

Abstract

Currently, pornography is growing in popularity, and many individuals use it regularly or are in a relationship with someone who does so. While more research focused on associations between pornography consumption in relationships and partner sexual activity, only a few studies explored the context of pornography consumption.

Data from 1 742 individuals and 100 couples were collected through an online questionnaire. Individuals with shared pornography consumption, concordant solitary pornography consumption, discordant pornography consumption, and no consumption in relationships were compared on the frequency of intercourse, sexual desire, sexual satisfaction, sexual communication and openness, intimacy, commitment, infidelity, and sexual experimentation. Moderating factors (e.g. gender, relationship status, frequency of pornography consumption) and covariates (age, relationship length) were included in the analysis. A couple data are discussed and compared throughout the project.

Results suggest that shared pornography consumers and non-consumers had the highest frequency of intercourse per month compared to concordant and discordant pornography consumers. At the same time, shared and discordant consumers had the highest sexual desire. Nonetheless, the effect was most likely influenced by gender. In the case of sexual satisfaction, shared pornography consumers and non-consumers were significantly more sexually satisfied compared to concordant and discordant pornography consumers. Regarding moderating factors, the most significant effect was observed in sexual desire discrepancy. Shared pornography consumers and non-consumers with the same level of sexual desire had the highest level of sexual satisfaction. Partners with shared pornography consumption had the highest level of sexual communication and openness among other context of pornography consumption groups. Partners with discordant pornography consumption had the lowest level of sexual communication and openness. Interestingly, non-consumers had the highest level of intimacy and commitment, whereas shared pornography consumers had the second highest level of intimacy and commitment. Couples who do not consume pornography had the least risk of experiencing infidelity. Lastly, shared pornography consumers had the highest level of sexual experimentation. The most significant limitation of the dissertation project was the use of an online questionnaire and cross-sectional design.

Implications, significance, and limitations of obtained results in the present study are also discussed concerning moderating variables and covariates. It is suggested that the associations between these moderating factors and the context of pornography consumption, in

general, are investigated in future studies. Several directions for further research are discussed, considering these findings.

Keywords: Pornography; Relationship; Sexual Satisfaction; Sexual Desire; Sexual Communication; Intimacy; Sexual Experimentation