



**Name:** Kate Gallaher  
**Class:** 7M **Date:** 6-1-10  
**Saint of the Day:** St. Justin

**Instructions:** Follow the instructions below.  
When you are finished, follow the saving and dropping instructions at the top of this page (failure to do so may result in a loss of points).

**Instructions:** Put on your Catholic goggles and clean out those ears! It's time to go looking for examples of how American media commonly lies to us about love, sex, "beauty", and relationships. After finding (at least) 3 *different* examples, type down what you found and how your examples compare to the Theology of the Body's view of love, sex, beauty, and relationships (see Recognizing Lies Sample for help).

**Note #1:** This does not give you free license to do anything your parents would not normally want you doing (Examples: watching bad TV channels/shows, buying bad magazines/songs/music videos, etc.). For this assignment you should not have to go looking in deep and dark places. Rather, just keep your eyes and ears open as you go about your daily life. If you need help, feel free to ask your parents or an older brother or sister for any examples they can think of.

**Note #2:** Your 3 examples may consider any type of mass media, especially the following: Music, music videos, TV shows, movies, video games, books, magazines, the Internet (anything from Facebook to YouTube to CNN.com), advertisements (on billboards, the radio, TV, in magazines, etc.), etc.

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## #1

**Type of Media:** **Television**

**Description of Media:** **Chef Boyardee commercial**

**Comparison to the Theology of the Body:**

The example I have here seems pretty innocent. A Chef Boyardee commercial. You're probably thinking, "What could possibly be wrong with that?" Although there was nothing inappropriate in this commercial, the little girl said that she "LOVES Chef Boyardee." Now I will take this time to explain this love. The kind of love in this commercial is used tons and tons and tons of times in our culture. "I love that shirt", "I love cookies", etc. What exactly is that? Not real love. Real love is Jesus on the cross dying for us. The kind of "love" in this commercial is not a real love, but rather a term to describe your interest in that certain thing. We need to be careful about the way we use love because we use say "I love chocolate" like we say "I love God." Now, what's the difference? Well, I hope the love people have for God is real. Real, true, and powerful love like He has for each and every single one of us.

## #2

**Type of Media:** **Music**

**Description of Media:** **"Take It Off" by Ke\$ha**

**Comparison to the Theology of the Body:**

Okay well looking at the title of the song, I'm sure that anyone is going to figure out right away it is not a song God would approve of. When I heard this song for the first time on

a friend's iPod, I literally took out my headphones. Honestly, my style of music is country, and piano. When I heard this song, there were a few lyrics that stood out to me the most. "Now we looking like pimps...got a water bottle full of wiskey in my handbag." She must feel so proud to be able to call herself a pimp...(I find it rather scary) "A water bottle full of wiskey in my handbag." Hmmm, that's a neat idea. I mean drinking all the water from the bottle, and replacing it with wiskey. People didn't invent purified water spouts for nothing last time I checked. "There's a place downtown where the freaks all come around." Well that sure sounds fun! Freaks seems like a perfect term to define these people. You think that's bad? Well, the chorus doesn't get better. "Take it off" is said numerous times. I would rather have a chipmunk eat my eyes out than watch that. How could you even feel comfortable showing/flaunting the body that God created for YOU to low, guys looking for a "free for all" as she describes in the song. That is definitely not true love. Instead of going to that "place downtown", how about going to the adoration chapel sometime? That is where you will have an amazing time spending time with someone a zillion times better than clothless people in a club. That someone is called God. Maybe it's time to party with Him!!!!

#3

**Type of Media: Internet**

**Description of Media: Losing Weight Ad**

**Comparison to the Theology of the Body:**

Moving on from anti-aging ads and other physical beauty ads, I chose ads about losing weight. Not only have I have seen many, many ads today and in the past on various websites advertising weight loss, but it fake advertising. In our society, we are so used to seeing everyone on magazines, ads, television, etc. looking perfectly fit. This makes us self-conscious about our own weight and brings down our self-esteem. I can't help but to wonder why media has to make us think twice about our body when in reality, we are actually in good shape. God made us all different and it is important to embrace our bodies. When I saw this ad (again...for the hundreth time), I just wonder how many people look at this ad who and are put down. This type of ad can take our minds off what is important (God) and media just saturates us in lies...once again. Nobody is perfect and that is the truth. The skinny as a twig, spray tanned perfect looking girls shown in the picture...sure they probably make most people wish they had a body like that, but is that what would really make you happy? The answer is no. I'd also like to throw in the point that I rarely see a normal, innocent seeming website without some sort of ad that distorts our sense of beauty. We are always busy focusing on physical apperance. It is time to realize that looking super, unhealthy skinny like the girl in the ad won't satisfy your heart. You need to be thankful for how God made you and don't let a "fake" and edited ad make you feel like you're not good enough.