

Submission
No 63

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

As a mother of eight children aged 1-24 I am deeply concerned about the harmful long term effect of pornography on our children and society as a whole. According to Women's Forum Australia, in a survey of over 1000 teachers, nearly half reported sexual harassment from male students, with teachers being propositioned for sex, threatened with rape, asked for nude photos or targeted with sex noises or boys mimicking sex acts in class.

Girls are also being sexually harassed, including being coerced into sending sexual images to male students. This is where our pornified culture, especially early exposure to porn, has led us.

But like the female teachers and students, the boys in question are also victims of a predatory multi-billion-dollar industry that specifically targets them in online pop-ups and on social media because it knows that the younger it hooks them in, the more likely they are to become addicted, and become consumers for years if not life.

The harmful impact of porn requires collective responsibility and a collective response from parents, schools, individuals and government.

I agree with the statement that porn is one of the single greatest scourges on our society and allowing it the free reign it has had online for so many years has been a devastating failed social experiment that has left a wave of destruction in its wake, which will only continue to affect future generations unless we take proactive steps to stop it.