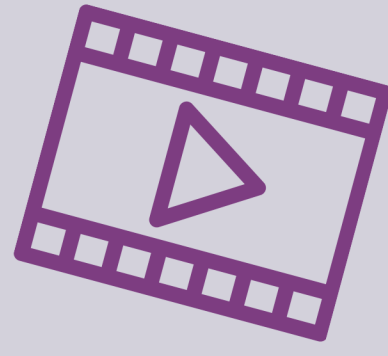


WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT PORN?

Why talking about porn is integral in supporting the prevention of sexual violence for all young people

What is pornography?



Pornography is defined as printed or visual material containing the explicit description or display of sexual organs or activity, intended to stimulate sexual excitement.

The Scottish Government via The Equally Safe strategy defines commercial sexual exploitation as activity which includes prostitution, lap dancing, stripping, pornography and trafficking.

What does porn have to do with preventing sexual violence?

In a 2020 UK literature review, there was substantial evidence of an association between the use of porn and harmful sexual attitudes and behaviours towards women.

Wide-spread smart phone adoption & high-speed streaming has facilitated easy, rapid access to mainstream pornography that depicts (to varying levels) sexual violence and female degradation.

Across the review, researchers found four key themes of harmful sexual attitudes that were associated with the use of pornography:

1. Viewing women as sex objects
2. Shaping men's sexual expectations of women
3. Acceptance of sexual aggression towards women
4. Perpetration of sexual aggression

Student Learning

For S1-2:

- I understand how our world can influence expectations around sex and relationships
- I feel more able to develop relationships that feel good for me and others

For S3-6:

- I know how pornography creates 'sexual scripts'.
- I know how pornography can reinforce stereotypes (for example, about people's gender, race, sexual orientation, or disability).
- I feel more able to develop sexual relationships based on consent & equal pleasure.

Quick Facts

- Over 51% of 11-13 year olds in the UK have reported seeing pornography at some point, rising to 66% of 14-15 year olds.
- 41% of young people who knew about pornography agreed that watching it made people less respectful of the opposite sex.
- All young people, regardless of gender, are equally as likely to see pornography at the age of 13.
- 79% of young adults aged 18-21 had seen pornography involving sexual violence before turning 18.

Why talking about porn is important...

We understand that pornography is an uncomfortable topic for most people to discuss but, it is necessary for the prevention of sexual violence.

While it may be tough to talk about, we also acknowledge that kids watch porn in ways that most adults aren't privy too - like snapchat, twitter, reddit, and other apps or forms of social media.

We aren't teaching them about porn, but instead giving them the tools to understand that when they see sexually explicit images, this does not represent real sex or intimacy - that it is, in fact, fake.

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