

Pornographic consumption and sexual violence in intimate partner relationships among teenagers and young people

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Pornography and access to it has been growing constantly during the last decades. One of the major reason for this increase is growing technology and easy access to the internet. The distribution of pornography has never been as widespread, because of the internet. Sex education however has not increased nearly as much as pornographic consumption, even though it is a risk factor for sexual health. Violence is common in pornography which often times shows distorted images of sex and relationships. Two studies have been conducted in the recent years on these issues. The aim of the former study was to find out the the position of sexual behavior and sexual health of young people. Furthermore to find out how much they view pornography and at what age. The aim of the second study was to examine the effects of pornography on sexual violence in intimate partner relationships. In both of those studies a questionnaire was send to secondary school students. The main results of those studies was that most of the young people had watched pornography or 98% of men and 89% of women according to the second study. The rate had increased from the previous study. The participants were on the average 12 to 13 years of age when they first saw pornography according to the second study, but the participant that was youngest when he first saw pornography was only five years old at that time. Men watched more pornography then women according to both of the studies. A high ratio of participants in the second study had been victims of sexual abuse in an intimate relationship. In addition, that study showed that participants who had watched violent pornography were more likely to have sexually abused a person in an intimate relationship.