Pornography & Consent

LET'S TALK ABOUT SEX!

On how the Development of Explicit Sexual Media impacts Consumers' Perceptions of Sexual Consent.

RESEARCH MOTIVATION & SOCIAL RELEVANCE

STEALTHING!

...removing a condom during sexual intercourse, without the other person's consent...

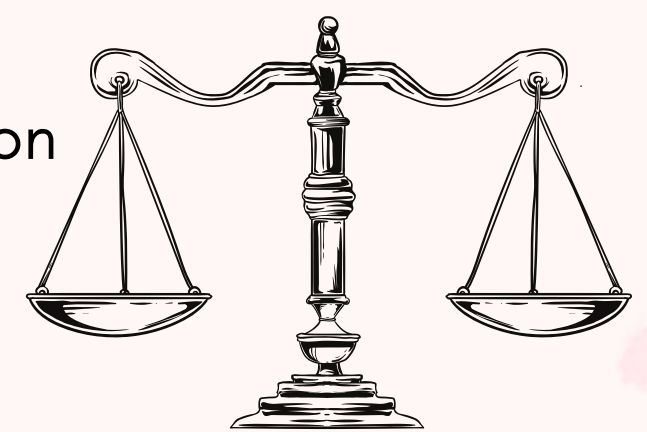### Technology & Digital Media

- **Increased access to online sexual content**
- New threats: privacy, microtargeting –echo chambers – addiction, and normalising behaviours seen in pornography

Psychology

- Pornography consumption might alter sexual behavior (**Social Learning Theory**), lack of comprehensive sex education further worsens this issue
- Negative effects of non-consensual sexual behavior on individuals' mental and physical health

Law

- Difficulties in balancing societal interests
- Law aims to protect society while respecting individual freedoms like expression
- Non-consensual behaviour in porn, like stealthing, is unregulated despite legal developments criminalizing it in real life

METHODOLOGY

- **Qualtrics survey** with **160 respondents**
- Main categories: Demographics, Consent Scale, Perceptions on Stealthing and Pornography consumption

FINDINGS ▶ ✕✕✕   ONLY "YES" MEANS YES!

- **Individuals who consider stealthing to be less pleasurable have higher measures of consent**
- On average, participants view porn **twice a week for 24 minutes** a session
- No significant correlation between the amount of porn consumption and consent measure
- Participants who **watch porn with their partners** have increased sexual consent scores (+5%)
- Heterosexual participants tend to have a lower consent score compared to **non-heterosexual** participants

Need for, sexual health education, pornography literacy courses, enforcement of regulations to prohibit non-consensual sexual behaviours in porn, and reintegration of healthy, consensual practices into porn.

By: Noa Frinken, Helen Willems, Robert Rypniewski, Kasimir Schmid & Lia Magdaléna Křížová

Glace, A. M., Zatkin, J. G., & Kaufman, K. L. (2021). Moving toward a new model of sexual consent: The development of the process-based consent scale. Violence against women, 27(12-13), 2424-2450.
McLeod, S. (2023). Albert Bandura's Social Learning Theory. https://www.simplypsychology.org/bandura.html
Barberá, P. (2020). Social media, echo chambers, and political polarization. Social media and democracy: The state of the field, prospects for reform, 34.