

A plethora of research has been done examining the role that pornography plays in the way that individuals have sex. Much of the research that has been done used online surveys as their research instrument. While the research that has been done already is extremely vital to understanding the social implications pornography constructs; our research did more than just what pre-existing research has done. The media and specifically pornography shape the way its viewers view and do sex and can be very instrumental in the ways in which people create and perpetuate sexual expectations in the bedroom, whether they are aware of it or not. Our study used qualitative interviews to delve deeper into understanding why and how people use pornography, and how those uses have played influential roles in the way they have sex. To do so, it was imperative that we understood the sociological theories that are used to understand the way in which individuals internalize what they see in pornography. Some of the theories we came across during our research were social comparison theory, sexual script theory, and objectification theory. These theories are vital to learning about pornography and the ways in which people interact with it. To do so, we conducted twelve qualitative interviews. These interviews were done over a two-week period, and most of them lasted between 30-40 minutes. We recruited participants through the use of social media and performed all interviews with both of us present. The interviews were extremely beneficial for this study, because it allowed respondents to give detailed and elaborate answers. It also allowed us to probe when needed and helped us learn the most we could about the topic. While pornography isn't a topic that is interesting to everyone, it is something most people know about, and it is often a topic that is controversial. Our goal was to try and eliminate the taboo that comes with talking about pornography and sex. Based on the way our interviews went, it seemed as if that taboo is diminishing, and that people were grateful that there was a platform that allowed to talk about

pornography and sex. Although pornography is just one aspect of sexuality and gender out of the many, it is a very big and large industry that greatly influences the way people form opinions about the “rights” and “wrongs” of sex. Therefore, doing sexuality research is imperative to better understanding humans, pornography and sex and the way that they intertwine to create norms and expectations.