The Effects of Pornography on Heterosexual Relationships

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Objective
- Examine male and female perceptions of pornography
- How pornography influences the strength of a person’s relationship

Hypothesis
- The incorporation of pornography into one’s intimate relationship in excessive amounts can have a negative effect on the closeness and affection between the two people involved.

Method
- Respondents were college students ranging from freshmen to graduate students.
- Sample size consisted of 100 students.
- The method used for collecting data was an online survey created through the Web Survey System via the UW-Eau Claire website.
- This survey was distributed using snowball sampling via Facebook group, a social networking website.
- Survey consisted of close-ended questions only.

Data Analysis

Epistemological Frameworks
- Postmodern Feminism is the belief that gender is culturally constructed, specifically by individuals actions and appearances.
- Social Construction Feminism is where men and women define roles that have been dictated by deep rooted social structures.

Results
- 50% of both males and females participated in the survey.
- Out of the 100 respondents who participated in the survey, 56% of them were juniors in college.
- 49% of the respondents were currently involved in a heterosexual relationship compared to 51% of those who were not.
- 61% of the respondents stated that their significant other does not view pornographic material whereas 39% of the respondents stated that they did view pornographic material.
- 45% of the respondents stated that it would bother them if their significant other viewed pornographic material, whereas 55% stated that it would not bother them.
- In general, 94% of the respondents claimed that they were at least satisfied with their current relationship compared to the 6% of those who were not satisfied or were indifferent about their current relationship.

Implications
- The findings indicated that pornography does not have a major effect on relationship satisfaction.
- Although this study indicates that pornography does not have a major effect on heterosexual relationships, peer-reviewed journals that were looked at, such as Deloy’s and Zitzman’s studies, show that pornography does have a negative effect on relationships due to certain demographical regions and violence.
- Although an anonymous survey was used future researchers should take into consideration social reliability response bias when writing survey questions.

Works Cited

Funding for this poster was provided by UWEC Differential Tuition