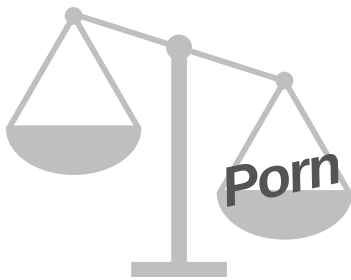


# Family and Friends

## HOW PORN AFFECTS THE COMMUNITY

Society often sees pornography as having no strong negative affects. Empirical studies support this is false. Pornography is a not just a moral issue. Pornography affects brain structure and attitudes.

Here are the ways pornography use will negatively affect communities, if its use is left unchecked.



**Pornography is not a neutral thing.** “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. Society at large is not immune to the effect of pornography. Child sex offenders, for example, are often involved not only in the viewing, but also in the distribution of pornography.”

Family Research Council. (2009). *The effects of pornography on individuals, family, and community*. <https://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF21A12.pdf>



**Objectification** robs humans of inherent worth and dignity and lowers them to the status of an object. Pornography viewing hardens the hearts of the viewers to see all people as a possible means to achieve arousal/climax (i.e. objects for sexual arousal). This affects the viewer’s ability to have empathy and compassion on the human race. This negatively impacts communities promoting misunderstandings, conflicts, divisions, and possibly violence.

Family Research Council. (2009). *The effects of pornography on individuals, family, and community*. <https://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF21A12.pdf>



**Violence is one outcome of problematic pornography usage.** “High levels of problematic pornography usage affect the way society functions. Over the past decade, a substantial academic literature has developed which indicates clear relationships between the consumption of pornography, particularly violent pornography, and the behaviour of men and children towards women and children.” It can increase the likelihood of sexual assault, domestic violence, and, rape.

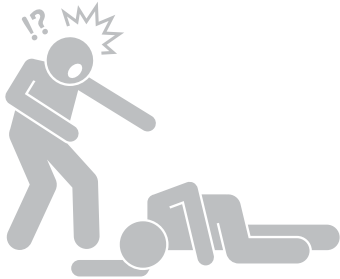
Sharpe, M., Mead, D. *Problematic Pornography Use: Legal and Health Policy Considerations*. *Curr Addict Rep* 8, 556-567 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40429-021-00390-8>

# Family and Friends

## HOW PORN AFFECTS COMMUNITIES

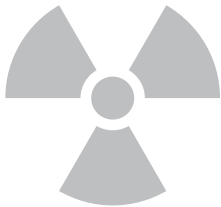
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**Will bystanders help?** Can a woman expect help if she is being sexually assaulted and there are witnesses? One study suggests maybe not. “Violent/degrading pornography may contribute to a culture of acceptance of violence against women.”

Foubert JD, Bridges AJ. *Predicting Bystander Efficacy and Willingness to Intervene in College Men and Women: The Role of Exposure to Varying Levels of Violence in Pornography*. *Violence Against Women*. 2017 May;23(6):692-706. doi: 10.1177/1077801216648793. Epub 2016 Jul 9. PMID: 27216476.



**Pornography can wrongly shape our culture.** “Pornography usage is widespread and common for men in the United States, for a growing number of women, for a majority of teens, and a growing number of younger people. *The lessons they learn from porn shape the culture we all inhabit. Porn is a devastating harm to the public health of our society.*

Foubert, J.D. (2017). *The public health harms of pornography: The brain, erectile dysfunction, and sexual violence*. *Dignity: A Journal on Sexual Exploitation and Violence*, 2(3), 6.



**Crime rates rise with sexually oriented businesses (adult book stores, illicit massage parlors, strip clubs, etc.).** A 2009 report from Daytona Beach, Florida found that neighborhoods with sexually oriented business have 270 percent more total crime than neighborhoods without them and 180 percent more than neighborhoods with just pubs, taverns, or bars. In Phoenix, Arizona the number of sex offenses was 506 percent greater in a neighborhood containing a sexually oriented business. Sexual venues negatively affect crime rates was corroborated with a 2020 study, as well.

Family Research Council. (2009). *The effects of pornography on individuals, family, and community*. <https://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF21A12.pdf>

Hipp, Tracy & Borgman, Robyn & Gilmore, Devin & Swartout, Kevin. (2020). *Exploring the relationship between strip clubs and rates of sexual violence and violent crime*. *Journal of Community Psychology*. 49. 10.1002/jcop.22376.