

CONSUMPTION OF INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY BY THE YOUTH, ITS CONSEQUENCES, AND THE ROLE OF PARENTS

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Abstract

Internet pornography (IP) use has increased over the past 10 years. The effects of IP use are widespread and are both negative (e.g., relationship and interpersonal distress) and positive (e.g., increases in sexual knowledge and attitudes toward sex). Given the possible negative effects of IP use, understanding the definition of IP, the types of IP used, and reasons for IP use is important. The present study reviews the methodology and content of available literature regarding IP. Indians seem to be leading the world in porn consumption, reporting a 95 percent spike in traffic to adult sites during the three-week lockdown.

Data show the country, the fastest-growing smartphone market, registered a 20 percent jump in consuming porn content even before the official restrictions kicked in late March. Although several Indian telecom operators have blocked a number of adult sites, their content still can be accessed on mirror domains.

Released by Pornhub, the world's biggest porn site, the statistics delivered insights into consumption patterns since the coronavirus pandemic induced quarantines and lockdowns across the world. The methodology used in this article is observation, documentation, and by visiting number of authentic websites.

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Introduction

Pornography

Pornography is defined as printed or visual material containing the explicit description or display of sexual body parts or activity, designed to make someone feel aroused or create sexual enjoyment to the person who reads, sees, or hears it. Not all pornography is linked to harmful outcomes, however online pornographic videos that are freely available and mainstream often do not promote active consent or respect. It's time we talked, an Australian violence prevention organization, estimates that nearly 90% of the most popular porn includes physical aggression.

Internet pornography

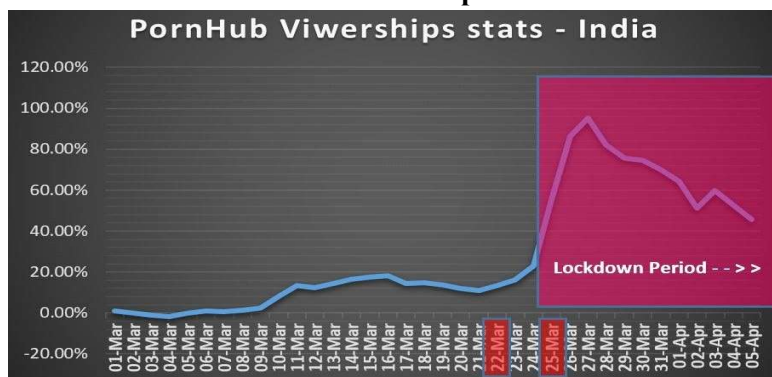
is any pornography that is accessible over the internet, primarily via websites, peer-to-peer file sharing, or Usenet newsgroups. The availability of widespread public access to the World Wide Web in the late 1990s led to the growth of internet pornography.

Internet Pornography Facts

- 60% of all websites on the Internet are pornographically totaling over 2 million.
- There are over 15 billion adult web pages on the Internet.
- As many as 1 in 4 children who use the Internet will be exposed to unwanted sexual material including photos.
- 20% of children ages 10-17, who use the Internet, will receive a sexual solicitation while online.
- The child pornography market is estimated to be between \$2 to 3 billion dollars a year.
- Chats rooms and instant messages are the two main tools pedophiles use to contact children online.
- 42.7% of the entire Internet audience views pornography online.
- Over 60% of men admit struggling with online pornography.
- Only 3% of adult websites require age verification.
- 66% of all adult websites including no warning that they contain adult content.
- 74% of adult websites offer free teaser images on their site.
- The Internet pornography industry generates \$12 billion in annual revenue.
- 87% of college students experience cybersex using instant messaging, webcams, and telephones.
- More than 2 out of 3 of all men look at porn on a regular basis.

Thus far, the church has largely relegated those who struggle with Internet pornography to do so alone and in the shadows. It is time for us to talk about this common problem in the open and not allow the enemy to make this an issue of shame and isolation. If you or someone you know is struggling with this issue you can seek help at www.dads.com, www.xxxchurch.com, or www.pornnomore.com.

**Graph of Indian Adolescents porn viewership since
1st March to 5th April 2021**



Online Porn Statistics

Many studies have been conducted on online pornography use. These have revealed some interesting facts about porn use:

- 25% of search engine requests are related to sex
- 35% of downloads from the internet are pornographic
- 40 million Americans say they regularly visit porn sites
- 70% of men aged 18 to 24 visit a porn site at least once per month
- The largest consumer group of online porn is men between the ages of 35 and 49
- One-third of all internet porn users are women
- Sunday is the most popular day of the week for viewing porn
- Thanksgiving is the most popular day of the year for viewing porn
- **93%** of boys and **62%** of girls are exposed to internet pornography before the age of 18.
- **70%** of boys have spent at least 30 consecutive minutes looking at online porn on at least one occasion.
- **35%** of boys have done this on at least ten occasions.

- **83%** of boys have seen group sex on the internet.
- **67%** of children admit to clearing their internet history to hide their online activity.
- **79%** of accidental exposures to internet porn among kids take place in the home.
- **56%** of divorce cases involve one party having an obsessive interest in online porn.
- **12%** of websites on the internet are pornographic—Approximately **25 million** websites.
- **2** of the top **100** websites on the internet are porn sites.
- **40 million** Americans regularly visit pornographic websites.
- **2.5 billion** Emails per day are pornographic.
- **25%** of search engine requests each day are pornography-related—approximately **70 million** per day.
- Only **3%** of pornographic websites require age verification
- The most popular day of the week for viewing pornography is **Sunday**.
- **10%** of pornography users report being addicted
- The average age a child first sees internet pornography is **11**.
- **70%** of young men age **18-24** visit pornographic websites on at least a monthly
- **\$97 billion** Approximate total worldwide revenue generated by pornography annually, as of 2006.

Methodology

The methodology used in preparing this article is observation, documentation, Visiting authentic websites, and collecting the data

Typical Behaviors in Teens who watch pornography

Below are typical behaviors of youth who are struggling with an addiction to pornography:

- Living a double or secret life related to pornography use.
- Tendency to isolate self and stay up late at night on the internet.
- Hiding or attempting to keep secret the viewing of pornography
- An inability to stop viewing pornography despite previous attempts to do so.
- Denial and anger when asked to stop by parents and adults.

- Continuing to view pornography despite the known consequences of continued viewing.
- Depression, irritability, and anger.
- Hypersexual attitude, vocabulary, and behavior.
- Overprotective of their technology (cell phone, I-pod, laptop, etc.)

Potentially harmfulness of pornography

Negative mental health impacts

- Body image issues
- Low self-esteem/depression
- Anxiety including the pressure to engage in sexual acts
- Loneliness and social isolation
- A lack of empathy
- A preoccupation with sex and sexual relationships

Relationships

- Creates unhealthy expectations in relationships
- Intimacy with real people may not seem satisfying
- A decrease in respect between partners
- Fosters “sexual uncertainty” - being unclear about what is expected in sexual encounters/acts?
- The focus becomes on physical appearance rather than intimate connection.

Behavior

- Can increase aggression and/or the risk of sexual violence
- Can decrease love, affection, and intimacy, and some research has suggested sexual dysfunction may be a potential outcome
- Girls and young women acting the way they think men want them to (like porn stars)
- Potential for watching more extreme material
- It can become compulsive and interfere with daily life functioning.

Common myths perpetuated by pornography

- Men want sex all of the time
- Women like men to behave in an aggressive sexual way towards them
- Male sexual pleasure is more important than female sexual pleasure
- Men have to be in charge and women have to take a submissive or passive role in sex

- Safe sex (i.e. use of condoms) is not important
- More extreme sexual acts (group sex, violent orrough sex, anal sex, etc.) are normal

IDENTIFYING WARNING SIGNS

Is your teen:

- Withdrawing from activities?
- Shutting down devices suddenly?
- Displaying noticeable changes in language, demeanor, or behaviors?
- Spending long periods of time in the bathroom?
- Exhibiting signs of depression and/or anxiety?

Warning signs may look different for your child, depending on their age and stage. Learning that your child or young person may be negatively impacted by pornography can be disturbing and upsetting. Culture Reframed has developed a model to help parents respond well when they discover their young person has viewed pornography.

How to protect a child

- Set some “House Rules” - establish what is and isn’t okay to share and access on devices
- Stay engaged, talk regularly with your child about what they are doing online and build trust
- Use available safe technology (parental controls, setting Wi-Fi curfews, etc.)
- Have age-appropriate conversations with your children about sexual content
- Make sure your children can not come across Inappropriate content on your devices

Parent’s duty

Discovering that a pornography addiction exists with a child can be a heartbreaking experience. Parents want to do everything in their power to assist their child to overcome the addiction. Parenting a child who is struggling with an addiction to pornography can be frustrating and discouraging at times. The process of recovery frequently involves periods of success and relapses. Keep in mind that there are steps that parents can take to assist their children in overcoming the addiction. Listed below are 13 strategies for parents to follow as they provide support to a struggling child.

- 1. Encourage a Close and Authentic Relationship with God, You, and Others.** Teens with a strong faith and a solid relationship with their parents

are less likely to pursue pornography. Teens that typically use the internet in private are much more vulnerable to being drawn toward the temporary strong feelings of pornography.

2. **Express Your Love.** Express your love and your desire for your child to have a happy, successful life, and share your concern that involvement in pornography can jeopardize your child's future happiness and well-being. Develop a loving, open, and influential relationship with your children, teaching them proper values and healthy attitudes toward sexuality.
3. **Teach.** Teach your child how pornography distorts sexuality, causes users to view others as sexual objects, and is highly addictive. Help family members understand the desensitization process that occurs from repeated exposure to explicit images and behaviors found on the internet, in books, magazines, and popular television programs.
4. **Follow Up.** Once the problem has been acknowledged, keep the lines of communication open. Addiction thrives in secrecy and is less likely to recur when talked about in a sensitive, caring way. **Respond Calmly.** Avoid responding with shock and anger. Instead, be genuinely concerned and talk with your child in a respectful way.
5. **Learn.** Ask how the problem got started, how long it has been going on, and how extensively the child is involved with pornography.
6. **Accountability.** Utilize internet filtering on computers, and handheld devices. Be aware of all potential sources that could be used to obtain pornography and take measures to prevent pornography from entering your home. Be prepared to take away internet and phone privileges as needed.
7. **Involve Professionals and clergy.** Encourage your child to talk and get professional and spiritual help.
8. **Discipline with Sensitivity.** Rather than preaching, threatening, or condemning, appeal to your child's better judgment. Discipline and teach with kindness to listen to your counsel.
9. **Communicate.** Find out how the child feels about his or her involvement and whether he or she plans to continue that involvement.
10. **Help.** Provide help and encouragement as the child strives to overcome the problem.
11. **Protect.** Safeguard your home. As a family, discuss and implement healthy media habits such as limiting television and computer time, installing Internet filters, and placing televisions and computers in high-use areas where the

screens are visible to others.

- 12. Exemplify.** Immediately turn away from explicit images and teach your children to do the same.
- 13. Warn.** Warn family members about pornography's ability to enslave and destroy them.

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