

# Top Facts and Resources About Pornography and Human Sexual Trafficking

## Why is Pornography Harmful?

1. Pornography portrays women and children as cheap sexual objects. It undermines the well being of individuals, families, and communities. <http://www.victimsofpornography.org>, click on [Stories](#).
2. Pornography is destroying marriages and families. <http://www.victimsofpornography.org>, click on [Wives of Porn Addicts](#).
3. Many people have become desensitized toward it. [www.cwfa.org/library.asp?category=pornography](http://www.cwfa.org/library.asp?category=pornography)
4. The largest group of viewers of Internet porn is children between ages 12 and 17 (Family Safe Media, December 15, 2005; young people are among it largest consumers. [www.enough.org/index.php?id=6GQ39JCO](http://www.enough.org/index.php?id=6GQ39JCO)
5. Studies have indicated that pornography consumption can lead to sexually aggressive actions toward others, especially women. [www.moralityinmedia.org](http://www.moralityinmedia.org)
6. Staggering numbers of young people are involved in the dangerous world of cyber-sex – but most parents are not even aware it's an issue affecting their children. [www.enough.org/index.php?id=6GQ39JCO](http://www.enough.org/index.php?id=6GQ39JCO)

## Is It Easy to Obtain?

1. The pornography industry is a multi-billion dollar operation. It is available in “adult” bookstores, on magazine shelves in stores, through television and dial-a-porn. [www.enough.org/inside.php?id=2UXKJWRY8](http://www.enough.org/inside.php?id=2UXKJWRY8)
2. Many songs and music videos are directed at youth and include graphic accounts of sexual exploits.
3. It is only a click away on the Internet; through modern technology, pornography is now available via cell phones – as e-mail attachments, cell phone television capabilities, and by downloading from the Internet. <http://www.afafilter.com/default.asp?13850>

## What Can Be Done About It?

1. Hard-core pornography is illegal; obscene materials are not protected by the First Amendment. Elected officials should be encouraged to pass relevant legislation. [www.nationallawcenter.org/about-us/nlc-staff.html](http://www.nationallawcenter.org/about-us/nlc-staff.html)
2. Retailers and businesses must be made aware that customers do not want pornographic materials. [www.nationallawcenter.org/current-news/ncmec---fcacp-3.html](http://www.nationallawcenter.org/current-news/ncmec---fcacp-3.html)

3. Join organizations such as Morality In Media [www.moralityinmedia.org](http://www.moralityinmedia.org); Parents TV Council [www.parentstv.org](http://www.parentstv.org); and the Maryland Coalition Against Pornography [www.mcap1.com](http://www.mcap1.com) to fight pornography.

## Where Is Help Available?

1. Spiritual and psychological help is available for those who are addicted to pornography; but the first step toward healing is for the person to recognize that he/she has a problem. [www.protectkids.com/effects/resources.htm](http://www.protectkids.com/effects/resources.htm); [www.dads.org/strugglewithporn.asp](http://www.dads.org/strugglewithporn.asp); [www.firesofdarkness.com](http://www.firesofdarkness.com); [www.lwayout.org](http://www.lwayout.org); [www.pureonline.com](http://www.pureonline.com).
2. Twelve-step programs and other support groups are available or can be started in a parish or community. [www.sa.org](http://www.sa.org); [www.onlinesexaddict.com](http://www.onlinesexaddict.com); psychological counseling may be necessary [www.mcap1.com](http://www.mcap1.com)
3. Programs are available for victims and their families; but more need to be started <http://www.victimsofpornography.org/Get%20Help.htm>; [www.cwfa.org/articledisplay.asp?id=8191&department=LEGAL&categoryid=pornography](http://www.cwfa.org/articledisplay.asp?id=8191&department=LEGAL&categoryid=pornography)

## Is Sexual Human Trafficking An Issue in the U.S.?

According to the U.S. State Department (<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/fs/2006/69386.htm>) human trafficking is a very serious problem. Trafficked persons are victims who are often found in prostitution and sex entertainment. According to U.S. Government estimates, 600,000 to 800,000 victims are trafficked across international boundaries annually, and between 14,500 and 17,500 of those victims are trafficked into the United States each year. More than half of the victims are children. Child victims are often exploited for sexual purposes, including prostitution, pornography and sex tourism. Some are exploited for forced labor including domestic work, sweatshop factory work and migrant farming. <http://www.state.gov/g/tip>

## What Can Be Done About Human Trafficking?

It is important to continue to raise public awareness in the United States to this modern day slavery because lives can be saved. Contact legislators and various government officials to step up action against this terrible crime. Suspicious actions noted in the neighborhood should be reported. Join groups that are already taking action. <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2006>

## Where and Whom to write to about prosecuting obscenity:

Glenn Ivey, State's Attorney, Prince George's County  
Web page: <http://www.glennivey.com/>  
Courthouse  
14735 Main Street  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3050  
Contact: Receptionist, 301-952-3500, Fax: 301-952-3775

Doug Gansler, State's Attorney, Montgomery County  
Email: [saomail@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:saomail@montgomerycountymd.gov)  
Web page: <http://www.communityprosecution.org/StatesAtty.htm>  
State's Attorney's Office,  
50 Maryland Avenue, 5th Floor  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
240-777-7300

U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez  
Email: [AskDOJ@usdoj.gov](mailto:AskDOJ@usdoj.gov)  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001  
202-353-1555

To make complaint about Internet pornography including "porn spam,"  
report to Morality in Media  
[www.ObscenityCrimes.org](http://www.ObscenityCrimes.org)

## Suggested letter you may copy and give to businesses that may carry material that is offensive to you.

Dear Manager,

I am a customer of this store, and I object to the presence of pornographic materials. This is a friendly complaint in the hopes that you recognize the need in our country today to set higher standards. The present rate of teen pregnancies, the increase in venereal disease, and the rising use of children as sexual merchandise requires that we all do what we can to clean up the moral environment. The presence of these materials in the family marketplace is a growing concern to many people, and I regrettably will have to take my business elsewhere if they are not removed.

Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_