Impact of seeing pornography on children

Parental concerns

Distorted view of healthy sex and relationships

- 52% think a child may believe online pornography represents typical sex
- 48% say it’s improper sex education leaving a child with an unrealistic view of ‘normal’ sex
- 44% feel it may impact children’s understanding of what normal sexual relationships should look like
- 38% believe it will set expectations to engage in specific sexual acts as part of a relationship

Objectification of women and use of violence

- 47% are concerned about poor portrayal of women in pornography including violence and abuse
- 34% think children will become desensitised to brutal/violent content, becoming less upset, anxious or disgusted over time

Impact on body image and self-esteem

- 27% believe it encourages poor self-esteem as they judge themselves against the actors
- 34% of parents say it harms their kid’s body image (lack of confidence in their own body image)

Lack of understanding of consent

- 36% say it gives improper education about asking for and getting consent

Addiction

- 33% fear that children will become addicted to porn

Source: Internet Matters report ‘We need to talk about porn’ – November 2018 – a survey of 2044 parents