



**The Catholic Women's League of Canada
Alberta Mackenzie Provincial Council
Communications Chair
Communiqué 10
DATE: February 7, 2022**

**CATHOLIC
and LIVING IT!**

TO: Diocesan Chairpersons of Communications
CC: Provincial Executive (for information)
CC: National Chairperson of Communications (for information)
FROM: Janet MacPhee, Provincial Chairperson of Communications

**Information regarding Pornography
(submitted by Suzanne Sherry)**

The following information is excerpts from an article posted on the internet, November 28, 2020, <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41443-020-00380-w>

It provides plenty of information regarding the unfortunate (in my opinion) increase in the use of Pornography. I truly believe we need to continue to battle AGAINST pornography and one of the ways to do so is to take responsibility, as parents, to educate our children, about the “wrongness” of it all!

As the COVID-19 spread globally, social distancing, self-isolation/quarantine, and national lockdowns have become crucial to control the pandemic. The aim of the study was thus to explore the interest pattern in pornography and coronavirus-themed pornography during the COVID-19 outbreak. Google Trends® was employed to determine the most popular porn websites (Porn, XNXX, PornHub, xVideos, and xHamster), and coronavirus-themed pornography worldwide and in six nations with different COVID-19 outbreak and self-isolation recommendations. “PornHub” and “Porn” showed the highest increase of interest worldwide with an average weekend percentage change (AWPC) of 4.9 and 3.8, respectively.

As the coronavirus continues to spread globally, social distancing, self-isolation/quarantine, and national lockdowns have become the cores to control the pandemic. However, these measures may also lead to increases in social isolation, loneliness, and stress, which can alter the consumption of pornography habits.

The elements of individual difference variables associated with pornography consumption are sensation seeking, dispositional sexual affect (erotophobia–erotophilia) and narcissistic traits (entitlement. In addition to individual difference variables of pornography consumption, self-reported reasons can also be considered as factors that drive individuals to use pornography. Studies reported that sexual arousal and sexual enhancement were the predominant motivations for pornography consumption among the self-reported reasons. Aside from the sexual arousal and enhancement, coping and boredom are linked with greater use of pornography as well.

A sharp increase in porn searches was seen in nations where coronavirus is widespread. One of the most popular porn website reported that their traffic has steadily increased since March 2020 as the pandemic has spread, which confirms our findings.

Boredom is also considered a possible trigger of hypersexual behavior. Another reason for increased porn consuming could be that some people are using sex as a surviving mechanism for coping with their loneliness, depressive symptoms, and even fear of death. Again, in a study, pornography consumption is an important tool for mood management and stress relief.

Conclusions

The COVID-19 outbreak has affected the use of pornography and its consumption. After national order of self-restriction, we demonstrated that there was an increasing search trend of online porn and coronavirus-themed pornography. Further psychological research and sexual behavior analysis are needed to assess the impact of a social crisis such as a pandemic on pornography consumption habits.

Credits follow:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41443-020-00380-w>

IJJR: Your Sexual Medicine Journal addresses sexual medicine for all sexes and genders as an interdisciplinary field. This includes work from basic science researchers, urologists, obstetricians and gynecologists, endocrinologists, cardiologists, family practitioners, internists, neurologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, radiologists and other physical and mental health care professionals. It also includes work from gender and sexuality researchers, sex therapists, and others with scholarly expertise in human sexuality and sexual well-being.

*Stronger Together – Protecting Children from
Online Pornography by Inviting a Public
Health Response
February 16 – 18, 2022*

From: Arnold Viersen, MP
Peace River - Westlock

I would like to invite you to participate in [Stronger Together – Protecting Children from Online Pornography by Inviting a Public Health Response](#). This Global Summit is hosted by [Connecting to Protect](#), an initiative based out of the University of Calgary with a focus on mental health and safety of youth.

Upon reviewing the extensive agenda for this conference, I encourage all to attend. There are several speakers discussing how to protect our children and how – as parents/grandparents – we can discuss this subject with our children. Taking note of Suzanne’s article above, this conference will help all of us to understand how harmful pornography is on our children, families, communities and society – physically and mentally.