

PORN ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE

Pornography is often defined as "sexually explicit materials that are intended to sexually [stimulate or] arouse the viewer" and which typically include portrayals of "nudity and/or various sexual acts". This is the simplest definition to use when speaking with young people, however, it is essential for adults to understand the explicit nature of what today's pornography entails.



A more accurate description of what kids will stumble across accidentally or deliberately is:

Illegal, unclassified, "gonzo" or hard-core XXX, free online material that depicts individuals or groups engaging in sexual behaviours where inequity between the parties is clear, violence is observed or audible, where degradation, humiliation, punishment and extreme submission appear to be the general objective of the power dynamics or behaviour depicted.



PORNIFIED MESSAGING HAS INFILTRATED ALMOST EVERY ASPECT OF SOCIETY THROUGH MAINSTREAM MEDIA SUCH AS MUSIC AND MUSIC VIDEOS, MOVIES, TELEVISION, FASHION AND BEAUTY STANDARDS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS.



YOUNG PEOPLE NEED OUR HELP!

PORN SITES

accumulate more viewers each month than Netflix, Amazon and Twitter combined.



#8



Pornhub ranks 8th in the top 100 websites in the world and was voted to have the most negative impact on society.



In the past decade, porn has extended its reach beyond adult websites to other online platforms, and its popularity and accessibility have skyrocketed.

This ease of access and the corresponding normalisation of hardcore porn presents innumerable safety and mental health problems for children and young people.

PORN CAN BE FOUND ADVERTISED ON POPULAR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS



HELPFUL TIP: It's likely if you ask a 12-year-old what pornography is, they may respond with a quizzical look as this is not the term that they most often hear. For this reason, pornography will mostly be referred to as '**porn**' in the Youth Wellbeing Project resources.

THE NATURE OF PORN HAS MUTATED BEYOND THE EXTREME

TYPICAL HEADLINES FOUND ON PORNHUB:

- 'Fit teen knows how to take d***!
Massive orgasm and cumshot'
- 'F***ed stepsister on the parent's
bed and finished on the a**'
- 'I suck his d*** on the bus twice
and once again at the party'



When analysing the prevalence of violence in porn, rates vary from as low as 45% of scenes containing at least one act of sexual aggression though to 88% of scenes. Spanking, gagging, slapping, hair pulling, and choking are the most common forms of physical aggression, with women as the target in 97% of the scenes. Additionally, around half of scenes contain verbal aggression, and 95% of aggressive actions and words are responded to in a neutral or positive manner by the individual(s) on the receiving end.

'GONZO' PORN

A popular type of porn labelled 'Gonzo' has become embedded within the porn script.

1

'Gonzo' porn attempts to put the viewer as the 'first person' and involves close-up shots of the genitals, mouth and anus or 'penetration points' during rough, aggressive, degrading sexual acts.

2

Scenes will often include double penetration of the anus and vagina, or oral sex directly after anal penetration.

3

Most acts of degradation, violence and aggression are inflicted upon female performers.

Here are SIX narratives depicted in porn that are unrealistic and provide a false representation of the types of acts most people expect in a healthy sexual relationship.

1

Mainstream porn (across varied genres, races and sexual orientations) normalises power imbalances and degrading acts such as ejaculation on the face, breasts, hair, and in the mouth and eyes.

2

Lesbian porn scripts are often fabricated to appeal to a male perspective rather than female enjoyment.

3

Porn performers rarely use protection and are highly susceptible to sexually transmitted diseases.

4

The reactions of female porn performers are often constructed to display pleasure, regardless of if they are in pain or feel uncomfortable—behaviours are typically aimed at providing sexual pleasure for males.

5

Porn rarely depicts individuals asking for consent and normalises painful, risky and coercive acts such as anal sex.

6

Most porn depicts unrealistic and harmful gender roles, where men are overly aggressive, and women are submissive and want to be dominated—more often than not, male viewers detach from the aggression and fail to critique sexism within the content.

Young people who view these depictions can develop misinformed understandings and expectations about sex and relationships.

THE IMPACT PORN HAS ON PEOPLE—SPECIFICALLY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE—DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE.

Be proactive by implementing essential measures to counter the messages that porn and hypersexualised media provides to kids:

1. Protect children and prevent young people from accessing porn wherever possible.
2. Begin [Porn & Online Safeguarding Education](#) at a young age and regularly reinforce developmentally relevant safeguarding messages.
3. Provide young people with the skills to critically think about porn's impact on themselves, peers and society at large.
4. Help young people understand the qualities of happy, healthy and enjoyable sex.

LEARN MORE AND FIND RESOURCES AT
[YOUTHWELLBEINGPROJECT.COM.AU/ESSENTIAL-RESOURCES](https://youthwellbeingproject.com.au/essential-resources)



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