Pornography Facts

Statistics on the use of pornography:¹²

- The following percentages of children report having seen pornography in some way:
  - 50% of 11-13-year-olds
  - 65% of 14-15-year-olds
  - 78% of 16-17-year-olds
- Average age a child is first exposed to pornography is 11
- 75% of parents believe their children have not seen pornography online
  - 53% of the children said that they had seen pornography online
- The United States is a top consumer of both illegal child pornography and obscene pornography
- Pornography use is common among young people:³
  - Only 1 in 10 teens and just one in 20 young adults says their friends think viewing pornography is a bad thing
    - 56% of teens and young adults rank not recycling as more immoral than viewing porn
    - Only 20% of all porn users feel a sense of guilt
    - Only 33% of practicing Christians feel a sense of guilt
- Porn in the church:⁴,⁵
  - 21% of youth pastors admit they currently struggle with porn
  - 14% of pastors admit they currently struggle with porn
  - 50% of pastors view porn on a regular basis
  - 68% of church-going men view porn on a regular basis
  - 76% of young Christian adults 18-24 years old actively search for porn
  - 57% of pastors say porn addiction is the most damaging issue in their congregation.
  - 69% of pastors say that porn has adversely impacted the church
  - Only 7% of pastors say their church has a program to help people struggling with pornography
- Pornhub statistics:⁶
  - In 2019 there were over 42 billion visits to Pornhub
    - An average of 115 million visits per day
  - The average Pornhub user is 36 years old
    - Millennials age 18-34 make up 61% of Pornhub’s traffic
  - The United States was the top country in the world for traffic
  - Men make up 70% and women 30% of the traffic to Pornhub

Pornography and Violence:
- Researchers have found that pornography creates a sexual script for later sexual experiences:⁷
  - Found that the more pornography a man watches, the more likely he will use it during sexual relations.
    - This was especially true regarding acts of violence against women
• One analysis of the content of pornography found:  
  o 88% of the scenes contained physical aggression including gagging, choking, slapping and hair pulling  
  o 49% of scenes contained verbal aggression including insulting  
  o 70% of the acts showed a male perpetrating violence against a woman

Pornography and the brain:  
• Volumetric changes in the physical brain have been associated with increased consumption of pornography  
• Pornography is addictive  
  o Males seeking treatment for problematic pornography use had changes in their brains very similar to what is observed in substance and gambling addictions.  
• The addictive effect may be amplified by the novelty and increased stimulus created by the Internet.  
• Perceived addiction to pornography is associated with spiritual struggle  
• A comprehensive review of over 130 studies found the following:  
  o Pornography is most often consumed for pleasure-seeking purposes  
  o It is associated with increases in casual or impersonal approaches to sexuality  
  o It predicts more pleasure-oriented approaches to sexual behavior that are focused on self, rather than loving someone else and procreation  
• Repeated pornography use results in chemical and pathway changes in the brain  
  o Our brain is always undergoing change  
    ▪ “Neurons that fire together, wire together”  
  o Neuronal pathways are always changing  
  o Pornography is very efficient in creating new, long-lasting pathways

Impact on relationships:  
• 47% of families in the U.S. reported that pornography is a problem in their home  
• Pornography use increases the marital infidelity rate by more than 300%  
• 56% of American divorces involve one party having an “obsessive interest” in pornographic websites

Pornography and money:  
• The annual revenue of the porn industry is more than the NFL, NBA, and MLB combined!  
• Pornography makes more money than the combined incomes of ABC, CBS, and NBC.
References

16. Ibid.