

Pornography access is one of the most harmful things in existence. The fact that children are currently able to access it makes it even more harmful.

As a child I was exposed to pornography on a semi-regular basis and I can say that it has had tremendous negative repercussions on me and my personal relationships. I can still remember images I saw as a child, even though I have tried many times to forget them. It has adversely affected my view of myself, of men and of women. If I could I would permanently erase everything I have seen from my mind. I am now 42 years old and the images have not left.

Viewing pornography warps children's minds and makes them believe that sexuality expressed in that manner is normal. It is not normal, it is not safe for anyone and it degrades those who participate in it to the level of objects meant for sexual pleasure and not human beings with inherent value and worth.

I do believe that access to pornography should be greatly restricted. Children should not be exposed to it by any means, whether that be through the internet, the media or through any other channel.

People may complain that such restrictions unfairly limit adults in their choices of 'entertainment'. To those complaints I say, do we want to have a society where child pornography, child abuse, family dysfunction and divorce increase exponentially? Leaving access open to children can lead to such outcomes. I speak from personal experience in this area.

We must speak up and stand up for children. They aren't always given a voice. We need to protect them and make sure they don't grow up with twisted views of themselves and other people.

Thank you for your consideration of these points.