## Evidence that porn is fuelling sexual crime

## 2020 UK Govt research

<u>Research</u> by the UK Government's Equalities Office last year found that professionals helping victims of sexual crime "spontaneously mentioned pornography as an influential factor for harmful sexual behaviours towards women and girls".

The authors of the study described "a widespread belief" amongst workers "in the need to address the role that pornography plays".

### 2017 report - Six women killed by men addicted to vile pornography

In 2017, the Daily Mail <u>highlighted</u> six cases where porn was implicated. Hannah Pearson, 16, Jane Longhurst, 31, Joanna Yeates, 25, Becky Watts, 16, Georgia Williams, 17, and April Jones, five, were all brutally murdered. Their killers had all watched violent pornography before committing murder

#### 2016 Parliamentary report

A <u>report</u> by the Women and Equalities Committee in 2016 highlighted concern among experts that porn is motivating attacks in schools. It stated:

"Practice-based evidence from those working in schools suggests there may be an increase in sexual violence and sexual harassment, facilitated by technology and social media. The link between pornography and sexual violence was a consistent theme amongst expert witnesses".

"...significant qualitative evidence suggests that increasing access to pornography and technological advances, including online platforms, can facilitate harassment and violence and thus exacerbate the problem".

#### 2015 Study

The relationship between pornography and behaviour is examined in <u>research</u> on: Young People's Online and Face-to-Face Experiences of Interpersonal Violence and Abuse.

It found that: "Holding negative gender attitudes and regularly watching online pornography were significantly associated with higher rates of self-reported sexual violence perpetration".

# 2015 Warning by Lord Chief Justice

In 2015, the Lord Chief Justice <u>said</u> he was 'in no doubt' access to pornography online encouraged perverts to turn their fantasies into reality.

At the time, Michael Ellis, a barrister and Tory MP, said the Lord Chief Justice's evidence was significant because judges knew better than almost anyone about the driving forces behind offences.

He added: 'If the impression he has been left with, having dealt with some of the most serious cases, that extreme pornography is influencing some crimes, then I think that is very persuasive.'

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