The Perceptions of Pornography on Colby College Campus

Jessica Seymour
Colby College

Elizabeth Wyckoff
Colby College

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The Perceptions and Realities of Pornography on Colby College Campus

A Survey Conducted by Jessica Seymour and Elizabeth Wyckoff

Question 1: Have you ever viewed pornography?

Question 2: How often do you view pornography?

Question 3: Viewing Purposes

Question 4: How does pornography depict bodies?

Question 5: Aggression and Violence

Question 6: Would you prefer a partner who views pornography?

Question 7: Sex Drive

Perceptions
- * Most males (53%) think the average Colby female views porn "not regularly"
- * Most Colby students of both genders (55%) think Colby males view porn "about once weekly"

Realities
- * Most males (39%) rate themselves with a high sex drive
- * Most females (46%) rate themselves with an average sex drive

Perceptions
- * Most females (38%) view porn regularly (38%) view it for the purpose of masturbation
- * Most females (24%) think females view porn for masturbation

Realities
- * Most females (62%) prefer porn that is nonaggressive and nonviolent
- * 43% of males prefer porn that is aggressive but nonviolent
- * 50% of males prefer porn that is nonaggressive and nonviolent

Perceptions
- * Most males (67%) think Colby females prefer porn that is nonaggressive and nonviolent
- * Most males (67%) think that other males at Colby prefer porn that is aggressive but nonviolent

Realities
- * Most females (67%) prefer porn that is nonaggressive and nonviolent
- * An overwhelming amount of females (78%) think that males prefer porn that is aggressive but nonviolent

For males, the reality fits the perception that the majority of Colby males view porn for masturbatory purposes.

Very few females (only 5%) think that males prefer nonviolent and nonaggressive porn, when in fact is that the porn they prefer.

"There is nothing wrong with pornography. It can be fun and exciting." - survey participant

"Pornography is a societal problem, it has no good function and just distorts views of relationships and sexuality." - survey participant

"Whatever people do behind closed doors is their own business." - survey participant

"I think it is a topic that is not discussed often enough on this campus. I think many women are unaware of how many men on this campus look at porn. I think many men on this campus are unaware of the dangers of porn and the way it objectifies women and why they should be concerned about that." - survey participant

There is nothing wrong with pornography. It can be fun and exciting." - survey participant