

# PORN SLAVES

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## Is my favorite porn star a slave?

In my work as Executive Director of Integrity Restored, an organization geared towards education, training and resources for those struggling with porn addiction ( a 501c3 not for profit program of Stewardship: A Mission of Faith), I am amazed at how often those I speak with see pornography as relatively harmless. I often hear... "I'm not cheating on my wife or husband"; "I don't pay for it"; "It's a normal rite of passage for kids, what's the big deal?"

Aside from any moral issues we could discuss, which are vast, and aside from the fact that habitual viewing of porn re-wires your brain (don't take my word for it, Google it!!) , aside from the fact that most women and men in the porn industry are there because of socioeconomic conditions, drug addictions, sexual abuse and coercion, what if I told you that many are "slaves".

### **Slave: according to thefreedictionary.com –**

*One who is subservient to or controlled by another:  
One who is subject to or controlled by a specified influence*

Most individuals in the porn/sex industry have at one time or are currently "a slave" according to the definition above. This is not my opinion, but the views of any number of experts in the sex trafficking assistance area and straight from the mouths of former adult actors directly. Check out Red Light/Green Light on Fusion TV for these interviews—it is heartbreaking. Most involved in the industry came to it out of economic desperation, started to use drugs regularly to get through it and became a shell of themselves, easily controlled by those who could provide money or drugs or both. One of the young ladies I saw interviewed was a victim of sexual abuse and thought that through her work in the adult industry that finally she controlled her sexuality instead of being someone else's victim. Yet, she came to realize she was still being victimized and abused, not really controlling anything.

*California Assemblyman Charles Calderon estimates that people spend over \$3,000 every second on adult entertainment and that there is a new adult video produced every 39 minutes. California lobbyists for the adult entertainment industry estimate that they employ 50,000 people and generate \$4 billion a year. That multiple billion dollar figure reveals a pivotal fact about obscenity and pornography. They're big bucks and big business. (1)*

As a big business, pornography is all about profits. Those that profit don't care how the actors suffer, what trauma they go through, what lifelong physical, psychological and physical addictions they develop, just so long as the production company makes money! Without getting too graphic, unfortunately, today, the porn tends to be more violent and more extreme in order to make money. Many of the actors, both male and female, are pressured to do scenes either through the offer of more money, the threat of not working and the increased use of drugs to shoot scenes that create real consequences. Stories of gynecological, anal and penile surgeries to repair major injuries after shooting porn videos is far too common. To my way of thinking, the person who subjects themselves to that level of abuse is not thinking for themselves but being controlled by someone else or something else. A slave.

Ultimately, it is a matter of supply and demand. When there is demand, somebody will see this as a profitable opportunity and supply the goods. When there is demand for children to be used sexually, that demand will be met by ruthless traffickers.

*“Many pimps and traffickers use pornography to initiate their innocent victims into their new life of sexual slavery. The victims are shown pornographic films, over and over again for days at a time, so that they get hardened to accept the inevitable and learn what is expected of them.*

*The pattern of behavior is familiar; it follows the teaching technique of “translating image to action.” Teachers and coaches instruct the student to intensely visualize a desired outcome, act it out in the mind, and then it will become permanently imprinted on the psyche. With that technique, the teachers say, visualization leads to realization.*

*So it is with obscene materials and pornography. The johns watch porn, seeing violent and aberrant behaviors on film, then they crave the realization of what they have seen. Those obsessions drive them to the prostituted women and girls to get what they have seen depicted so graphically.” (1a)*

Most of us are horrified by even the idea of sex trafficking, overseas and in the United States. We are appalled that this could happen in this day and age. At the same time, pornography is tolerated, accepted, openly defended, and even celebrated.

*According to Shared Hope International’s “on the demand for sex trafficking, pornography is the primary gateway to the purchase of humans for commercial sex.” Why this is so becomes clear when we think critically about what pornography is and how it affects its consumers.*

*Catherine Mackinnon, a professor at Harvard Law School, says that “consuming pornography is an experience of bought sex” and thus it creates a hunger to continue to purchase and objectify, and act out what is seen. And in a very literal way, pornography is advertising for trafficking, not just in general but also in the sense that traffickers and pimps use pornographic images of victims as specific advertising for their “products.” (2)*

*As Victor Malarek put it in his book The Johns: “The message is clear: if prostitution is the main act, porn is the dress rehearsal.” Pornography becomes a training ground for johns/tricks. When pornography is the source of sex education for our generation, the natural outcome is [a culture of commercial sex and sex trafficking](#).(2a)*

*Under the TVPA( Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000) sex trafficking is defined as “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act.” [10] The realities of the porn industry are perfectly described in the definition of sex trafficking in TVPA. (3)*

Pornography creates and fuels behaviors and creates a new normal environment which we otherwise might not accept. As men and women increasingly view pornography and especially as pornography becomes the “sex ed” of choice for our kids, our cultural attitudes will increasingly shift towards more violent, debauched sexual norms.

According to the non-profit Fight The New Drug (FTND), which relies on dozens of studies for its pornography data, “men who go to prostitutes are twice as likely to have watched a porn film in the last year compared to the general population.”

FTND’s research also found that “when these customers show up, many come ready with porn images in hand to show the women they’re exploiting—many of which are human trafficking victims controlled by pimps—what they’ll be forced to do.” The organization cites a 2007 study of 854 women in nine countries that found 49% of women “said that porn had been made of them while they were in prostitution, and 47% said they had been harmed by men who had either forced or tried to force their victims to do things the men had seen in porn.”

In other words, when Americans watch porn, they’re fooled into thinking they are always watching free men and women engaging in consensual sexual intercourse. Contrary to the popular image of the porn industry, many women are being forced to have intercourse, be groped, kicked, beaten, etc.

According to FTND CEO Clay Olsen, “porn fuels the demand for the sex trade” in a way often not seen by those who view porn. “Traffickers have learned to package their product in a way that disguises the fact that the ‘performers’ are forced to participate,” said Olsen.

While data on the number of women girls and boys forced into porn is relatively scant, due to its secretive and illegal nature, Dawn Hawkins, Executive Director of National Center on Sexual Exploitation, told me that “the 20+ performers I have talked to (some still involved in porn) have all shared stories with me that they were forced and coerced many times over.”

“Drugs, alcohol, physical abuse, blackmail, threats, fake legal documents, deceitful enticing, promises of fame and money and so much more are used to get the girls to perform what and how the producers desire,” she added.” (4)

### What’s the TRUTH?

- Pornography drives the demand for sex trafficking
- Trafficking victims are exploited in the production of pornography
- Pornography production is a form of trafficking
- Pornography is used as a training tool with sex trafficked victims

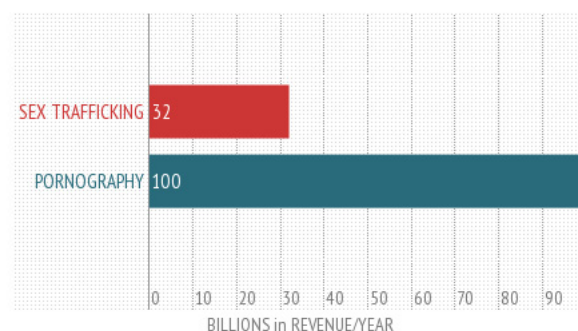
## ANNUAL REVENUES



**What kind of culture is producing so many men who are eager to buy women and children for sex, contributing to a \$32 billion annual human trafficking industry?**

**The same culture that produces and perpetuates a \$100 billion per year pornography industry.**

~B. Nolot,  
the Exodus Cry Movement



## BILLIONS IN REVENUE/YEAR

www.shessomebodysdaughter.com

In recent interviews with men who purchased a woman or child for sex in prostitution, [Benjamin Nolot](#), of the [The Exodus Cry Movement](#), found there wasn't one who didn't have a history of viewing pornography.

- In a study that compared men who buy sex with those who don't buy sex researchers found that *sex buyers viewed and imitated pornography more often* than the non-sex buyers.
- *Eighty percent of prostitution survivors* at the WHISPER Oral History Project reported that their customers showed them pornography to illustrate the kinds of sexual activities in which they wanted to engage.
- *Fifty-two percent of the women* stated that pornography played a significant role in teaching them what was expected of them as prostitutes.

*“In my mind, pornography is a lot more harmful than even prostitution, because you take a picture or video of someone, they are forever exploited at the age and time that they are, so you can take a girl off the streets, and the exploitation stops, but their photos and videos are out there forever.” ~Trafficking survivor, Jessica Richardson*

While most anti-trafficking work focuses on helping victims, few talk about what propels people into the trade: the continued demand to buy “sex” and the role internet pornography plays in that demand. The coercion, control, poverty and addictions that make it possible for the porn industry to create “slaves”.

*Taking on porn means challenging the culture's libertarian attitude about sex, which basically says anything goes between consenting adults, and those who don't like porn can change the channel. Those attitudes are prevalent on college campuses, where 87 percent of males and 31 percent of females admit to watching porn, according to a 2008 Brigham Young University study. (5)*

*Laila Mickelwait, manager of policy and public affairs for [Exodus Cry](#), an international anti-human trafficking organization, states, while it is important to “rescue and rehabilitate” victims of human trafficking, “work of prevention is the most important thing we can do in the fight against the global injustice of sexual slavery.”*

*“Pornography is ubiquitous and self-perpetuating,” Mickelwait offered, and results in a system that is “both creating and supplying demand for commercial sex and thus sex trafficking” through its addictive effects on the brain.*

*In addition, pornography is filmed prostitution and oftentimes human trafficking itself; she warned that victims of human trafficking are often recorded during sexual acts, such as in “live web-cam pornography,” and that the growing medium of child pornography is always a form of sexual trafficking.*

*Quoting a former pornography producer-turned-Christian evangelist Donny Pauling, she explained that pornography “is not a whole lot different from human trafficking,” in that “you start seeing people for the amount of money that they could make you.”*

*Mickelwait also rejected the protection of pornography as a form of free speech, saying the medium is “increasing demand for commercial sex, trafficking through production and distribution and perpetuating a culture of complicity in commodifying women’s and children’s bodies.” (6)*

*Before we can address the problem of “human trafficking” which is gaining increasing exposure in the media, on college campuses, in our federal, state and local governments, we must be willing to also address one of the key contributing factors...PORNOGRAPHY!*

*It is not free speech, it is not media freedom, it is rather a bondage, a slavery, for most of those involved. From the actors to the viewers there is a control, an addiction that takes over that must be addressed. If you are watching porn and knew that that woman or man was a “slave” what would you think? The industry wants us to believe that this is free will and a great career, but reality tells us differently. Just as I, as a 21<sup>st</sup> century male can’t imagine owning a slave to do my gardening, my work or my laundry, I don’t want to imagine a world where it is ok to “own a slave” for my sexual viewing pleasure. I like to think if we took the time to really think about it, none of us would...*



## How to Report Sex Trafficking

The National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) is a national, toll-free hotline, available to answer calls anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. 1-888-373-7888

- (1) (1a) Pornography and Sex Trafficking, Janice Shaw Crouse PHD., 5/19/2008, [www.cwa.org](http://www.cwa.org)
- (2) (2a) Connections Between Pornography and Sex Trafficking, Guest Author, 9/7/2011, [www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com)
- (3) Connections Between Pornography and Sex Trafficking, Guest Author, 9/7/2011, [www.covenanteyes.com](http://www.covenanteyes.com)
- (4) Want to Stop Sex Trafficking?, John-Henry Westen, 1/28/2015, [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com)
- (5) Connecting the Dots between Sex Trafficking and Pornography, Angela Lu, 6/10/2013, [www.worldmag.com](http://www.worldmag.com)
- (6) Pornography Seen as the Root of Human Trafficking, Adelaide Mena, 5/16/2014, [www.ncregister.com](http://www.ncregister.com)