ~~an obstacle~~ meant
to be the highway to such experience

how can TOB act as a catalyst for a sexual “counter-revolution” that can heal the brokenness that we see all around us today?



A serene sunset scene over a body of water. In the foreground, a wooden pier extends from the left side into the water. In the middle ground, a small boat is anchored. The background features a line of trees and hills under a sky with soft, colorful clouds. The word "Application" is overlaid in a dark, rectangular box in the center of the image.

Application

If it is about experiences and sharing them: Be Like God and...

