

Device Filter Legislation

Requiring Smart Phones & Tablets to Switch Filters ON Upon Activation

·The average age a child receives their first phone is between 12 and 13. ¹

·A study of university students found that 93% of boys and 62% of girls had seen Internet pornography during adolescence. ²

·A study in Australia of 941 15–29-year-olds, reported the median age for first viewing pornography was 13 years for males and 16 years for females. ³



·A survey of 813 U.S. teens and young adults (13–25), found that 26% of adolescents aged 13–17 actively seek out pornography weekly or more often. ⁴

·Research has demonstrated that children are more susceptible than adults to addictions and to developmental effects on the brain. ⁵

·Internet pornography use is linked to increases in problematic sexual activity at younger ages, and a greater likelihood of engaging in risky sexual behavior such as hookups, multiple sex partners, anal sex, group sex, and using substances during sex as young adolescents. ⁶

·A nationally representative survey of pornography use among youth aged 9–17, found that those with increased exposure to Internet pornography were significantly more likely to report physical and sexual victimization. ⁷

·Research has found that among males the younger their age of first exposure to pornography, the higher their current consumption of pornography, as well as their greatest integration of pornography into sexual activity, and less enjoyment of partnered sex. ⁸

·A survey of 4,564 adolescents aged 14 – 17 in five European countries found that viewing Internet pornography is significantly associated with an increased probability of having sent sexual images and messages (i.e. sexting) among boys. ⁹

·A nationally representative survey of youth ages 9 – 17 reported that online pornography users were significantly more likely to report a poor emotional bond with their caregiver than adolescents who viewed pornography offline or not at all. A poor emotional bond between caregiver and child is also associated with sexually aggressive behavior.¹⁰

Key Takeaway: We can protect children from exposure to harmful material online while not overburdening the first amendment's right to free speech.

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