

## Effect Pornography has on an Individual's Personality

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### ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to learn more about how pornography or pornographic content influences a person's personality in numerous ways, as well as how pornography affects a person's values, beliefs, and character. The study's goals were to see if pornography has an impact on a person's personality and behavior, to see if individuals find pornography sensuous or disgusting, and see if pornography has an impact on both men and women. A semi-structured interview with the following objectives was conducted: a) determine the influence of pornography on a person's personality and conduct; b) determine whether people find pornography to be sensual or repulsive, and c) determine the influence of pornography on both men and women. This study examines the results which were gathered by the researcher, which suggests that the use of pornography is rather sensual and pleasurable; and determines that pornography doesn't have a major effect on the personality of an individual. Further study should explore the specific details attributed to pornography and its effects of it on an individual's personality.

**Keywords:** *Pornography, Individual's Personality*

Any commercial product in the form of fictitious drama designed to induce or encourage sexual pleasure is characterized as pornography. Mild pornography includes images of nudists, people petting, and nonviolent sexual acts with no genitalia visible; Erotica or Explicit pornography includes images of consensual nonviolent sexual acts with genitalia visible; and Violent pornography includes images of rape, degradation, sexual aggression, or sadism (Oddone-Paolucci et al., 2017). Pornography has been easier and more accessible as the Internet has grown in popularity. Individuals can feed their pornography addiction indefinitely considering a large amount of sexually explicit material available. Increased availability of sexually explicit information has significant social repercussions. These repercussions span several areas, including addiction, sexual openness, and readiness to interact with partners, as well as exploring sexuality and its impact on personality and behavior.

It was thanks to the high prevalence of internet pornography among young adolescents and adults, that the goal of this study was to work out how pornography affects somebody's life and interpersonal connections. The aim is to work out how pornography affects a human personality and whether people find pornography sensuous or revolting, and the

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way pornography affects both men and girls. This chapter will begin by explaining the study's history and context, then locomote to research difficulties, research aims, objectives, questions, the importance, and lastly the bounds. This chapter will provide an introduction to the study by first discussing the background and context, followed by the research problem, the research aims, objectives and questions, the importance, and eventually, the restrictions.

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The effects of pornography on sexual deviancy, sexual perpetration, attitudes toward intimate relationships, and attitudes about the rape myth were investigated in a meta-analysis of 46 published research. The majority of the studies (39; 85 percent) were conducted in the United States and were published between 1962 and 1995, with 35 percent (n=16) published between 1990 and 1995 and 33 percent (n=15) published between 1978 and 1983. The current meta-analysis used a total sample size of 12,323 persons. For studies that were published in an academic journal, had a total sample size of 12 or more, and included a contrast or comparison group, effect sizes (d) were calculated for each of the dependent variables. The average unweighted and weighted d's for sexual deviancy (.68 and .65), sexual perpetration (.67 and .46), intimate relationships (.83 and .40), and the rape myth (.74 and .64) show a clear correlation between exposure to pornography and higher risk of negative development. These findings imply that future studies in this area can go beyond determining whether pornography affects violence and family functioning. Gender, socioeconomic position (SES), the number of occurrences of exposure, the connection of the person who introduced pornography to the participant, the degree of explicitness, the subject of pornography, the pornographic medium, and the definition of pornography were all considered in each study. The findings are examined in terms of the quality of the existing pornographic research and the constraints that this meta-analysis entails (Duck, 2016).

The growth of technology, particularly the Internet, has dramatically increased the amount of pornographic content available (Cooper, 2009). This growth in content has provided a forum for discussion about the many types of media accessible and their impact on individuals and family members who use pornography. The goal of this study was to look at the impact and views of pornography on individuals and family members of those who engage in it. A mixed methods study was conducted with the following goals: a) investigate the differences between recreational pornography use and addiction; b) identify the key attitudes toward pornography held by individuals who use pornography and their family members, and c) investigate the effects of pornography use on individual and family relationships. This study looks at the researcher's findings, which imply that pornography consumption by a person and family members has both bad and good consequences. More study on the specifics of pornography addiction, sensitivity to addictive materials, educational strategies, and treatment approaches for practitioners is needed (Simonsohn, 2011).

Using a randomly selected community sample of 200, the study looked at the impact of a personality characteristic (agreeableness), prior pornography usage, and experimental exposure to non-violent pornography on views favoring violence against women in Danish young adult men and women in a randomized experimental design (ASV). Lower levels of agreeableness and higher levels of prior pornography exposure were revealed to be significant predictors of ASV. Furthermore, experimental exposure to pornography raised ASV, but only among men who were unsatisfied with their lives. Sexual arousal, which refers to the subjective judgment of feeling sexually stimulated, eager for sexual activities, and/or physiological sensations associated with being sexually aroused, was found to be a

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significant mediator of this association. The findings backed up the hierarchical confluence model of sexual aggressiveness and the media research on emotional involvement and priming effects by emphasizing the relevance of individual heterogeneity (Owens et al., 2012).

Adolescents' experiences with and consumption of sexually explicit content have altered dramatically as a result of the recent growth of Internet-enabled technologies. The web is now available on laptops, mobile phones, game consoles, and other electronic devices when it had been once limited to a private computer connected to a telephone line. Access to pornography has been easier and more widespread because the Internet has grown in popularity. The goal of this paper was to investigate recent studies on the influence of Internet pornography on teenagers (from 2005 to the present). The influence of Internet pornography on sexual attitudes, beliefs, behaviors, and sexual aggressiveness was the main focus of this research evaluation. The authors also bear to study the impact of sexually explicit Internet content on self-concept, body image, and social development in adolescents, in addition, because the growing body of information on teenage brain function and physical development. Finally, supporting this literature analysis, recommendations for further study were presented (Oddone-Paolucci et al., 2017).

The goal of this study is **to seem** at the relationships between gender and also the causes of pornography usage, yet because of the psychological effects. **a whole** of 143 people, ranging in age from 18 to 48 ( $M = 21.22$ ), took part in online research at **an unlimited** institution within the southwest. **y**. Seventy-six **of these** individuals identified as current pornography consumers and also the analyses are centered on them. Pornography **is sometimes** consumed **in an exceedingly** very solitary form for masturbatory purposes, **regardless of** gender, with a perceived favorable physical, but not psychological, sexual fulfilling influence for both the self **and thus** the consuming partner. Further, regarding attitudinal impacts, current male consumers of pornography report significantly higher adversarial sexual beliefs, rape myth acceptance, and sexual conservatism than do current female consumers of pornography. Discussion and future directions follow (Hald & Malamuth, 2015).

In May and June 2018, Year 10 students from seven Sydney-based independent schools completed a survey on teenage sexuality, wellness, and exposure to pornography. The initial author (Ballantine-Jones) administrated the research at the University of Sydney's **school**. The poll **may be a** component of **much bigger** research aimed at decreasing the negative impacts of sexualized media and pornography on teenagers. The results of this survey are accustomed to establish a baseline for a future school-based education pilot program (Jcu, 2021)

Pornography has been noted as becoming increasingly crucial in men's sexual socialization. Men's opinions of their pornography intake, on **the alternative** hand, have received comparatively less study. **An online** sample of heterosexual men ( $N=312$ ) was **accustomed** to evaluate the self-perceived consequences of pornography usage. The Pornography Consumption Effects Scale was employed **during this** investigation to a condensed form (PCES-SF). within the fields of sex life, attitudes toward sex, life generally, perceptions and attitudes toward **the opposite** gender, and sexual knowledge, the PCES-SF assesses both self-perceived positive and negative consequences of pornography usage. Both self-perceived positive and negative impacts of pornography usage were positively predicted by the extent of pornography use (measured in terms of frequency of use and

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average time of use). **those who** said they'd never been frequent consumers of pornography reported more unfavorable consequences than **folks that** said **that they had**. Even after adjusting for the degree of pornography consumption, older individuals reported fewer negative impacts than younger people. The association between age and reported favorable impacts, on **the alternative** hand, wasn't significant. Religion was connected to the perception of negative consequences but to not **the actual** amount of usage. Overall, the participants thought that pornography had a **much better** than a foul impact on their life. This study adds to a growing body of evidence suggesting that **the bulk** of men believes that pornography features a beneficial influence on their sexual self-image and life generally (Jones & Oates, 2018).

Scholars have long held the central principle that humans have an innate need to join. Less is known, however, regarding the prospect of substitution: if individuals may utilize other resources to replace intimate connections. In the current study, 357 individuals reported their level of love deprivation, weekly pornography intake, pornographic aspirations, and indications of their individual and relational well-being. As expected, affection deprivation and pornography intake were inversely associated with relational outcomes including satisfaction and intimacy, but affection deprivation was favorably connected to the majority of stated goals for pornography use. More importantly, pornography usage modulated the connection between love deprivation and depression, so using pornography more often exacerbated the relationship between affection deprivation and sadness. This impact was unrelated to the individuals' reported reasons for accessing pornography. When the findings are taken together, they imply that people do use pornography as a coping technique for dealing with love deprivation, but that it is mostly maladaptive, at least in terms of sadness (Emmers-Sommer, 2018).

Internet pornography is a frequent activity in the United States that has grown in popularity in recent years. The current study aims to investigate possible links between pornography usage and well-being, with an emphasis on individual perceptions of pornography consumption and experiences of addiction. Using a large cross-sectional sample of individuals (N = 713), reported Internet pornography addiction predicted psychological distress in addition to pornography consumption and other relevant characteristics (e.g., socially desirable responding, neuroticism).

A large cross-sectional sample of students (N = 1,215) was used to replicate this model. Furthermore, even after adjusting for baseline psychological distress and pornography usage, a 1-year longitudinal follow-up with a subgroup of this cohort (N = 106) found a connection between reported addiction to Internet pornography and psychological discomfort over time. These data imply that perceived addiction to Internet pornography, rather than actual pornographic usage, is specifically associated with a sense of psychological distress (Grubbs et al., 2015).

Even though a large proportion of Canadian young individuals watch sexually explicit Internet movies (SEIM), the possible effects of SEIM use on general sexual health are unknown. The purpose of this study was to gain insight into how Canadian young adults view the effects of SEIM use on six aspects of sexual health: Sexual Knowledge, Sexual Self-Perception, Sexual Activity, Sexual Partner Relations, Perceptions of Sexuality, and Overall Well-being. Data were obtained through semi-structured interviews with 12 urban, heterosexual young adults (ages 19–29) who self-identified as having consumed SEIM for at least one year, using an exploratory qualitative technique. All interviews were audiotaped

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with permission, transcribed verbatim, and analyzed using constructivist grounded theory concepts. Young adults indicated a wide range of effects that included subjects other than bodily reactions, such as total sexuality and sexual self. These factors were judged to have both positive and negative effects on health. The differences between the findings of this study and previous empirical SEIM studies show that thinking about SEIM consumption from a person-centered, holistic approach may help researchers capture the number of various ways SEIM might impact Canadians' sexual health more effectively (Hare et al., 2014).

Pornography, according to radical feminist ideology, helps to further subjugate women by educating its viewers, both male, and female, to consider women as little more than sex objects over whom men should have ultimate power. The General Social Survey composite variables were used to test the hypothesis that pornography users would be more supportive of gender non-egalitarianism than non-users of pornography. The findings did not support radical feminist theory-derived assumptions. Pornographers had more egalitarian attitudes regarding women in positions of power, women working outside the house, and abortion than non-pornographers. Furthermore, there was no significant difference in sentiments toward the conventional family or self-identification as a feminist between pornography users and nonusers. According to the findings of this study, pornography consumption is not connected with gender non-egalitarian sentiments in a way that is compatible with radical feminist theory (Kohut et al., 2016).

The purpose of this study was to see if characteristics from three different psychosocial domains (psychological well-being, sexual interests/behaviors, and impulsive-psychopathic personality) predicted symptoms of compulsive use of sexually explicit Internet content in teenage males. The relationship between psychosocial variables and compulsive use symptoms in boys was studied both cross-sectionally and longitudinally, with compulsive use symptoms evaluated 6 months later (T2). 331 Dutch males (M age = 15.16 years, range 11-17) who reported that they used sexually explicit Internet content were studied. According to the findings of negative binomial regression analyses, boys' symptoms of compulsive use of sexually explicit Internet content were predicted by lower levels of global self-esteem and greater levels of excessive sexual desire. Longitudinal analysis revealed that greater levels of depressed sensations and, once again, excessive sexual attraction predicted proportionate increases in compulsive use symptoms 6 months later. Boys' symptoms of obsessive usage of sexually explicit Internet content were not specifically connected to impulsive and psychopathic personality characteristics (Doornwaard et al., 2016).

The purpose of this study was to synthesize empirical research on the prevalence, determinants, and consequences of teenage pornography usage published in peer-reviewed English-language journals between 1995 and 2015. This study found that teenagers engage in pornography, however, the prevalence rates differed substantially. Adolescents who **accessed** pornography more frequently **were** male, in a later stage of puberty, thrill seekers, and had poor or unstable family relationships. Pornography consumption was connected to more liberal sexual attitudes as well as greater gender-stereotypical sexual ideas. It also appeared to be connected to the occurrence of sexual intercourse, more experience with casual sex behavior, and more sexual violence, both as a perpetrator and a victim. The findings of this review must be seen in light of many methodological and theoretical flaws, as well as significant biases in the literature, which presently limits internally accurate causal inferences on the impacts of pornography on teenagers (Peter & Valkenburg, 2016).

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This study examined the relationships between Black and White U.S. individuals' pornography usage and homosexuality views using national panel data collected in 2008 (T1) and 2010 (T2) (indexed via moral judgments of homosexuality and attitudes toward same-sex marriage). Pornography intake at T1 predicted an interindividual shift in attitudes toward higher acceptance of homosexuality at T2 for moral individualists, Whites, and men. Women exhibited more favorable sentiments toward homosexuality than males, but their attitudes did not change after they were exposed to pornography. At T2, opinions about homosexuality did not predict interindividual change in the likelihood of pornography intake. When moral judgments of homosexuality and views on same-sex marriage were examined independently or as part of a composite score, the results were comparable (Wright et al., 2014).

Pornography, we suggest, produces a sexual script that subsequently governs sexual encounters. To put this theory to the test, we polled 487 college males (ages 18-29) in the United States to compare their rate of pornography consumption with their sexual preferences and concerns. The more pornography a guy views, the more likely he is to utilize it during sex, seek specific pornographic sex acts from his partner, intentionally conjure thoughts of pornography during sex to sustain arousal, and have anxieties about his sexual performance and body image. Furthermore, increased pornography consumption was inversely connected with engaging in sexually intimate activities with a partner. We find that pornography provides a powerful heuristic model that is involved in men's sexual expectations and behavior (Sun et al., 2016).

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this study was to better understand how pornography affects a person's personality in many ways. Specifically, we wanted to discover how pornography impacts morals, character, and beliefs. Through this study the researcher seeks to:

- a) determine the influence of pornography on a person's personality and conduct.
- b) determine whether people find pornography to be sensual or repulsive.
- c) determine the influence of pornography on both men and women.

It was postulated that now that people's mindsets have been elevated, pornographic information does not have such a negative impact on their personalities. The study also suggested that pornography had distinct impacts on men and women.

#### *Design of the study*

A qualitative method research design provided the foundation for this study. The study explored the relationship between the use of pornographic material and personality changes within the individual and also addresses the cause and effect. Participants of this study included 15 individuals in the age group of 15-30 who use pornographic material or have knowledge about it. The instrument included a one-on-one interview that had both open-ended questions and closed-ended questions resulting in a qualitative method study. The questions focused on demographics, attitudes, addictive behaviors, and viewpoints of the individuals.

#### *Participant Recruitment*

A semi-structured interview, developed by the researcher was taken with people who knew the pornographic content. This interview required participants to be in the age group of 18-30. This was accomplished by offering the consent form acknowledging subject material and stating the 18 years or over request.

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### *Procedure for Data Collection*

The interviews were taken in a quiet room with no disturbance from outer stimuli. The interviews were recorded with the total consent of the participant for transcription and further evaluation. The researcher provided the necessary information and emphasized the voluntary nature of the interview. Participants were informed that they had the option to decline participation with no negative consequences.

## **RESULTS**

The objective of this study was to better understand how pornography affects a person's personality in many ways and to discover how pornography impacts morals, beliefs, and character. The research questions of the study were as follows:

- a) How do you feel about the use of pornographic material?
- b) When you watch pornographic content, do you get a sense of deception or pleasure?
- c) Does seeing pornographic content regularly boost your urge to try new things?
- d) Does seeing pornographic content regularly raise your sexual intercourse expectations?
- e) Does pornography make you feel insecure about being compared to individuals on television or give you unreal physical attributes?
- f) What is your perspective on sex? Is it primarily physical and casual, or affectionate and relational?

It was discovered that 9 of the 15 participants believe that pornography or pornographic information is both educational and beneficial for both purposeful and pleasure purposes. They said that it is the only place where individuals may learn about a variety of topics without feeling embarrassed about themselves or others. The remaining six individuals, on the other hand, claimed that pornography is nothing more than a quick dose of dopamine. They said that it is calming and may deliver a pleasurable experience. However, just for a brief time. They thought it was unfeasible and may have long-term negative consequences for people.

Around 70% of the individuals stated that watching pornography has always provided a sense of pleasure, while the remaining 30% stated that it has always provided a sense of deceit or neither. Watching pornographic content, according to 80% of the participants, did not increase their desire to attempt new things, such as trying different positions with their spouse. Pornography didn't elicit any sex-related expectations for this group of individuals, either. However, the remaining 20% of participants said it increased their sexual expectations as well as their desire to try new things.

When asked if watching pornographic content made them feel anxious about their physical features and characteristics, 50% of the participants replied they did. The other half stated it made them feel uneasy at first, but that after obtaining some perspective, it no longer made them feel insecure.

When questioned about their sex views, half of the participants responded that it is largely loving and relational for them. Sex is mostly physical and informal for 30% of the participants. The remaining 20% of respondents answered it depends on their stage of life and whom they are involved with. The results determined that the influence of pornography on men and women is somewhat similar. A majority of both men and women find pornography to be sensual and a good way to get pleasure.

### DISCUSSION

The objective of this study was to better understand how pornography affects a person's personality in many ways. Specifically, we wanted to discover how pornography impacts morals, character, and beliefs. Also, we wanted to test the hypothesis that regular exposure to sexually explicit material increases the likelihood of engaging in sexual violence. The participants in this research were between the ages of 15 and 30. Participation in the study was entirely voluntary, and everyone gave their consent. A total of 15 people took part in the study's interview. The findings show that pornography, or any sexual content, is nothing more than a source of enjoyment and pleasure for the vast majority of the participants. Pornographic content does not affect the majority of people's behavior, personality, morality, or beliefs. Their attitudes toward pornography are overwhelmingly good. Pornographic content has never caused 80 percent of the participants to feel uneasy about themselves. It has never made them feel more compelled to do new things with their relationships. Their attitudes on sex are largely relational and loving. Pornography does make the remaining 20% of the participants feel uneasy. Their attitudes around sex are mostly physical and informal. These beliefs, on the other hand, have nothing to do with their usage of pornographic material. Their attitudes toward sex are mostly situational, depending on the type of relationship they have and the stage of life they are in.

According to the findings, the majority of people find watching pornography or sexual content to be a good experience. It has no negative consequences on the individual's personality or behavior. People appear to have a favorable attitude toward pornographic content intake. It has been suggested that pornography does not affect a person's personality. It was discovered that regular exposure to pornographic material did not raise a person's chance of participating in sexual assault in this group of 15–30-year-old participants. Pornography is considered sensuous and pleasurable by the majority of individuals. It is an instant source of dopamine surges, according to participants. Many of the participants thought it was an excellent source of information and a place where people could learn without fear of being judged and embarrassed. Pornography does not make the majority of the participants feel uneasy about being compared to people on television or give them any form of bogus physical attributions, according to the study. They claimed to know the truth about the contrasts between reality and pornographic stuff at this time. After seeing pornography, several of the volunteers felt uneasy about themselves. It caused them to develop self-doubt about their looks and performance. When questioned about their sex views, the majority of individuals believe that sex should be more about connection, comfort, and intimacy and that it should be loving and pleasant. It is a deep genuine bond between two people that adds significance to the relationship between two major persons. However, for the majority of the participants, sex can only be described in terms of the relationship that a person has with another person. They stated that sex is a personal choice that is based on the individual's present stage of life. When asked if their sex views have anything to do with their watching of pornography, the vast majority of those polled said no. They said that their opinions and beliefs on sex are their own and have nothing to do with pornography. The findings of the study stated that watching pornography regularly doesn't increase an individual's likelihood of engaging in sexual violence. Although existing research does not provide a definition or solid criteria for pornography behavior, the participants in this interview show that there is still more to learn about the relationship between pornography and human psychology. The evidence of positive behavior stands alone due to a lack of study. Positive conduct was seen as a positive component of the use of pornography or pornographic content.



### CONCLUSION

The present study used semi-structured interview to collect information on the effect of pornography on an individual's personality. Overall, the survey found that the majority of people consume pornographic media in some capacity purely as a form of pleasure. Participants reported watching pornographic content as a source of entertainment that provided them with a dopamine boost or helped them relax. Although the data is not extensive, it does provide distinct viewpoints on pornographic content from individuals. The data represents that pornographic material doesn't have an extensive effect on the personality of an individual, nor does it affect an individual's morals, beliefs, or character.

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### **Conflict of Interest**

The author(s) declared no conflict of interest.

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