mirror the very nature of our gracious God himself. Our sexuality is given to be exercised within the context of loving, supportive and caring mutuality, for in this we discover what it is to be fashioned in the “image of God”.

Sixth: Our outward expression of human sexuality is derived from the nature of people as culturally shaped (specifically with respect to sex and social class). Human sexuality is both deflected from its natural development and repressed by the very logic of our cultural understanding of social relations. People's sexuality is objectified, exploited and commodified. Sexual relationships are trivialized. Sexual license and freedom is systemically confused with sexual liberation. We affirm a theology about the nature of people and a culture which influences people's lives which can be genuinely liberating. Ways must be explored to construct an image of sexual expression which is both biblically responsive and honestly sensitive and critical to the realities in which we live.

FILMS

History has shown us that films known as or carrying the rating of “X” or beyond have been the product of exploitative profiteering people. We deplore their making and distribution and call for legal action to stop this.

THEREFORE, the Christian Action Commission RECOMMENDS:

R-1. THAT General Synod urge the members of the RCA to call upon their legislators to enact legislation to control pornographic film-making, and further,

THAT the Church Herald be encouraged to print a review of current films. (ADOPTED)

TELEVISION

WHEREAS,

the media of television has shown itself as a major propagator of material which is not reflective of human sexuality in the light of God's love for the individual, and since the television medium too often objectifies and perverts the human sexual being, and we believe that the members of Christ's Church should take positive action towards becoming more aware of the adverse effects of this medium to our sexual attitudes:

THEREFORE, the Christian Action Commission RECOMMENDS:

R-2. THAT General Synod call upon the churches, and therefore church members, to make known objections to such television programming to their families, friends and to those who more directly control the media when television portrays an image of human sexuality abhorrent to the biblical images of persons. (ADOPTED)

ADVERTISING

WHEREAS

pornography is increasingly evident in more and more aspects of American life and,

WHEREAS

it is becoming more and more evident in the advertising which we experience and,

WHEREAS

there is no such thing as objectionable material—UNLESS SOMEONE OBJECTS.

THEREFORE, the Christian Action Commission RECOMMENDS:
R-3. THAT the General Synod call upon the membership of the Reformed Church in America to respond to this desensitizing “spillage” from blatant pornography to subtle pornography, from the advertising of pornography to pornographic advertising as we personally determine and boycott those who indulge in these advertising techniques and inform them of our decisions and actions born out of our commitment to be good stewards of God’s precious gifts. (ADOPTED)

WHEREAS,
in the light of the foregoing resolutions, it becomes obvious that it is not only necessary for Christians to make their negative opinions known in the area of films, advertising, TV programming, etc., but also necessary to voice our affirmation of materials which we find worthwhile and wholesome:

THEREFORE, the Christian Action Commission RECOMMENDS:

R-4. That General Synod call upon the people of the church to exercise their individual responsibility to respond positively to television programs, advertisements, films, etc., which sustain the level of human worth we feel is God’s will for his people. (ADOPTED)

CHILDREN

WHEREAS,
there is no question that children are exploited in the production of pornographically printed material and films and are in no way protected by the First Amendment, and

WHEREAS,
child abuse in any form, but particularly in this sexual form, together with its attendant permanent damage, is abhorrent to Christians:

THEREFORE, the Christian Action Commission RECOMMENDS:

R-5. That General Synod, recognizing that sexual exploitation is child abuse, call upon the churches, and therefore, church members, to support legislation at all levels of government making child abuse a crime, and actively use those means to bring the offenders to justice. (ADOPTED)

EDUCATION

WHEREAS,
pornography is a plague which is increasing in scope; and

WHEREAS,
the growth of pornography is tied to a lack of knowledge regarding human sexuality; and

WHEREAS,
the educative means are available to the body of Christ:

THEREFORE, the Christian Action Commission RECOMMENDS:

R-6. That the General Synod urge the churches of the RCA to avail themselves of the various types of Christian sex education materials, marriage enrichment, preparation and growth seminars, and those groups involved in halting the spread of pornography, and that as much as is possible the education process occur at the family and church level. Resources are available through the Office of Family Life. (ADOPTED)

The Commission additionally RECOMMENDS:

R-7. That our seminaries provide training for ministerial candidates in the field of sex education counseling and that as a part of their continuing education, all RCA ministers seek to prepare themselves to serve their local families as a resource in human sexuality. (ADOPTED)