

OBJECTIVES

- Increase awareness around youth-frequented, accessible pathways to online sexually explicit media
- Understand how online sexual content impacts the social and emotional health of youth
- Apply techniques to effectively intervene in online problematic sexual behavior



ACCESS TO DEVICES

- 43% of tweens (ages 8-12) and 88% to 95% of teens (ages 13-18) have their own smartphone
- About half of U.S. children get their first smartphone by age 11
- Boys use more screen media than girls
- Black and Hispanic/Latino kids use more screen media than White kids do
- Children from lower-income households use more screen media than those in higher-income homes

Decisions about when to get a smartphone and negotiations about rules and boundaries around smartphone use are frequent sources of parental stress and family arguments

(Mathes et al., 2021; Francis et al., 2021; Hiniker, Schoenebeck, & Kientz, 2016)

Rideout, V., Peebles, A., Mann, S., & Robb, M. B. (2022). Common Sense census: Media use by tweens and teens, 2021. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense

3

TABLE 6. Technology in the home, 2019 vs. 2021

Percent of 8- to 18-year-olds with a in the home	2019	2021
Smartphone	91%ª	94% ^b
TV set	87%	89%
Computer (laptop or desktop)	89%	87%
Subscription streaming service*	72%ª	84% ^b
Video game player	78%	79%
Tablet	75%	74%
Cable TV*	41%ª	32% ^b
Satellite TV*	21%ª	13% ^b
Virtual reality headset	14%	17%

^{*} Asked of parents.

Note: Superscripts (a, b) are used to denote whether differences over time are statistically significant (p < .05). Items with different superscripts differ significantly.

 $https://www.commonsensemedia.org/sites/default/files/research/report/8-18-census-integrated-report-final-web_0.pdf$

CHILDREN AND SCREEN TIME

- On average, children ages 8-12 spend 4-6 hours a day watching or using screens.
- Teens spend up to 9 hours a day watching or using screens.

Non-school-related screen time doubled during the COVID-19 pandemic



Retrieved from: https://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Facts_for_Families/FFF-Guide/Children-And-Watching-TV-054.aspx

Nagata JM, Cortez CA, Cattle CJ, et al. Screen Time Use Among US Adolescents During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Findings From the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study. JAMA Pediatr. 2022;176(1):94–96. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2021.4334

5

SCREEN TIME



Radesky, J., Weeks, H.M., Schaller, A., Robb, M., Mann, S., and Lenhart, A. (2023). Constant Companion: A Week in the Life of a Young Person's Smartphone Use. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense

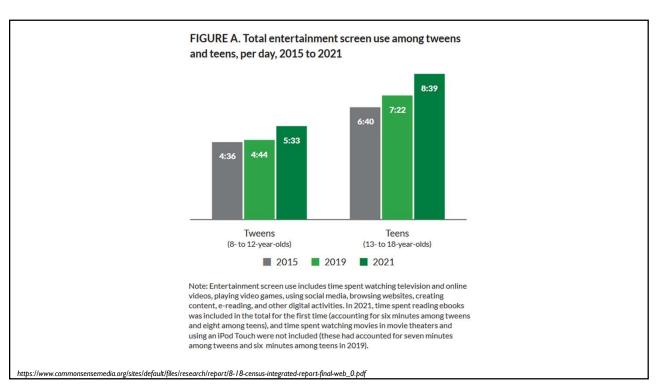
SCREEN TIME – A WEEK IN THE LIFE

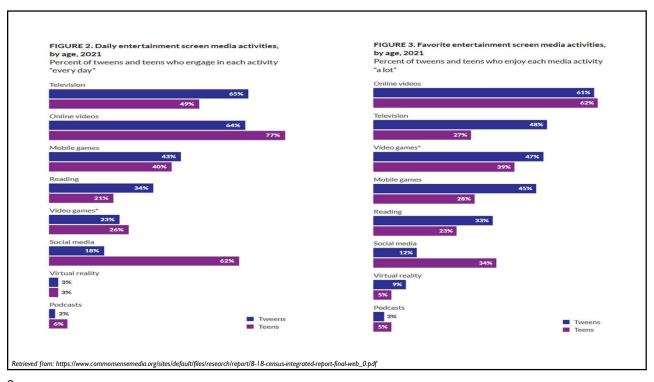
- Majority of the teens in this study had their smartphones readily available throughout the day
 - Picked up and checked frequently throughout the day
 - Median of 51 times per day (Range: 2 to 498 times per day)
 - Younger participants less frequently each day
 - Adolescents were more likely to check their phone over <u>100</u> times per day
- <u>During school hours</u>, 97% of participants used their phones, for a median of 43 minutes
 - Range from ≤ 1 min. to 6.5 hours
 - Social media, YouTube and gaming

Radesky, J., Weeks, H.M., Schaller, A., Robb, M., Mann, S., and Lenhart, A. (2023). Constant Companion: A Week in the Life of a Young Person's Smartphone Use. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense



7





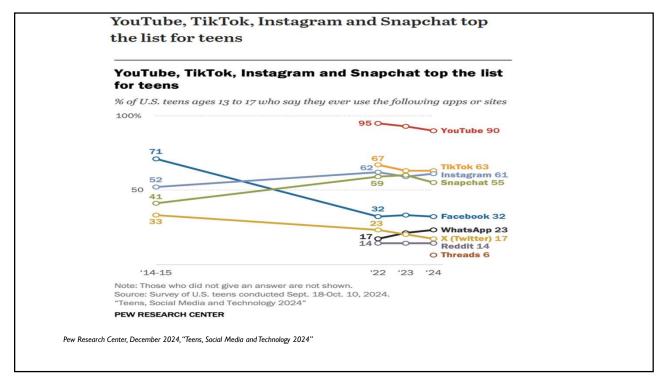
SOCIAL MEDIA

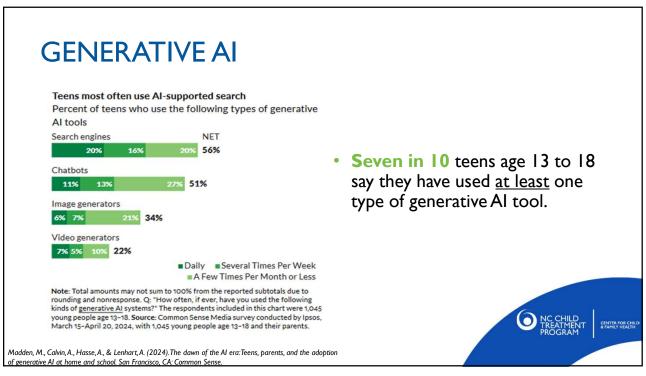


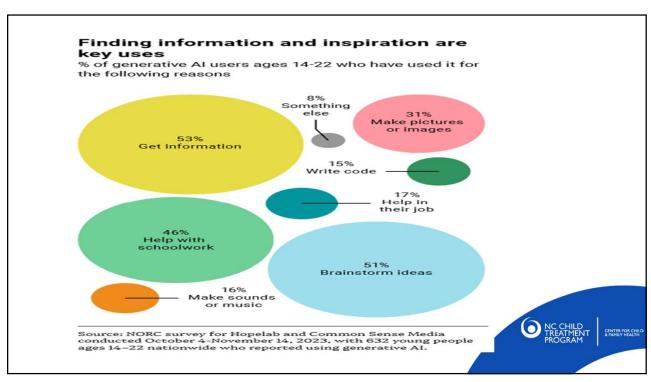
- 90% percent of teens ages 13-17 have used social media
- 75% percent report having <u>at least one</u> active social media profile
- 51% report visiting a social media site <u>at least daily</u>



 $Retrieved\ from: https://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Facts_for_Families/FFF-Guide/Children-And-Watching-TV-054.aspx. According to the control of the control o$





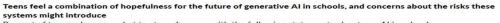


GENERATIVE AI

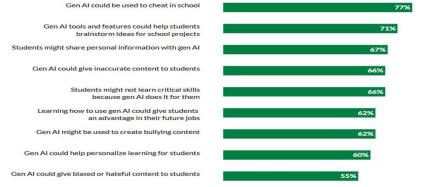
- Chatbots/text generators
 - ChatGPT, Google Gemini, or Snap's My Al, Llama
- Image generators
 - DALL-E, Bing Image Creator, or Photoshop with gen Al features
- Video generators
 - Midjourney, Stable Diffusion, or Google VideoPoet
- · Search engines with Al-generated results
 - Bing, Google SGE, or Brave Summarizer
 - Google is now displaying Al-generated overviews as part of search results; Instagram, Facebook have also added



WHAT DO TEENS THINK ABOUT AI?



Percent of teens who somewhat to strongly agree with the following statements about gen AI in schools



Note: Q: "Here are some things some people say about generative Al in schools. Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each statement." The respondents included in this chart were 1,045 young people age 13-18. Source: Common Sense Media survey conducted by Ipsos, March 15-April 20, 2024, with 1,045 young people age 13-18 and their parents.

⁴⁷ The question wording for this series focused on a range of possible impacts in schools. It reads: Here are some things some people say about generative AI in schools. Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each statement ...

15

WHY IS SCREEN TIME SO HIGH?



- Data recorded by smartphones (such as location, purchases, likes, and shares)
 - Allows creation of user profiles and enables targeted advertising
 - Apps have intentional and persuasive design
- Notifications drive engagement!
 - On a typical day, participants received a median of <u>237</u> notifications
 - Participants saw or engaged with about a quarter of notifications (median 46 per day)



Radesky, J., Weeks, H.M., Schaller, A., Robb, M., Mann, S., and Lenhart, A. (2023). Constant Companion: A Week in the Life of a Young Person's Smartphone Use. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense

IMPACTS

- Impacts are typically related to the following domains:
 - Self-expression and validation
 - Appearance comparison and body ideals
 - Pressure to stay connected
 - Social engagement and peer support
 - Exposure to bullying and harmful content
- Negative impacts can be mediated through education and supervision/monitoring interventions
- Quality of content and types of activities are more strongly associated with well-being
 - Creative and positive social uses of media are associated with higher well-being

Popat A, Tarrant C. Exploring adolescents' perspectives on social media and mental health and well-being - A qualitative literature review. Clin Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2023 Jan;28(1):323-337. doi: 10.1177/13591045221092884. Epub 2022 Jun 7. PMID: 35670473; PMCID: PMC9902994.

17

INTERVENTIONS: PROACTIVE



- Develop <u>clear</u> rules and expectations
 - Caregivers need to follow the same
- Have a device-free zone and/or device-free times
 - No device use after a certain time
- Understand what children and youth are looking at
 - Interactive and engaged co-viewing!



DISCUSSION POINTS

- Adults can ask:
 - What is your favorite app? Do you feel stressed or excited by it? Or both?
 - Does it feel like a job or "work" to stay up to date on everything?
 - What does it feel like when your phone is commanding your attention vs. just being in the background of your mind?
 - What does it feel like when you don't have your phone or the room is too quiet? Are you worried about missing out on anything?
 - Have you ever noticed what you're thinking about if there's no background noise on?
 - Do you ever get a sense that you've been on your phone too long? What are the signs for you?

Radesky, J., Weeks, H.M., Schaller, A., Robb, M., Mann, S., and Lenhart, A. (2023). Constant Companion: A Week in the Life of a Young Person's Smartphone Use. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense

19

CENTER FOR DIGITAL THRIVING CENTER *** DIG!TOL THRIVING RESOURCES HOW CAN WE BEGIN THRIVING WITH TECH + VALUES TECHNOLOGY? **DESIGN TRICKS** Less fear, more intention. THINKING TRAPS Less isolation, more support. By replacing helplessness with agency, And stagnant debates with better conversations, We can begin to digitally thrive. Let's start having better conversations about technology that are both critical and optimistic. This enables us to see a more complete picture of what living in a hyperconnected world really means for each of us. Our resources can help you: . Provoke the types of nuanced conversations that foster digital thriving Start repairing and reimagining your relationship with technology right away Guide you toward empowering actions that build digital agency . Understand insights about tech from youth, psychologists, educators and experts from various fields who co-designed the resources with us Have better conversations with your students and children

SEXTING



21

SEXTING



- "The sharing of sexually explicit images, videos, or messages through electronic means" (Madigan, Ly, et al., 2018; Madigan, Van Ouytsel, et al., 2018).
 - Consider using youth vernacular: "sending nudes"
- 19.3% of individuals under 18 have <u>sent</u> a "sext,"
 34.8% have <u>received</u> one, and 14.5% have forwarded a sext without consent (Mori et al., 2022)



SEXTING

- Sexting is part of modern dating
 - Majority of <u>adults</u> report sexting either during dating/courtship or during a committed relationship
 - · Higher rates of sexual satisfaction
- Vast majority of teenage sexting is <u>consensual</u>
 - Viewed as a normal practice in their lives
 - Sexual expression and exploration
 - Reinforcement of body image
 - Forming and maintaining a relationship
 - Experience of sexual excitement and enjoyment
- Clinicians should probe for adolescent's personal experiences
 - Suggests utilizing a curiosity based exploration of youth sexting behavior



(Madigan, Ly, et al., 2018; Madigan, Van Ouytsel, et al., 2018; Nielsen et al., 2015; Needham, 2021; Dully, J., Walsh, K., Doyle, C., & O'Reilly, G. 2023)

23

WHAT ABOUT THE IMAGES?

- International Child Sexual Exploitation Image Database, a law enforcement investigation tool
 - From 2010, self-produced youth images comprised 40% or more of all images in the archive
- Prompted researchers to re-evaluate terminology
 - "De-criminalizing" consensual sharing while focusing on exploitive and abusive behavior
- May be better to use "sexting" in consensual situations



(Quayle et al., 2018).

WHAT DOES FEDERAL LAW SAY?

- Images of child pornography are <u>not</u> protected under First Amendment rights <u>and</u> are illegal contraband under federal law
 - The age of consent for sexual activity in a given state is irrelevant; any depiction of a minor under 18 years of age engaging in sexually explicit conduct is illegal
 - Federal jurisdiction almost always applies when the Internet is used to commit a child pornography violation

It's important to be familiar with your State Laws – they may also apply

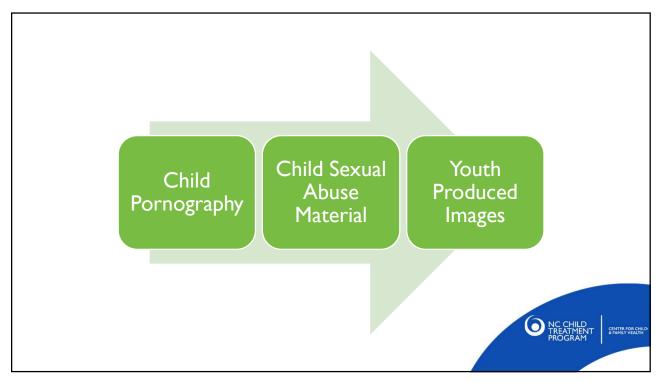


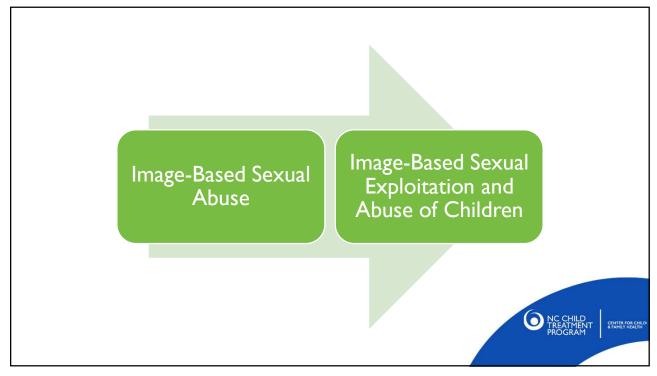
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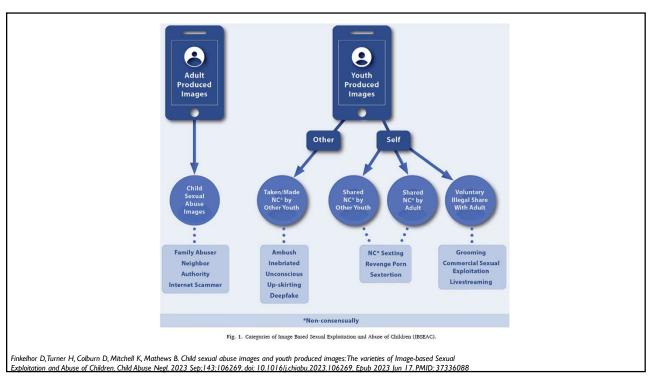
WHAT DOES FEDERAL LAW SAY?

- The legal definition of sexually explicit conduct does <u>not</u> require that an image depicts a child engaging in sexual activity. A picture of a naked child may constitute illegal child pornography if it is sufficiently sexually suggestive.
 - Includes images created, adapted, or modified, but appear to depict an identifiable, actual minor (presumably AI generated images and "Deepfakes" could fall under this)









IMPACTS

- Negative impacts are predominately related to the non-consensual sharing of images
- Some studies suggest an increase in cyberbullying



INTERVENTIONS: PROACTIVE

- Incorporate sexting discussions within context of sexual health education
 - Avoid fear and shame-based strategies
- Education should focus on CONSENT
 - The right to say "no" and how to say "no"
- Decision-making skills
 - "Why is this person asking?" and "Why do I want to share?"
- Encourage to crop or blur their face and other identifying features



31

DISCUSSION POINTS

- How do we decide someone is safe? Trustworthy?
 - Focus on behaviors/actions
 - Can generate a list of trusted persons
- Consider utilizing popular media to generate discussion
 - Short video clips followed by discussion (see "Your Photo Fate")
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5b1XZAkTlk



https://www.missingkids.org/content/dam/netsmartz/downloadable/discussion-guides/your-photo-fate-discussion-guide.pdf

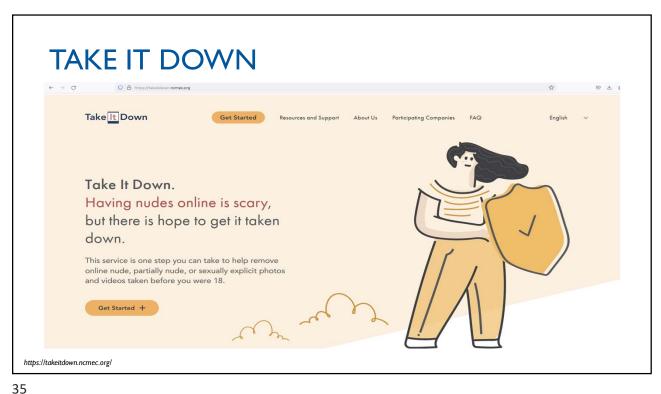


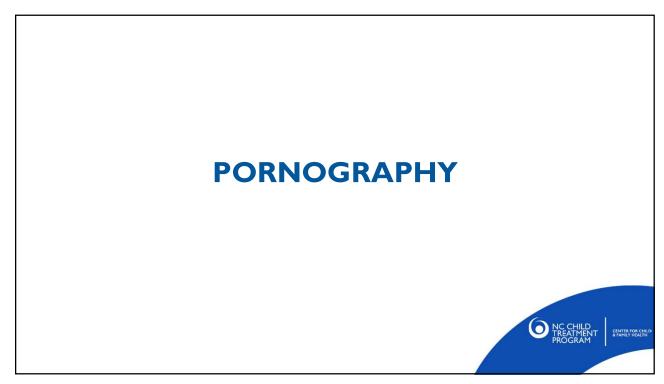
INTERVENTIONS: RESPONSIVE

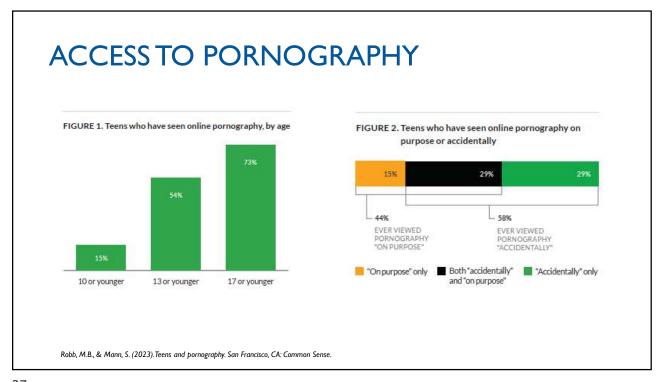
- Adolescents seek a collaborative approach
 - Feeling listened to
 - Respecting their autonomy and choice
- Avoid victim blaming
- Acknowledge impact and distress
- Assist in notifying appropriate authorities in cases of non-consensual sharing

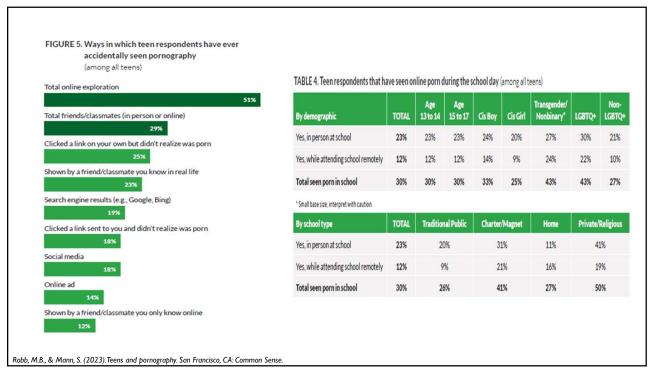


33









WHAT ARE THEY LOOKING AT?

- \geq 85% includes aggression
- ≥ **70**% males as aggressor
- Majority of response by the receivers was neutral or pleasure



39



PORNHUB: YEAR IN REVIEW

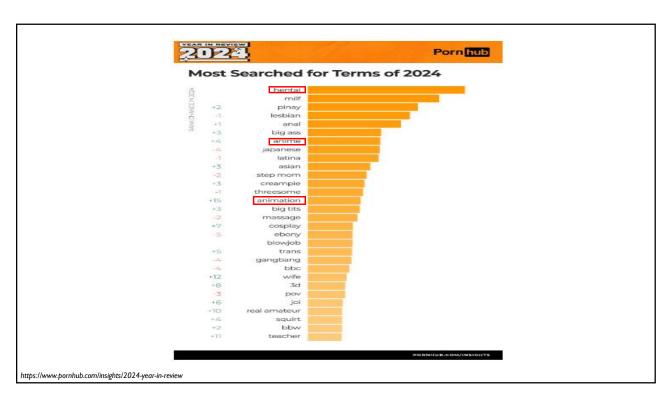
- 42+ billion visits to Pornhub
- 130 million visits per day
- 1.36 million hours of new content = 169 years of content to view
 - If you started watching 2019's new videos in 1854, you would still be watching them today
- 6.83 million videos uploaded

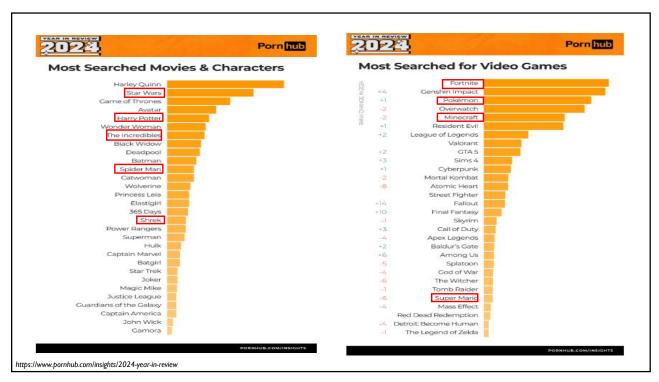


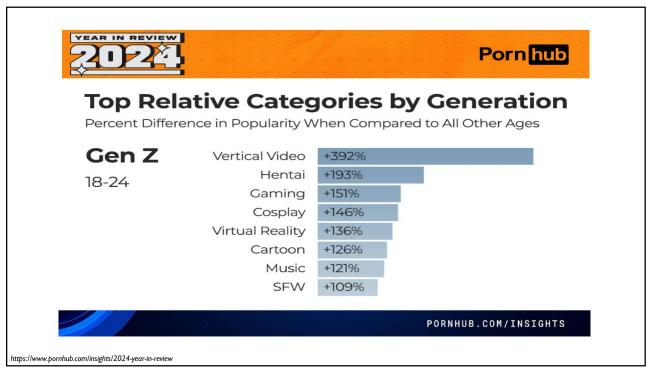


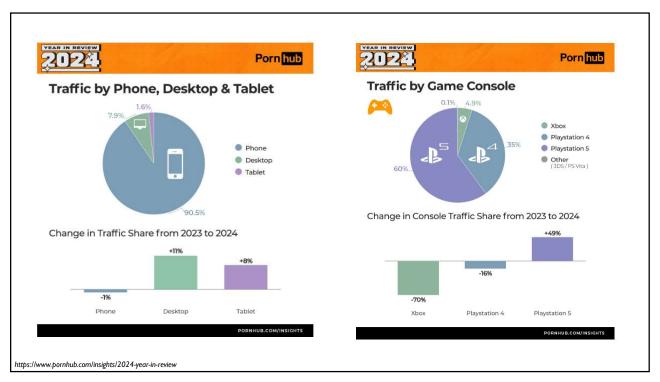
Retrieved from: https://www.pornhub.com/insights/yir-2021 https://www.pornhub.com/insights/2019-year-in-review

41









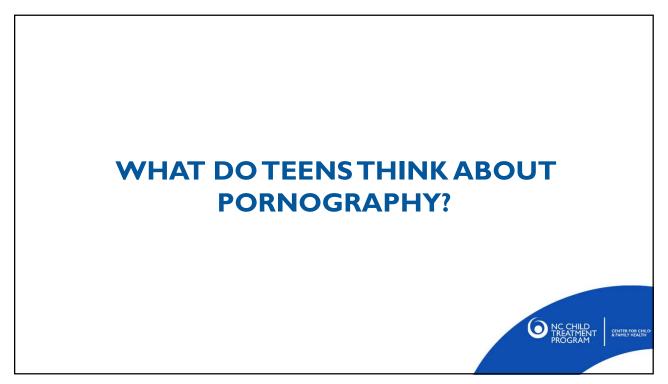


TABLE 5. Teens who agree with the following statements

(among teens who have ever viewed pornography)

By demographic	TOTAL	Age 13 to 14	Age 15 to 17	Cis Boy	Cis Girl	Transgender/ Nonbinary*	LGBTQ+	Non- LGBTQ+
I feel ok about the amount of online porn I view	67%	57%	73%	64%	69%	70%	72%	65%
I feel like I should watch less online porn than I do	25%	31%	21%	25%	25%	19%	20%	26%
I wish I could watch more online porn than I do	9%	12%	6%	11%	6%	11%	9%	9%

^{*} Small base size; interpret with caution.

50% of the teens who felt ok about the amount of porn they view felt guilty or ashamed after watching

Robb, M.B., & Mann, S. (2023). Teens and pornography. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense.

47

TABLE 6. Teens who say they have learned the following from online pornography

(among teens who have ever viewed pornography)

By demographic	TOTAL	Age 13 to 14	Age 15 to 17	Cis Boy	Cis Girl	Transgender/ Nonbinary*	LGBTQ+	Non- LGBTQ+
How to have sex	79%	78%	79%	85%	72%	81%	86%	77%
How to talk with partners	48%	48%	48%	51%	43%	51%	54%	46%
What types of partners I find attractive	72%	71%	72%	80%	61%	76%	80%	69%
What sexual behaviors I am interested in trying	72%	69%	75%	82%	61%	77%	81%	69%
About human bodies and anatomy	79%	78%	81%	83%	74%	87%	85%	78%
What types of sexual behaviors are likely to feel pleasurable to me	73%	70%	75%	82%	61%	78%	81%	70%
What types of sexual behaviors are likely to NOT feel pleasurable to me	64%	64%	64%	71%	55%	76%	75%	60%
What types of sexual behaviors are likely to feel pleasurable to a sexual partner	73%	70%	76%	82%	64%	78%	82%	71%
What types of sexual behaviors are likely to NOT feel pleasurable to a sexual partner	60%	60%	62%	68%	51%	72%	67%	60%

^{*} Small base size; interpret with caution.

Robb, M.B., & Mann, S. (2023). Teens and pornography. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense.

RISKS OF ONLINE "SEX EDUCATION"



- Children are exposed to inaccurate and/or unhelpful information.
- Youth who are less likely to have adult support around healthy relationships:
 - Often seek information on sexual health and sexual behaviors
 - Look for more interpersonal connections online compared to other youth



49

IMPACTS OF PORNOGRAPHY EXPOSURE

- Majority of research is correlational (Third-variable problem)
- Is pornography "addiction" real?
 - Problematic use of porn (POPU)
- The more youth view pornography, the more realistic they find it
 - Relates to more positive attitudes towards casual sex
 - May impact youth's ability to find satisfaction in a healthy, consensual relationship
- Pornography use is linked with objectification processes, one child person of processes, or processe sexual permissiveness, and risky sexual behavior



IMPACTS OF PORNOGRAPHY EXPOSURE

- Negative Self-Concept, anxiety, depression and reduced well-being
- Having been exposed to pornography and perceiving pornography as realistic were associated with <u>increased</u> sexual aggression risk
 - A stronger level of identification with pornographic actors was associated with an increased probability of sexual aggression for males, but not females

Wright, P.J., Paul, B. & Herbenick, D. (2021) Preliminary Insights from a U.S. Probability Sample on Adolescents' Pornography Exposure, Media Psychology, and Sexual Aggression, Journal of Health Communication, 26:1, 39-46, DOI: 10.1080/10810730.2021.1887980

51

INTERVENTIONS: EDUCATION

- Acknowledge discomfort!
- Involve caregiver (understand family and cultural values)
- Incorporate pornography discussions within context of sexual health education
 - Avoid fear and shame-based strategies
 - Teens report these conversations helped them understand alternative ways to learn about sex and sexuality
- Take a curiosity-based approach
 - See The Savvy Consumer
 - https://blog.atsa.com/2019/10/the-savvy-consumer-guide-for.html



DISCUSSION POINTS

General

– Do you know what pornography is? Have you ever seen pornography? What do you want to know, what have you heard that you aren't sure about or don't understand, what are your friends saying about sex and pornography?

Specific

- How do they feel about the content they see? Are you concerned about the amount of time you are spending looking at pornography?
- Engage in discussion of power dynamics, gender roles and racial stereotypes they may have been exposed to



53

DISCUSSION POINTS

- Highlight pornography is entertainment (it's exaggerated)
 - Paid actors
 - Many do not engage in the same types of behavior in their personal relationships
 - Address that pornography can often have violent/abusive images
 - Discuss images showing under 18 yo is child sexual abuse
 This is illegal to watch, produce and/or disseminate
 - Real relationships are more complicated
 - What about DIY/homemade porn?

INTERVENTIONS: EDUCATION

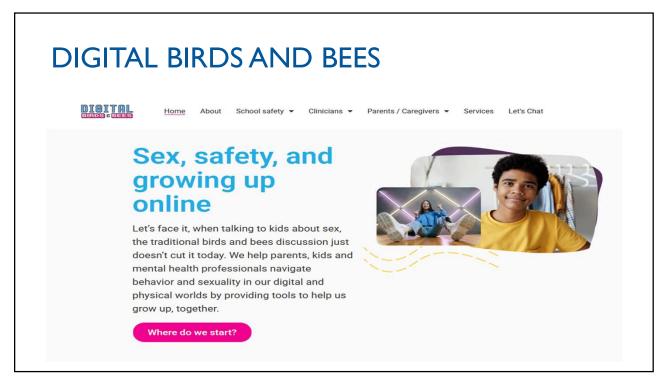
- Education should focus on CONSENT
 - The right to say "no" and how to say "no"
- Engage teens in conversation related to healthy relationships
 - What does it mean to be in a satisfying, healthy relationship?
- Decision-making skills
- This is an ongoing conversation!

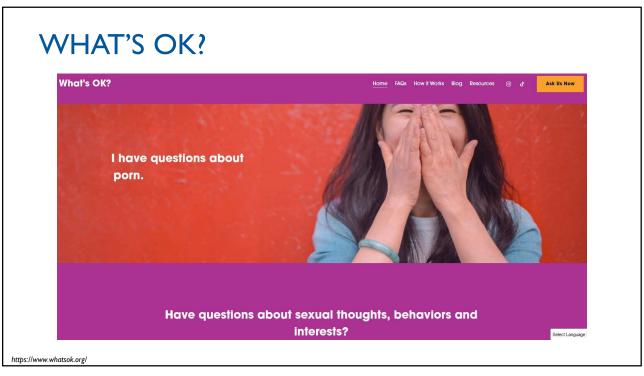


55

INTERVENTIONS: SUPERVISION/MONITORING

- Make it a habit!
 - Change passwords frequently
- Consider projecting school computer to large screen
- Many ways to monitor devices and content
- Variety of devices available that have a limited range of functions





ONLINE SAFETY

· Connect Safely:

https://www.connectsafely.org/

- Guides about online safety; including parental controls, popular apps (e.g., TikTok, Discord, Roblox, Instagram, etc.), gaming, cyberbullying, and sexting
- Common Sense:

https://www.commonsense.org/

- Provides education and advocacy to help technology become safer and healthier
- Common Sense Media:

https://www.commonsensemedia.org/

 Includes reviews and guidance for families of shows, movies, games, etc.

- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC):
 - NetSmartz (videos/games to teach children about internet safety): https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz/home
 - Take It Down (assists with removal of online child sexual abuse material): https://takeitdown.ncmec.org/
- Thorn: conducts research, provides education and tools to defend children from online sexual abuse
 - For caregivers: https://parents.thorn.org/
 - For youth: https://nofiltr.org/

