

Addressing the use of pornography & sexting among children & young people

One day training course

19 June 2013, 9:30 – 3:45

Holiday Inn, Ipswich Road, Norwich NR4 6EP

What young people tell us

Anecdotal reports from a range of professionals who work with young people tell us that whilst many young people see pornography in negative terms as degrading and leading to pressure to take part in unwanted sexual practices, there is also an acknowledgement that, because of its explicit nature, it is used to gain greater knowledge of sex. In a survey for the Channel 4 programme Sex Education versus Pornography:

- Two thirds of 13-17 year olds said that they have viewed pornography
- 60% of teenagers said that pornography has an impact on their sex lives and affects their self-esteem and body image

In a survey of over 400 young people carried out by our working group, the majority of the respondents said that adults should raise the issue of pornography with young people by talking, listening and discussing the issue with them. Pornography as an issue is a legitimate subject area for workers to discuss with young people because of the effect it can have on young people's sex and relationships education, their understanding of sex and sexual health and the impact on their self-esteem and body image.

Context for Delegates

Pornography in one form or another has been around for centuries, and generations of adolescents have used pornographic images and stories as part of their normal growing sexual curiosity. However, the rise of electronic communication through the Internet, mobile phones, video, mp3 devices and DVDs has increased the quantity and altered the nature of the available material in recent years. Whilst previously it usually required cash or a credit card to access materials, there is now a multitude of free sites offering pornographic material, and there is increased opportunity to share this through social networking sites, open access webcam sites and Bluetooth.

With this has come a steady rise in broader sexualised images within advertising, print media, on TV and in films leading perhaps to a greater acceptance of sexual depictions of people within mainstream culture.

Whatever our feelings as individuals, it is clear that censorship, denial or judgemental condemnation are not effective tactics in dealing with the issue with young people. Whether we approve or not, most young people will be coming across pornography in one form or other, whether or not they are actively looking for it. According to the UK Council for Child Internet Safety, 90% of young people said they have viewed pornography, albeit some accidentally. Some young people will come across pornography accidentally or whilst in the presence of others. Some will be curious and seek it out (including as a source of information about sex in the absence of comprehensive Sex and Relationships Education). Some will become regular users of pornography. For a few it may become an addictive behaviour.

Training learning objectives

- To be enabled to train young people to critically analyse messages from pornography
- To be enabled to train young people to understand that pornography does not reflect reality
- To be enabled to facilitate discussion about definitions of pornography
- To be enabled to train young people to develop the skills to resist pressure to engage in unwanted sexual activities
- To be enabled to promote a positive view of sex and relationships, which includes mutuality, pleasure and respect
- To identify who is most at risk and what behaviours to look out for
- Identifying young people who are most at risk
- Pornography: definitions and legal framework
- The short and long term impact of pornography on boys and girls
- To understand the impact technology has on pornography
- To expand delegates knowledge about the impact of online pornography on young people's relationships
- To gain an understanding about sexting and its impact on young people
- To learn about online resources that can inform your practise with young people
- To increase knowledge on how online space can be used to reach and engage vulnerable young people

**Sexual Health Promotion Unit
Training Application Form 19th June 2013**

Please complete and return with payment to the address below.

Name of Applicant:		
Job Title:		
Organisation's name and address in full:	Address for invoice if different (please include a contact name and number)	
Post code:	Post code:	
Tel No.	Tel No.	
Fax No.	Fax No.	
E-mail:	E-mail:	
ECCH staff only	Cost Centre:	Account Code:
Course Details		
Course title: Addressing the use of pornography and sexting among children and young people		
Course date/time: 19 th June 2013, 9:30 – 3:45 (Tea and coffee from 9:00am)		
Course venue: Holiday Inn, Ipswich Road, Norwich. NR4 6EP		
Lunch: A lunch is provided on all full day courses. Refreshments provided on all courses. Please state any special dietary requirements:		
Payment: A cheque for £70 should be sent with this application and made payable to: East Coast Community Healthcare CIC . If you need to be invoiced, please ensure details are included above. Please note: we are unable to receive cash payments for courses. If you work for ECCH, please provide a cost centre and account code above.		
Cancellation Policy: We must receive your cancellations no later than 14 days before the course due date otherwise fees will be retained or charged.		
Other information		
Signature of applicant:	Date:	
Signature of manager if applicable:	Date:	
Please return this form to: Training Course Administrator Sexual Health Promotion Unit, East Coast Community Healthcare CIC, 15 Hooper Lane, Norwich, NR3 4ED Tel: 01603 221838		
Mailing list: Please tick the box if you wish us to include your details on our regular mailing lists.		<input type="checkbox"/>
For office use only		
Date received:	Payment with application: Yes	No