

Submission
No 2

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACTS OF HARMFUL PORNOGRAPHY
ON MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, AND PHYSICAL HEALTH**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 15 August 2024

Partially
Confidential

To The Attorney General, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

RE: SUBMISSION FOR PARLIAMENT ENQUIRY INTO IMPACTS OF PORNOGRAPHY ON YOUNG PEOPLE.

I am telling my story, at 35 Years of age, in the hope of bringing to light the darkness that the pornographic industry casts over people, of all ages. No one can escape it.

When I was 10 and my sister was 8, we were taken care of by my biological father who had access to a lot of pornography – some of that was child pornography that was animated, and this also consisted of grooming material. He encouraged my sister and I to watch this on the television together and afterwards he would have sex with both of us and my sister and I would be encouraged to have sex with each-other. This took place with not just my father, but with his 'friends'. My sister and I were engaged in watching pornography and having sex with paedophiles on a regular basis, with pornography being the driving force behind normalising and encouraging the behaviour and activities.

The pornography was a key driver in developing detrimental relationships, from childhood into my adult life, thus resulting in a pornography and sexual addiction, addiction to drugs and alcohol and repeated on-going nightmares of having sex with my biological father and the other men we had to have sex with. I have been to counselling many times with both psychologists and psychiatrists to try and recover from the abuse and damaging impacts that pornography has had in the role of promoting negative sexual behaviours and relationships.

The shame that I have carried for most of my life has meant that I have not understood my own behaviour, it caused me to hide the abuse for many years.

Pornography, for many years, imprinted on my attitudes and values that women were to be hurt and harmed by men – that abuse was normal and 'highly enjoyed' by women everywhere. The more 'cute' my sister and I looked, the more we were encouraged to have sex with these paedophiles and encouraged to watch more and more pornography to instil a way of 'being', 'looking' and 'acting' for both of us.

Pornography encourages the attitudes, values and behaviours of sexual abusers, it also allows them to justify their own actions of hurting and abusing their victims. Pornography promotes the abuse of children, young women, mothers, ethnic women, mothers with babies and elderly women, as the industry caters for all these themes and tastes.

To allow the easy access to this material, for individuals of all ages, truly does promote a society where the sex is violent, dehumanising and demoralising for women and for the men that must 'act-out' these unethical sexual acts.

I hope that my story promotes a culture of openness, understanding and healing for many people whose lives have been traumatised by the consumption and influence of pornography.

Thank you for your time reading through.

Regards,