

**“WHAT’S
WRONG
WITH THIS
PICTURE?”**

**EXAMINING THE HARMS OF PORNOGRAPHY
AND THE LINKS TO SEX TRAFFICKING**

The pictures of pornography depict a much more complicated “picture” than what many of us choose to see or identify. There is a lot more to the pictures than just nude people engaging in sexual activity.



1

what's wrong with this picture

is that the women in these pictures are often depicted as sexual objects – a “thing” that a man (or group of men) do sexual things **to** or **on** rather than a partner that he/they do things **with**. They are often made to look younger – right at the edge of being “legal” and are depicted as wanting whatever it is that men want to do to them.

2

what's wrong with this picture

is that it doesn't tell the whole truth – that many if not most of the women who are involved in pornography are experiencing some level of force or pressure to be involved.

3

what's wrong with this picture is that the men who look at pornography tend to look at other women in the same kind of objectified ways that the women in pornography are depicted. Men often go from using pornography, to the classroom, work-place or in the street, and then look at women and girls in the same way that they were looking at the women in the pictures.

4

what's wrong with this picture are the lessons that men learn about how to flirt and initiate sex. The line between sexual coercion and seduction is eliminated in pornography.

5

what's wrong with this picture is that men who watch pornography are more likely to believe in rape myths, are less likely to be supportive of women who are raped, are much less likely to interrupt other men who engage in violence or abuse against women, and demonstrate more willingness to commit rape or other forms of violence against women (Allen, 1995), (Attwood, 2005), and (John Foubert, 2011).



what's wrong with this picture is that they don't tell the whole story. Some portion of the women who are involved in pornography are forced to be there. The pictures or videos in pornography are often pictures of actual rape scenes, or include women who have been trafficked.

There is no way to know, when we're looking at pictures or videos, whether or not the women or men who are being depicted in those photos or on that video are there by choice, or being forced, or have been trafficked. Chances are, if you look at pornography with any regularity, you have seen images of trafficked women or girls; and probably have "gotten off" to some of those images. You are getting off on the rape and abuse of a woman or girl and as such, are supporting the trafficking or rape.



be part of the solution:

Join MensWork and become a part of our community of men working to make all of our community a better place for women and girls.

stop using pornography

challenge your friends to also stop using pornography

invite MensWork to come speak to your group or organization

help us organize an event to raise awareness about the harms of pornography

Join MensWork today:
www.mensworkinc.com

