PORN AS A DRIVER OF DEMAND FOR PROSTITUTION & SEX TRAFFICKING Shelley Lubben







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Wow, Rick, you're going to make me cry. I've got to be strong because I've got to stand here, and I've got to tell the truth about the fantasy of porn. And it's not easy for me, so I ask you all to give me grace. But you're going to thank me later on because there are some loved ones in your life who are really hurt by pornography. So many people in this world – I can't even go to the grocery store without some woman coming to me and telling me that her husband is doing porn or her son's doing porn. I mean it's everywhere. It's a porn pandemic, and so the odds that God would raise up an ex-porn star in the middle of a porn pandemic; He's got a plan. So today I tell you the truth behind the fantasy of porn - it is the greatest illusion on earth.

I want to talk to you about my grooming process from prostitution to porn. I have a step one. I ride out street prostitution. This is a classic porn star background. This is very common of women who are in porn. Parental neglect and verbal abuse growing up, child sexual abuse – I was sexually abused at nine years old. I had my first homosexual experience and heterosexual experience at nine years old, and I was devastated and shocked. And I had no one to tell, so I didn't tell anyone. I became a rebel and my parents didn't understand. I was the black sheep. I was the troublemaker, and my dad got sick of me and kicked me out of the home at 18. I was a teenager, barely graduated out of high school. It was E's, D's and F's. I felt stupid, unworthy, unloved, and I ended up homeless on a curb in San Fernando Valley, which is the world's capitol of adult film industry. 85% of the world's content is made right there in California. I didn't know that at 18. I had no driver's license because I had gotten suspended for my driving reckless because my dad had taught me how to drive like a racecar driver when I was a child. Of course, it was my fault.

As I lied there homeless crying my eyes out with only a Bible – see I believed in Jesus when I was a little girl. I at least got that first eight years of Sunday school in. But I grew up in a pseudo Christian family where we say we are a Christian, but the love of Jesus and the truth of Jesus isn't really in the home, which is most of America in my opinion. So [I] lay out there on that curb with only my bible crying out to God and my Bible only crying out to God, "How could you ever let this happen to me?" And a nice man [came] along to me, and he says, "Honey, what's wrong?" And I cried my eyes out, and I told him my dad kicked me out, and he said he could help me. And [I] thought, "Jesus has come to rescue me." And then he said, "There's a nice man in that apartment complex that thinks you're real pretty, and for 35 dollars, if you make love with him," and I said, "Wait, I'm a lot

of things you know. I'm a rebel, but I'm not a prostitute." But then the devil came and spoke to me and said, "God doesn't care; your parents don't care." And I thought, "Yeah, why should I care?" And I stopped caring about myself, and I went into a life of prostitution.

He lured me in through affection and money. He was the most affectionate man I had ever touched, and it felt good to be touched. My dad didn't touch me. He wasn't an affectionate man. And I was young and vulnerable. I accepted his offer. The first nice trick familiarized me and got me ready to accept more bizarre sex. The pimp became abusive, and I was a rebel, so I escaped. I fought out of his big black arms and I ended up on Ventura Boulevard where I decided I was going to be my own pimp. Now I'm in full survivor mode, totally out of my mind, traumatized, and I hate my life. And I start walking up to men in the mechanic shops and asking them if they want a blowjob for 50 bucks, and they said, "Yea". And we just went in the back dirty room, and I remember one time a man bled on my face, and that really frightened me. I was 18 years old. So men hit me, pulled my hair, forced me to have unprotected sex, dirty sex in dirty places, abducted me.

Step two was an escort agency. A prostitute found me. She says, "Hey, man, It's all about recruitment, recruitment. Everybody gets kickbacks, and she introduced me to a madam who taught me about the glamorous side of prostitution: female hygiene - which my mother never taught me; physical attraction – how to look better and hustle money and barter for gifts. Sure, by now I hate men. I'll get their last dollar, because that was what I was taught to do. Honey, right, baby? Yea, I had a really old Madame. She was in her fifties, and she taught me all the ways to lie and manipulate; how to get out of risky situations. We always knew how to handle cops. They set the money down; we were out of there. I'm not doing that; have a nice day, LAPD. Of course, they took us out later for drinks.

Risk in prostitution – prostitution is illegal in the state of California, so fear of jail time was daily for me and for the other girls. Clients ripped condoms on purpose or complained about them all the time. You could never have sex in a position where you couldn't see the condom, so everything was just a combat zone. Clients forced me to watch pornography with them. Obviously that trained me; I wanted to be like the porn stars. See the grooming happening? Clients insisted we party with drugs and alcohol. Clients lived in private homes where behavior could not be monitored. Clients had visible and non-visible STDs, which they denied were STDs and still pressured me to have sex with them. Clients stole from me – money, panties, car keys – anything. And I got pregnant 2 times in the first 14 months of prostitution, and I lost my first baby, because I was damaged. I was living a traumatic life, but by the grace of God, I kept my second baby.

So now imagine me pregnant on the streets. And you know what? I've got one value left from Sunday school. I couldn't kill my baby. It was by the grace of God, truly. This is me. Look how young I was, a teenage survivor of the sex industry. I called myself Jovony, one of the many names. That's me there, obviously alcohol came along, drugs.

Step three: I want to go to strip clubs, trying to get away from prostitution. I figured, you know, I'll go work in strip clubs, but I was still underage, and in sex work we move around really fast. And I went to the strip clubs and got a fake ID, and they hired me. They don't care; they just force you into sex acts for employment. I worked in unsanitary work conditions – changing rooms with soiled costumes, drugs, paraphernalia, used rags, bodily fluids, broken glass. This was the norm in the strip clubs, even in the nicer strip clubs. Dancers were propositioned by clients constantly, so prostitution was unavoidable. Strip clubs – you're going to be a prostitute; you're not going to get out of it. Sex acts with clients inside of clubs, parking lots, free alcohol, and drugs given to fuel dancers for performance. My book I talk a lot about that. This book is brutally honest. It tells the truth about porn, and my life in prostitution. Fights were common in bars. In fact someone got shot right next to me. I had their blood all over me and my tray. Men followed me and stalked me. This is very common.

Then, this is the crazy part, I got so sick of the LA scene, I started looking up those ads that she talked about, and all I saw was \$2,000 a week for dancers in Mexico. I'm Californian; I can do that. So I said, "Oh sure." I got a first class ticket that showed me a pamphlet of a nice resort; I'd be staying at a beach. It said, "beach" and "money", and I was like, "I'm there." The next thing you know I arrived to a commune where we walked in, and there were armed guards. And I remember walking in, and all the girls were behind see-through locked doors. And they were this, numblike, saying, "Oh, this shit is bad." I knew, and my hands were turning to fists, and I was ready to kick some serious butt. I knew, and God just told me calm down. Be calm. And I just went into the room and tried to talk to the girl, and I go, "Hey, what the hell is going on around here?" And all the girls were blonde hair, blue eyes. She goes, "Shut up. Don't you know you're at a Mexican brothel?" I go, "I didn't sign up for a Mexican brothel." I did not know I had been lured in. I did not know I had been sex trafficked into Mexico. And so I ended up going to that club and sure enough, women were being gang raped upstairs, beat. They were screaming "Shu da la boca" – "Shut up your mouth," while she was screaming. I'm sitting there going, "OK, which way is out? Where is the exit?" That was me - survivor, survivor, you know. And by the grace of God, I knew enough Spanish to get out, and I yelled and said there was some fire. And I ran out in the street, gave the taxi some American money, and said, "Take me back right now," and kicked the hell out of the guy at the door and got my stuff out, and so I was pretty tough. Those girls weren't as tough as me, but I had already been in prostitution for a little while, so I escaped again, by the grace of God.

And then the consequences of commercial sex work – six years in strip clubs, escort agencies, prostitution houses. I hated myself, tried to commit suicide regularly. I still have slits on my wrists in several different places – prescription pills, clients trying to kill me, me running from them, because you'd be lying all the time, and they don't want to be lied to. They'd come into a strip club and expect a girl to be faithful, like you have engagement rings in each pocket and be like, "Oh, baby, sure; it's all about the money." We don't like men. We hate men. We want your money. Major mental disorders such as bulimia, substance abuse, paranoia, major depression, PTSD, and demonization. And I'm going to show you a picture of me demonized, because I want to prove this. That is me demonized right there. That's actually in a porn movie. That's the kind of people that the porn industry lures in – a damaged population to damage them more. Who else is going to raise their hand to do for porn?

Step four – lured into porn. Porn star comes into the strip club, feature dances. She comes over to me and says, "Oh baby, you're so hot." And I says, "Yea." I'm drinking my Jack Daniels and burned out. She goes, "Ah, why are you stripping and doing prostitution when you can make \$2,000 at porn movies, and it's legal? Legal, 2,000 bucks a movie, and it's safe since the actresses get tested every 30 days. Promises of fame, fortune and safety sounded really good to a burned out stripper and a single mom. By then my daughter was probably three. Porn stars receive kickbacks for bringing in new meat to porn producers. I didn't know that, so my first amateur scene was in a night club, got high on meth. Of course, I had alcohol and Jack Daniels with me all the time, and I was scared out of my mind. Of course, I led with my fake smile. I learned a lot in prostitution and didn't want them to see it, but I was actually really, really scared. And that first scene I remember just being really nervous and all of a sudden the devil just came again to me, and he said, "Shelley, I'll make you

famous and everyone will love you; that's all you've ever wanted." And so you know, I did my best because I was out to prove something like every other porn star. We're out to be the best and prove to the world that we are good at something. We are worthy at something because our parents don't think so, because the world only wants us from the neck down.

That's me – Roxy. Shelley died in 1992 and Roxy the porn star came in 1993 and '94, and I have forced, fraud, coercion, threats, disease and death. Those are all pictures of me in porn. Porn is sex trafficking. I was lured in. I was coerced. I was forced to do things I never agreed to. I'll explain about the U.S. porn industry slave trade. Unprotected sex, no condoms allowed, although it is the law. It is mandated; condoms are mandated. California is also the only state that is legal to produce pornography in. In the other 49 states it is called pandering. Unsafe high risk sex acts such as DP, anal, gang bang. Whatever they said, you did, because movies are filmed in private homes on a mostly male set, maybe a couple females. What am I going to say to like seven or eight men that are there? "Sorry, please don't do that? Ouch, that hurt?" No, you're not going to say anything. You're just going to go sniff in the cocaine, where is the alcohol, smoking pot. Right now in this industry smoking marijuana is like smoking cigarettes for these people. They talk about it online. They talk about their drug abuse; everything I tell you is totally online. Thanks to the Internet, porn stars love to blog about all their sex and all their addiction to alcohol and drugs and who's screwing who, and you know, this isn't hard to find.

Male porn directors controlled the work environment. I was subjected to unsafe and hazardous workplace to include excessive drugs and alcohol, physical violence such as hitting, choking, hair pulling, verbal abuse, and threats by pornographers. I was on a set before, and I had already done my run. And my body was very small, and Max Hardcore, and he says, "No, she can't do her, she's crying." Some of these girls are crying. Some of them are in the bathroom and going, "I can't do this, and so I had to do it, or he said, "You're not going to get paid," or, "You're not going to work in this industry again." I got a mouth to feed so I actually had to do it. I said, "I don't even look like her," and they're like, "Well, we're not looking at your face." So there was a lot of that going on, on the set. Bodily fluids were everywhere – urine, feces, blood, seminal and vaginal fluid on face, mouth, eyes, chest, everywhere –couches, the sets, the bathrooms you'd go in. It was used enemas and douches, and razors thrown everywhere. Why can the porn industry get away with filming in private locations, breaking all health and safety laws, and yet in a hospital, no way could you break those laws. Bodily fluids on floors everywhere. Pornographers promised I would be kept safe in this environment.

Unfortunately, there were consequences. After about 30 movies, I caught two sexually transmitted diseases. One of them was herpes, a non-curable disease. That devastated me. I woke up one morning looking like a monster with about a 103 fever, just crying, "What is this?" And, you know, I went to the doctor, and he said, "You have a really bad case of herpes." The devil just says you're damaged. Nobody will want you now; you should just kill yourself. After the devil talks me into doing this for seven years, now he wants me to kill myself, and I tried to. I took a bottle of prescription pills and woke up with a really terrible sore throat and belly. But again God saved me, and I kept saying why does he want to save me? Why can't I die? But I didn't understand that he had a better plan. But I suffered a lot. I have had four pregnancy losses, one was an ectopic pregnancy. I had early cervical cancer; it's a long health term outcome that a lot of the porn stars, they don't know. And I tell them, "Listen, I'm 42 years old right now, and I'm telling you, I've been through it."

When I married my husband he helped rescue me out of the sex industry. He joined the military. I got to be their guinea pig at the Madigan medical facility up in Tacoma, Washington, and thank God for the military, because, see, I never had medical insurance. No one ever cared. Do you think that a pornographer ever cared about sending me to a doctor? Did you know that it's actually the law that every time bodily fluids get on the skin that the pornographer or producer has to pay for that follow up checkup to the doctor? Do you really think they are doing that right now? That Hustler just got fined \$14,000 for breaking the laws of Cal/OSHA, and they plan to appeal, but I'll be there. I've [been] hemorrhaging for 12 years, severe anemia, a couple of years ago, I had to have a uterine ablation where they fry your uterus – major medical bills for physical, mental and emotional damages that went on and on.

I didn't think I was going to make it, but after eight long years of a really hard recovery, of meeting Jesus Christ and having a truth encounter of a lifetime, and he just sat with me for eight years and undid all the lies I believed about myself since I was a little girl. You are worthy; you are lovable; you do have something to contribute to this world besides your body. You have opinions and belief systems, and you have something beautiful to offer to this world. No one ever told me that. And I beat alcoholism and drug addiction. I beat all the sexual trauma from my past. I did because, you know what? I didn't have nightmares and flashbacks anymore. Let me tell you, there is one thing that I couldn't get out of my system and it took a long time. It was porn. You know, I got the alcohol out. I got the drug addiction, but I lived for years traumatized with those images. So I say, man, you don't want to get into porn addiction because it's going to be a long hard recovery, and there is only one way you're going to get free from that, and that's through Jesus Christ. There's no other power.

And after God healed me, he healed my family. I left my husband. When we first got married, I couldn't have normal sex. I was really bizarre and twisted. I kept wanting to be a little girl and him be my daddy, and he was like, "No, honey, that's not normal." So it took us years for us to figure out together what normal marriage sex was, and then God had the audacity to bless it. That's when the Holy Spirit got involved. I had a perfect life. I was a mom now. I was doing Betty Crocker cooking; I never cooked before. I didn't even know how to wash clothes for my husband, but now I was washing clothes. I had a perfect life, three daughters now. They were in Christian school. I had brushed that whole porn life away, and it was completely gone, and then God told me to go back. I said, "I'm not doing that," and God said, "You need to put your story up on the web." I go, "No." For eight years I had turned off all television (which I highly recommend). I hate television so much. I really hate television. I turned off all television, all secular music, and all I did was just get into the Word of God and pour it in. And as it poured in, I pushed out the lies, and I was transformed into a new creation in Christ. And I was powerful, and I was a powerful mother. And I was the cupcake queen and the field trip mom. (Applause) That's right, and none of those moms had any idea who I was. I was 200 pounds fat with a soccer mom haircut, and I was fat and happy. Loved it, happy, and then God told me to go back. I knew when he asked me. I said, "You know you're asking me to give up everything beautiful I worked hard for," but He said, "This is going to be worth it."

So I went back to these broken people that were just like me, and I found out, oh my gosh, so much information about the porn industry that I never knew. Now they have AIM, the medical clinic (the porn star clinic), and performers are not required to test for HPV or herpes. It's rampant in the industry. In fact, like Bella Donna who's famous, laughs and says, "Oh like 99.9% have herpes," and she has herpes. Rocco Siffredy, another famous male porn star says, "Oh, 99% have herpes." It's just a joke in the industry. The industry standard right now is to be tested every 30 days for HIV, gonorrhea, and chlamydia. Tests become unreliable very quickly though when you're [a] porn

star or prostitute, you know, multiple partners on and off the set. I'll tell you why they want to be prostitutes instead. Because making porn is so degrading and humiliating and painful, when you're sitting there in the middle of the set, and there's a crew all around you, and there's all these naked men stroking themselves around you, and you're staring at used wipies on the floor, and they are penetrating you and hurting you. You would much rather be a porn star prostitute and at least get a dinner and get paid \$2,000 for an hour instead of do this.

And AIM doctors offer a false sense of security. Dr. Sharon Mitchell, the founder of AIM, who is a Kinsey prodigy, who went to the Institute of Advanced Study of Human Sexuality. And she got her bogus Ph. D., and now she goes around, and she wears a white lab coat, and she says, "I'm Dr. Sharon Mitchell." I'm like, "No, you're and ex-heroin addict who is a former porn actress." And she goes around and tells all these young girls, "We keep the adult entertainment industry safe." Here she is. I'll let her tell you.

[A video clip of Dr. Sharon Mitchell follows]

[Dr. Sharon Mitchell] I've been in the adult entertainment industry 25 years as an actress, dancer, producer, director. And then I got my doctorate, and I founded the Adult Industry Medical Health Care Foundation in 1998, and since then we have done over 250,000 HIV tests. We are the largest early detection HIV testing facility in the country, and we keep the adult entertainment industry safe.

[Shelly Lubben begins speaking again]

This is the main caretaker of porn performers, about 1,500 porn performers (75% of them are female). That's what the 12 billion dollar industry is. It's this really small group of people. So, Dr. Sharon Mitchell is also the same person who says Herpes is about 66%. Chlamydia and gonorrhea, however, along with hepatitis, seem to stick to everything – to dildos, to flat surfaces, to hands, to pardon our expression, but we're usually up to our asses in chlamydia. Well they're up to their ass in a lot more than that, according to the Los Angeles Department of Public Health (which they've been an awesome agency helping us). They've been monitoring AIM since 2003, and they've reported thousands of cases of chlamydia and gonorrhea, 26 cases of HIV reported by AIM but unpublicized. This is just in a few years. 70% of sexually transmitted infections in the porn industry current in females – chlamydia, gonorrhea – 10 times higher in performers than in LA county, significantly higher rates of infection than the general public. Furthermore, these disease rates and infections are likely to be underestimated, and basically it's a reservoir for repeat infections. The porn industry is reservoir of STDs. Rampant sexually transmitted diseases proven by fraudulent doctors and medical doctors.

The porn industry is a cesspool of death. Sadly, someone just committed suicide last week. I can't even barely keep up. 37 premature deaths out of 1,500 people that we know of from HIV, suicide, homicide, and drugs between 2007 and 2011. That's just 4 years. 20 more died from medical causes like lung disease, heart failure, and cancer, probably from smoking all those marijuana cigarettes. 11 more died from car accidents, apparently due to drugs and alcohol, but 68 porn performers in 48 months, between 2007 and 2011 who died prematurely from HIV, suicide, drugs, murder, accidents and medical illnesses. No other industry kills or destroys these many people than this industry, not even the music industry. And here the average age (it's so sad) of a porn star is 37.43 years, and yet we idly sit by and click greedily while they get high and destroy their lives.

Why is this industry legal? Because some guy named Freeman, an idiot, fought a case in California, and it's not even legal by legislation. All we need to do is appeal this. I need some California lawyers. I'll go; I've got a group of freshly recovering porn stars who would love to go with me and testify. In fact right now we are testifying, and for the last year we've been going to Cal/OSHA meetings and talking about all of the hazardous and unsafe and illegal activities. And Cal/OSHA has finally listened and is now fining companies like Hustler, and right now we are going to meet in June, and they are actually going to give a requirement of how the condoms have to be used, appropriate-sized fit. Everything is going to be monitored. Obviously, my heart is to see the thing come down, but if I can substantially destroy their business, because there is no way they're not going to make business with condoms. Porn consumers do not want to watch porn with condoms. So that's just one way we're going after them, and we're also going after them in the laborer and also sex trafficking, so we need your help. Anybody want to help us? We would love it. Judith Reisman's been my greatest mentor and Pat Trueman's been a great mentor. So thank you all for this opportunity. And God bless you, and please get help if you're viewing porn.