

# HOW PORN FUELS TRAFFICKING

**A FACT-BASED LOOK AT A HIDDEN CONNECTION.**

## 1. PORN AND TRAFFICKING ARE CONNECTED

MANY BELIEVE PORN IS “JUST ENTERTAINMENT,” BUT THE REALITY IS OFTEN DARKER. BEHIND THE SCENES, SOME VIDEOS INVOLVE COERCION, ABUSE, OR MINORS. IN MANY CASES, PEOPLE ARE FILMED WITHOUT THEIR CONSENT, AND THOSE VIDEOS ARE UPLOADED, WATCHED, AND MONETIZED — WITHOUT ACCOUNTABILITY.

## 2. DEMAND DRIVES EXPLOITATION

EVERY CLICK ON A PORN VIDEO SENDS A MESSAGE: MAKE MORE. THE PORN INDUSTRY IS DRIVEN BY DEMAND — AND TRAFFICKERS EXPLOIT THAT DEMAND. WHEN ABUSE IS PROFITABLE, EXPLOITATION INCREASES.

“THE GLOBAL PORN INDUSTRY GENERATES OVER \$97 BILLION ANNUALLY, FUELING A DEMAND PIPELINE TRAFFICKERS ARE EAGER TO FILL.”

— [FIGHT THE NEW DRUG, 2023]

## 3. IT CHANGES THE WAY PEOPLE ARE VIEWED

RESEARCH SHOWS THAT REPEATED PORNOGRAPHY USE CAN REWIRE THE BRAIN, REDUCE EMPATHY, AND NORMALIZE HARMFUL BEHAVIORS. IT CONDITIONS VIEWERS TO SEE PEOPLE — ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN — AS OBJECTS, NOT HUMAN BEINGS WITH DIGNITY AND RIGHTS.

“PORNOGRAPHY IS THE MARKETING ARM OF SEX TRAFFICKING.”

— DR. GAIL DINES



#### 4. THERE ARE REAL-WORLD CONSEQUENCES

AS THE LINE BETWEEN PORN AND TRAFFICKING BLURS, IT BECOMES HARDER TO ENSURE THAT WHAT'S BEING CONSUMED WASN'T MADE THROUGH FORCE, FRAUD, OR COERCION. SOME MAINSTREAM SITES HAVE BEEN FOUND HOSTING VIDEOS OF UNDERAGE VICTIMS OR NON-CONSENSUAL CONTENT, FURTHER FUELING THE CYCLE OF ABUSE.

#### 5. WHAT YOU CAN DO

**GET EDUCATED:** UNDERSTAND THE CONNECTION BETWEEN PORN AND TRAFFICKING. **TALK ABOUT IT:** OPEN, HONEST CONVERSATIONS REDUCE SHAME AND INCREASE AWARENESS.

**CHOOSE FREEDOM:** IF YOU STRUGGLE WITH PORN, SEEK HELP. CHANGE IS POSSIBLE. **PROTECT KIDS:** USE PARENTAL CONTROLS AND TALK WITH CHILDREN ABOUT ONLINE SAFETY. **SUPPORT REAL SOLUTIONS:** FUND AND SHARE THE WORK OF ANTI-TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS.

**TRAFFICKING DOESN'T START IN A VAN. IT STARTS ONLINE.**

**EXPLOITATION GROWS WHERE PEOPLE ARE SILENT. AWARENESS AND ACTION — EVEN AT THE INDIVIDUAL LEVEL — CAN INTERRUPT THE CYCLE.**

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