In a study which conducted a survey of 200 prostituting females, 73% reported being raped. Of the 193 cases of rape reported, 24% mentioned that pornography was tied to their rape experience. Comments made by the victims followed a consistent pattern: the assailant referred to pornographic material he had read/seen and insisted that the victim not only enjoy the rape but also the extreme violence. This finding was especially significant because the link between rape and pornography was disclosed by the victims without questions related to pornography being raised by the interviewer.

Malarek put it, “Pornography fuels prostitution, and prostitution fuels the sex trade.’”

“... pornography, prostitution, and sex trafficking are not unrelated phenomena. Women are trafficked into the production of hardcore pornography, and hardcore pornography in particular may trigger and exacerbate sexual desires and pathologies that motivate men to seek out the services of prostituted women. This stimulation, in turn, contributes to the demand for women trafficked into prostitution. As Victor Peters, R., Lederer, L. & Kelly, S. (Fall 2012). The slave and the porn star. Sexual trafficking and pornography. The Protection Project Journal of Human Rights and Civil Society, 5, 1-21.

"You are a number. You’re bruised. You have black eyes. You’re ripped. You’re torn. You have your insides coming out. It’s not pretty... on set. You get hurt... You can say anything you want and they don’t listen... They have another scene to go to. It’s all about the money. They’ve forgotten who they are and they don’t care who they are hurting."

Note: References herein to children should be understood to include both boys and girls.

References


WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Protect yourself and your home from pornography. Get help if you are struggling.

Join Us – Sign up for our emails on our website pornharms.com or contact us at 202-393-7245.

Volunteer – We have many needs and you have many talents. See opportunities at pornharms.com/volunteer.

Speak Up – Be a voice of opposition against pornography and sexual exploitation. Help educate others on the devastating harms.

Make a contribution – Financial support is needed to continue these efforts.

Report – If you think someone is a victim of sex trafficking call the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 1.888.373.7888 or text HELP to BeFree (233733).

The Purpose of this Program

The booming demand for trafficked women and children is due in part to the proliferation of pornography. The purpose of the StopTraffickingDemand.com website is to bring together research, expert testimony, and personal accounts to help the public understand one of the major factors creating and driving the demand for trafficked women and children.

Government officials, leaders, celebrities and the general public are calling for increased efforts to stop sex trafficking. However, it must be recognized that unless something is done to curb the demand, we will never solve the problem of this exploitation. Instead, the problem will continue to overwhelm our society.

The different manifestations of sexual exploitation are seamlessly intertwined. Sexually-oriented business such as pornography production studios, strip clubs, massage parlors, escort services, street and Internet-facilitated prostitution, as well as sex trafficking are all linked. It is time we stop ignoring the use of pornography and the demand it generates for commercial sex in all its forms including sex trafficking.
Pornography increases the demand for trafficked women and children. Therefore, it is crucial to address the severe forms of sex trafficking.

The LEGAL DEFINITION of a SEVERE FORM OF SEX TRAFFICKING

A severe form of sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, providing or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age, (22 USC § 7102; 8 CFR § 214.11(a)).

Stills think Porn is Harmless?

Pornography is used to train trafficked women and children how they are expected to perform sexually.

Sex buyers want to act out what they have viewed in porn.

Pimps make pornography of their victims in order to further humiliate, control and sell them.

“Porn Stars” are often forced and coerced (trafficked) in the production of pornography.

TRAFFICKING AT PORN STUDIOS

Pornography performers report that force, fraud and coercion are staples of pornography production in America. Underage pornography performers are used as well. These are indications of sex trafficking in the pornography business.

Performers may enter willingly into the business with the promises of fame and fortune, but they face a harsh reality once they are in. Most pornography performers do not realize the verbal, psychological, physical and sexual abuse they will endure while producing pornography for viewers’ “entertainment.”

Victims of Sex Trafficking are Filmed to Produce Porn and Sell Sex

Reports from victims, anti-trafficking leaders, and law enforcement demonstrate that pornographic videos and photos of trafficked women and children are widely distributed. Content is uploaded to the Internet for mass consumption, posted by pimps on prostitution-forum websites to advertise sex trafficking victims to men who buy sex. Victims are also used in the increasingly popular live porn websites in which the victim performs live before a webcam to an individual or mass Internet audience. Many of the victims are made to look like they are consenting and enjoying the forced acts and abuse.

Pimps realize that running such a “virtual brothel” often avoids law enforcement detection and can be more profitable and easier for them than selling sex with women and children on the street.

Pornography users typically cannot distinguish between consenting performers and sexually trafficked persons.

It needs to be understood that much of the pornography on the Internet subjects participants to brutally violent and humiliating sex acts. When a performer who may have initially consented comes to realize this and objects, various means for coercion and force are utilized to maintain their “cooperation.” Thus, what may began as consensual crosses the threshold into illegal sexual exploitation.

Many of the persons used in pornography are manipulated and controlled by “managers” and/or “boyfriends” who utilize tactics of force, fraud and coercion to maintain control over them. These managers/boyfriends are the functional equivalents of pimps.

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