

THE ROLE OF PORNOGRAPHY:

Commercial Sexual Exploitation & Trafficking on Film

1. Facilitates the GROOMING process

- a. Pornography is typically a child's first form of sex education.
 - i. Average age a child is first exposed to porn is age 8-11.
- b. Pornography normalizes sexual violence and exploitation.
 - i. Close to half (46%) of adolescents age 13-25 see nothing wrong with, "sexual acts that may be forced or painful (Barna Group, 2016)."
 - ii. One in five pornographic images are of children (child sexual abuse images/videos), and there is a large market for rape and incest porn.
 - iii. Porn viewers are more likely to believe that women desire rape or that rape is their fault.
- c. Pornography constructs sexuality in a way that eroticizes power inequality (specifically between men and women).
 - i. Porn affects the forming of a person's sexual template.
 1. Porn users eventually may *only* be aroused by porn or *only* aroused by violent or degrading sex acts with a partner.
 2. Girls may be sexualized early, may be expected to act like porn stars (especially when dating or having sex), or believe they will be valued most through their sexual appeal and by pleasing men.
 3. Boys may develop attitudes of objectification, may believe that girls/women are only valuable for sexual use, and porn may groom boys into perpetrators of sexual violence.

- ii. Nearly 90% of the most popular porn scenes contain physical violence (Bridges, 2010).
 - 1. Violence and degradation in porn are not the exception to the rule, they *are* the rule.
 - a. Common forms of violence: choking, gagging, hitting, drowning, bondage, electrocution, gang-rape, multiple penetrations by multiple men at one time, and torture
 - b. Common forms of degradation: verbal abuse, humiliating acts, ejaculation on woman's face, urination and defecation on woman's body and in mouth

2. Pornography drives and sustains DEMAND

- a. Pornography normalizes the purchasing and consumption of women.
- b. Because of sexual entitlement and a high demand by men for commercial sex, people are exploited in the sex trade.
 - i. At least 15-20% U.S. men admit to renting a prostituted person (1 in 5 men).
- c. Commercial sex buyers rent prostituted women to imitate porn scenes.
 - i. 80% of prostituted women said commercial sex buyers showed them porn to "illustrate" the acts buyers want them to perform (Malarek, 2009).

3. Pornography facilitates EXPLOITATION.

- a. Pornography (by definition) *is* trafficking on film.
- b. Many victims are specifically trafficked into the porn industry.
- c. Prostituted people may be filmed as part of their exploitation.
- d. Sexual images/videos or filmed rape and exploitation are used to blackmail people into entering the sex trade (sextortion).