

**Submission  
No 41**

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

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Inquiry into the impacts of harmful pornography on mental, emotional, and physical health

Your perspectives : Michael Sobb

5. What do you think are the impacts of early exposure to pornography?

Distorted view of the purpose of sex, promotes lack of respect for females, establishes damaging concepts and practices in youth, reinforces undesirable acts, encourages viewers to seek or attempt even more barbaric practices, thrives on inducing drugs to participants.

6. Does harmful pornography impact some groups in the community more than others?

If so, which groups and how?

Youth are severely affected because they are relatively naive and it presents as a virtual instruction series for their future behaviour and attitude. It also highlights as normal the subjection of women to the behaviour of men.

7. What is the impact of pornography on the formation and maintenance of relationships?

Pornography is presented as live theatre with actors' actions predominant in portraying the message to the audience. It is a technical presentation of an activity divorced from any personal relationship between the participants with the sole purpose of sexual stimulation of the audience by the actions they are viewing. Consequently, it encourages casual sexual relationships between people which have no basis other than self gratification of oneself using another person as merely an instrument. Additionally, they need to enhance the number and variety of such relationships to be able to gain the satisfaction they seek. It is a bit like the smoking habit, eventually, the pleasure is not so much in the actual smoking itself but in the act of having the process, the performance of this habitual act.

This inhibits their ability to ultimately make an enduring relationship which must be based on much more than self gratification.

8. How does pornography impact attitudes towards sex of those viewing pornography?

The manner of portrayal is that it is an animal like act with enhanced options and has pleasure as its only objective. It is seen to be acceptable in all its ways and requires frequent domination of female participants. This then forms the development of the viewers' attitudes. Sexual activity of this nature is seen as appropriate but then we now see sexual assaults of just touching being seen as heinous crimes by some in some circumstances but condoned by others.

9. What do you think are the impacts of harmful pornography on mental, emotional and physical health?

Each of those areas are adversely affected by pornography because it presents a false image which is then adopted in different ways by people who are different. Therefore which then

10. How does access to harmful pornography impact body image?

Like Hollywood, the porn actors' image and their skills too are considered important for the special role they play. Therefore, it is not surprising that some viewers will assess them as having a desirable body image for their own sexual life and hence attempt to achieve such a result. This is inappropriate for many of them and can lead to harmful acts and behaviour because of this false premise which is portrayed.

11. What do you think are the impacts of harmful pornography on mental, emotional and physical health of the family of the consumer, such as partners, children or parents?

Enter your answer

12. What is the relationship between pornography use and respect and consent education?

Enter your answer

13. Do you think there is a link between harmful pornography and violence against women?

Enter your answer

14. Does pornography teach consumers that “no” does not always mean no?

Why/ why not?

Enter your answer

15. Do you think there is a link between harmful pornography and human trafficking?

Why/ why not?

Enter your answer

16. Are you concerned that pornography can be used to groom children?

How?

Enter your answer

17. What are the strengths and weaknesses of current laws and regulations regarding pornography?

Enter your answer

18. Do you support the use of mandatory age verification for access to online pornography?

Why/ why not?

Enter your answer

19. Do you support the use of mandatory tools such as internet service provider filtering to block all access to sites that contain harmful pornography?

Why/ why not?

Enter your answer

20. Do you support age limits for access to pornography?

Why/Why not?

Enter your answer

21. Are you concerned about the presence of pornography on social media sites?

Why/Why not?

Enter your answer

22. What measures should be taken to educate the public, especially children and young people, about the harms of pornography?

Enter your answer

23. What resources or support services are needed for individuals, especially children and young people, at risk from or affected by harmful pornography?

Enter your answer

24. Do you have any specific recommendations for policymakers to address any impacts of harmful pornography?

Enter your answer

25. What additional research is required into the impacts of harmful pornography on individuals, relationships and society?

Enter your answer

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