

**THE SALVATION ARMY AUSTRALIAN TERRITORIES  
POSITIONAL STATEMENT**

**PORNOGRAPHY**

The Salvation Army believes that sexuality is the gift of a loving Creator. Therefore, concerned that human dignity should be preserved, we deplore all forms of pornography.

The Salvation Army accepts the definition of pornography given in the 1972 Longford Report:

“Pornography is that which exploits and dehumanises sex, so that human beings are treated as things and women in particular as sex objects.”<sup>1</sup>

“The present liberalisation [of anti-pornography law] is leading to a distorted view of human relations - the abnormal is presented as normal, the violent as acceptable, the perverted as healthy, the trashy as desirable.”<sup>2</sup>

Pornography focuses on the indulgence of individual desires, becomes addictive and excludes the needs of other people.

The Salvation Army’s belief, confirmed by what we know because of our involvement in the community, is that commercialisation of sex is detrimental to the way people seek and perceive love and self worth.

We seek the promotion of biblical values, especially unselfish love.

Above all, The Salvation Army believes that these values are attained by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and continual guidance by the Holy Spirit.

**Approved by IHQ, 26 November 1999.**

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<sup>1</sup>Longford Report: 1972.

<sup>2</sup> Barclay, William in John Court, *Changing Community Standards*, 1972, Lutheran Publishing House, Adelaide, p.40.