

Weeding out porn

by Francis Bennion

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Sir: Charles Moore tells us that Rabbi Weiss has produced a 'successful' system which filters out all pornography (*The Spectator's* Notes, 5 March 2011). This may be somewhat too successful. In my book *The Sex Code* I divide pornography, that is explicitly sexual material, into five categories: non-erotic, perverted or debased, stimulative or erotic, educational or artistic, and political or destabilising. I add that given material may fall into more than one category.

We should lose a great deal that is culturally valuable if every one of these were suppressed.

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Note by FB The following information is taken from Charles Moore's piece (*The Spectator's* Notes, 5 March 2011).

The rabbi referred to is Rabbi Moshe Weiss. Moore visited his school near Jerusalem, the name of which translates as 'To Zion with Joy'. It takes Jewish children from the former Soviet union and educates them free. Moore says that the rabbi 'makes an ingenious contribution to a famous secular phenomenon. He produces a successful system called Internet Ramon, which filters out all pornography. Apparently its biggest "uptake" is in the Muslim world'.

It would be interesting to know how Internet Ramon works, and whether it limits itself to material that is truly undesirable or also catches worthwhile items. How does it distinguish between them?

References

None