



TABOO TWO:

The Elephant Strikes Back







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REVIEW

- Disagreement is OK
- Come have a conversation
- When Reviewing time, money, and effort, who is your highest priority?
- Men and Women are different and valuable
- Sometimes understanding Scripture takes effort and disagreement is OK.
- Sin must be addressed seriously and lovingly

What if I could?

- Lower your daughter's risk of suicide by 66%?
- Save your teenagers from a stalker?
- Increase the overall safety of your children by 83%?
- Promise you 11% more happiness in your marriage?



Disclaimer

- I am not a luddite
- Kids might hate me
- You might think I am crazy



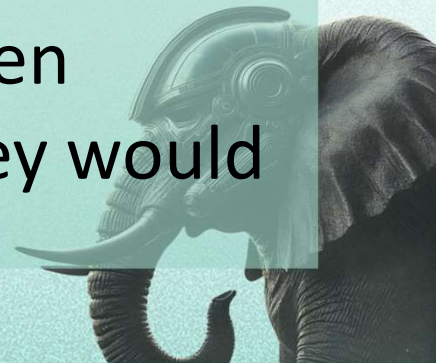
The Problem?

- Children who have been cyber bullied are three times more likely to contemplate suicide than their peers (Van Geel, Vedder, and Tanlion 2014)
- Half of middle schoolers in the united states cannot distinguish advertising for real news or fact from fiction believing that “if it's viral it must be true” (Shellenbarger 2016)



The Problem?

- 83% of children do not tell trusted adults about the abuse they encounter online (Thorn 2022)
- 40% of 13 to 17 year olds report it is “normal for people my age to share nudes with each other” (Thorn 2022)
- 94% of children who have received unsolicited nudes from adults did not report the perpetrator even though 33% had previously predicted that they would do so (Thorn 2022)



The Problem?

- Children under age 14 spend nearly twice as much time with tech devices as they do in conversation with their families (Donnelly 2019)
- 66% increase in the risk of suicide related outcomes among teen girls who spend more than five hours a day on social media (Twenge, Joiner, and Martin 2017)



The Problem?

- Researchers have linked social media use with decreased marriage quality, positing that couples who do not use social media are “11% happier” in their marriages than couples who do (Buscho 2021)



Move Fast and Break Things

- Mark Zuckerberg
- Social Media
- A free drug



Why is it free?

- Sponsors
- Micro transactions
- Your Data!



Who are You?

By the time your child turns 13 your phone will have sold roughly 72 million data points about him or her where they shop, what bands they listen to, how they style their hair, their favorite sneaker brand, their religion, their eating habits, their address, their phone number, their vacation photos, to any and every company imaginable (Davies 2022)

The Algorithm

- Keep your eyes hooked!
- What are you interested in?
- Let's show you more!
- Seen everything? Let's go bigger!



The Game

We are playing a dangerous game with algorithms. It is a game of chance, of numbers, of wild risk. Daily we roll the dice. If we get lucky, we win. If we don't? Our children lose. And we lose them.

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.



Galatians 5:19-21

Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these.



Galatians 5:22-23

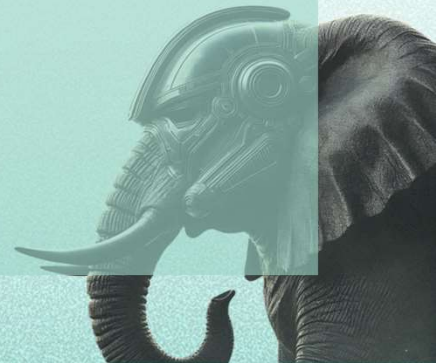
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



The Online Environment

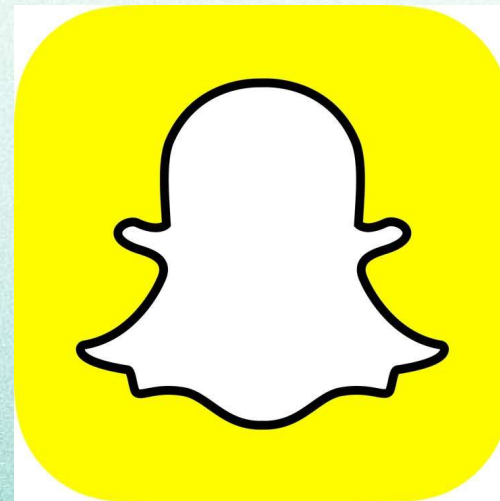
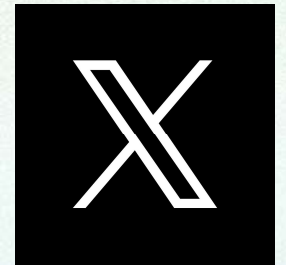
- Sexual Immorality
- Impurity/Sensuality
- Idolatry
- Sorcery
- Enmity/Strife
- Jealousy/Envy
- Anger
- Rivalries
- Dissension/Division
- Drunkenness

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-Control



SO WHAT?

- Treat screen time the same as something truly serious
- Actually monitor time and content
- Don't be afraid of being different in order to protect your family
- Drop the big 4





Gov. Spencer Cox

“Social media is a cancer on our society right now, and I would encourage people to log off, turn off, touch grass, hug a family member. Go out and do good in your community. That is happening, and it is happening organically right now.”