

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237 Phone: (845) 306-1100

TO THOSE APPLYING FOR THEOCRATIC SCHOOLS, BETHEL SERVICE, OR OTHER
FORMS OF SPECIAL FULL-TIME SERVICE

Dear Brother or Sister:

We sincerely appreciate your self-sacrificing spirit. Your desire to expand your service and support Kingdom interests more fully is truly commendable. The attitude you display is far different from that of the majority of mankind today. In these “critical times hard to deal with,” we live in the midst of a selfish and morally corrupt world. (2 Tim. 3:1) Therefore, we must be alert to shun any activity that could cause us to lose our clean standing before Jehovah.—Rom. 12:1.

In filling out your application, you likely took note of the following question: “*In the past year, have you viewed . . . pornography in printed form, on the Internet, or otherwise?*” A person may have had a problem with pornography in the past but since then may have overcome this unclean habit. Such ones are to be commended. They have taken the necessary steps to strengthen their relationship with Jehovah.

Why is pornography such a danger? At Matthew 5:28, Jesus said that “everyone that keeps on looking at a woman so as to have a passion for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” Pornography is designed to stimulate the sort of immoral thoughts that Jesus warned against. Reading or viewing pornography goes directly contrary to the divine direction: “Deaden, therefore, your body members that are upon the earth as respects fornication, uncleanness, sexual appetite, hurtful desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.” (Col. 3:5) Please see *The Watchtower* of March 15, 2012, pages 30-31.

Clearly, we have every reason to avoid pornography in all its forms. However, it is especially important for those who desire to attend theocratic schools or to serve in special full-time service to avoid all unclean habits. Therefore, if you have viewed any type of pornography within the past year, please do not apply at this time. We urge you to seek the help of your congregation elders right away. Jehovah has appointed these loving spiritual shepherds to care for you and assist you with any challenge you may face.—Jas. 5:14-16.

We love you for the good work you are doing. More importantly, Jehovah rejoices in your course of integrity. **(Read Proverbs 27:11.)** Please accept an expression of our warm Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,
*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

cc: Traveling overseers
Bodies of elders