

Behavioral Research in the Pornography Industry

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Abstract

The Adult Entertainment Industry is a multi-billion-dollar business. It includes adult films, cyber or internet pornography, adult magazines and other publications; strip clubs also known as gentlemen's clubs, and prostitution which includes escorts and call girls. This paper will focus mainly on the adult film sector of the industry. It will examine 730 actresses from 1970 to the present, 2019. Categories include birth year, location, family life, religion, marital status, children, education, pre-porn employment, the years involved in the film industry, age that they entered and retired from adult films, and post-porn employment. In cases where the actress is deceased, the year they died and the cause of death. The purpose is to seek patterns of behavior that explain why these actresses chose a career in adult films, why they stayed and why they left.

1. There are no co-authors; all of my work is done alone.
2. This is a research-based manuscript. I did this as a research paper for my criminalistics class at Kaplan University as part of my Criminal Justice Degree. I wrote this in 2010. With this revision I am updating my sources and statistics.
3. Kindly rephrase the highlighted sentences and cite them in the attached document. Done
4. We would kindly request you to give the corresponding reference numbers in the body of the article instead of the name and year format in ascending order. Working on this.

Behavioral Research on the Pornography Industry

Introduction: Pornographic film production commenced almost immediately after the invention of the motion picture in 1895. Two of the earliest pioneers were Eugène Pirou, and Albert Kirchner, both of France. Pornographic movies became widespread in the silent movie era of the 1920s, and were often shown in brothels. Starting in the 1940s, amateurs began producing underground stag or blue films, as they were called. In the 1960s, the decade of sex, drugs, and rock and roll, attitudes towards the depiction of sexuality on the silver screen began to change and not necessarily for the better. In 1969, Denmark became the first country to legalize hardcore pornography, followed by the Netherlands. Both countries have quite an extensive and thriving sex industry.

The first explicit pornographic films to receive attention in the U.S were *Mona* in 1970. It was a 59-minute feature by Bill Osco and Howard Ziehm. They went on to create the relatively high-budget cult film *Flesh Gordon* in 1974. Other notable American pornographic films of the 1970s lead to other pornographic films and stars such as Linda Lovelace, *Deep Throat* (1972), Marilyn Chambers, *Behind the Green Door* (1972), Georgina Spelvin, *The Devil in Miss Jones* (1973), Gloria Leonard, *The Opening of Misty Beethoven* (1975) and Bambi Woods, *Debbie Does Dallas* (1978). Lovelace who was from the United States was the first adult actress who became well-known. The success of *Deep Throat* grossed hundreds of millions of dollars worldwide. This early period is known as the “Golden Age of Porn.”¹

The Golden Age of Porn ended in the 90’s with the advent of the VHS, DVDs, the internet, chat rooms, and the anonymity of watching porn in the comfort of one’s own home. Currently there are hundreds of adult film companies all over the world, releasing tens of thousands of productions every month, recorded directly on video or DVD, with minimal sets. The 21st century has seen the advent of web-cams and web-cam recordings which are again expanding the market. Thousands of pornographic actors work in front of the camera and still thousands more behind the scenes, all working to satisfy pornography consumers’ demand. It is estimated that there are 103,334 actors, directors, support staff, and producers who work in the adult film industry²

Pornographers create adult films for a single purpose: To help men, and more recently women, masturbate and get them to pay for it. Sex, in pornography, is a highly commercialized product, devoid of emotion, stripped of humanity; an essentially empty experience. Many critics, early on, predicted that graphic scenes of sex onscreen would soon become mainstream. In fact, sexual eroticism has infiltrated everything from television to cinema to magazines, music videos to advertising. Adult stars have recently been used to sell everything from Viagra to sex toys to laundry soap to categories like beer, clothing, fragrance and footwear, the girls of Vivid Entertainment known as Vivid Girls are being used to advertise various products.³

Several have left the porn industry and have moved on to mainstream films such as Traci Lords. Mainstream actors also made porn films before they were famous. Others, once they became famous decided they needed to lose their “Girl next door image” or “good boy image,” and made porn films. Even mainstream films must have a certain amount of gratuitous sex and violence scenes in their films which sometimes give them a soft porn description (MA or NC17) or at least an R or restricted rating.

In 1973, William Rotsler, a cartoonist and graphic artist, said, "Erotic films are here to stay.... Nothing can stop this."⁴ With the advent of the home video in the late 1970s and early 1980s, the pornographic movie industry experienced substantial growth and produced adult stars like Ron Jeremy, John Holmes, Christy Canyon, Ginger Lynn, Seka, Marilyn Chambers, Linda Lovelace, Georgina

¹ Paasonen, Susanna; Saarenmaa, Laura (July 19, 2007). The Golden Age of Porn: Nostalgia and History in Cinema (PDF). WordPress. Retrieved April 30, 2017.

² Weisman, Carrie. The porn industry is a lot less lucrative than you might think: Performer pay rates are at an all-time low, and stars are increasingly relying on alternative revenue streams. Salon Magazine. January 31, 2016

³ (Elliott, 2003)

⁴ (Schaefer, 2005)

Spelvin, Bambi Woods, Nina Hartley and Traci Lords. This development moved the films out of the darkened, obscure adult theaters and into the privacy of people's homes. This was the end of controversial theatrical productions and the beginning of mainstreaming pornography into regular society thus blurring the lines between what is decent and what is indecent. Two technologies became prominent in the 1990s that changed the delivery of pornographic movies: the DVD and the Internet.

Legal Challenges: The 1980's saw an attempt of federal, state, and local governments to outlaw the pornography industry. The year 1987 saw an important legal case in the U.S. The result of California v. Freeman resulted in the legalization of pornography. However, in 1989, US Attorney General Edward Meese attempted to outlaw pornography in the United States by prosecuting porn stars for prostitution. The case made the specific legal distinction between pornography and prostitution in California law that has allowed California to become the porn center of the United States. Essentially the case distinguished the difference between someone who took part in a sexual relationship for money such as prostitution and someone who merely portrayed a role where a sexual relationship was engaged in on-screen as part of their acting performance.⁵

Since 1991, The Free Speech Coalition, an advocacy group for the porn industry, has been working to protect the rights of members in all areas of adult entertainment. The organization was founded by a group of concerned industry professionals in response to numerous government attacks against producers and retailers of adult products. The Free Speech Coalition has become the trade association for the adult entertainment industry. Their responsibilities are threefold:

1. To be the watchdog for the adult entertainment industry guarding against unconstitutional and oppressive government intervention;
2. To be a voice for the industry telling the truth about the adult entertainment industry not only in the vital role it plays as an economic contributor, but also in its contribution to quality of life in a healthy society;
3. To provide business resources for their members to facilitate successful businesses in this ever-changing and challenging business environment.⁶

One of their early legal efforts was a supreme court case, Ashcroft v. Free Speech Coalition, 535 U.S.234 (2002) which struck down two provisions of the Child Pornography Prevention Act of 1996 because they abridged "the freedom to engage in a substantial amount of lawful speech." By striking down these two provisions, the Court rejected an invitation to increase the amount of speech that would be categorically outside the protection of the First Amendment.⁷

Therefore, with the victories in the courtroom battle to protect pornographers from prosecution, the industry took advantage of the vacuum to open up to a larger audience. Their main target market is the 15-25-year-old market partly because young adults grew up with VCRs, cable and satellite TV and the Internet and thus have been exposed to more adult material. With that age group the hormones are raging and the youth are more inclined to watch this material than say senior citizens.

The AIDS epidemic of 1990s has also prompted a turn to voyeurism as a prudent alternative to sex. However, an equally major factor, say the porn manufacturers, is that since the Bill Clinton administration, the Justice Department hasn't prosecuted any new interstate transportation of obscenity cases.⁸ Men who are wary of rumors of infidelity are more likely to watch porn.

World Wide Industry: The pornographic film industry has moved into every society around the world. It is dominated by the United States, with the San Fernando Valley area of Los Angeles, California being the heart of the industry⁹. In 1975 the total retail value of all the hardcore pornography in the U.S. was estimated at \$5–10 million.¹⁰ In 2001, The world's largest adult movie studio, Vivid, generated an

⁵ Meese Report, 1989)

⁶ (Duke, 2011)

⁷ (Ibid.)

⁸ (Stein, 2001)

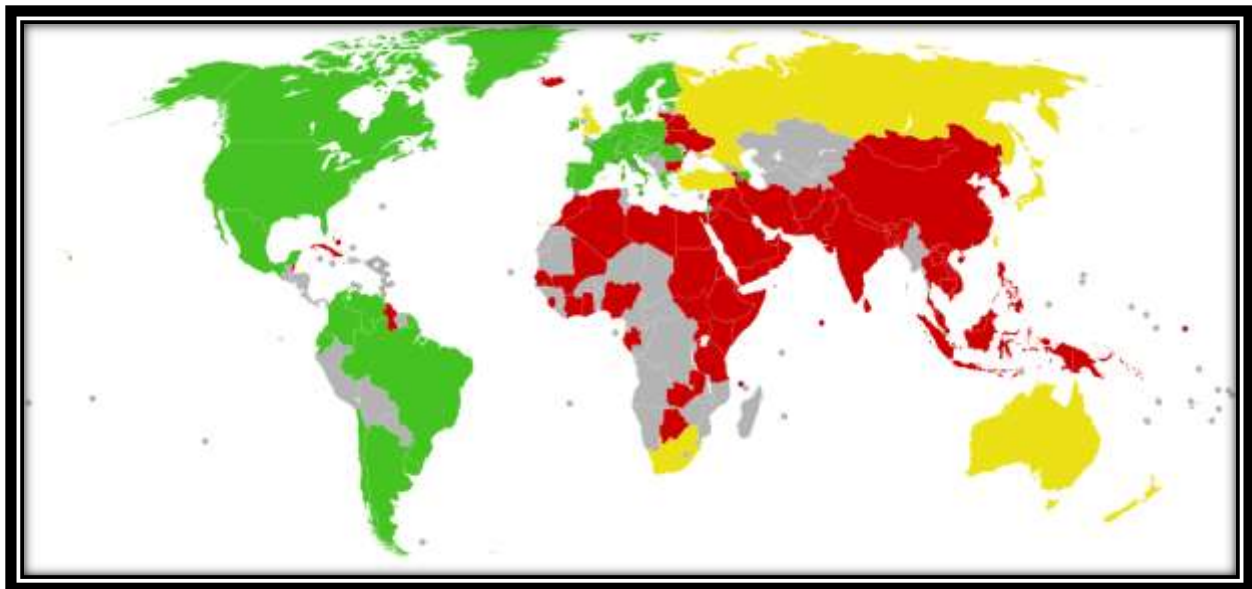
⁹ (Leung, 2004)

¹⁰ (Amis, 2001)

estimated \$100 million in revenues, distributing 60 films annually¹¹ It might surprise some that subsidiaries of major satellite and cable corporations are the largest distributors of pornography, such as News DirectTV and Comcast, pulling in \$50 million from adult programming. HBO, ShowTime and Cinemax show after hours soft-porn movies.

In the United States, the pornographic film industry is centered in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles, with an estimated 200 production companies in the region employing as many as 1,500 performers, making up to 11,000 films and estimated to earn as much as \$13 billion a year.¹² In 2002, there were at least 2,500 strip clubs in the United States generating revenue of US\$3.1 billion, 19% of the legal adult industry.¹³ By 2010, the number of clubs in the U.S. has grown to approximately 4,000¹⁴.

While the porn capital of the US is the San Fernando Valley in California, Countries around the world have developed their own Capitals of Pornography: *Canada*: Toronto and Montreal; *Latin America*: Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Argentina, and Colombia; *Europe*: Amsterdam, Netherlands; Barcelona, Spain; Budapest, Hungary; Frankfurt, Germany; London, England; Prague, Czech Republic, Paris, France; and St Petersburg, Russia; *Asia*: Mumbai, India; Tokyo, Japan; Manila, Philippines; Bangkok, Thailand.¹⁵



Chatsworth, California produces, according to the HBO series *Pornucopia*, at one time, nearly 90 % of all legally distributed pornographic films made in the United States were either filmed in or produced by studios based in the San Fernando Valley. All of the top female talent agencies are located in or within the Chatsworth local radius. Female performers fly to Chatsworth to work in the adult industry. All of the world's top male talent lives or travels to Chatsworth, California for work. Almost every major and minor adult DVD Company is in the local Chatsworth radius.¹⁶

World map of Pornography laws:

- Generally legal with certain extreme exceptions
- Partially legal, under some broad restrictions, or ambiguous status
- Illegal
- Data unavailable

¹¹ (Pulley, 2005)

¹² (Harris, 2009)

¹³ (Purdue, 2002)

¹⁴ (Annual Report, 2009)

¹⁵ (Beare, 2012)

¹⁶ (Robinson, 2016)

There are approximately 103,000 performers in the porn industry around the world. There are around 69 adult movie studios worldwide as well. 41 are in the US and primarily in California, 31 in Europe, 4 in Asia, and 1 in South America. The United States adult film industry produces 4,000–11,000 films a year and earns an estimated \$9–\$13 billion in gross revenues annually. An estimated 200 production companies employ 1,200–1,500 performers. Performers typically earn \$400–\$1,000 per shoot and are not compensated based on distribution or sales. Nor do they receive royalties as the industry operates on a cash only system.¹⁷

Pornographic Actors and STDs: In spite of the money and glamorous lifestyle, the 1980s saw an outbreak of HIV which led to a number of deaths of erotic actors and actresses. The first male to die from AIDS was in 1985, Wade Nichols and the first female, porn star Dusty, was infected in 1993. However, it wasn't until the year 2000 before any of the female stars died from AIDS. The AIDS scare resulted in many performers leaving the industry. Sexually transmitted diseases are highly prevalent in the pornography industry because of the nature of their work, involving sex without condoms. Therefore, pornographic actors are particularly vulnerable to sexually transmitted diseases. Los Angeles Public Health Department reports that Chlamydia and Gonorrhea infections among performers are 10 times greater than that of LA County 20-24-year olds. They conclude that the risk and burden of sexually transmitted infections among porn performers are unacceptably high.

Data suggest that pornographic actors have a higher rate of STDs (except for HIV) than the general American population¹⁸ Among 825 performers screened in 2000–2001, 7.7% of females and 5.5% of males had Chlamydia, and 2% overall had gonorrhea. These rates are much higher than the general population, where Chlamydia and gonorrhea rates were 4.0% and 0.7%, respectively. Between January 2003 and March 2005, approximately 976 performers reported to have 1,153 positive STD test results. Of the 1,153 positive test results, 722 (62.6 %) had Chlamydia, 355 (30.8%) had gonorrhea, and 126 (10.9%) were co-infections with primarily Chlamydia and gonorrhea.¹⁹

Another study conducted at the University of Southern California (UCLA) in 2014, one in four adult film performers (24%) participating in the study reported an infection of gonorrhea or chlamydia, two serious, but treatable sexually transmitted diseases, while working in the industry; confirming the high STD risk facing adult film performers at work. The study included responses from 366 adult film performers, 274 (75%) of whom were women. The study was conducted between August 2012 and June 2013 and was conducted by UCLA Fielding School of Public Health's Behavioral Epidemiology Research Group (with support from the California HIV/AIDS Research Program).²⁰

Less is known about the prevalence and risk of transmission of other STDs such as syphilis, herpes simplex virus, human papillomavirus, hepatitis B or C, trichomonas infection, or diseases transmitted through the fecal–oral route.²¹ Dr. Sharon Mitchell MD, former porn actress and founder of Adult Industry Medical Healthcare Foundation (AIM) confirms the STD prevalence in an interview with Court TV where she states “66% of porn performers have Herpes, 12-28% have sexually transmitted diseases and 7% have HIV. According to actress Chloe, "After you've been in this business for a while, you have herpes. Everyone has herpes."²²

It is not a law to be tested for STD's in the porn industry. The industry volunteers to do monthly testing of HIV, Chlamydia and gonorrhea and porn performers pay for their own testing. Due to tests becoming unreliable after having multiple partners on and off the porn set, sexually transmitted diseases continue to be rampant in the porn industry.²³ Following are some noteworthy findings from the research study:

¹⁷ (Morris, 2018)

¹⁸ (Lubben, 2009).

¹⁹ (Ibid)

²⁰ (Javanbakht, 2014).

²¹ (Grudzen, 2007)

²² (Amis, 2001)

²³ (AIM, 2009)

Out of 366 performers, 23.7% tested positive for gonorrhea and/or chlamydia.

69.0% never used a condom on set in the past 30 days.

15.4% have had to perform sexual favors to get work.

10.3% have been physically hurt during a film shoot.

13.6% have had to perform a sex act they did not want to.

16.4% have not been paid at the end of the job.

33.2% have used a drug in the past three months.

There was a statistically significant association between testing positive for STIs and the number of days working on set.²⁴

There was a statistically significant association between testing positive for STIs and age and type of scene. “This study confirms the extremely high STD risk facing adult film workers each day as they go about their work on adult film sets throughout California and elsewhere,” said Michael Weinstein, President, AIDS Healthcare Foundation. “Unscrupulous producers place these actors in jeopardy every time they require—or intimidate—these performers to work without condoms or other workplace safeguards. These adult film workers deserve better—as this study clearly confirms.” The study comes out as the California Senate considers action later this month on legislation to require condoms in all adult films made in California (California Assembly Bill 1576, authored by Assembly member Isadore Hall, III (D-Los Angeles)).²⁵

Organized Crime and Pornography:²⁶ Organized crime is in a class by itself. It's big, it's powerful, it's well-connected, and highly profitable. The Mafia is the most common term used to describe the more profitable criminal organizations around the world, but other terminology exists, such as: international criminal organizations (military usage); transnational crime (United Nations usage); and enterprise crime (FBI usage).

The FBI is dedicated to eliminating transnational organized crime groups that pose the greatest threat to the national and economic security of the United States. The Bureau has found that even if key individuals in an organization are removed, the depth and financial strength of the organization often allow it to continue, so the FBI targets entire organizations responsible for a variety of criminal activities. The Bureau draws upon its partnerships within the intelligence and law enforcement communities; and its worldwide presence, using sustained, coordinated investigations with the criminal and civil provisions of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO). One of the organizations the FBI partners with is International Criminal Police Organization. Word origin: inter(national) pol(ice) (INTERPOL.) Together they have brought down several criminal organizations.²⁷

Transnational organized crime (TOC) groups are self-perpetuating associations of individuals who operate, wholly or in part, by illegal means and irrespective of geography. They constantly seek to obtain power, influence, and monetary gains. There is no single structure under which TOC groups function—they vary from hierarchies to clans, to networks, and cells, and may evolve into other structures. These groups are typically insular and protect their activities through corruption, violence, international commerce, complex communication mechanisms, and an organizational structure exploiting national boundaries. As we have seen with the Mexican cartels, they are not above murdering officials, civilians, and deception in many forms to obtain and maintain their choke hold over world communities and states.²⁸

Those self-perpetuating associations of individuals who operate transnationally for the purpose of obtaining power, influence, and monetary and commercial gains, wholly or in part by illegal means, while

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ California Assembly Bill 1576,

²⁶ (FBI.gov)

²⁷ (Ibid)

²⁸ (Ibid.)

protecting their activities through a pattern of corruption and violence. There are crime organizations operating in Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East.²⁹

During the 1970s, the Mafia in America began to recognize the enormous profits that could be made in both the trafficking of drugs and the production and distribution of pornography. The two families that got in on the 'ground floor' of this emerging racket were members of New York City's Gambino and Colombo families. The Colombo crime family financed the ground-breaking pornographic film *Deep Throat*. Peraino got his nickname "Big Tony" allegedly due to his weight (over 300 pounds). Peraino helped develop pornography into one of organized crime's biggest moneymakers after narcotics and labor racketeering. He was aided by his brother Joe "The Whale" Peraino, his sons Louis "Butchie" Peraino and Joseph C. Peraino, and his nephew, Joseph Peraino.³⁰

In 1972 members of the Colombo family invested a few thousand dollars into the movie "*Deep Throat*." The film eventually raked in over \$600 million dollars, becoming the most profitable adult film of all time. On the West Coast in 1978 the Mitchell brothers produced "*Behind the Green Door*." The Mitchell Brothers' film became the second most profitable adult film of all time, and sparked the beginnings of a billion-dollar industry that was at the intersection of drugs, pornography, and the Mob. Traditional organized crime has been substantially involved in controlling much of the major pornography distribution in the United States. The report further concluded that the combination of the large amounts of money involved, the incredibly low priority obscenity enforcement had within police departments and prosecutors' offices and the imposition of minimal fines and no jail time upon random convictions resulted in a low risk and high profit endeavor for organized crime figures who became involved in pornography.³¹

An investigative report submitted to the California Legislature by the Attorney General of California discussed organized crime infiltration into the pornography industry: In the early 1970's... four organized crime groups moved in on pornography operations in California. They met relatively little resistance because the weak-structured organized crime of Southern California lacked the necessary strength to deter the infiltration of organized crime from the East.³²

Organized crime figures first focused on production and retail operations in California. In this effort, they used the influence of their established national distribution network and effectively resorted to illegal and unfair business tactics. The newly arrived organized crime groups formed film duplication companies which illegally duplicated the films of independent producers and displayed them at nationwide organized crime-controlled theaters. Faced with continued piracy and loss of profits, many legitimate producers were forced to deal with organized crime-controlled distribution companies and film processing labs.³³

After gaining control of ownership of many California wholesale and retail companies, organized crime forced other independent retailers out of business through price manipulation. Wholesale prices to independent retailers were raised while prices to organized crime-controlled outlets were lowered. Independents were undersold by organized crime-controlled outlets until lost profits forced them out of business. Many competitors were bought out which allowed the subsequent raising of prices in other parts of the market. Some dealers that openly opposed this takeover were silenced by means of extortion and arson.³⁴

In 1984, California Attorney General John Van De Kamp reported that the arrival of home video cassette recorders on the market in 1979 was accompanied by a growing demand for adult video tapes. California pornographers, linked to the Gambino, DeCavalcante, Luchese and Columbo organized crime

²⁹ (Ibid.)

³⁰ (Gallo, 2013)

³¹ (Ibid)

³² (Ibid)

³³ (Ibid)

³⁴ (Ibid)

families entered this market through companies that produced, duplicated, distributed and sold adult video tapes.³⁵

The well-known pornographic film "Deep Throat" was produced by the Periano brothers of the Columbo organized crime family for \$25,000 and is reliably estimated to have grossed fifty million dollars as of 1982. The film was ". . . the biggest money maker of any film to that time and possibly since, in the state of Florida."³⁶

Joseph, Anthony, and Louis Periano all became millionaires as a result of "Deep Throat." They used profits from the film to build a vast financial empire in the 1970s that included ownership of garment companies in New York and Miami, investment companies, a sixty-five-foot yacht in the Bahamas, "adults only" pornographic theaters in Los Angeles, and record and music publishing companies on both the east and west coasts. From 1973 to 1976, their corporate empire included Bryanston Distributors, Inc., a motion picture company that earned twenty million dollars in its first year of operation. The Perianos also used profits from "Deep Throat" to finance drug smuggling operations in the Caribbean. During the late 1970s a number of persons involved in the pornography business were murdered in what were believed by law enforcement agents to be pornography turf wars. The son of Joseph Periano, one of the producers of "Deep Throat" along with an innocent woman, was murdered "gangland style." The damage and injuries range from those sustained by performers forced to engage in physically harmful acts which can often result in permanent injury, to damage to property, "knee-breaking" and arson.³⁷

The Mafia's connection to porn waned in the 1980s and 1990s as video cassettes took over the market, Hollywood realized it could tap the vast profit potential and Times Square got a family-friendly makeover that no longer included coin-op porn.³⁸

The 1986 Attorney General, Ed Meese's Commission on Pornography received reports from law enforcement officials, prosecutors, and legislators, describing the substantial role which organized crime plays in the pornography business in the United States today both in traditional and non-traditional forms. In addition to attorneys, many other professionals assist organized crime families and their associates in the pornography business.³⁹

For Example, realtors handle land transactions knowing the ultimate purpose of the transaction is to facilitate the sale of adult material. Landlords rent property to organized crime families knowing they will be used to warehouse adult material or to sell, produce, distribute, or display sexually oriented merchandise. Bankers process accounts and provide all manner of banking services; including the failure to report currency transactions as required by Title 31 United States Code.

Printers and film processors develop the visual images taken by pornographers and turn them into finished products for sale or reproduction. Transportation companies and interstate carriers show no discretion in shipping adult materials to increase organized crime family profits. Academics are paid to act as experts on behalf of organized crime members and associates who are brought to trial and challenged in public debates. Public figures including prosecutors, judges, city, county and state officials, zoning board members, and health department officials may be subjected to monetary and political influence. These people sometimes may ignore the organized criminal activity or impose minimal sanctions when punishment is unavoidable.⁴⁰

Narcotics are often distributed to performers who appear in pornographic materials to lower their inhibitions and to create a dependency. Profits earned by organized crime from pornography sales have been used to finance drug smuggling.⁴¹

³⁵ (Ibid)

³⁶ (Ibid)

³⁷ (Ibid)

³⁸ Weiss, Dena. July 24, 2014. Organized Crime's Involvement in Sex Crimes and Human Trafficking)

³⁹ (Meese Report, 1987)

⁴⁰ (McLawhorn, 2007)

⁴¹ (Ibid)

"Prostitution is the foundation upon which pornography is built... Pornography cannot exist without prostitution.... It is impossible to separate pornography from prostitution. The acts are identical except in pornography there is a permanent record of the woman's abuse."⁴²

The nature of the pornography business provides inviting opportunities for skimming on every level. There is often rampant dishonesty among producers, wholesalers, distributors, retailers and others who attempt to cheat each other. The often "cash only" business creates immense opportunities to launder money received from other organized crime activity.⁴³

Left unchecked, organized crime, in a traditional sense, can suck the lifeblood out of a community. Many times, their enterprises have been viewed as "service" oriented or victimless crimes. However, it tears at the moral fiber of society and through unbridled corruption, it can weaken the government."⁴⁴

Aladena Fratianno, a.k.a., Jimmy Fratianno, a male member of a La Cosa Nostra organized crime family and a former Capo and later acting boss of the Los Angeles crime family, told the Commission that large profits have kept organized crime heavily involved in the adult industry especially with Internet pornography and call girl and escort services.⁴⁵

With the collapse of Communism at the end of the 1980s, organized crime spread worldwide and throughout America. The Russian Mob moved in on the pornography industry, with much of the product sold in America today produced in Russia, Germany, Hungary, and other former Communist countries. The Italian Mafia has lost much of its market share of the sex trade to the Russian Mob.⁴⁶

In the former Soviet Bloc and Third World countries, sex trafficking is fueled by a desperate need for a better life in communities ravaged by unemployment, poverty, illiteracy, corruption, drugs, and violence. In the consumer countries, it is driven by an insatiable, self-indulgent appetite for graphic sex, no matter how perverse or violent. The force that brings them together is organized crime, notorious for acting swiftly to attractive market forces. Organized crime syndicates are engaging in all aspect of the sex trade to the point that lines blur especially regarding the explosion of internet porn onto the world wide scene.⁴⁷

In 1999, Bonanno family member, Mickey Zaffarano, was overheard talking about the profits of the pornography trade from which both families could profit. The sex industry is a booming trade, run with ruthless efficiency by powerful, multinational criminal networks. These network organizations are not petty criminals. Women are bought, sold, and hired out like any other piece of livestock. The operations are unemotional, "Nothing personal but business is business is the mantra, and the bottom line is profit." Trade in human beings earns up to \$12 billion worldwide.⁴⁸

The crime families that deal in this human trafficking are Russian organized crime, Italian mafia, Colombian drug cartels, Chinese triads, and the Japanese yakuza as well as other lesser-known organizations such as Jamaican Posses, Nigerian gangs, Al-Qaeda, ISIS, Albanian, Romanians, Bulgarians, Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, Canada, India's Bollywood, Mexican Coyotes and Drug Cartels, and Cuban gangs. They entice young girls with ads to move to the big city to make money in the hotel industry. When the girls arrive, the criminals then enslave them in AV films, prostitution, or internet sex chat rooms.⁴⁹

These groups are expanding worldwide, and sometimes join forces when it comes to sex slavery because the profits are too high to not work together. Recently, organized crime has joined forces with

⁴² (Ibid)

⁴³ (Ibid)

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Ibid)

⁴⁶ Weiss, 2014)

⁴⁷ Tverdova, Yuliya V. Human Trafficking in Russia and Other Post-Soviet States. September 2011, Human Rights Review, Volume 12, Issue 3, pp 329-344

⁴⁸ (Beck, 2017)

⁴⁹ Landesman, Peter. The Girls Next Door. Jan. 25, 2004 New York Times

international terrorist organizations to help them raise money for their activities. Drugs, human trafficking, and pornography are activities of choice because they can make quick easy money.⁵⁰

When organized crime families are not trafficking women, they make it easier to run their business enterprises by catering to corrupt government officials who have their hands out for bribes or arranging backroom deals for sex. There are numerous examples of corrupt police officers, judges, civil authorities, and government officials helping brothel owners continue and even expand their businesses. There is just too much money to be made. Bill Clinton was known for sneaking women up the back stairs in the Arkansas Governor's Mansion and for his dalliances while in the Oval Office. Once out of the White House he has continued his sex fueled obsession while those in the liberal media, look the other way. It came to light years ago that Clinton was an associate to Jeffery Epstein who owned an island in the Caribbean where he took underage girls to provide sexual partners for their friends in government and the corporate world.⁵¹

Traffickers use bribes—money or free sex—to entice police and officials to look the other way, to gain protection, and to circumvent borders. Complicity not only guarantees impunity for traffickers; it sends a message to the enslaved women that their traffickers enjoy impunity and that escape is impossible.

Current Porn Statistics: Some Terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda have discovered the adult industry to be quite lucrative as well. They have joined forces with organized crime and have cashed in on the drug and pornography trade to help fund their terrorist activities.⁵² It is estimated that there are 4.2 million porn Web sites, 12 % of the total number of sites allowing downloads to 72 million monthly visitors worldwide. One-quarter of total daily search engine requests, or 68 million, are for pornographic material, where 40 million Americans are regular visitors.⁵³

According to various reports, currently, the porn industry's net worth is about \$97 billion. This money is enough to feed at-least 4.8 billion people a day. Every year, Hollywood releases roughly 600 movies and makes \$10 billion in profit. And how much does the porn industry make? 13,000 films and close to \$15 billion in profits. The porn industry makes more money than Major League Baseball, The NFL and The NBA combined.

Pornhub says its network receives about 100 million visits a day, and at least on part of the network, the average visit lasts about nine minutes. If you extrapolate, that's somewhere in the range of 450 million hours of viewing a month. Meanwhile, Netflix serves 60 million subscribers, and these subscribers watch over 3.3 billion hours of programming a month (10 billion a quarter). YouPorn claims hundreds of millions of hours of viewing daily.

Pornhub, one of the industry's biggest providers, claim their site streamed 75 GB of data a second last year; enough to fill 175 million 16 GB iPhones, a total of 87.8 billion views, up ten billion from 2014, another 15 billion over 2013. And according to statistics, Porn Sites get more visitors each month than Netflix, Amazon and Twitter combined. In fact, XVideo, on its own, is bigger than Dropbox, CNN and New York Times combined. Mind Geek, who owns Pornhub, Brazzers, YouPorn and Reality Kings, is one of the top 3 bandwidth-consuming companies in the world, the other two being Google and Netflix.⁵⁴

Human trafficking is one of the biggest travesties that still exists in our world today; it is literally modern-day slavery. Sex trafficking (a subset of human trafficking) is the fastest growing criminal business in the world and the third largest criminal enterprise since 2010. The International Labor Organization estimates that over 150 million dollars are illegally made through the exploitation of 21 million people in human trafficking. Of those 21 million, 5.5 million are children and 11.4 million are women and girls. Ever growing, the portion of those forced into sex slavery is roughly 4.5 million men,

⁵⁰ Huckerby, Jayne. When Human Trafficking and Terrorism Connect: Dangers and Dilemmas. February 22, 2019. Just Security: Reiss Center on Law and Security at New York University School of Law.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Vardi, 2009)

⁵³ (Malik, 2018)

⁵⁴ Strange but True, 2017

women, and children (although the vast majority is comprised of young women and girls). The children used by traffickers are primarily those who are runaways, or who are easily manipulated by their abductors. One in six children–endangered runaways–are pulled into sex trafficking. Often these youth are forced into child pornography. Of those children, 86% of them come from foster homes or social services. These children are running from broken lives, only to find a darker future in slavery. In fact, the average age of people trafficked into prostitution is 12-14 years old and 4 out of 5 will be female. ⁵⁵(Ibid)

According to Alison, former editor at Video box, a porn news website, quoting Frank Lopez, actresses make these rates: Blowjobs: \$200–\$400; Straight sex: \$400–\$1,200; Anal sex: \$900–\$1,500; Double Penetration: \$1,200–\$1,600; Double anal: \$2,000. For more unusual fetishes, women generally get 15% extra. (WPLG, 2004) Additionally, besides appearing in films, porn stars often make money from endorsements and appearance fees. For instance, in 2010 some strip clubs were paying female porn stars and Playboy Playmates to appear in person in order to draw bigger crowds to the night clubs. For example, Jesse Jane was reported to have received between \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a one-night appearance at a Chicago strip club. (Alison, 2008)

Pornography Is A Deadly Epidemic: Adult performer Olivia Lua, who also went under the name Olivia Voltaire, was found dead in a rehab facility in California, making her the fifth porn performer to pass away in the first three months of 2018. ⁵⁶

“We are in a crisis in the adult industry. It’s almost becoming like an epidemic,” says Amber Lynn, a porn star who has been performing since 1983, far longer than many of the industry’s young starlets have been alive. “Our ideological differences are not as important as our survival and our future.” Unlike pre-Internet porn stars, performers today face the added pressures of social media interactions, increased competition without increased pay and a demand for more physically taxing sex scenes; all of which can exacerbate existing mental health or substance abuse issues. So, is the adult industry doing enough to protect its performers?⁵⁷ The following list contains words used in the psychology of addiction:

- Addiction – a brain disorder characterized by compulsive engagement in rewarding stimuli despite adverse consequences
- Addictive behavior – a behavior that is both rewarding and reinforcing
- Dependence – an adaptive state associated with a withdrawal syndrome upon cessation of repeated exposure to a stimulus (e.g., drug intake)
- Physical dependence – dependence that involves persistent physical–somatic withdrawal symptoms (e.g., fatigue and delirium tremens)
- Psychological dependence – dependence that involves emotional–motivational withdrawal symptoms (e.g., dysphoria and anhedonia)
- Reinforcing stimuli – stimuli that increase the probability of repeating behaviors paired with them
- Rewarding stimuli – stimuli that the brain interprets as intrinsically positive and desirable or as something to approach
- Sensitization – an amplified response to a stimulus resulting from repeated exposure to it
- Tolerance – the diminishing effect of a drug resulting from repeated administration at a given dose. ⁵⁸

To Ruby, an AVN Hall of Famer who performs under a single name, the answer is a resounding no. “In my opinion, they really don’t care whether we die or not,” she says of the industry’s producers. “In fact, I’m going to be probably a little crass here, but this is true: They’d prefer we die because they can make money off of us forever.” ⁵⁹

⁵⁵ Tverdova, 2011

⁵⁶ Maria Perez. Who Is Olivia Lua? The Fifth Adult Actress Found Dead in Three Months 1/20/18 Newsweek

⁵⁷Swann, Jennifer. Is the Porn Industry Doing Enough for Performers’ Mental Health? January 18, 2018. Rolling Stone Magazine

⁵⁸ Ibid

⁵⁹ Ibid.

Jewels Jade, a retired porn star based in San Diego, can attest to that. She recalls getting hired for a so-called “light bondage” scene in which she was restrained in the back of a dump truck with suction cups, clothespins and rope. The experience, she says, made her suicidal. “I just wanted to eat a bullet. On the way home I was just crying my eyes out and calling my husband. Like, I couldn’t even function. And this has happened to a lot of girls,” she says. “They go on set and directors want to capture that fear because this is what the fans want, and there are some sick people who want some really bad stuff. They do this to these girls and if you think you’re going to recover from that, I barely recovered from that.”⁶⁰

Jade, who made national news last spring after her Navy SEAL husband was investigated for costarring in videos with her, says the scene went on to become one her most popular. Had she refused to shoot it, she says, it likely would’ve been the end of her career. “Girls, they’re told not to speak, to shut up or you won’t work again,” she says. Like Ruby, Jade believes porn production companies, producers and directors are complicit in the deaths of young women: “They don’t care about the girls. They care about the fans.” What the fans want the fans get. Of course, it should be apparent that if you run with the Mafia, then the only way out is to die. However, by the time many of these actresses realize they are enslaved it’s already too late.⁶¹

Despite the physical and mental demands of a job with a notoriously high turnover rate, Jade says the reasons women get into porn are obvious: The money is good, the hours are flexible and the attention can be intoxicating. “A lot of girls have low self-esteem. All of a sudden they have fans, people who are wooing over them, they’re feeling beautiful and, of course, as you get more and more popular you get recognized,” says Jade.⁶²

Lynn, who hosts a weekly radio show about the industry, sees things differently. She attributes her atypical longevity as a porn star to her stints working in other fields including real estate, drug addiction recovery and mainstream acting. To her, the onus is on performers to better define their boundaries and learn to step away from the gig, including its social media obligations, if it becomes hazardous, mentally or physically. “A lot of these people get into the business and they don’t think they can be anything else. They don’t think they can survive outside the industry and that’s not true,” she says. “You can get out of the industry tomorrow if it no longer works.”⁶³

Above all, performers say, attitudes about women in porn have to change before the industry can start to evolve. “People have to start caring. The problem is that nobody cares about these girls. They’re dehumanized,” says Jade. “These are girls. They’re humans.”⁶⁴

Testimonials from former Adult Video Actresses: On the Pink Cross Web Site, Shelley Lubben shares testimonials from women who have left the adult business and exposed the hard realities of being in a perverted industry.⁶⁵

Andi Anderson: “After a year or so of that so-called “glamorous” life, I sadly discovered that drugs and drinking were a part of the lifestyle. I began to drink and party out of control! Cocaine, alcohol and ecstasy were my favorites. Before long, I turned into a person I did not want to be. After doing so many hardcore scenes I couldn’t do it anymore. I just remember being in horrible situations and experiencing extreme depression and being alone and sad.”⁶⁶

Crissy Moran: “I went through more heartbreak and became suicidal. I was taken to the hospital for panic attacks. I tried to overdose on Xanax, strangle myself, and cut my wrists but not nearly deep enough. I was too scared of the pain. I prayed God would just take me away! I felt helpless. I even went to church for a few months but the guilt I felt was overwhelming that I would feel as if I were

⁶⁰ Ibid

⁶¹ (Moye, 2017)

⁶² Swann, Jennifer. Is the Porn Industry Doing Enough for Performers’ Mental Health? January 18, 2018. Rolling Stone Magazine

⁶³ (Ibid.)

⁶⁴ (Ibid.)

⁶⁵ Lubben, 2009

⁶⁶ (Ibid.)

choking when I was at church. I had to choose and once again I chose to continue sinning. It was easier and I needed the money.”⁶⁷

Elizabeth Rollings: "I didn't want to feel the pain of penetration from an over-average sized man, being told to freeze in a position until the camera man was happy with his shots was very painful. I had peoples' body fluids forced on my face or anywhere else the producer pleased and I had to accept it or else no pay. Sometimes you would get to a gig and the producer would change what the scene was supposed to be to something more intense and again if you didn't like it, too bad, you did it or no pay."⁶⁸

Jenna Jameson: an active porn star wrote a book entitled, *How to Make Love Like a Porn Star*. In it she lists 25 reasons why everyone should stay out of the porn business.⁶⁹

1. Being a pornography performer can be bad for your emotional, mental, and physical health, and you will likely get sick at times as a result of your work.
2. Being a pornography performer can often be physically painful.
3. Celebrities and the press will often treat you badly, like an object, and assume you want to have sex with them.
4. Even if you leave the industry, your porn career will haunt you forever.
5. If you want to increase your income, you will likely have to have anal sex and sex with multiple partners.
6. In order to really succeed, you will likely have to get painful breast implants.
7. It's extremely difficult to have a healthy personal, romantic or sexual relationship with someone. Your career will likely negatively affect your relationship and your relationship will likely negatively affect your career.
8. Since money alone does not lead to true meaningful fulfillment, you likely still won't be happy, even when you reach the top.
9. Strangers may recognize you and try to attack you or rape you. Your safety will likely be threatened.
10. The industry is full of strange and scary people, who are happy to take advantage of you – like “suitcase pimps”.
11. The industry will sometimes lie about you and not respect your wishes.
12. The other women that you will have to interact with in the sex industry usually won't be very nice to you.
13. The porn industry and success within in it can change you and others for the worse.
14. The porn industry and the people in it do not treat women with decency, fairness and respect.
15. The porn industry will objectify you and influence you to see yourself as an object.
16. Working in porn will negatively affect your viewpoint of men and sex.
17. You may become tempted to become a “porn pimp” yourself, and bring someone into a world that you yourself find to be unhealthy.
18. You may find yourself constantly seeking approval from others.
19. You sometimes have to lie on the job (or be quiet) in order to “maintain the fantasy” for men or your image.
20. You will likely be around a lot of people drinking and taking drugs, with a lot of temptation to succumb yourself.
21. You will likely be in the industry only for money or other reasons that aren't the healthiest. (And therefore, not be fulfilled in any way other than materially.)
22. You will likely end up touring strip clubs and doing stripping as part of promoting your career, and even though you may have already “made it” or become “a star”, you may have to work in less than desirable places, under less than desirable conditions.

⁶⁷ (Ibid.)

⁶⁸ (Ibid.)

⁶⁹ Jenna Jameson *How to Make Love Like a Pornstar: A Cautionary Tale* Regan Books (August 17, 2004)

23. You will likely find it hard to do other types of work or feel that you can do so.
24. You will likely have to have sex with other people you find revolting.
25. Your fans are often creepy and/or drunk, and none of them really care about your acting, talent or showmanship, they just want to see skin and sex.

So, there you have it. Anyone who is seriously considering on making porn a career, they must really want to be in the Industry in spite of its dark and dangerous aspects. They must seriously consider Ms. Jameson's advice and ask themselves just much does the glamor and money really mean to them. If they have truly thought about what they want and have decided that it is really something they want to do then go for it. But don't be surprised when Ms. Jameson's warnings come true.

Pornography Is a Deadly, Bloated, Ugly Business: Not all is well in porn paradise. Behind the glitter, gilt, and pretense of the adult industry there is a dark side. For example, out of approximately 1,500 performers in California, 34 people are known to have died from AIDS, suicide, homicide and drug related deaths between 2007 and 2010. Some 17 more died from medical causes to include lung disease, heart failure and cancer. These are only the deaths. That is a total of 51 premature deaths. No other industry has these kinds of statistics, not even the music industry which is at least 10 times bigger than the porn industry. When the deaths of an estimated 129 porn performers over a period of roughly 20 years were analyzed it was discovered that there were an unusually large number of premature deaths from such causes as drugs, suicide, murder, alcohol abuse, accidental death, and disease. It was also discovered that the average life expectancy of a porn performer is only 37.43 years whereas the life expectancy of an average American is 78.1 years. There are also many more living with diseases and cancers which are too numerous to count.⁷⁰

There are popular perceptions that many people in our society have when it comes to pornography, like what a glamorous and exciting lifestyle it must be to be a porn performer. But the facts tell a different story. The truth is, the porn industry is riddled with violence, drugs, coercion, and disease (1 in 4 porn performers contract chlamydia or gonorrhea). And while active porn performers rarely, if ever, speak out due to fear of not getting work or being discriminated against, the majority of those very same people inevitably end up speaking out on their real experiences once they leave the industry. These personal accounts are never pretty. And some people, like a couple of the women above, don't leave the industry alive.⁷¹

There are a few porn stars who speak out for the sex industry. Most of them belong to the Free Speech Coalition which is an organization that lobbies state legislatures and the US Congress for the adult film industry. A few of the performers who belong to the Free Speech Coalition: Nina Hartley, Marilyn Chambers, Seka, Sharon Mitchell, Christy Canyon, Jill Kelly and Amber Lynn. These advocates are liberal, some even claim to be communists, such a Nina Hartley. They are a-religious and some claim to be atheists. They look at conservatives as the enemy, especially Christians. It is ironic that most if not all who are advocates for porn are also members of PETA. They embrace animal rights causes and claim to be vegetarians.⁷²

Hartley grew up in Berkeley, the daughter of atheist Jewish hippies... She is a registered nurse and a socialist... Women in the sex industry, she says, have more choice and power than critics think, "but not as much as I would like. But where else can a woman with a high-school education make hundreds of dollars a day, and not sell drugs or work as a prostitute on the street with all the dangers that come with that?"

Revolution against capitalism is her ultimate social prescription but, in the meantime, she wants sex work destigmatized. "I would love there to be only women in the movies who love what they do, but I'd like that to be true of every job. Lots of people hate their jobs."

Other organizations, such as the Pink Cross, lobby against the business of making porn movies. They list all those actors who have died in the industry. They help rehabilitate those who have been

⁷⁰ Daniel R. Jennings. The Average Life Expectancy of a Porn Star) 2009.

⁷¹ Javanbakht,

⁷² (IAFD)

physically and psychologically damaged by the industry. Porn stars usually begin making hetero sex films. Once they get in deep with the industry, they get lured into making more and more perverse and even dangerous films. Some become so damaged physically they can never conceive. Others become so damaged psychologically they eventually find suicide the only viable way out of the mental anguish they suffer.⁷³

Discussion: Porn Industry Statistics

Shelley Lubben, former sex worker, porn star and currently director of The Pink Cross, lists important statistics on the Pink Cross website:⁷⁴

- 2,396 cases of Chlamydia and 1,389 cases of Gonorrhea reported among performers since 2004.
- 26 cases of HIV reported by Adult Industry Medical Healthcare Foundation (AIM), since 2004.
- 50% of men and 20% of women reporting to be religious, regularly view porn.
- 66% of porn performers have Herpes, a non-curable disease.
- 70% of sexually transmitted infections in the porn industry occur in females according to County of Los Angeles Public Health.
- 129 porn stars have died from HIV, suicide, homicide and drugs between 1977 and 2010.
- At the 2003 meeting of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, a gathering of the nation's divorce lawyers, attendees revealed that 58% of their divorces were a result of a spouse looking at excessive amounts of pornography online.
- Child pornography is one of the fastest growing businesses online, and the content is becoming more violent, graphic, and perverse. In 2008, Internet Watch Foundation found 1,536 individual child porn domains.
- Chlamydia and Gonorrhea among performers is 10 times greater than that of LA County among 20-24-year olds.
- Of 1,351 pastors surveyed, 54% had viewed Internet pornography within the last year.
- Of all known child porn domains, 48 % are housed in the United States.
- There are 4.2 million pornographic websites, 420 million pornographic web pages, and 68 million daily search engine requests.
- Worldwide pornography revenue in 2006 was \$97.06 billion. Of that, approximately \$13 billion was in the United States.

News media organizations often treat specific internet safety issues as fads – after being THE hot topic, issues fall out of favor becoming “old news” in spite of ongoing risks and threats. We’ve seen this with pornography, child predators, chat room risks, meeting strangers and, more recently, sexting. Today’s hot topic is cyberbullying, but given the nature of our media cycles, we should expect to see this join the ranks of “old news” by the end of the year. That isn’t to say these topics aren’t ongoing threats, just that they lose media attention.

After Sally passed away and her Pink Cross Organization went into bankruptcy, other organizations took up the anti-porn banner: AntiPornography.org, Fight the New Drug, National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE), Stop Porn Culture, and XXXchurch.com.

Internet Pornography by the Numbers: A Significant Threat to Society, since 2000, Pornography has changed. It’s no secret that porn has become mainstream entertainment in our society. From popular porn sites putting up billboards in New York City’s Times Square to sites like BuzzFeed normalizing porn with viral videos, it feels like porn is taking over. Porn is plastered all over social media sites like Tumblr and Instagram, and it’s too easy to see on Twitter considering Twitter is home to an estimated 10+ million porn accounts. Pornography hurts adults, children, couples, families, and society. Among adolescents, pornography hinders the development of a healthy sexuality, and among adults, it distorts sexual attitudes and social realities. In families, pornography use leads to marital dissatisfaction, infidelity, separation, and divorce.”⁷⁵

⁷³ (Lubben, 2009)

⁷⁴ (Ibid.)

⁷⁵ FAQs.Anti-Pornography.org

In February 2010, the number of people using a work computer to visit sexually oriented websites was as high as 28%, according to research conducted by The Nielsen Company. The average visit to a pornography site from a work computer was about 13 minutes. During the month, the average worker was estimated to spend one hour and 38 minutes on such sites.

Family/Marital Pornography Stats⁷⁶

The negative effects of pornography do not end once teens reach adulthood. They can be just as harmful to families and marriages.⁷⁷

2018 saw the proportion of female visitors to Pornhub grow to 29%, an increase of 3 % points over 2017. 35% of all internet downloads are related to pornography.

40 million American people regularly visit porn sites.

68% of divorce cases involve one party meeting a new paramour over the internet while 56% involve one party having an “obsessive interest” in pornographic websites.⁷⁸ Psychology of Popular Media Culture. The use of filters by parents has not worked. In 2005 Pew Research found 54% usage of filters; in 2016 it was 39% with just 16% on mobile devices. Parents need help. Those who frequently consume Internet pornography are less likely to marry because they see pornography as a marital sexual gratification substitute.⁷⁹ 17% of women describe themselves as addicted to pornography. Keith Perry, “Sex: Women ‘just as easily hooked on online porn as men.’⁸⁰ Individuals who never view sexually explicit material report higher relationship quality and lower rates of infidelity than those who do. Statistics reveal that the increase in the amount and reach of pornography cannot be ignored. But it is not just a problem affecting men. Women, teenagers, and children are also being caught in the web of pornography at alarming rates. About 200,000 Americans are classified as “porn addicts.”

Pornography use itself is not inherently a problem for intimate relationships. Porn viewing can be a good way to stimulate sexual arousal and can be a bonding activity between partners. However, excessive porn use can lead to difficulties in the bedroom, infidelity and other relationship issues.

In 2013, Cosmopolitan magazine surveyed 68 top sex therapists in the United Kingdom. Of them, 86% felt that porn hurt their relationships and 90% had seen an increase in relationship troubles due to porn use. Most sex therapists also said that porn increases men’s expectations of sex with their partner, while porn has a negative effect on women’s sexual confidence. These effects can lead to performance anxiety and dissatisfaction in both men and women.

Other surveys back these numbers up. A study from 2012 found that men’s porn use can lower the self-esteem of their wives and girlfriends. Infrequent porn use does not negatively affect marriages or other romantic relationships. However, the more frequently men view porn, the more insecure and unhappy their female partners tend to become. About 56% of divorce proceedings cite an “obsessive interest” in pornographic websites. Conversely, other studies show that women who use porn themselves tend to have higher quality sex.

Extramarital sex is one of the most commonly cited reasons for divorce, and Pornography consumption is correlated with positive attitudes towards extramarital affairs. Pornography use increases the marital infidelity rate by more than 300%. According to National Coalition for the Protection of Children & Families, 2010⁸¹, 47% of families in the United States reported that pornography is a problem in their home. 40 % of people identified as “sex addicts” lose their spouses, 58 % suffer considerable financial losses, and about 33% lose their jobs.

⁷⁶ DeHaas Ron. Pornography and Marriage Stats. 2018

⁷⁷ Internet Pornography by the Numbers; A Significant Threat to Society Nielsen Company, 2010

⁷⁸ Wright, P., Tokunaga, R. & Bae, S. (2014) “More Than a Dalliance? Pornography Consumption and Extramarital Sex Attitudes Among Married U.S. Adults.”

⁷⁹ Malcolm, M. & Naufal, G. “Are Pornography and Marriage Substitutes for Young Men?” Institute for the Study of Labor. 2014

⁸⁰ ” Daily Telegraph, 8/6/14, at <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/science/11016874/Sex-Women-just-as-easily-hooked-on-online-porn-as-men.html>

⁸¹ National Coalition for the Protection of Children & Families, 2010

“I have also seen in my clinical experience that pornography damages the sexual performance of the viewers. Pornography viewers tend to have problems with premature ejaculation and erectile dysfunction. Having spent so much time in unnatural sexual experiences with paper, celluloid and cyberspace, they seem to find it difficult to have sex with a real human being. Pornography is raising their expectation and demand for types and amounts of sexual experiences; at the same time, it is reducing their ability to experience sex.”– Dr. MaryAnne Layden

68% of divorce cases involved one party meeting a new lover over the Internet.

56% involved one party having “an obsessive interest in pornographic websites.”

70% of wives of sex addicts could be diagnosed with PTSD.

One-third of porn viewers are women. 33% of women aged 25-and-under search for porn at least once per month. Men using pornography has become so normal, that it is almost fashionable to come out and say and admit to using porn. But a growing number of women are also engaging in the use of pornography. It may not be pictorial, in a video or what we would strictly define as pornography but a growing number of women are using what we call erotica. The statistics show that:

- 13% of women admit to accessing porn at work
- 17% of all women struggle with porn addiction
- 70% of women keep their cyber activities secret
- 1 of 3 visitors of all adult web sites is a woman.
- Women favor chat rooms 2x more than men.

1. **How Internet Pornography Usage Hurts Teens** One area of study considered important among development experts is the effect of pornography on teens and young adults. 12. The most common female role stated in porn titles is that of women in their 20’s portraying teenagers. In 2013, Millward⁸² conducted the largest personal research study on the Porn Industry in the U.S. He interviewed 10,000 porn performers about various aspects of the business. The United States is a top consumer of both illegal child pornography and obscene pornography.⁸³ Recorded child sexual exploitation (known as “child porn”) is one of the fastest-growing online businesses. (IWF) 624,000+ child porn traders have been discovered online in the U.S. Between 2005 and 2009, child porn was hosted on servers located in all 50 states.⁸⁴ Teenage girls are significantly more likely to actively seek out porn than women 25 years old and above. A study of 14- to 19-year-olds found that females who consumed pornographic videos were at a significantly greater likelihood of being victims of sexual harassment or sexual assault. A Swedish study of 18-year-old males found that frequent consumers of pornography were significantly more likely to have sold and bought sex than other boys of the same age. A 2015 meta-analysis of 22 studies from seven countries found that internationally the consumption of pornography was significantly associated with increases in verbal and physical aggression, among males and females alike. A recent UK survey found that 44% of males aged 11–16 who consumed pornography reported that online pornography gave them ideas about the type of sex they wanted to try.
 2. 51% of male students and 32% of female students first viewed porn before their teenage years.
 3. 57% of teens search out porn at least monthly.
 4. 71% of teens hide online behavior from their parents.
 5. A 2016 study on Canadian adolescents showed that 45.3% admitted to problems in erectile dysfunction.
 6. A Google Trends analysis indicates that searches for “Teen Porn” have more than tripled between 2005–2013. Total searches for teen-related porn reached an estimated 500,000 daily in March 2013 — one-third of total daily searches for pornographic web sites. [23] Gail Dines, “A rare defeat for corporate lobbyists,” (August 1, 2013), <http://www.counterpunch.org/2013/08/01/a-rare-defeat-for->

⁸² 2013, Millward

⁸³ Josh D. McDowell, 2018

⁸⁴ Association of Sites Advocating Child Protection 2019

corporate-lobbyists/ (accessed June 6, 2014). Dr. Dines also analyzed the content of the three most popular “porntubes,” the portals that serve as gateways to online porn, and found that they contained 18 million teen-related pages—again, the largest single genre and about one-third of the total content. 64% of young people, ages 13–24, actively seek out pornography weekly or more often. [1] The “teen” porn category has topped porn site searches for the last six years (Pornhub Analytics). According to British authorities involved with implementing the new age verification law, there are at least 4.5 million porn sites, of which more than half are located in the US.

7. Data from the PEW Internet and American Life Project suggest that 70% of 15-17-year-old Internet users accidentally view pornography “very” or “Somewhat” often. Eleven is the average age that a child is first exposed to porn, and 94% of children will see porn by the age of 14. Findings from the Youth Internet Safety Survey indicate that 15% of 12-17-year olds have purposefully looked at X-rated material online.
8. It creates distorted expectations which hinder healthy sexual development. Adolescents exposed to high levels of pornography have lower levels of sexual self-esteem. xi Keeping the conversation going with your child about the effects of pornography is essential to heading off issues like depression and low self-esteem. Teens: Researchers at the University of Massachusetts at Boston performed a Google trend analysis showing searches for “teen porn” more than tripled between 2005-2013, and teen porn searches reached an estimated 500,000 daily in March 2013 or over one-third of total daily porn searches. You read that right, 500,000 searches daily for teen pornography. Americans are becoming more and more attracted to pornography depicting sex with underage persons and this growing exposure to increasingly deviant porn is driving more criminals toward victimizing more teenagers.
9. It hinders sexual development. Pornography viewing by teens disorients them during the developmental phase when they have to learn how to handle their sexuality and when they are most vulnerable to uncertainty about their sexual beliefs and moral values. ix Blocking internet-connected devices from accessing adult material is a good start in keeping pornography out of reach for teens.
10. It increases the odds of teenage pregnancy. Teenagers with frequent exposure to sexual content on TV have a substantially greater likelihood of teenage pregnancy, and the likelihood of teen pregnancy was twice as high doubles when the quantity of sexual content exposure within the viewing episodes was high. viii More than 11 million teens regularly view porn online.
11. It raises the risk of depression. A significant relationship also exists among teens between frequent pornography use and feelings of loneliness, including major depression.
12. Men who view pornography are more likely to show an increased behavioral intent to rape, and are more likely to believe rape myths.⁸⁵ Extreme content is the new norm. Soft porn has disappeared. In 2010 the journal *Violence Against Women* reported physical aggression in 88.2% of leading pornography scenes and verbal aggression in 48.7% with 94.4% of the aggression directed towards women and girls. A February 2018 headline in *Esquire Magazine* read, “Incest is the Fastest Growing Trend in Porn” The societal costs of pornography are staggering. The financial cost to business productivity in the U.S. alone is estimated at \$16.9 Billion annually; but the human toll, particularly among our youth and in our families, is far greater. According to Patrick F. Fagan, Ph.D., psychologist and former Deputy Assistant Health and Human Services Secretary, “two recent reports, one by the American Psychological Association on hyper-sexualized girls, and the other by the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy on the pornographic content of phone texting among teenagers, make clear that the digital revolution is being used by younger and younger children to dismantle the barriers that channel sexuality into family life. The average worldwide Pornhub user now being aged 35.5 years old. Together, millennials aged 18 to 34 remained as 61% of Pornhub’s

⁸⁵ Foubert, JD; Brosi MW; Bannon, RS. “Pornography Viewing among Fraternity Men: Effects on Bystander Intervention, Rape Myth Acceptance and Behavioral Intent to Commit Sexual Assault,” *Sexual Addiction & Compulsivity*, 2011; 18(4): 212-231, <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10720162.2011.625552#.VLGJH2sfrtQ>

traffic. 90% of teens and 96% of young adults are either encouraging, accepting, or neutral when they talk about porn with their friends. Just 55% of adults 25 and older believe porn is wrong.

13. The first exposure to pornography among men is 12 years old, on average. 70% of Christian youth pastors report that they have had at least one teen come to them for help in dealing with pornography in the past 12 months.
14. The largest group viewing online pornography is ages 12 to 17. Teens and young adults 13-24 believe not recycling is worse than viewing pornography. Only 43% of teens believe porn is bad for society, compared to 31% of young adults 18-24, 51% of Millennials, 44% Gen-Xers, and 59% of Boomers.
 - 31% of young adults
 - 43% of teens
 - 44% of Gen-Xers
 - 51% of Millennials
 - 59% of Boomers
 - Nearly 27% of teens receive sexts.

15 Mind-Blowing Statistics About Pornography and The Church⁸⁶

Many Christians may assume that the church is immune. They see the smiling faces of the people who attend their church. Certainly, such god-fearing folks could not be viewing pornography. But many studies and reports have come out over the last several years that show quite a disturbing picture. Not only has pornography invaded churches, but in many cases, the statistics show that Christians – and even church pastors – engage in viewing porn at almost the same rates as the secular population. Let's look at some data to see the scope and effects of porn in society and the church. 47% of families in the United States reported that pornography is a problem in their home.

55% of married men and 25% of married women say they watch porn at least once a month.

56% of American divorces involve one party having an “obsessive interest” in pornographic websites. Pornography use increases the marital infidelity rate by more than 300%.

Pornography is a multibillion-dollar industry. It has been suggested that because so many people are using porn today, the porn industry is making more money than all professional sports combined.

Here are some statistics on adult interaction with pornography:

- Adults admitting to internet sexual addiction: 10%
- Christians who said pornography is a major problem in the home: 47%
- Men admitting to accessing porn at work: 20%
- US adults who regularly visit internet pornography websites: 40 million

57% of pastors say porn addiction is the most damaging issue in their congregation. And 69% say porn has adversely impacted the church.

59% of pastors said that married men seek their help for porn use.

- 68% of church-going men and over 50% of pastors view porn on a regular basis. Of young Christian adults 18-24 years old, 76% actively search for porn. 43% of senior pastors and youth pastors say they have struggled with pornography in the past.
- 64% of Christian men and 15% of Christian women say they watch porn at least once a month.
- Only 7% of pastors report their church has a ministry program for those struggling with porn.

Only 13% of self-identified Christian women say they never watch porn – 87% of Christian women have watched porn. A Barna study revealed that 93% of pastors see porn as an increasing problem in the church, but only 7% have any plan to deal with it.

Sexual Offenses. The Minnesota Human Trafficking Task Force recently found 46 published research studies demonstrating that exposure to pornography puts individuals at increased risk for committing sexual offenses. By focusing on the data behind the creation and consumption of pornographic content,

⁸⁶ Gibbons, Luke. 15 Mind-Blowing Statistics About Pornography and The Church. <https://conquerseries.com>. 2018

the dangers facing people can be easily overlooked. The sheer magnitude of available online pornography is merely one aspect of a larger issue that plagues society.

1. The more pornography a man watches, the more he needs to conjure images of pornography to maintain arousal, and will be more likely to ask for particular sexual acts with his partner and have concerns over his sexual performance and body image.⁸⁷ (Consumers might tell themselves that they aren't personally affected by porn, that they won't be fooled into believing its underlying messages, but studies suggest otherwise. There is clear evidence that porn makes many consumers more likely to support violence against women, to believe that women secretly enjoy being raped, and to actually be sexually aggressive in real life.⁸⁸
2. A survey of 313 college students indicated that exposure to men's magazines was significantly associated with lower intentions to seek sexual consent and lower intentions to adhere to decisions about sexual consent.⁸⁹
3. There is a positive correlation between hours of pornography consumed and higher narcissism levels. Additionally, those who have ever used pornography had higher levels of all three measures of narcissism than those who have never viewed Internet pornography.⁹⁰ Pornography is frequently cited as the 'explanation' for anal sex, and that 'people must like it if they do it,' contradicting the expectation that it will be painful for women. Men also are expected to persuade or coerce reluctant partners, which has become normalized as well as 'accidental' penetration.⁹¹
4. A Google search for 'bestiality' generated 2.7 million returns.⁹²
5. A Google Trends analysis indicates that searches for "Teen Porn" have more than tripled between 2005-2013. Total searches for teen-related porn reached an estimated 500,000 daily in March 201— one-third of total daily searches for pornographic web sites. 80% of Pornhub's worldwide visits now coming from smartphones and tablets.
6. A recent content analysis of the 50 best-selling adult videos revealed that across all scenes:
7. 3,376 verbal and/or physically aggressive acts were observed.
8. 48 % of the 304 scenes analyzed contained verbal aggression, while more than 88 % showed physical aggression.
9. 72 % of aggressive acts were perpetrated by men.
10. 88.2% of top-rated porn scenes contain physical aggression (spanking, gagging, slapping, etc.); 48.7% contain verbal aggression (name calling). Perpetrators were usually male,
11. 94 % of aggressive acts were committed against women.
12. On average, scenes had 11.52 acts of either verbal or physical aggression, ranging from none to 128. Of the 304 scenes analyzed, 88.2% contained physical aggression, principally spanking, gagging, and slapping, while 48.7% of scenes contained verbal aggression, primarily name-calling. Perpetrators of aggression were usually male, whereas targets of aggression were overwhelmingly female.⁹³ This current study analyzes the content of popular pornographic videos with the objectives of updating depictions of aggression, degradation, and sexual practices and comparing the study's results to previous content analysis studies. Findings indicate high levels of aggression in pornography in both

⁸⁷ Sun, A., Bridges, A., Johnson, J. & Ezzell, M. (2014) "Pornography and the Male Sexual Script: An Analysis of Consumption and Sexual Relations." Archives of Sexual Behavior.

⁸⁸ How Consuming Porn Can Lead to Violence. Fight the New Drug

⁸⁹ Establishing and Adhering to Sexual Consent: The Association between Reading Magazines and College Students' Sexual Consent Negotiation," Journal of Sex Research 51, no. 3 (2014): 280–290

⁹⁰ Kaspera, T., Shorta, M. & Milam, A. (2014) "Narcissism and Internet Pornography Use." Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy. Vol. 41 (5)

⁹¹ Marston, C. & Lewis, R. 2014) "Anal Heterosex Among Young People and Implications for Health Promotion: A Qualitative Study in the UK." BMI Open.

⁹² http://familysafemedia.com/pornography_statistics.html#important_countries

⁹³ Ana Bridges, et al., "Violence Against Women," Sage 16, no. 10 (October 2010): 1065–1085.

verbal and physical forms. The amount of pornographic material available on the web is staggering. As online data repositories tell us, the market for such material is just as large.⁹⁴

13. Pornography consumption can be as "mood altering" and as addictive as narcotics.⁹⁵
14. Studies show pornography is progressive and addictive for many. It often leads to the user acting out his fantasy - often on children.⁹⁶
15. The average age of first time contact of pornography among sex addicts is 11.⁹⁷
16. More sophisticated analysis reveals that men who had "purchased pornographic materials in the past year" had significantly lower marital, fathering and family-life satisfaction when compared to those who had not purchased pornographic materials in the past year.^{98 99}
17. At a 2003 meeting of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, two thirds of the 350 divorce lawyers who attended said the Internet played a significant role in the divorces in the past year, with excessive interest in online porn contributing to more than half such cases. Pornography had an almost non-existent role in divorce just seven or eight years ago.¹⁰⁰
18. Research gathered over the past few decades demonstrates that pornography contributes to sexual assault, including rape and the molestation of children.¹⁰¹
19. Child molesters often use pornography to seduce their prey, to lower the inhibitions of the victim, and to serve as an instruction manual.¹⁰²
20. A primary pornography consumer group is boys between ages 12 - 17.¹⁰³
21. Pornography distorts the natural development of personality. If the early stimulus is pornographic photographs, the adolescent can be conditioned to become aroused through photographs. Once this pairing is rewarded a number of times, it is likely to become permanent. The result to the individual is that it becomes difficult for the person to seek out relations with appropriate persons.¹⁰⁴
22. There are 4.2 million pornographic websites. This represents 12 % of all websites in the world
23. Every day, there are 68 million search engine requests for pornographic material. That is 25 % of all search engine requests.
24. Average daily pornographic emails per user: 4.5 per user

Child pornography

1. More than 20,000 images of child pornography are posted on the Internet every week¹⁰⁵
2. Pornography is a \$12-\$13 billion-a-year industry-more than the combined annual revenues of the Coca-Cola and McDonnell Douglas corporations.
3. • Cost of Porn to Society
4. • Effects of Porn Addiction on Relationships
5. • Porn Addiction and Co-Occurring Disorders
6. • Prevalence of Pornography¹⁰⁶

⁹⁴ R., Scharrer, E., Sun, C., & Liberman, R. (in press). Aggression and sexual behavior in best-selling pornography: A content analysis update. *Violence Against Women*.

⁹⁵ *Cybersex Exposed: Simple Fantasy or Obsession?* by Jennifer Schneider

⁹⁶ a study by Richard Drake, assistant professor at Brigham Young University College of Nursing.

⁹⁷ Victor Cline, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, University of Utah 1988, *Pornography Effects: Empirical and Clinical Evidence*, pg. 24.

⁹⁸ American Family Association Outreach, 1997

⁹⁹ National Center for Fathering

¹⁰⁰ Divorcewizards.com. http://www.divorcewizards.com/divorcestats_porn.html

¹⁰¹ Pornography Victims Compensation Act of 1992, U.S. Senate Comm. on the Judiciary

¹⁰² W.L. Marshall, Ph.D., *Pornography and Sexual Offenders*, In *Pornography: Research Advances and Policy*

¹⁰³ Attorney General's Final Report on Pornography, 1986, pg. 258

¹⁰⁴ Jerry Bergman, Ph.D., *The Influence of Pornography on Sexual Development: Three Case Histories*, IX *Family Therapy* 3, 1982, pg. 265.

¹⁰⁵ A Multibillion-dollar industry (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 10/8/03).

¹⁰⁶ From an *Affair of the Mind* by Laurie Hall.

7. • Statistics on Pornography Addiction Treatment
8. "Our internet search engine reports reveal a disturbing reality. In over 99% of the hits directed to our site, the person performing the search was looking for pornography, many looking for child pornography. To think, 99% used pornography search words inspired our project, Internet Intervention. Internet Intervention is a network of computers, hosting hundreds of websites, which direct the keyword searcher of child pornography to an Intervention Help Site..."
9. 70% of teens have accidentally stumbled across pornography online.
10. Annually, there are 72 million worldwide visitors to pornographic websites
11. Around 12% of all webpages are pornographic. As the internet grows exponentially, the amount of porn on the internet swells as well. However, the amount of pornography available may not be as much of a problem as its ease of access. This ease of access means that intentional or inadvertent exposure to porn is increasing among minors. Exposure to porn as a child or teenager can lead to unhealthy ideas about sexual relationships.
12. As of July 2003, there were 260 million pages of porn online, an increase of 1800% since 1998. Porn amounts to about 7% of the 3.3 billion pages indexed by Google.
13. Online Porn Tactics: Pornographers disguise their sites (i.e. "stealth" sites) with common brand names, including Disney, Barbie, ESPN, etc., to entrap children.
14. The internet is not the only source of pornography on the market. A study conducted in 2006 found that about 84% of people between the ages of 18 and 49 had watched pornographic films, either rented or on television. Another 82% had viewed pornographic magazines.
15. There are 100,000 websites that offer illegal child pornography

Porn Addiction Trends

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

Porn Addiction and Co-Occurring Disorders

Pornography addiction frequently co-occurs with other mental health disorders. Some issues relating to social anxiety and loneliness can give rise to porn addiction, while others may stem from the addiction itself. Conditions that frequently co-occur with pornography addiction include:

- Anxiety
- Cost of Porn to Society
- Depression
- Erectile dysfunction
- Memory problems
- Mood disorders
- Sex addiction
- Smoking and tobacco use
- Social anxiety
- Substance use disorders

The pornography industry is enormous, raking in an estimated \$16.9 billion each year in the United States alone. Costs associated with its misuse and addiction are more indirect, and its financial

impact can be difficult to measure. 1. Most people who view porn do not have an addiction. Addiction occurs when an individual cannot control their impulse to view porn to the extent that it begins to negatively affect aspects of their life. These people often feel ashamed of their porn use and often have a desire to decrease it but find themselves unable to. Often, they end up turning to more hardcore and sometimes illegal content to satisfy their increasing need for stimulating material. Today, porn addiction, or problematic pornography use, affects approximately 5–8% of the adult population. People who are addicted to cyber-porn spend at least 11–12 hours viewing porn online every week, though this amount can be much higher.

The increasing exposure of children to internet porn also likely contributes to the rise in porn addiction. Age restrictions on porn sites often consist of no more than a button to click claiming to be 18 or older. The average age of first exposure to pornography is now only 11 years old. As many as 93.2% of boys and 62.1% of girls first see porn before they turn 18. Early exposure to porn is correlated with increased porn use and addiction later in life. Porn addiction can take an economic toll on society in many ways. One is lost productivity. As many as 28% of people who use computers at work visit sexual webpages while at their workplace. Viewing pornography at work runs the risk of getting fired for this habit. Another is the cost of therapy for managing relationship issues and porn addiction. People who struggle with porn addiction also frequently have financial problems as a result of their porn use.

With specialized therapy, the prognosis for pornography addiction is good. Treatment for pornography addiction is similar to that for other compulsive behaviors. Psychotherapy, such as cognitive behavioral therapy, talk therapy and counseling is the most common and effective form of treatment. Early research also shows promise for the use of naltrexone, a drug used to treat other types of addiction. Many people with porn addictions are reluctant to seek help because of the shame and stigma associated with their addiction. However, with the right therapy, success rates can be quite high. Recent studies have shown that patients who underwent specialized forms of therapy, such as acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT), reduced their porn viewing by as much as 92% after treatment. After three months, their porn use was still reduced by 86%. Addictions, such as substance abuse and pornography addictions, can have major impacts on the lives of those affected and the people close to them. If you or a loved one is struggling with an alcohol or drug use disorder and pornography addiction, help is always available.¹⁰⁷

Pornographic entertainment on the Internet constituted the third largest sector of sales in cyberspace, with estimated annual revenues of \$100 million. Such marketing success has fueled an increase in the size of the pornography industry -- \$10 billion annually, according to conservative estimates.¹⁰⁸

Americans rent upwards of 800 million porn videos and DVD's a year compared with 3.6 billion non-porn videos. Nearly one in five rentals is a porn flick.¹⁰⁹

- Hollywood produces 400 feature films a year. The porn industry churns out 11,000.¹¹⁰
- One in 4 American adults surveyed in 2002 admitted to seeing an X-rated movie in the last year.¹¹¹
- Playboy's headquarters received 4.7 million hits (electronic visits) in a recent seven-day period.¹¹²
- Porn Addiction Stats - Pornography Addiction Statistics, percentages, Numbers, & Info
- Sex Addiction are not official diagnoses in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).¹¹³

However, there is no question that overuse or misuse of pornography is a real problem for some individuals - both men and women alike. Lacking official criteria, for now, whether someone is addicted

¹⁰⁷ Sound Vision Staff Writer

¹⁰⁸ Anthony Flint, *Skin Trade Spreading Across U.S.*, Boston Sunday Globe, Dec. 1, 1996, at A1.

¹⁰⁹ Adams Media Research

¹¹⁰ *Internet Pornography by the Numbers; A Significant Threat to Society* Nielsen Company, 2010

¹¹¹ National Opinion Research Letter

¹¹² Porn Addiction Stats - Pornography Addiction Statistics, percentages, Numbers, & Info Promise Keepers website

¹¹³ Brent Conrad, *Tec Addiction* 21 Nov 2019 *Internet Pornography Addiction and Online Porn*

to porn is somewhat of a judgment call. This makes providing exact statistics on pornography addiction a bit challenging. For practical purposes, someone may be considered to have a problem with pornography if he/she spends an excessive amount of time viewing, collecting, or downloading porn - and it has a significant negative impact on other areas of his or her life (for example, work, school, health, and interpersonal relationships). A closer look at a few porn addiction stats reveals some very interesting numbers and findings. For the answers to these questions about online pornography addiction, simply open the infographic Porn Addiction. Psychologists' research is working to answer that question — and to identify ways to treat people whose porn use is interfering with their lives.¹¹⁴ Pornography is a loaded subject. Opponents argue that it can ruin marriages, lead to sexual addiction or other unhealthy behaviors, and encourage sexual aggression.

- Proponents claim that erotica can enhance sex lives, provide a safe recreational outlet and perhaps even reduce the incidence of sexual assault. (After pornography was legalized in Denmark in 1969, for instance, researchers reported a corresponding decline in sexual aggression.)
- But in some ways, both arguments are moot: Whether or not you think it's moral, the fact is, people like porn. Various international studies have put porn consumption rates at 50 % to 99 % among men, and 30 % to 86 % among women, according to Gert Martin Hald, PhD, and colleagues in *The APA Handbook of Sexuality and Psychology* (Vol. 2).¹¹⁵

"Porn is practically ubiquitous," says Ana Bridges, PhD, a psychologist at the University of Arkansas.¹¹⁶ And the Internet has made it easier than ever to get an erotic fix. The late sex researcher Alvin Cooper, PhD, called this the "triple-A engine" effect: The accessibility, affordability and anonymity provided by the Web have put adult content right at our fingertips.¹¹⁷ Many people argue that's a good thing. In a 2002 survey conducted for PBS/Frontline by the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender and Reproduction at Indiana University¹¹⁸, 86 % of respondents said porn can educate people, and 72% said it provides a harmless outlet for fantasies. Among those who reported using pornography, 80 % said they felt "fine" about it. "There are a lot of people out there using a lot of porn who have no problems with it whatsoever," says Erick Janssen, PhD, a senior scientist at the Kinsey Institute.¹¹⁹ "So, when does it become an addiction?" That, of course, is a key question for researchers trying to understand pornography's dark side.

While many viewers of adult content don't seem to suffer ill effects, porn can become problematic for others. The Kinsey Institute survey found 9 % of porn viewers said they had tried unsuccessfully to stop. When pornography use becomes excessive, romantic relationships can suffer. Destin Stewart, PhD, and Dawn Szymanski, PhD, at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, surveyed female college students and found that those who perceived their boyfriends' porn use to be problematic experienced lower self-esteem, poorer relationship quality and lower sexual satisfaction.¹²⁰ But it's not always that simple. In a 2013 study, researchers at Brigham Young University and the University of Missouri surveyed heterosexual couples who were married or living together and found that men's use of porn was associated with lower sexual quality for both men and their partners. Female use of porn, however, was associated with improved sexual equality for women.¹²¹

Ana Bridges and Patricia Morokoff, PhD, reported similar findings: When men used porn, they tended to report lower levels of sexual intimacy in their real-life relationships. When women used porn, however, intimacy increased (*Personal Relationships*, 2011). Bridges points to two possible explanations for the finding. First, she says, while men tend to view pornography solo, women are more likely to watch

¹¹⁴ Kirsten Weir April 2014, Vol 45, No. 4

¹¹⁵ Gert Martin Hald, PhD, and colleagues in *The APA Handbook of Sexuality and Psychology* (Vol. 2).

¹¹⁶ Ana Bridges, PhD, a psychologist at the University of Arkansas.

¹¹⁷ Alvin Cooper, PhD,

¹¹⁸ Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender and Reproduction at Indiana University

¹¹⁹ Erick Janssen, PhD, a senior scientist at the Kinsey Institute.

¹²⁰ (*Sex Roles*, 2012).

¹²¹ (*Journal of Sex Research*, 2013).

it with their partners in a shared sexual experience. "This was something that they incorporated into their lovemaking ritual," she says. Also, men and women typically use different types of porn. Men are more often drawn to videos showing sex acts absent of context. "You might not even see anybody's face," she says. Women, though, tend to watch "couples' porn," with story lines and softer angles. "When partners use porn together, they tend to watch things where both people are more egalitarian participants in a sexual act," Bridges says.

Although some couples seem to benefit from pornography, that's not the case for everyone. When one partner uses porn at a high frequency — typically the men in the heterosexual couples Bridges has studied — there can be a tendency to withdraw emotionally from the relationship. Those men report "increased secrecy, less intimacy and also more depression," she says. It's not clear, however, whether pornography is the proverbial chicken or the egg. Does a person turn to pornography because he's already in an unsatisfying relationship? Or do women pull away and lose interest in sex when they discover their partner is spending quality time with adult film stars?

Bridges says both scenarios are probably true, based on the couples she's interviewed. And indeed, the two scenarios tend to feed off each other. If a couple goes through a dry spell, the man may watch more porn to fill the void. Some women may feel threatened or confused by that response. They often report feeling less attractive, like they could never measure up to the X-rated actresses. The result: even less sex, even more porn and a relationship that continues to falter.

Bridges is now testing interventions to help men curb their excessive pornography use, primarily using cognitive-behavioral interventions. Eventually, she hopes to develop a couples-based treatment manual to help both partners come to an understanding — one that may or may not include pornography. Relationships aren't the only area where compulsive porn use can be damaging. Psychologists describe anecdotal reports of people losing their jobs because they couldn't control the urge to visit adult websites at work, for instance. "When porn use becomes so intense in frequency or duration, it starts to interfere with the other aspects of a person's life," Bridges says. However, experts disagree over how to classify excessive porn use. "We're still not completely sure what this behavior is," says Bridges.¹²²

When the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) was being drafted, experts considered a proposed diagnostic addiction called hypersexual disorder, which also included a pornography subtype. But in the end, reviewers determined that there wasn't enough evidence to include hypersexual disorder or its subtypes in the 2013 edition. If compulsive pornography use is not a hypersexual disorder, could it be considered an addiction akin to drug or alcohol addiction? That's what Valerie Voon, MD, PhD, a neuropsychiatrist at the University of Cambridge, is exploring.¹²³ By scanning the brains of compulsive porn users with MRI while they view erotic images, she's testing whether they show brain activity patterns similar to substance abusers viewing beer bottles or drug paraphernalia. So far, the brains of compulsive porn users resemble the brains of alcoholics watching ads for a drink, reports Voon in a 2013 British documentary called "Porn on the Brain." Despite her early findings, Voon says it's probably too early to put compulsive porn users in a box with people who suffer from drug or alcohol problems. "We need more studies to clearly state that it's an addiction," she says.

Other research has turned up contrary results. Nicole Prause, PhD, a researcher in the department of psychiatry at the University of California, Los Angeles, and colleagues recently studied brain responses in people who have trouble regulating their porn consumption. Prause used EEG to measure a brain response known as P300, which is a component of the brain's electrical activity that occurs about 300 milliseconds after viewing a stimulus. This activity increases when people are emotionally engaged with that stimulus. When people with drug addictions view drug-related images, for instance, they show a clear bump in the P300 value. Prause used three separate scales to identify people with hypersexual problems. Then she showed them a variety of images, including sexual ones. She predicted she'd see a dose response: Those people who reported having greater difficulty controlling their porn use would experience a greater spike in the P300 value. "Frankly, I thought this would be a slam-dunk easy finding,"

¹²² Ana Bridges, PhD, a psychologist at the University of Arkansas.

¹²³ Valerie Voon, MD, PhD, *Porn on the Brain*. 2018 University of Cambridge, BBC Documentary

she says. Surprisingly, that was not the case. People who reported greater problems controlling porn use had no clear change in the P300 value related to their level of sexual problems, whether they viewed porn or neutral images such as food or people skiing "Our findings don't make them look at all like addicts," she says.¹²⁴

Meanwhile, a 2013 study by researchers at the University of Leicester in the United Kingdom suggests that a penchant for porn may be more compulsion than addiction. In a study of porn use among 226 men, the researchers found that certain traits — neuroticism, agreeableness, conscientiousness and obsessional checking behaviors — were correlated with high pornography use.¹²⁵ Men who have trouble resisting the lure of porn websites might simply have dispositions that make them more vulnerable to compulsive problems in general, the researchers concluded. Putting a label on a porn habit isn't an idle exercise. Understanding what drives the behavior is a necessary step toward designing effective treatments for people who can't control the urge.

While science is far from settling this debate, some treatment programs continue to push the idea that porn is an addiction. "There's a tremendous treatment industry that needs this to be a disease — a thing they can charge people to treat," Prause says. But promoting certain therapies may be ill-advised. "You can harm patients by using treatment models that aren't research-supported," Prause says. Whether or not pornography is a diagnosable addiction, it's clear it hurts some people. For them, there just isn't much evidence about how best to control this behavior. "There is a real dearth of good, evidence-based therapeutic literature," Voon says.

A handful of researchers are working to close that knowledge gap but it's not an easy field to work in. "Pornography is a highly politicized and sensitive topic," notes Janssen. "It's hard to get funding for sex research in general, unless it's in the context of sexually transmitted diseases." Prause has experienced the difficulty firsthand. While she'd be thrilled to see things change, she says, funding agencies are still squeamish about sex. "It's difficult to have it taken seriously," she says. "But it really is a science like any other."¹²⁶ Therefore, there are those who lobby in support of the industry and there are those who lobby against the industry. According to Jonathan Morgan, former actor now director, "Some girls are used up in nine months or a year. An 18-year-old, sweet, young thing, signs with an agency, makes five films in her first week. Five directors, five actors, five times five: she gets phone calls. They make a hundred movies in four months. She's not a fresh face any more. Her price slips and she stops getting phone calls. Then they're used up. They can't even get a phone call. The market forces of this industry use them up."¹²⁷

Particularly on the Internet, where much of pornography today is consumed, the type of sexuality depicted often has more to do with violence, extreme fetishes and mutual degradation than with sexual or emotional connection.¹²⁸

Activity: Porn Sites Get More Visitors Each Month Than Netflix, Amazon and Twitter Combined.¹²⁹ The research studies, primarily by the Barna Group and Covenant Eyes, reveal that initial exposure to porn begins in childhood and progresses. Access to porn is increasingly easy due to the wide variety of formats now available, such as printed materials, the internet, DVDs, television, and more. "It seems so obvious: If we invent a machine, the first thing we are going to do—after making a profit—is use it to watch porn." — Damon Brown, Author of Playboy's Greatest Covers¹³⁰ It's projected that virtual reality (VR) porn should be a \$1 billion business by the year 2025. That's third behind an expected \$1.4 billion virtual reality video game market and \$1.23 billion VR NFL-related content.

¹²⁴ Nicole Prause, PhD Socioaffective Neuroscience & Psychology, 2013 University of California, Los Angeles

¹²⁵ The Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy, 2013 University of Leicester in the United Kingdom

¹²⁶ Kirsten Weir April 2014, Vol 45, No. 4

¹²⁷ Amis, 2001

¹²⁸ Paul, 2004

¹²⁹ http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/05/03/internet-porn-stats_n_3187682.html (accessed June 6, 2014)

¹³⁰ Damon Brown, Playboy's Greatest Covers

Pornographers are hoping VR porn will boost porn website revenues that have been mostly stagnant from 2010 to 2015. In that time, adult content increased roughly 0.3% to \$3.3 billion. In 2006, estimated revenues for sex-related entertainment businesses were just under \$13 billion in the US. These estimates included video sales and rentals, Internet sales, cable, pay-per-view, phone sex, exotic dance club magazines, and novelty stores. 28,258 users are watching pornography every second. \$3,075.64 is spent on porn every second on the Internet. 88% of scenes in porn films contain acts of physical aggression, and 49% of scenes contain verbal aggression. 79% of porn performers have used marijuana, and 50% have used ecstasy. 1 in 5 mobile phone searches are for pornography. “Amateurs come across better on screen. Our customers feel that. Especially by women you can see it. They still feel strong pain.”¹³¹

There are higher percentages of subscriptions to porn sites in zip codes that...

- Are more urban than rural.
- Have experienced an increase in higher than average household income.
- Have a great density of young people (age 15-24).
- Have a higher proportion of people with undergraduate degrees.
- Have higher measures of social capital (i.e. more people who donate blood, engage in volunteer activities, or participate in community projects).

Over 40 million Americans are regular visitors to porn sites. The average visit lasts 6 minutes and 29 seconds. There are around 42 million porn websites, which totals around 370 million pages of porn. The porn industry’s annual revenue is more than the NFL, NBA, and MLB combined. It is also more than the combined revenues of ABC, CBS, and NBC. 30% of the Internet industry is pornography.¹³² “Anthony compiled data from Google’s DoubleClick Ad Planner to reveal that XVideos is currently the largest adult website, boasting 4.4 billion page views per month; with other adult sites, such as Live Jasmin, YouPorn, Tube8 and Pornhub all commanding vast expanses of market share, ‘that dwarf almost everything except the Googles and Facebooks of the Internet.’” “. . . that sets adult sites apart from non-adult sites; with Anthony comparing a 15–20-minute average porn site visit to a three-to-six-minute visit on a news site as evidence of adult’s stickiness...

Anthony states that’s while the amounts vary, typical adult websites contain 50 to 200 terabytes of porn and are responsible for nearly a third of all Internet traffic.” Anthony stated, “It’s probably not unrealistic to say that porn makes up 30 % of the total data transferred across the Internet.”¹³³ The online porn industry makes over \$3,000 per second.¹³⁴ Mobile phone porn is expected to reach \$2.8 billion by 2015. Juniper Research, “Video chat and subscription services to drive mobile adult revenues to \$2.8bn by 2015”¹³⁵. 34% of internet users have experienced unwanted exposure to pornographic content through ads, pop up ads, misdirected links or emails.

Every Second:

\$3,075.64 is being spent on pornography on the internet.
28,258 users are watching pornography on the internet.
372 people are typing the word "adult" into a search engine.

Every Day:

116,000 queries related to child pornography are received.
2.5 billion emails containing porn are sent or received.
37 pornographic videos are created in the United States.

¹³¹ Carlo Scalisi, Owner of 21 Sexury Video

¹³² Stephen Yagielowicz, “The Internet Really is Porn,” <http://www.xbiz.com/news/146703> (accessed 6/11/14).

¹³³ Sebastin Anthony, “Just how big are porn sites?” Extreme Tech (Apr.4 2012), <http://www.extremetech.com/computing/123929-just-how-big-are-porn-sites>.

¹³⁴ Ibid.

¹³⁵ Juniper Report finds,” Oct. 14, 2010. <http://www.juniperresearch.com/viewpressrelease.php?pr=210> (accessed December 27, 2012)

68 million search queries related to pornography- 25% of total searches- are generated

A Google search for ‘bestiality’ generated 2.7 million returns. (Google-accessed April 28, 2014). 30% of the Internet industry is pornography.¹³⁶ “Anthony compiled data from Google’s Double Click Ad Planner to reveal that Videos is currently the largest adult website, boasting 4.4 billion page views per month; with other adult sites, such as Live Jasmin, YouPorn, Tube8 and Pornhub all commanding vast expanses of market share, ‘that dwarf almost everything except the Googles and Facebooks of the Internet.’”¹³⁷ “...that sets adult sites apart from non-adult sites; with Anthony comparing a 15-20-minute average porn site visit to a three-to-six-minute visit on a news site as evidence of adult’s stickiness. . . . Anthony states that ‘while the amounts vary, typical adult websites contain 50 to 200 terabytes of porn and are responsible for nearly a third of all Internet traffic.’” “Anthony stated, ‘It’s probably not unrealistic to say that porn makes up 30 % of the total data transferred across the Internet.’”¹³⁸

The United States is the largest producer and exporter of hard-core pornographic DVDs and web material, followed by Germany. Ibid. Among desktops, the Chrome browser still remains king at 57.3% of all visits, with an 8% gain in share during 2018. On mobile devices, the Chrome browser saw a slight gain to 41.1%, breaking its previous tie with Safari in 2017.¹³⁹ More than four in 10 Americans (43%) now say pornography is morally acceptable, a seven-%age-point increase from last year.¹⁴⁰ One in six of the over 15000 global respondents has watched pornography on a public network, among other things.¹⁴¹ A 2017 global survey by Norton by Symantec¹⁴² found that one in six people admit to having used public Wi-Fi to watch adult content. Of those who admit to it they’ve done so in the following locations:

- Airport (25 %)
- Café/Restaurant (30 %)
- Hotel/Airbnb (40 %)
- On the street (24 %)
- Public restroom/toilet (16 %)
- Train/bus station (18 %)
- Work (29 %)
- Free access means porn use has skyrocketed. Today, many porn sites are free. New York Magazine reported that a decade ago total daily adult site traffic averaged less than 1 million unique visitors on the entire internet. Today, free Mind geek tube sites alone receive 100 million unique visitors per day¹⁴³

Pornhub, one of the industry’s biggest providers, claim their site streamed 75 GB of data a second last year—enough to fill 175 million 16 GB iPhones—a total of 87.8 billion views, up ten billion from 2014, another 15 billion over 2013. An estimated 87% of college-age men—and around 30% of women—double-click for sex either weekly or every day.¹⁴⁴ The science behind how double-clicking for sex rewires our brains—and affects us all”. The words “sex” and “porn” rank fourth and sixth among the top ten most popular search terms.¹⁴⁵ The reality is that porn’s harmful effects are no longer a mystery, and new issues are being discovered on a regular basis. The science and research have been out for years now and thousands of people, including porn performers themselves, have spoken out on how porn has

¹³⁶ Stephen Yagielowicz, “The Internet Really is Porn,” <http://www.xbiz.com/news/146703> (accessed 6/11/14).

¹³⁷ Anthony, 2012

¹³⁸ Sebastin Anthony, “Just how big are porn sites?” Extreme Tech, <http://www.extremetech.com/computing/123929-just-how-big-are-porn-sites>.

¹³⁹ Pornhub website, 2019

¹⁴⁰ Gallup, June 2018

¹⁴¹ Neowin, July 2018

¹⁴² A 2017 global survey by Norton by Symantec

¹⁴³ (The Economist, 2015).

¹⁴⁴ (January 2016) “Falling in Love with Screens:

¹⁴⁵ Symantec. (10 August 2009). School’s Out and Your Kids are Online: Do you know what they’ve been searching for this summer? Cupperton, CA.

seriously damaged their lives and relationships. So, let's shed some more light on this issue, shall we? Here are some quick stats and facts about porn's presence and influence in our society: Consumer stats from NCOSE that are hard to believe:¹⁴⁶

At least 30% of all data transferred across the internet is porn-related.¹⁴⁷ Porn is a global, estimated \$97 billion industry, with about \$12 billion of that coming from the U.S.¹⁴⁸ In 2018 alone, more than 5,517,000,000 hours of porn were consumed on the world's largest porn site.¹⁴⁹ Eleven pornography sites are among the world's top 300 most popular Internet sites. The most popular such site, at number 18, outranks the likes of eBay, MSN, and Netflix.¹⁵⁰ "Lesbian" was the most-searched-for porn term on the world's largest free porn site in 2018.¹⁵¹ The world's largest free porn site also received over 33,500,000,000 site visits during 2018 alone.¹⁵² Porn sites receive more regular traffic than Netflix, Amazon, and Twitter combined, each month.¹⁵³ 35% of all internet downloads are porn-related.¹⁵⁴

Why This Matters: These issues aren't going to change as long as society continues to deny the real, proven harms of porn and a vast majority of people believe the lie that it's harmless.¹⁵⁵ At one point in time, porn wasn't a common issue that affected millions of people, much less all of society. It wasn't a topic that needed to be discussed with such urgency. But, just by looking at these stats, it seems like those days are over.

Porn is a favorite past time for millions of consumers, and many of them have no idea what kind of harm they're letting into their own lives, or the kind of exploitation they're contributing to. But we can change that. We can raise awareness, and the good news is, each of us holds the power to change these numbers by being educated and decreasing the demand for sexual exploitation through awareness. Right now, the porn industry is simply supplying what people are demanding. The only way this changes is if people stop, re-examine reality, get educated about the real harmful effects of porn, and make a change in their lives to exclude porn.¹⁵⁶

By stopping the demand for porn, we are putting an end to something that harms consumers, destroys relationships, and affects our society as a whole. It's time to change the stats. Stopping the demand starts here, with us spreading the facts. It is a common misconception that pornography is only a problem for men. Pornography is a people problem and it affects everyone.¹⁵⁷

With the advent of the internet, pornography has become more and more widely available. A considerable portion of the internet is devoted to pornography sites, and viewership among adults and minors is on the rise. The ease of access to porn both enables a high rate of porn addiction and makes treatment a greater challenge. Pornography use and addiction come with a negative stigma from religious and social groups. Although addiction to porn can interfere with a healthy lifestyle and relationships, this social pressure can make those with the disorder afraid to speak out or seek treatment. Knowing the facts about porn addiction can help people recognize porn addiction and know how to find help for themselves or someone they know. Cyberporn is giving rise to a new form of sexual compulsiveness. 15% of online-

¹⁴⁶ NCOSE, 2018

¹⁴⁷ (HuffPost)

¹⁴⁸ (NBC News)

¹⁴⁹ Pornhub Analytics

¹⁵⁰ Ibid.

¹⁵¹ Ibid.

¹⁵² Ibid.

¹⁵³ (HuffPost)

¹⁵⁴ (WebRoot)

¹⁵⁵ Fight the New Drug

¹⁵⁶ Walsh, Matt. We're A Nation of Porn Addicts. Why Are We Surprised by The Perverts in Our Midst? November 30th, 2017

¹⁵⁷ Ibid

porn habitué's develop sexual behavior that disrupts their lives. The Internet is the "crack cocaine" of sexual addiction.¹⁵⁸

Those who support the porn industry claim to be a-religious, and that porn is a natural fact of life. They talk about how the government needs to butt out and allow individuals the freedom to make their own choices. However, those who allow themselves to get involved, either as participants or as consumers, eventually discover that they have made choices that lead them down a very slippery slope of no return. By then it is almost too late.

Religious groups and social scientists have tried to educate the population concerning the dangers of "conspiring men." The LDS Church has published a doctrine called the Word of Wisdom. Many know it as a health code but the introduction contains a warning about those who would entrap people in schemes that could lead to social, emotional, and physical enslavement to one's uncontrolled passions, desires, and appetites.

"In consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days, I have warned you, and forewarn you, by giving unto you this word of wisdom."¹⁵⁹

One of their books of scripture, teaches that those who indulge in the vices of the world will learn that wickedness is not happiness. Some 86 porn stars learned this, the hard way, and felt the only way out was to kill themselves. Everyone must decide for themselves what is right or wrong: The argument is as old as mankind. The porn industry convinces those who work in it that they are progressive and not tied to the foolish traditions of the religious. They convince them that there is no God. Whatever makes them feel good is the only thing that matters. With these flattering words, money, glamour, and prestige, the producers of porn enslave young impressionable girls and boys who eventually find themselves unable to leave unless they disappear or commit suicide.

The Bible also prophesies that the lovers of pleasures in the last days are a sign of the times:

1. This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
2. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
3. Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
4. Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;
5. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.
6. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers¹⁶⁰ lusts,
7. Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth...
8. 13. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. ¹⁶¹

Project Methods and Materials: This paper looks at the Porn Industry from a statistical perspective. The author looked at lists compiled from various internet sources such as Internet Adult Film Database (IADB), Adult Film Database (AFD), and Adult Industry Awards Database (AIWARDS). The pornographic actors and actresses were listed by decade. The author focused on actresses since they are the focus of pornography. He researched the lives of each actress, and information that was used in the process of this research paper are: birth year, location, family life, religion, marital status, children, education, pre-porn employment, the years involved in the film industry, age that they entered adult films, and post-porn employment. In cases where the actress is deceased, the year they died and the cause of death. Many of the findings confirm what Susannah Breslin found in her research. This paper also

¹⁵⁸ Kenneth M. Adams, Ph.D. Cybersex: The "crack cocaine" of sex addiction. May 1, 2008 The National Psychologist

¹⁵⁹ (D&C 89:4)

¹⁶⁰ Diverse

¹⁶¹ 2 Tim3: 1-7, 13)

contains a discussion on the people who support porn and why they do. It also contains another discussion on those who are anti-porn and why they are so adamant that porn is dangerous.

Project Results: Statistical Findings of this Research Project: This paper examined 730 actresses from 1970 to the present, 2018. Categories included birth year, location, family life, religion, marital status, children, education, pre-porn employment, the years involved in the film industry, age that they entered and left adult films, and post-porn employment. In cases where the actresses are deceased, the year they died and the cause of death. The purpose is to seek patterns of behavior that might explain why these actresses chose a career in adult films, why they stayed and why they left. The following are these findings:

Birth Year: Out of 1,216 actresses, one was born in the 1930's, 16 in the 1940's, 52 in the 1950's, 137 in the 1960's, 246 in the 1970's, 278 in the 1980's, and 45 were born in the 1990's.

Location: Out of 451 born in the US the majority, or 132 were born in California. The other states with double digits are New York, Texas, Florida, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Nevada, Ohio, North Carolina, and Arizona. All of the other states, the actress was born in their various home states, but later moved to California. On the international scene, out of 730 total actresses, the majority came from either Europe (150) or from Asia (103). Of those from Europe the majority come from Britain, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Romania, Russia, and Spain. Of those who come from Asia, the majority come from Japan and the Philippines.

Family Life: The family background was interesting. Out of 730, 98 were abused as children which confirms the findings of Ms. Breslin. 66 came from families that were strict conservatives. 474 came from families who were liberal. They were from the hippy generation of free love. 25 were from families where the parents were divorced or the family was dysfunctional by their own admission. 27 came from families where one or both parents were in the military and therefore moved around a lot. By their admission, 6 were communists, 9 had at least one parent who was in the adult industry, usually the mother. 7 were adopted. 18 admitted they were raised in "normal" homes but they were the rebellious black sheep of the family. These women got involved in the adult industry to find acceptance which many did not have when they were growing up. The sad thing is that when they realized that the industry is completely devoid of emotional support these women either left the industry to pursue other interests, or ended up killing themselves.

Religion: Out of 730, 59 claimed to be atheists and 550 admitted that religion played no part in their life. 51 were raised Catholic, 38 were raised in one of the Protestant religions, 10 Jewish, 9 Mormon, 9 Buddhist, 3 Hindu, and 1 Muslim. Even though they were raised in religious households, once they graduated from high school and moved away from home, they abandoned their religious training. It seems that people who live a life in the fast lane quite often abandon religion in order to justify their hedonistic lifestyle.

Marital Status: Out of 730, 416 were single. 121 had been divorced, 64 were in a common law relationship, 126 were in a traditional marriage, and 3 were widows. The average number of marriages is between 3-4 marriages. The marital status reflects their family background. Many want the loving husband, children, home in the suburbs, and a "normal" life. However, due to their choice to work in the sex industry they soon find that the dream is impossible to achieve because their lifestyle severely restricts their choices.

Children: Out of 730, 648 have never had any children for one reason or another. For some their reproductive organs are so damaged from their lifestyle, they were impotent. Others had no desire to have

children. Some when they did get pregnant, they often terminated the baby by having an abortion. However some pornstars have had children who later followed their parent into the business.

Education: This was surprising. Out of 730, 127 dropped out of high school. 440 graduated from high school. The surprising statistics were the ones that showed how many had gone on to achieve a college degree. 91 attended some college and then dropped out. 27 graduated with either an associates or technical college diploma. 36 had a Bachelor's Degree. 3 had a Master's degree. 6 had either a JD, PhD, or MD.

Pre-Porn Employment: Out of 730; 375 were models. They started out as glamour models, but then they found they could make more money in nude modeling. From there it was a short leap to the adult film industry. 26 were prostitutes (Also referred to as escorts or call girls) and 186 were strippers. (Also referred to as exotic dancers, and feature dancers) Other occupations were mainly in either the service industry or professionals such as secretaries, waitresses or school teachers, nurses, and even CPAs. These women admitted that they began stripping, turning tricks, or acting in adult movies as a source of extra income. Eventually they decided to make it their career choice.

Age That They Entered Adult Films: In the US it is against the law for any company to hire performers under the age of 18. Although child porn is able to fly under the radar until the producers and distributors eventually get caught. In other countries it is easier to hire girls who are younger than 18. Out of 730 actresses, 315 entered the industry between the ages of 15-20. 387 were between the ages of 21-30. 27 were older, between the ages of 31-40. 1 was over the age of 41. These older women are used as mature stars. The younger ones are used as high school girls. The others are used in the housewife, teacher, and secretary categories. The industry has found ways of using every actress who walks through their doors, no matter what their body type, age, or looks.

Years Involved in the Film Industry: How long do actresses stay in the industry? Out of 730, 412 only stayed in the industry 1-10 years. 145 stayed in 11-15 years. 27 stayed in for 16-20 years. 29 stayed for 21-30 years. Only 1 stayed in the profession for more than 30 years. For those who got out after 1-10 years; they got in out of curiosity or when someone in the industry introduced them to adult films. Once they made their money, decided it wasn't something they wanted to make in to a career, they got out to return to college, do something else, or get involved in internet porn.

Post-Porn Employment: The reasons why they left are almost as varied as why they entered. Out of 730 actresses, 311 are still active. 86 are deceased. 107 are retired. The ones who stuck it out until retirement, are ones from the Golden Age of Porn in the 70's. 47 returned to strip clubs, 6 returned to prostitution, 54 got involved in internet porn such as developing their own web sites, or web cam sites. 2 are in prison for selling drugs.

Actresses Who Are Deceased: Out of 730 actresses, 86 are confirmed and 120 more assumed.

The Year They Died: Out of 730, 6 died in the 1970s, 18 in the 1980s, 32 in the 1990s, and 30 in the 2000s.

The Cause of Death: Out of the 86 confirmed deaths, 11 died from accidents such as car wrecks. 3 died from AIDS. (There are many more male stars who die from AIDS than females.), 4 died from alcohol related disease such as cirrhosis of the liver. 8 died from other diseases such as cancer. 11 died from drug related incidences such as overdose either intentional or accidental. 3 died from being murdered. 46 died from suicide. Most of these died from self-inflicted gunshot wounds.

Why These Actresses Chose A Career in Adult Films: There are three main reasons why these women chose a career in adult films:

1. They like sex
 2. They like the money
 3. They like the people they work with.
- These three things seem to be the standard line.

Why They Left: They left for four reasons:

1. They became disillusioned with the business
2. They wanted to return to a non-drug, non-alcoholic environment.
3. They had contracted AIDS or some other STD or some other debilitating disease
4. They wanted to get married, have a family, get a regular job, and try to assume some sort of normalcy in their lives.

Why They Stayed: They stayed for three reasons:

1. They enjoyed the lifestyle
2. They realized they can't do anything else
3. They tried to put the past behind them but it caught up to them

Reasons Why Actresses Get into Porn: Susannah Breslin, freelance journalist, writes, "...it seems people continue to be confused as to why some people grow up to become porn stars. Do porn stars get into the business because they were abused? Do people in porn like what they do, or are they just pretending? Is porn empowering or not? After having spent some time on porn sets over the years and interviewed various porn stars along the way, she found that most adult performers come from one of five types of personal backgrounds. "As a sexual subject, I'm most interested in Porn Valley—its culture, its population, its vocabulary, its laws—and the psychological aspect of that world, in addition to the various sex industries at large, and the psyches of those involved in other extremist sexual subcultures." (Breslin, 2004) She also writes that there are some women who are in the business because they love the work.

The clichés about porn stars are true for some, and not for others. Two exceptions that come to mind are Chloe and Nina Hartley. I love those ladies. My impression is they're in the business because they want to be there, that there's something in living a life in porn that fulfills their fundamental essence. They're both terrifically smart, too. (Ibid)

1. *Abuse stories are not uncommon.* Many were physically or sexually abused or neglected as children. Many of those studied spoke about abuse in their background. She found they were molested as children, sexually assaulted as teenagers, or physically abused by their parents or spouses. One starlet's father shot and killed her mother and then himself in front of her when she was a toddler. Another actress was removed by authorities from the family home as a child after her mentally unstable mother, whom she described as "crazier than a shithouse rat," was unable to care for her. Jenna Jameson has made public that she was gang-raped as a teen.

2. *Most describe themselves as "over-sexed" at a young age.* Some porn stars state they felt sexual from a young age. This phenomenon exists independent of any abuse history in some cases. A starlet may have dreamed of being in Playboy at age six or dressed provocatively, began wearing makeup, and danced suggestively in front of others at a young age. Some performers reported having lost their virginity at a young age — 12 or 13, or as young as 9 or 10 — not infrequently by an older male and sometimes by a boyfriend or male relative or neighbor without the knowledge of the parent.

3. *Several were raised in a strict household.* Among those who end up working in the adult movie industry, many were brought up in homes that were exceptionally strict or highly regimented. In "Porn Valley," it is not uncommon to meet those who were brought up in military families or raised in extremely religious homes. One actress was the daughter of a police officer. Some were the daughters of ministers. Another actress wasn't allowed to watch TV for religious reasons. Some psychologists theorize that choosing porn as a career may serve as a form of rebellion against over-controlling parents.

4. *Some came from completely normal backgrounds.* This is more common than some may think. Many porn stars have absolutely nothing in their personal histories that would indicate that they

would grow up to have sex on camera for a living. They ended up in porn by pure accident. They had a friend who suggested they do porn, they needed the money, or they thought it might be fun. Their spouse or boyfriend had a friend in porn, or they loved sex, therefore they saw this as a viable opportunity to do something, outside the norm and so they entered the world of having sex on film.

5. *Some were victims of childhood trauma.* In addition to sexual assault and physical and psychological abuse, some performers have experienced some type of trauma as children or young adults. One actress's sister was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident. After the incident, the actress stated that it was as if "all the bad in" her sister, who, at the time, was the "black sheep" of the family, "flew out of her and right into me." Two female adult performers experienced some type of vaginal trauma as youths. One had injured her genitalia on the playground while playing on the monkey bars. The other had a physiological vaginal problem that sent her to the hospital.

6. *Pay Rates:* The primary focus of sex films and this paper are the women. They are mostly selected for their on-screen appearance, while most male performers in heterosexual pornography are generally selected for their sexual dexterity. Most male performers are paid less than their female counterparts. Ron Jeremy said in an interview that a woman makes \$100,000 to \$250,000 at the end of the year. "(AskMen.com 2008) and "Girls can easily make 100K-250K per year, plus stuff on the side like strip shows and appearances. The average guy makes \$40,000 a year." (Berry, 2011)

Conclusion: The porn industry is a deadly, bloated, and ugly business. The reasons these women enter the adult film industry are varied. However, by their own admissions they get in because they like the sex, the money, and the people they work with. These women begin by doing simple things such as straight sex but as they stay in the business, producers expect them to perform more and more perverse acts until they get tired and leave the profession, damage themselves to the point they can't perform anymore, or they become so disillusioned that they find they have no other choice but to kill themselves to leave the psychological slavery of the adult profession. A few women stay and become directors, producers, and recruiters.

There are pro-porn organizations who are fighting to keep porn legal, to propose legislation in the protection of those who work in the industry. They have lobbied for reasonable work days, health insurance, pay raises, and protection from dangerous sex acts. Some of these pro organizations include the Free Speech Coalition, Feminists Against Censorship, National Coalition Against Censorship, and Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression who advocate for the industry do so by rationalizing that porn is natural. Religion suppresses peoples' natural instincts to indulge in pleasurable activities. They especially hate Christianity.

On the flip side, there are anti-porn organizations such as the Pink Cross and the Healing Diaries, the xxxchurch, Stop the New Drug, and the National Center on Sexual Exploitation. They attempt to either shut down the international porn phenomenon or regulate it more closely. They work with law enforcement and government agencies to achieve their objectives. The anti porn groups advocate for the banning of porn especially how dangerous porn is to men, women, teens, families, communities and society in general. Those who advocate against the industry do so in the context of religion, especially Christianity. They say that porn ruins peoples' lives; both the performers and the consumers. They teach that those who engage in the adult movie industry search for happiness but often after it is too late, they realize that "wickedness never was happiness."

The industry is controlled by organized crime, especially in the 70s through to the 21st century. They use it to launder money, distribute drugs, and fund other enterprises such as drugs, human trafficking, prostitution, extortion, corruption and gun running. In recent years as porn has gone underground onto internet websites, the Mafia has not been as active and in fact they have lost some of their control over the porn industry. However, terrorist organizations have discovered how lucrative porn and have entered the world of internet porn to fund their terrorist activities.

In collecting the data for this paper, the researcher didn't know what the results would be. Would they support the industry or would they validate the anti-porn activists? Once the data was collected and analyzed, it was determined that it does validate the research of the anti-porn movement. However, even

though the arguments of the pro groups have been vehemently anti-religion they have done some good as far as providing workplace benefits and protecting and providing for the health care of actors and other sex workers.

Tables and Charts

Occupational

Pre-Porn Occupation		Age began		Yrs. in Porn		Post- Porn Occupation		Cause of Death	
Model	375	15-20	315	1-10	512	Active	311	Accident	11
Other	143	21-30	387	11-15	145	Dead	86	AIDS	3
Prostitute	26	31-40	27	16-20	38	Other	117	Alcohol	4
Stripper	186	41>	1	21-30	29	Prostitute	6	Disease	8
				31>	6	Retired	107	Drugs	11
						Stripper	47	Murder	3
						Prison	2	Suicide	46
						Internet Porn	54		
Total	730	Total	730	Total	730	Total	730	Total	86

Statistics

Home	
US	2165
Africa	3
Asia	104
Canada	100
Europe	1503
Mexico	19
Middle East	8
South America	114
Total	4016

Current as of 2018

Birthday		Death					
Date	#	Date	#	1960	137	2000	30
1930	1	1970	6	1970	246	2010	45
1940	16	1980	18	1980	Total	60 yrs.	131
1950	52	1990	32	1990	Total	60 yrs.	278

US Pornstars Home States

Alabama

10

Alaska	11
Arizona	51
Arkansas	12
California	716
Colorado	47
Connecticut	11
Delaware	3
Florida	140
Georgia	43
Hawaii	28
Idaho	14
Illinois	50
Indiana	29
Iowa	14
Kansas	10
Kentucky	30
Louisiana	22
Maine	1
Maryland	20
Massachusetts	25
Michigan	42
Minnesota	30
Mississippi	6
Missouri	32
Montana	5
Nebraska	12
Nevada	70
New Hampshire	7
New Jersey	40
New Mexico	9
New York	121
North Carolina	35
North Dakota	2
Ohio	73
Oklahoma	17
Oregon	39
Pennsylvania	55
Rhode Island	5
South Carolina	11
South Dakota	3
Tennessee	23
Texas	143
Utah	9
Virgin Islands	2
Virginia	21
Washington	44
West Virginia	4
Wisconsin	18
Wyoming	5
Total	1,898*

*Numbers current as of 2018

Family		Religion		Education		Marital Status		Children	
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Abused	98	Atheist	59	High School	440	Married	126	None	648
Adopted	7	Buddhist	9	Drop Out	127	Living Together	64	1	52
Adult Industry	9	Catholic	51	College	91	Divorced	121	2	22
Communist	6	Hindu	3	AS	27	Single	416	3	8
Conservative	51	Jewish	10	BA	36	Widow	3	>3	0
Divorced	16	Mormon	9	MA	3				
Dysfunctional	9	Muslim	1	PHD	6				
Liberal	474	None	550						
Military	27	Protestant	38						
Other	18	Total	730	Total	730	Total	730	Total	730
Strict	15	Numbers from original project 2010							
Total	730								

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