

Here are my thoughts on the Harry Potter books, although I have not read the books myself, I have not read the Satanic Bible either, yet I can tell you that both are ‘impious’ reading. I don’t need to read them to tell you their bad for your soul, just like I don’t have to be an alcoholic, heroin or cocaine addict to tell you it’s bad for your body (and soul). Below is an article by a Mom and her son on the first Harry Potter book. One book was enough for them.

Summer Reading: Harry Potter
By Elizabeth and Michael Foss
HERALD Columnist

*In light of the recent Harry Potter craze, **my 11-year-old and I decided to do a little critical reading together. We read the first book in the series and I asked Michael to write a review. Here, he shares his opinions and a suggestion, too:***

My experience with Harry Potter was very decisive to say the least. It took me just one book to decide not to read the rest of the series. Eleven-year-old Harry Potter lives with the Dursleys, his aunt and uncle, and their spoiled son, Dudley. The Dursleys despise Harry for coming into their lives as an infant in a basket on their front porch. Mrs. Dursley's sister, Harry's mother, died alongside her husband. They were both wizards. The evil Lord Voldemort came to the Potter household when Harry was one to try to bring the Potters to the dark side. When the Potters refused, he killed the couple but Harry was too powerful for the lord and only was scarred.

The boy grows up thinking his parents died in a car accident. On Harry's birthday, a mysterious letter comes in the mail from a school that teaches boys and girls to become witches and wizards. On the day it's time to leave for the school, Hogwarts, the real adventure begins. Harry learns to make potions, how to transfigure rats into hairpins and other useful things.

The book consistently stumbles on the topic of right and wrong. For example: Harry and his classmates are learning how to fly on broomsticks when the teacher is called away for a while. She tells the students to stay put and not to fly! Well, the school bully, Draco Malfoy, decides to pick on one of the students by picking up the boy's broomstick and flying off. Harry Potter flies after Malfoy and just as Harry zooms up, the culprit goes down. The teacher catches Harry up in the air and she pretends to scold him in front of the class but then commends him for his flying ability behind closed doors. These kinds of mixed-message incidents happen throughout the book.

The book takes a very sinister, troublesome spin when Harry comes face to face with Voldemort. When the dark lord failed to kill Harry, he lost all his power. So he looks over the world trying to find someone to possess. With the body of a man in his control, Voldemort attacks Harry. The boy is so

strong Voldemort's hands blister and burn when he touches Potter. The power is so great the body perishes but the dark lord filters into the air to find another victim.

The book's satanic references were very disturbing as can be imagined. I don't think it's appropriate for little kids. The author also portrays the muggles (non-magic folk) to be idiotic bumblers that have no clue about anything. The children in this book as well as the adults are very disrespectful. There is a lot of lying and cheating by both adults and children that goes unpunished. Many controversial things in the text were not needed, and they did not add any glory to this book. It was very disappointing.

A friend of my moms told me that in the second book, Harry and his friends bury a screaming mandrake root. The more the root screams, the more dirt they dump on it. A mandrake root looks like a baby. In case the reader didn't know that, there is a picture of it at the beginning of the chapter. I wonder why the author picked a root that looks like a baby to bury. [Mom's note: our dictionary says that the root of a mandrake has been traditionally used to promote conception. Why did she choose a mandrake?] The author says that in the fourth book Harry's hormones are supposed to kick in. I don't even want to know what that's supposed to mean.

Here is a 2nd Person who weighed on the Harry Potter books:

COMMUNITY COLUMNIST

Beyond Harry Potter, witchcraft has realities

Michael Haverluck

In many Kitsap public schools, including Bremerton's Mountain View and Port Orchard's Marcus Whitman Middle Schools, teachers are supplementing their curricula by reading Harry Potter books with their students. The books also are used or approved for use in other Kitsap districts, according to district representatives.

The series is consistently the most popular choice for Kitsap youth, dominating other children's literature. Kitsap Regional Library registered over 400 holds upon the fifth book's release some were reserved a year beforehand. Currently, 81 copies of it are being circulated with six on hold, and there are 133 holds on its audio book as well. This latest installment sold 5 million copies its first day alone.

But although schools and book distributor Scholastic, Inc. promote this literary phenomenon, few acknowledge the darker elements celebrated and entrenched in the storyline.

Why do these spellbinding tales concern many parents? Do they espouse witchcraft and trigger youth's curiosity in a centuries-old practice that is now a New Age religion known as Wicca?

And Wicca witchcraft has a larger local following than many realize. At least 75 anti-Christian Wiccans attend South Kitsap High, according to one self-described Wiccan student there. A Port Orchard pastor told me he found evidence of a ritual burning around a cross on church property and that he's confronted Wiccans with pentagrams on his property.

The Wiccan student I talked to also told me there are more than two dozen covens operating across Kitsap County, including Alvar, Coven of the Wolf and Crescent Moon, and Gaia's Kindred. Several local bookstores also have extensive Wiccan/New Age/Metaphysical book sections. Clearly, witchcraft is no fiction in these parts.

According to American Religious Identification Resources, Wicca is the fastest-growing religion in America, and known followers grew from 8,000 in 1990 to nearly 500,000 today, with 1 million projected by 2008.

The way Harry Potter books are promoted in public schools, you might think they're ushering in the salvation of this nation's youth from illiteracy. But are these fanciful chronicles of wizardry about the world's most popular witch saving our children from one thing or condemning them to another?

Embracing J.K. Rowling's spiritism numbs youth to biblical spirituality. And with secularism increasing, Americans describing themselves as Christians have decreased by over 10 percent since 1990, and by 2040, it's projected to be down 30 percent. It was Vladimir Lenin who said, "Give me one generation of youth and I will transform the entire world."

It's ironic that many of the same people wanting to uproot the Bible from public schools using the "separation of church and state" -- a concept introduced 13 years after the U.S. Constitution -- have no problem with the "friendly" witchcraft glorified in the Potter books. The very real religion of Wicca is made to seem harmless and fun, but little do most parents realize that their children could be naively tapping into cultish practices.

Take a look at Harry Potter Web sites and you'll think you're in a witch's instructional training camp, complete with spells, potions, and lexicons. Harry's witchery is based on actual rituals used by experienced and "ordained" witches -- ones that Rowling painstakingly studied. Conjuring spirits, nature worship, reincarnation, evolution, "Mother Goddess," meditation, and curses are all celebrated in the novels.

Those objecting to classroom reading or teaching of the cleverly written and disarming stories are often dubbed as overbearing and uncompromising Christian killjoys. After all, most witches don't appear evil and seem to just focus on the environment, but little do people realize that the core of Harry Potter is an abomination to God, according to the Bible. Deuteronomy 18:10 reads, "Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead."

If the Potter books ran contrary to Islam, Buddhism, or Hinduism beliefs, however, the ACLU probably would have a hundred lawyers working to pull them from schools.

Yet, they have no problem with the charming and entertaining 1,000-page novels that brilliantly enrapture children with seemingly harmless religious rhetoric and practices ones that familiarize readers with actual names of devils and demons, intriguing them to more intimately explore the enticing craft.

Just as television and the movies have desensitized Americans to lewdness and profanity, Rowling has softened us to the evils of witchcraft, fashioning terms such as "light" magic. But to many Christians, spiritual powers apart from God, including sorcery, wizardry, dark arts, black magic, and necromancy are Satanic by nature. However, Rowling's humorous and entertaining packaging lowers the defenses of many readers.

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As you can see, many parents are disturbed by the aspects of the occult and black magic contained in these books; however, I do not automatically exclude books just because they have such elements. Wizards, magic, sorcery and the presence of evil are typical themes in fantasy. JRR Tolkien's & C.S. Lewis' books contain all of these things, and I would put them on my list of "greatest fiction books ever written." For me, the key to good fiction literature is that good must be shown as good, and evil must be portrayed as evil. When these labels get mixed-up, our culture is in trouble. Isaiah (5:20) the prophet thundered: "Woe to those who call good evil and evil good... The Harry Potter books are an example of moral transgenderism – that is when a literary works conflates good and evil or lets them bleed one into another and does not draw clear lines of demarcation between good and evil.

For Catholics that want to read fantasy I would recommend two books off the top of my head written by believing Catholic Authors:

1. **Michael O'Brien** is a professional artist, and author of the best-selling novels *Father Elijah, Strangers and Sojourners* and *Eclipse of the Sun*. (Ignatius Press-800-651-1531, www.ignatius.com).
2. **Bud Mcfarland Jr** is a speaker and author of the best selling novels *Pierced by a Sword, House of Gold* and *Conceived without Sin* (St. Jude Media: P.O. Box 26120 Fairview Park, OH 44126-0120, www.catholicity.com).

Decades ago men following their fallen nature would buy Soft porn in a brown paper bag that was purchased at the liquor store. This has now given way to hard core pornography that is just 1 click away. Forget the centerfold pictures, you can now view – orgies, child rape, sadism & masochism, gang rape, bestiality, sodomy & necrophilia (sex with a corpse) on line in the privacy of your own home. Harry Potter books prepared the country to accept what's unclean and impious and now we have opened up a pandora's box of unclean spirits. Unfortunately because we have become so worldly, Catholics no longer no how to discern what's clean from what's unclean. We are like the proverbial frog slowly being boiled in water. I believe the Harry Potter books fall into the category of what the Holy Bible calls worldly wisdom *which is devilish*:

1 Cor 3:19 (DR) “For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written: I will catch the wise in their own craftiness.”

James 3:14-15, 17 “...be not liars against the truth. [15] For this is not wisdom, descending from above: but earthly, sensual, devilish...[17] But the wisdom, that is from above, first indeed is chaste, then peaceable, modest, easy to be persuaded, consenting to the good, full of mercy and good fruits, without judging, without dissimulation (=hypocrisy).

Before Vatican II, before the modernist clergy and before political correctness we clearly called bad literature “impious” reading.

Impious (dictionary.com) adjective

synonyms: godless · ungodly · unholy · irreligious · sinful · immoral · unrighteous · sacrilegious · profane · blasphemous · irreverent · disrespectful · apostate · atheistic

*(Book) Moral Theology TAN books 1961 “Forbidden books” – p.157, 272-3.

No.400 The extent of the prohibition. “A forbidden book is one which, without due permission, may not be read, published, retained, sold, translated, or in any manner whatsoever communicated to others.”

No.238e *Literature* – it is a mortal sin to read bad books, even though they are not entirely immoral...Such literature may be read, however, in order to acquire the necessary knowledge.

Or as the prominent Baptist Christian motivational speaker Zig Ziglar (RIP) is fond of saying, “Garbage in garbage out.” We become what we experience through our senses.

The Harry Potter books have now given birth to at least 2 spinoffs. One is called -

- **The Unofficial Ultimate Harry Potter Spellbook:** A complete reference guide to every spell in the wizarding world. The Unofficial Ultimate Harry Potter Spellbook is a beautiful, elegantly designed reference that details all of the known spells cast in the Harry Potter films, books, video games and card games, as well as official Harry Potter spinoffs, such as Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. There are 240 spells in all, along with a catalog of enchanted objects. Each spell is given its own entry including spell name, pronunciation and etymology, a description of the spell effect, spell casting methods, wand movements and vocalizations, and primary sources in which the spell was used. Readers will also find trivia related to each spell, such as who it was used against, what the outcome was, or what a spell’s unusual history might be. With an introduction on spellcasting and a guide to wand woods and cores. June 18, 2019. <https://www.amazon.com/Unofficial-Ultimate-Harry-Potter-Spellbook/dp/1948174243>
- **A Children’s book of Demons:** Book that teaches kids how to conjure demons hits major retailers’ shelves. A new book inviting young children to learn how to summon demons is now available at major retailers such as Walmart, Amazon, and Barnes & Noble. Written for 5- to 10-year-olds, *A Children’s Book of Demons* by Aaron Leighton directs kids to “conjure gentle demons by writing their sigils,* which serve as ‘a phone number’ straight to the spirit.” Elizabeth Johnston, AKA [Activist Mommy](#), on her blog. “But who is to say it is pretend?”

The spirit world is real and is no laughing matter. Leighton, an occultist himself, is clearly looking to proselytize our children,” asserted Johnston. December 2, 2019 <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/book-that-teaches-kids-how-to-conjure-demons-hits-major-retailers-shelves>

**A sigil (/ˈsɪdʒəl/; pl. sigilla or sigils) is a symbol used in magic. The term has usually referred to a type of pictorial signature of a demon or other entity; in modern usage, especially in the context of chaos magic, it refers to a symbolic representation of the magician's desired outcome (wikipedia.com).*

Parents should also know that Harry Potter curricula are available for teachers through Scholastic, the leading American publisher for public school textbooks. It also makes the books easily accessible to students through numerous order forms dispensed several times per semester, not to mention multiple copies available at school and public libraries. Is it surprising that many of the 50 million public-schoolers have such a keen interest in the series? Had the installments been based on the biblical themes, however, boards of education, National Education Association, and ACLU would quickly move to eliminate such "dangerous" material from schools in the names of tolerance and multiculturalism. Remember, in the Bible Satan portrayed himself as an angel of light. Should we readily accept Harry Potter as a "good witch" with "light magic" or should we just call a spade a spade? https://products.kitsapsun.com/archive/2004/07-17/3970_beyond_harry_potter_witchcraft_h.html

What do the Saints say about ‘Impious’ or ‘Bad Books?’

St. John Vianney (Patron saint of Parish Priest) whose heart is incorrupt said: “We must watch over our mind, our hearts, and our senses, for these are the gates by which the devil enters in.”

St Augustine (City of God, Book II, 27): writing of the effect on viewers of the bloody Sports in the Amphitheaters and Circuses said, “Spectators naturally assume that if it is all right for them to see (violence or obscenity) represented on the stage, then it is also right for them to act that way in their private lives.”

St Pope Pius X - Excerpt from the Apostolic Exhortation ‘Haerent animo.’ *Though this was written to priests it is still very applicable to even the average lay faithful. We are all called to be saints after all. “In our own day, alas! it is the contrary that happens all too frequently. Members of the clergy allow their minds to be overcome gradually by the darkness of doubt and turn aside to worldly pursuits; the chief reason for this is that they prefer to read a variety of other works and newspapers, which are full of cunningly propounded errors and corruption, rather than the divine books and other pious literature. Be on your guard, beloved sons; do not trust in your experience and mature years, do not be deluded by the vain hope that you can thus better serve the general good. Do not transgress the limits which are determined by the laws of the Church, nor go beyond what is suggested by prudence and charity towards oneself. Anyone who admits this poison into his soul will rarely escape the disastrous consequences of the evil thus introduced.”*

St Alphonsus Maria de Liguori (Moral Theology): “The reading of spiritual works is as profitable as the reading of bad books is noxious. As the former has led to the conversion of many sinners, so the latter is every day the ruin of many young persons. The first author of pious books is the Spirit of God; but the author of pernicious writings is the devil, who often artfully conceals from certain persons the poison that such works contain, and makes these persons believe that the reading of such books is necessary in order to speak well, and to acquire a knowledge of the world for their own direction, or at least in order to pass the time agreeably. But I say that, especially for nuns, nothing is more pernicious than the reading of bad books. And by bad books I mean not only those that are condemned by the Holy See, either because they contain heresy, or treat of subjects opposed to chastity, but also all books that treat of worldly love. What fervor can a religious have if she reads romances, comedies, or profane poetry? What recollection can she have in meditation or at Communion? Can she be called the spouse of Jesus Christ? Should she not rather be called the spouse of a sinful world? Even young women in the world that are in the habit of reading such books are generally not virtuous seculars. But someone may say, What harm is there in reading romances and profane poetry when they contain nothing immodest? Do you ask what harm? Behold the harm: the reading of such works kindles the concupiscence of the senses, and awakens the passions; these easily gain the consent of the will, or at least render it so weak that when the occasion of any dangerous affection occurs the devil finds the soul already prepared to allow itself to be conquered. A wise author has said that by the reading of such pernicious books heresy has made, and makes every day, great progress; because such reading has given and gives increased strength to libertinism. The poison of these books enters gradually into the soul; it first makes itself master of the understanding, then infects the will, and in the end kills the soul. The devil finds no means more efficacious and secure of sending a young person to perdition than the reading of such poisoned works...One bad book is enough to destroy an entire convent of holy nuns.”

Pope Pius XI's Encyclical ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & the importance of parenting, we read the wisdom of the Church expressed with precision and clearness in the Codex of Canon Law, can. 1113: "Parents are under a grave obligation to see to the religious and moral education of their children, as well as to their physical and civic training, as far as they can, and moreover to provide for their temporal well-being."

Thus there are **two primary** duties of parents. The 1st duty is to educate children in faith and morals.

Sister Josefa Menendez (1890-1923) had a vision of hell. The following material is quoted verbatim from her book 'Way of Divine Love.' It first appeared in 1938 in French and was quickly translated into numerous languages and spread throughout the world. Sister Josefa was a Spanish nun of the Society of the Sacred Heart and lived only four years as a religious, at the convent of Les Feuillants in Poitiers, France, where she died at the age of 33. Sr Josefa, on her return from Hell, noted the following: "*I saw several souls fall into Hell, and among them was a child of fifteen, cursing her parents for not having taught her to fear God, nor that there was a Hell. Her life had been a short one, she said, but full of sin, for she had given in to all that her body and passions demanded in the way of satisfaction. Especially she had read **bad books.***" (March 22, 1923).

Book ‘Deliverance Prayers for use by the Laity’ - Sensus Tradionis Press written by Fr Chad Ripperger. Appendix 1. List of Sins, Vices or Spirits (demons). Page 4 ‘Spirits against Matrimonial & Sacramental Unity: Occult – Harry Potter, Pokémon & Monster Toys.

Another point that most people don't know about is that Fr Gabriel Amorth (the chief Exorcist from the Diocese of Rome) and Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (who later became Pope Benedicts XVI) have both condemned the Harry Potter series. Read the following story. It's titled: 'Vatican's Chief Exorcist Repeats Condemnation of Harry Potter Novels.'

<http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-religion/1694152/posts>.

Fr Pedro Mendoza (chief Exorcist diocese of Mexico City) said: “The Popular Harry Potter books and series could allow the devil to enter into children’s minds and does a lot of damage. If you put all these ideas in a child’s head, that he can become a wizard, the child believes that and that is an opening up an avenue by which the devil can get in <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3tqq6ouR6s>

If you reject the testimony of Cardinal Ratzinger and three Exorcists, than all I can do is give you a warning: “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall” Proverbs 16:18 (RSV).

In conclusion, Holy Mother Church calls us to stay away from impious & bad books which are dangerous to the soul, the Harry Potter series fits this definition. Let the secular humanist promote impious & bad books, Catholics should take the moral high ground and not compromise our Gospel principles by marketing, selling, and reading myths which extol & glorify witchcraft, spells, superstition and sorcery.

Prayer of Adjuration: In the name of Jesus, I bind the spirit of (witchcraft, sorcery, superstitious etc.) and send you to the foot of the cross to be judged by Our Lord. Precious blood of Jesus wash over me, protect me from the wickedness and snares of the devil - Amen.

If you don't adjure a particular spirit you can say:

In the name of Jesus, I bind the any spirit here that is not of the Holy Spirit and send you to the foot of the cross to be judged by Our Lord. Precious blood of Jesus wash over me, protect me from the wickedness and snares of the devil - Amen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3tqq6ouR6s>

*Adjuration prayer – a solemn demand made in the name of God to do something or desist from doing something. The Catholic Encyclopedia: “The name of God reverently invoked carries with it an efficacy which demons are unable to withstand.” St Thomas Aquinas “It is lawful to adjure the demons, we may repulse the demons as being our enemies by adjuring them through the power of God’s name lest they do us harm of soul or body ibid.

Excellent Articles or Lectures on the Topic

How Harry Potter Corrupts Our Children by Father Jim Costigan, CPM
<http://www.courageouspriest.com/harry-potter-corrupts-children>

The wizarding world collides with Catholicism -
<https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/the-wizarding-world-collides-with-catholicism>

Fr Donald Calloway on the dangers of Harry Potter series, means and ends -
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDQGnB0xm_g