



ACTIONABLE RESPONSES TO PORNOGRAPHY AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Liz Walker



YOUTH WELLBEING
PROJECT



YOUTH WELLBEING
PROJECT

SCHOOL &
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES



AWARENESS & ADVOCACY
PREVENT – EQUIP – RESTORE

CULTURE REFRAMED

SOLVING THE PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS OF THE DIGITAL AGE

PARENTS PROGRAM

Essential Resource Link

<https://www.youthwellbeingproject.com.au/essential-resources/>

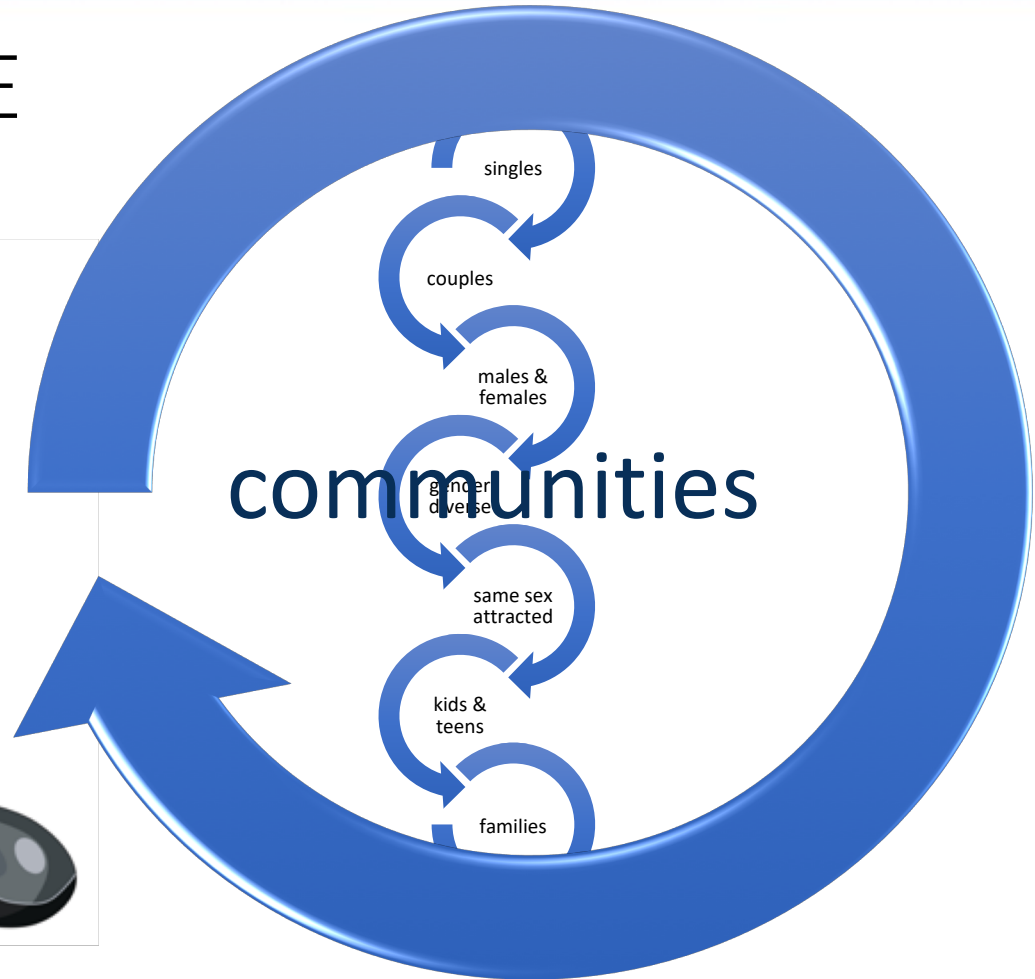
Closed Facebook Group for educators and those working with youth

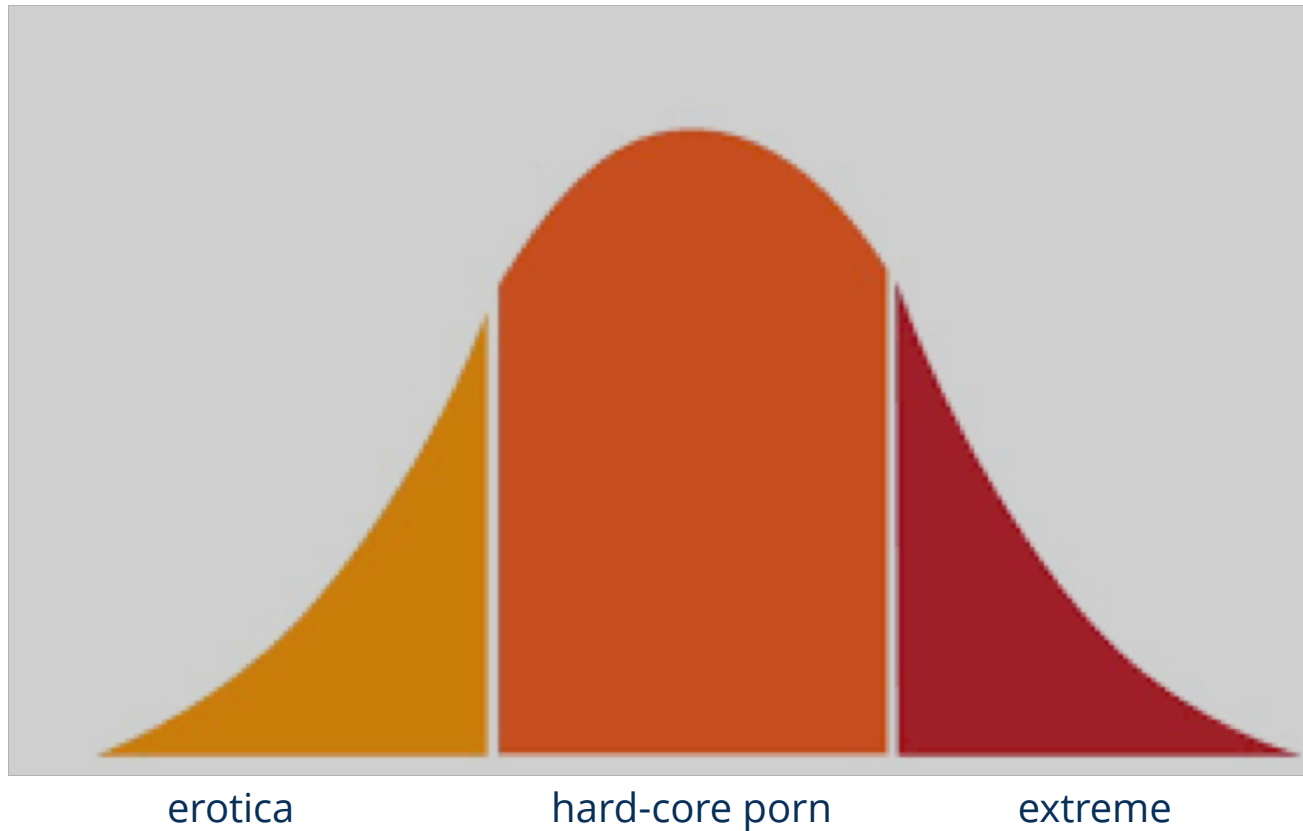
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/iqprograms/>

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A GLOBAL ISSUE





Hardcore pornography defined:

Illegal, unclassified, “gonzo” or hard-core XXX, “free online material that depicts individuals or groups engaging in sexual behaviours where inequity between the parties is clear, violence is observed or audible, where degradation, humiliation, punishment and extreme submission appear to be the general objective of the power dynamics or behaviour depicted.

Critical Porn Analysis

GLOBAL INDUSTRY

SEX, GENDER, POWER & RELATIONSHIPS

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION

Authored by Liz Walker. Builds upon the work of Natalie Collins, a UK-based Gender Justice Specialist.
www.lizwalkerpresents.com/critical-porn-analysis/

Critical Porn Analysis

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CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

- Given the research on the impact of early exposure to porn, could children and young people's exposure to pornography be considered sexual abuse in and of itself?
- The impact of exposure (whether via adults, children or themselves) can induce trauma and premature sexualization that is a form of child sexual abuse.
- Previous generations would have only been exposed to such graphic and violent sexual content through sexual abuse.
- Relating to pornography harms, why are the laws that are in place to protect children from sexual and wider harms, not enacted?
- How is pornography grooming children to be at risk for both online and offline exploitation?
- How is pornography being used as a 'how to' manual for engaging in sexually abusive behaviours towards other children?
- How does toxic porn culture normalise exploitation (e.g. sexting) amongst young people?
- What messages does porn provide to youth who are exploring their sense of self and sexuality?

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

This view of the negative effect of pornography on children's sexual behaviours is consistent with evidence Australian treatment providers and academics have submitted to the Royal Commission and other government inquiries. One practitioner who treats children with harmful sexual behaviours told us at a private roundtable:

‘I can't think of anything that is going to impact us or what is actually happening for our young kids as much as the easy access of quite hardcore pornography’.

SOURCE: Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Final Report (2017). Volume 10, Children with harmful sexual

Researched Statement of Harms

Areas of pornography's impact on children and young people include:

- Poor mental health
- Sexism and objectification
- Sexual aggression and violence
- Child-on-child sexual abuse
- Shaping sexual behaviours

ADD YOUR NAME echildhood.org/statement

In 2009, Dr Michael Flood said:

- Exposure to pornography is routine with a range of notable and often troubling effects. Particularly among younger children, exposure to pornography may be disturbing or upsetting.
- Exposure to pornography helps to sustain young people's adherence to sexist and unhealthy notions of sex and relationships.
- While children and young people are sexual beings and deserve age-appropriate materials on sex and sexuality, pornography is a poor, and indeed dangerous, sex educator.

SOURCE: Flood M. 2009. The Harms of Pornography Exposure Among Children and Young People. Child Abuse Review Vol. 18: 384–400

Porn Harms Kids Report

*Children having access to pornography is
essentially,
child sexual abuse via digital images.*

echildhood.org/report_2017



Sexual Media Scripts

Are more likely to be applied when they are:

1. **exclusive**
2. **formative**
3. **resonant**
4. **reinforced**

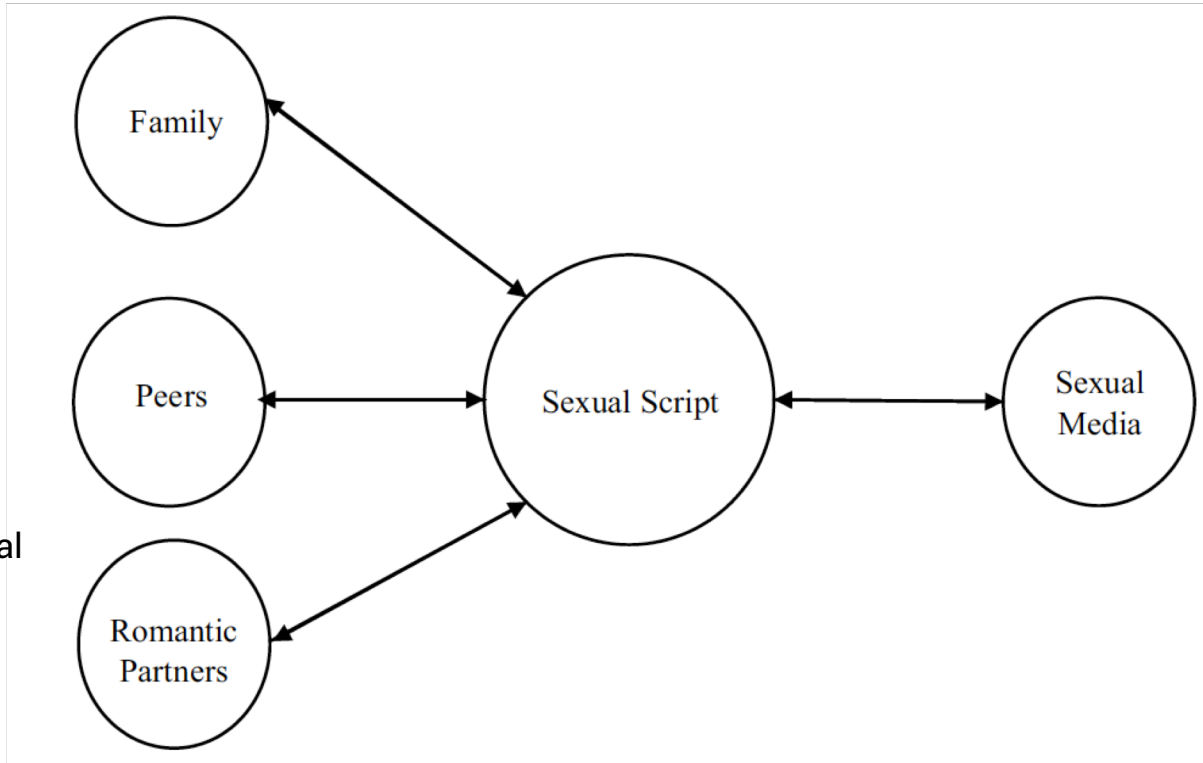
Alternatively, when other sexual scripts are...

- early
- persistent and
- reinforced

...this can result in a LOWER likelihood of viewers applying sexual media scripts.

Model of Script Sources

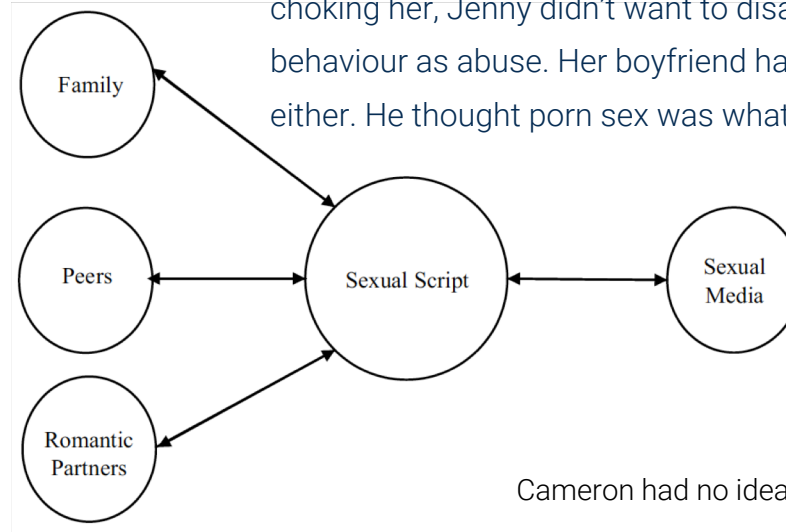
- **Information** regarding sexuality may not shape preferences and expectations **as strongly as sexual experience itself**.
- However, if the family is the first source of information, they will likely be a strong **initial influence** for understanding and interpreting sexuality.



SOURCE: Leonhardt, et.al. 2018. An Organizational Framework for Sexual Media's Influence on Short-Term Versus Long-Term Sexual Quality. Archives of Sexual Behavior

consider these scenarios

Jack's family was a strong source of initial influence, with sexuality openly discussed in the home. He was introduced to porn at age 13. He rejected porn at first, but normalised porn use amongst peers meant that he felt left out if he didn't share porn stories. He now uses porn daily and wants to try out porn acts on his partner.



Jenny's family didn't talk about sex and she first learnt about it from her boyfriend showing her porn. He said that porn was how you learn what to do. He asked her to copy it and perform like the porn performers. As much as sex was painful and she was scared by her boyfriend choking her, Jenny didn't want to disappoint him, and didn't identify his behaviour as abuse. Her boyfriend had no idea he was being abusive either. He thought porn sex was what girls wanted.

Cameron had no idea about sex until someone showed them hardcore porn at age 11. They think sex is horrible and they don't want to have anything to do with it. They now identify as non-binary and asexual.

The Relationship Among Online Sexually Explicit Material Exposure to, Desire for, and Participation in Rough Sex

- New research reveals that it's common for those who have been exposed to rough sex in pornography to both desire and engage in those acts.
- Rough Sex is defined as hair pulling, spanking, scratching, biting, bondage, fisting, and double penetration.
- 91.4% of 19-30 year old's surveyed who had been exposed to sexually explicit material desired to engage in one or more of these behaviours.
- 81.7% had engaged in one or more behaviours
- Almost half of the study participants (49.5%) engaged in four or more rough sex behaviours.



A complexity
of interwoven
harms and
vulnerabilities

AND PORNOGRAPHY IS...

A
PUBLIC
HEALTH
CRISIS

Health education's role in framing pornography as a public health issue

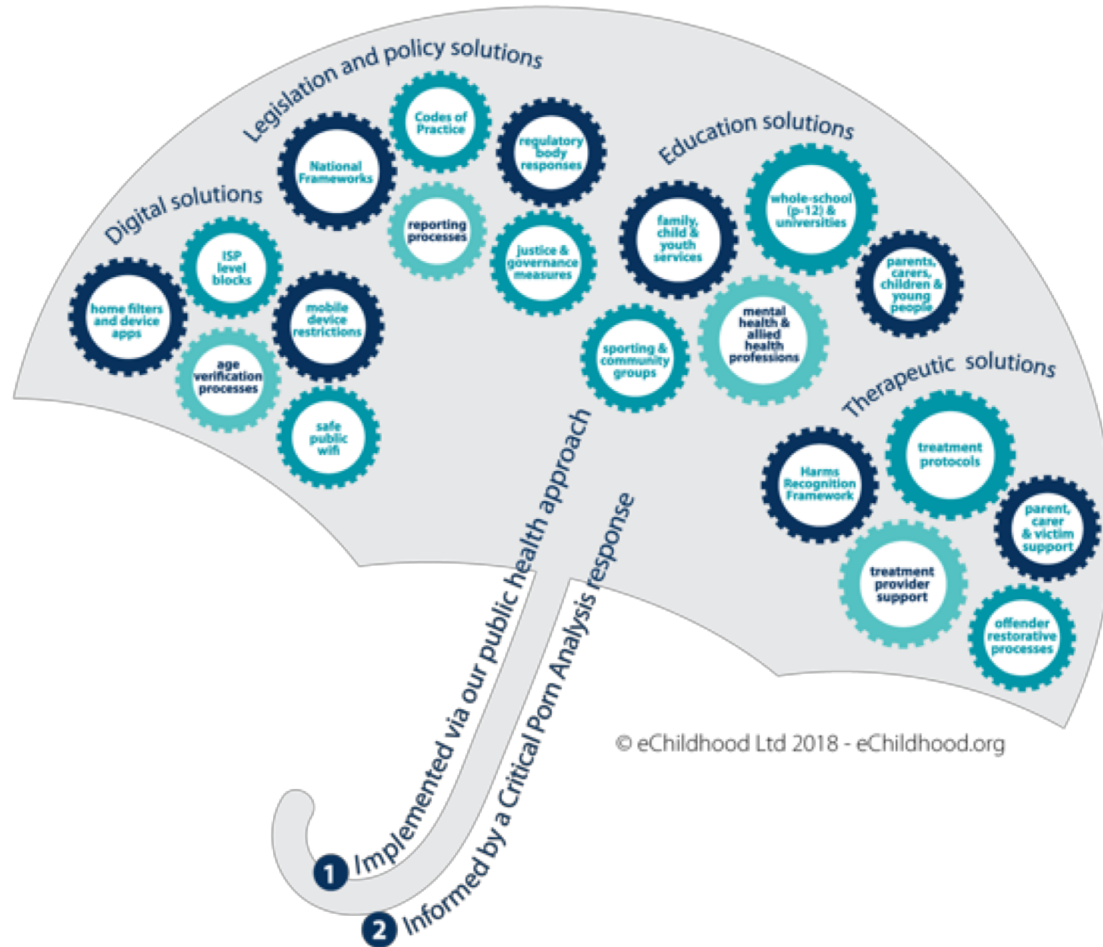
Social issues from the public health perspective involve problems that affect individuals or groups beyond their capacity to correct.

Social issues are detectable when responsibility is shifted from individuals being able to adequately make changes themselves, toward holding external social causes or influences accountable.

It is clear that many aspects of pornography meet this definition of social issue, and warrant public health advocacy efforts.

eChildhood - Stage 1 Action Plan 2017-2020

Addressing the harms of children and young people accessing online pornography



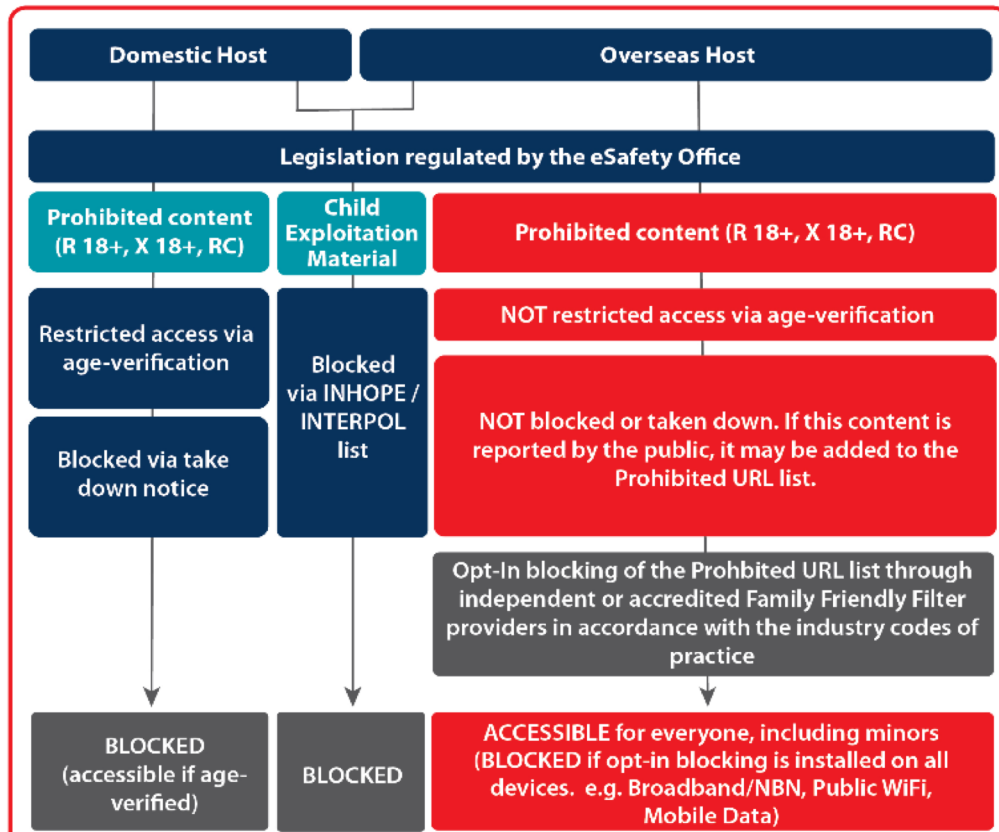
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Digital Child Protection Buffers



Our kids current digital environment

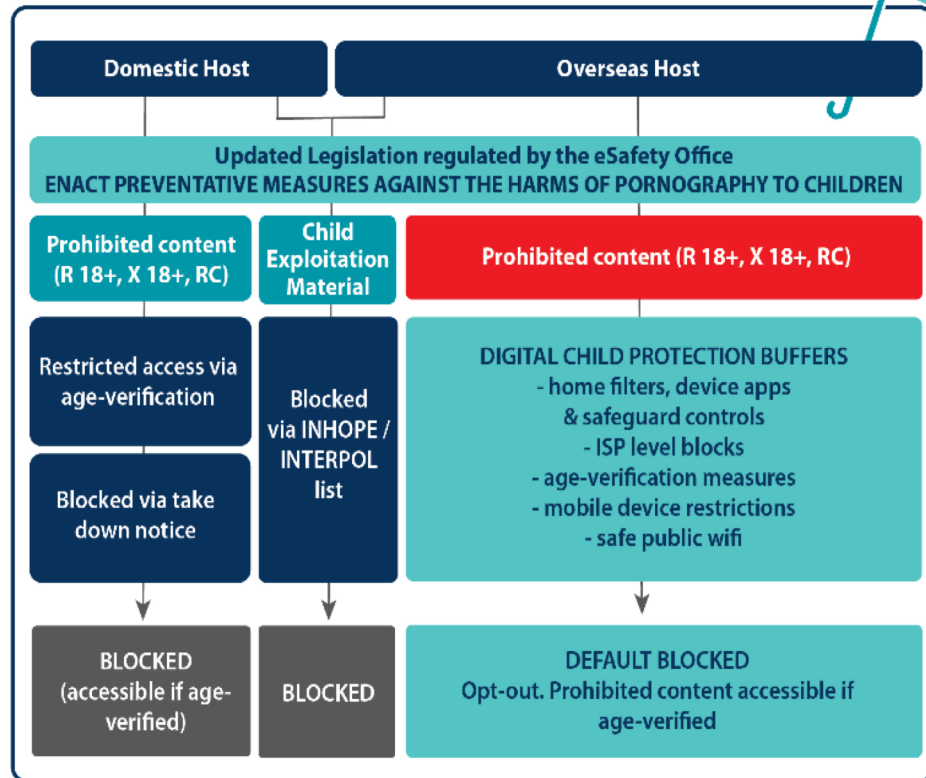
CURRENT DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT



**the diagram is only pictorial and not definitive indications of percentages of content coming from hosts domestically and internationally*
© PORN HARMS KIDS LTD 2017 - pornharmskids.org.au

Proposed digital environment for our kids

DIGITAL SOLUTION



*the diagram is only pictorial and not definitive indications of percentages of content coming from hosts domestically and internationally
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Age Verification

- Placing the responsibility of reducing access in the correct place
 - the hands of the commercial pornography producers.
- Age-verification does not restrict adults access to adult content
- Age-verification protects users data
- Age-verification has the potential to reduce predator access to children

Technological Solutions

Private WiFi Family Zone



Our Cyber Safety Ecosystem



School Zone

Technology allowing schools to manage the security of the school network, protect students and implement digital citizenship and welfare programmes.



Mobile Zone

Our on-device technology. Permits schools to enforce 'acceptable use' during school time and parents to manage settings outside of school hours.



Home Zone

Technology embedded in home access points providing parents with user friendly, affordable and effective tools to control screen-time, content & app access and more.



Cyber Safety Experts

Our partnerships with Cyber Experts allows schools and their parent communities to leverage the expertise of professionals in cyber safety advice and education.



Public WiFi Public Friendly WiFi Certification

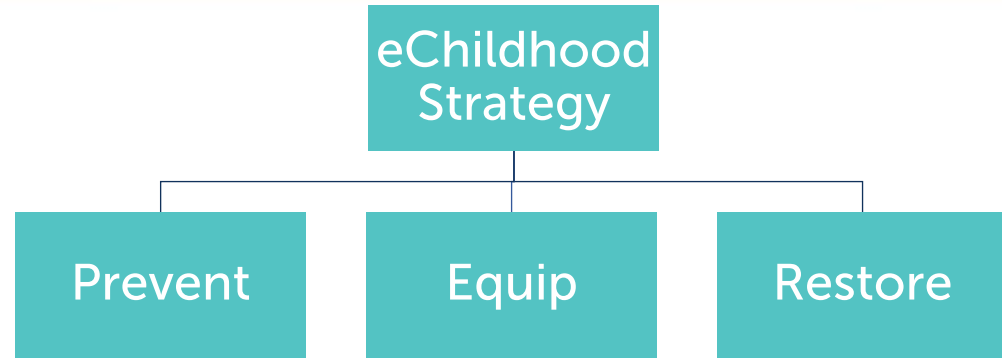


Education solutions



Therapeutic solutions





echildhood.org - sign the pledge

echildhood.org/statement

echildhood.org/report_2017



eChildhood invites interested organisations to join the
Australian eChildhood Protection Coalition

Australian eChildhood Protection Coalition

Public health approach = all key stakeholders are supported and involved.

Collaboration, share ideas and contribution to effective local and national solutions.

Be a platform for key stakeholders to:

- Voice their experiences with the harms of pornography to inform solutions
- Express needs around support and resources required
- Build connections for cross pollination and collaborations for solutions
- Influence and contribute to the creation of key solutions; state and national

How - Key Stakeholder Membership:

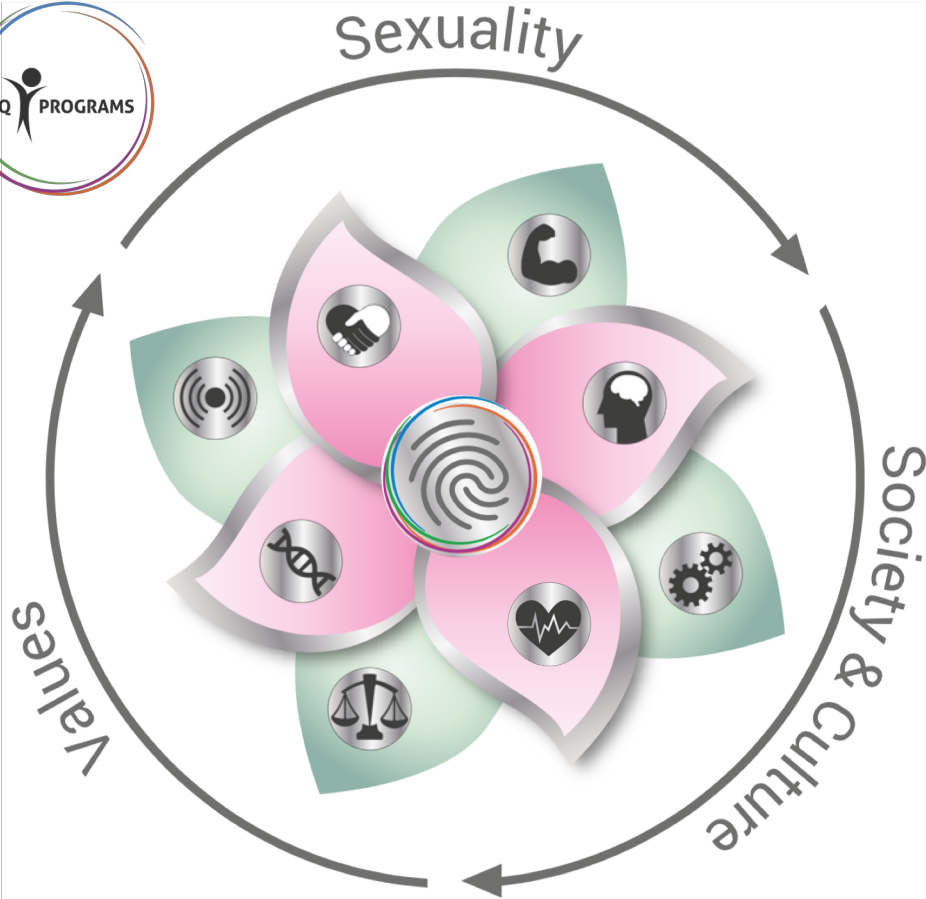
- Lead by a steering group of experts
- Working groups under each of our key solutions
- Quarterly meetings held in person/ online
- Yearly reports of progress



Other initiatives

- National Youth Campaign – eChildhood
- Our Watch
- eSafety
- Stop it Now!
- Aware Campaign





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THE HOLISTIC MODEL OF SEXUALITY



Identity



My connections



Emotions & psychology



Sexual Health & wellbeing



Biology & reproduction



Ethics, politics & law



Sex & the media



Sex & power



Sex & the mind

Critical
Cultural
Analysis

IQ programs safeguard young people in the wake of an increasingly exploitative and hypersexualised culture.



*Cultivating Kids for
Healthy Relationships
and Development
4-12 years old*



*Advancing Youth for
Sustainable Relationships &
Sexual Health
12-16 years old*



*Safeguarding Kids
from Cultural and
Sexual Harms
4-12 years old*



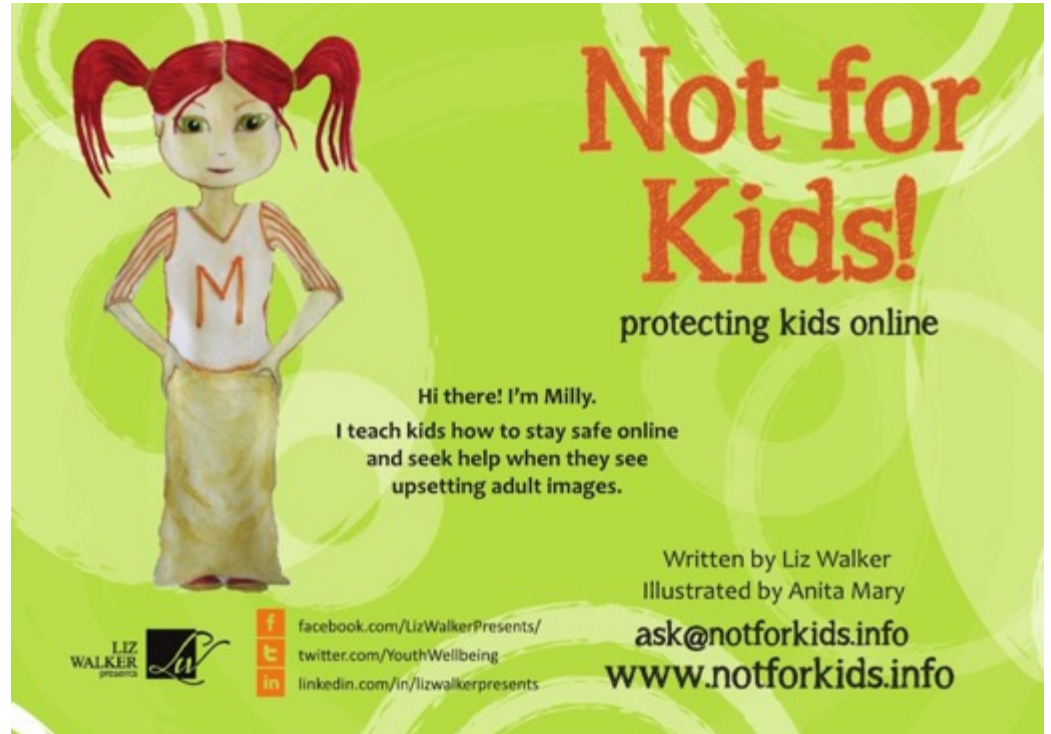
*Fortifying Youth
against Cultural and
Sexual Harms
12-16 years old*



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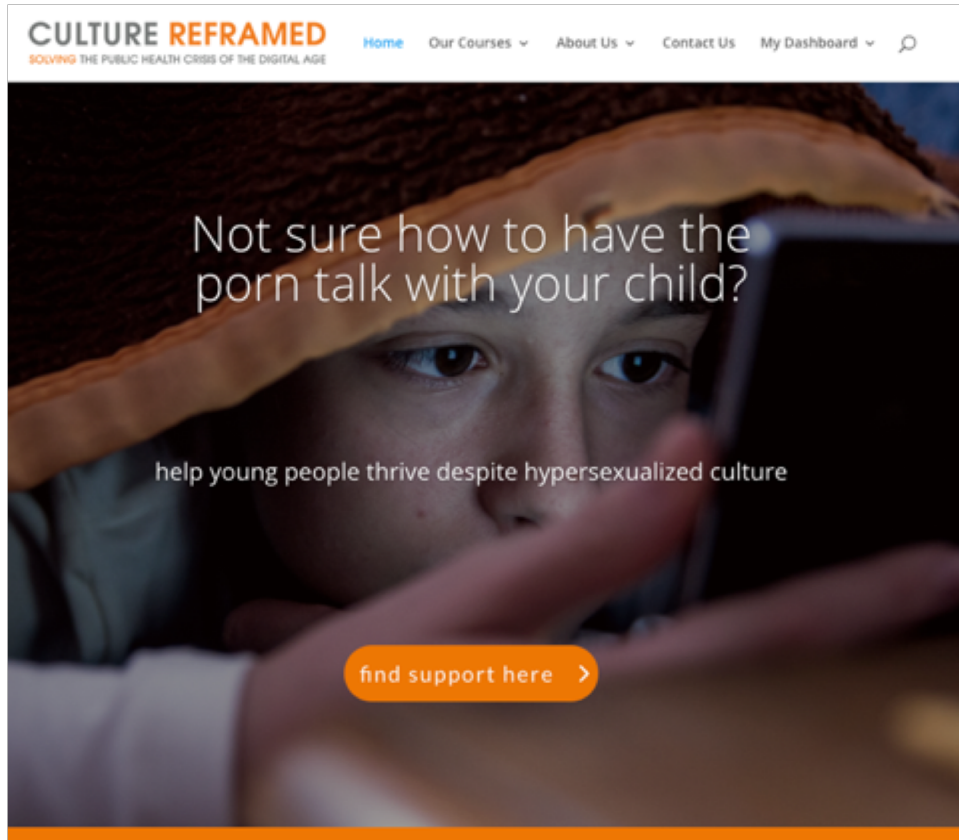
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www.notforkids.info



This book is also
a useful resource
for therapists





parents.culturereframed.org

CULTURE REFRAMED PARENTS PROGRAM

BUILDING RESILIENCE & RESISTANCE TO HYPERSEXUALIZED PORN CULTURE



build young people's resilience and resistance
to hypersexualized media and porn



Parents of Tweens

The Culture Reframed Parents Program is a complete, best-practice toolkit, which will help you raise porn-resilient kids. The Parents of Tweens Program is online, free, and accessible. Don't wait another day!...

FREE

Enroll in Course

+ Read More

CULTURE REFRAMED PARENTS PROGRAM
BUILDING RESILIENCE & RESISTANCE TO HYPERSEXUALIZED PORN CULTURE



PARENTS OF TWEENS

SECTION 1 – CATCH UP AND KEEP UP: DOES MY TWEEN KNOW THE BASICS?

Module 1: Getting Started

Module 2: Skills and Knowledge

Module 3: Developing a Game Plan

SECTION 2 – HELPING MY TWEEN NAVIGATE ONLINE AND OFFLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Module 4: Boundaries, Consent & Privacy

Module 5: Managing Technology

PARENTS OF TWEENS

SECTION 3 – RELATING TO THEIR WORLD

Module 6: The Hypersexualized Wallpaper of a Tween

Module 7: Developing a Vocabulary

SECTION 4 – FAMILY DECISIONS

Module 8: Family Culture

Module 9: Masturbation, Fantasy & Porn

Module 10: Responding to Healthy Curiosity

SECTION 5 – CONVERSATION STRATEGIES

Module 11: Leading Discussions Skillfully

Module 12: But What Do I Say?



Action points

- Add your name to the eChildhood pledge
- Organisations – add a statement of support to the eChildhood Statement of Research
 - Express interest in the Australian eChildhood Protection Coalition
- Access the FREE online Culture Reframed Parents Program
- Be the champion in your sector to put the issue of pornography at the fore
- Raise this issue with decision makers and help them join the dots

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Learn about the full scope of my work
at www.lizwalkerpresents.com



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