**Special Concerns**

Masturbation

* **sex with self (self-stimulation of sexual organs)**
* sex is meant to be life-giving and love-giving
* masturbation is NOT life-giving or love-giving
* it can interfere with relationships
* often a sign of loneliness & negative feelings, but it is an unhealthy way to deal with stress

Pornography

* **the presence of violent and degrading sexual behavior intended to arouse sexual excitement**
* most pornography is focused on women - intended for men
* can lead to dissatisfaction with spouse or partner
* cheapens a loving relationship
* degrades women - reduces people to sexual parts
* it's all about MONEY
* it takes practice, discipline, courage, and integrity to not be involved in pornography

Rape

* **an act of hostility, aggression, violence**
* **intercourse when 1 partner is unwilling**
* in most cases, a male forces sex on a female (not always, though)
* if you are raped, go to the hospital IMMEDIATELY
* molestation: touching against someone's will (less severe than rape)

**Can cause:**

* emotional & physical harm
* shock
* fear
* self-blame

**Types of rape:**

* statutory rape: sexual intercourse between an adult and a minor
* date rape or acquaintance rape: sexual intercourse with someone you know, perhaps your date

**How rape can happen:**

* someone could drug your drink (this happens more often than you would think)
* you might pass out and the culprit could rape you
* drugs used for this can be very dangerous – some could kill you

Homosexuality

* **sexual desire or behavior directed toward a person or persons of one's own sex**
* sexual behavior is a choice
* homosexual sex is neither life-giving nor love-giving
* only about 2% of people admit to being gay
* we must still love these people

**Why?**

* we don't really know for sure
* genetic factors (family member is gay)
* environmental factors (molestation, bad relationships, etc.)

**Homosexuality is present in social media**

* the fact that it's generally accepted is good
* portrays that sex is okay for homosexuals (Church says it is not)