

# Problem

## In the Culture

### Misconceptions

The body is...

- an avatar  
*result = gender ideology*
- a pleasure machine  
*result = sexual “freedom”*
- an object  
*result = pornography*

## In the Church

### Misconceptions

The body is...

- unnecessary to salvation
- opposed to the soul
- of no concern  
(is rarely mentioned)  
*result = Christianity is rejected or misunderstood*

# Why we need Theology of the Body

### VOCATION:

Our call is to love through the vocations of celibacy for the Kingdom or of marriage, both lived according to the gift of sexuality.

**GENDER:** Masculinity and femininity complement each other; we are gifts for others.

**THE BASIC CONCEPT:** The body is a gift; since I am a body-person, I am a gift.

**FOUNDATION:** The body is a good teacher. (How do we know we are human, hungry, tired, sick, older or younger, male or female? The answer: The BODY!)

## In the Culture

### Natural Law is key

The body is...

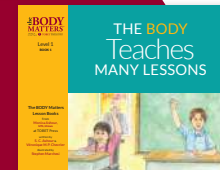
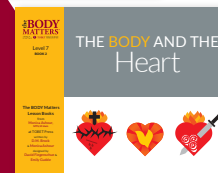
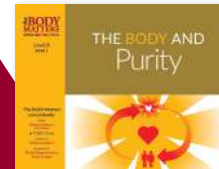
- an objective truth found in creation
- integral to the common good

## In the Church

### Revelation is key

The body is...

- central to Catholicism (The Incarnate, Eucharistic, & Mystical Body of Christ)
- the basis of our sacramental view of reality
- seen as a gift for love



*St. John Paul's Theology of the Body upholds Natural Law and Revelation. It teaches that we are “body-persons” and invites us to experience true love.*

**the BODY MATTERS™**  
A Theology of the Body Program