

**"ETHICAL  
P\*RN"**

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

A GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF FIGHTERS  
©FIGHT THE NEW DRUG



**IT'S BECOMING  
LESS OF A  
SECRET THAT  
THE MAINSTREAM  
PORN INDUSTRY  
HAS A HISTORY  
OF EXPLOITATION.**

For that reason, many people argue in favor of “ethical porn” that allegedly guarantees performers’ consent, fair pay, and enjoyment.

**BUT IS ETHICAL PORN  
REALLY EXPLOITATION-FREE?**

**IN AN EFFORT TO BECOME MORE ETHICAL, SOME STUDIOS HAVE TRIED TO IMPLEMENT "EXIT INTERVIEWS" WHERE AFTER A SHOOT IS OVER, THE PERFORMERS STATE ON-CAMERA THAT THEY CONSENTED TO EVERYTHING.**

But unfortunately, many performers report being coerced into lying in exit interviews since their paycheck and future jobs often depend on them saying everything was consensual.

AS ONE PERFORMER SAID:  
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**"I WAS SEVERELY ABUSED ON SET A FEW TIMES... AND HAD TO SAY ON CAMERA AT THE END [THAT] I WAS FINE. IN FACT, ONE TIME I SAID, 'NO, I AM NOT OKAY,' AND THEY SCREAMED AT ME THAT I COULDN'T SAY THAT AND GET PAID."**

**PAYING PERFORMERS  
DIRECTLY THROUGH SITES  
LIKE ONLYFANS IS  
ANOTHER WAY PEOPLE  
CLAIM CONSENT CAN BE  
GUARANTEED IN PORN.**

But what many people don't realize is that OnlyFans—much like the mainstream porn industry—has a history of profiting from nonconsensual content, trafficking, and even child sexual abuse material (aka “child porn”).

## **BUT PAYING PERFORMERS DIRECTLY COMES WITH ITS OWN ISSUES.**

Many OnlyFans creators find that because they are obligated to the demands of subscribers, their boundaries are pushed further and further in order to keep making fresh, competitive content and thus keep an income.

Even if someone “consents,” is it enthusiastic consent? Are they free to revoke that consent without fear of losing their livelihood?

**AS ONE ONLYFANS CREATOR SAID:**

**AS ONE PERFORMER SAID:**

“Every time I posted something, my followers would say, ‘That’s good but it’s not enough,’ I felt like I had to keep getting more extreme. I told myself that I was empowered and wanted to pretend that I was, but I felt horrible... I couldn’t stop, because everyone was telling me I had to keep going. I was being forced—honestly, it felt like that.”

**MANY PEOPLE CONSIDER "AMATEUR" PORN AN ETHICAL OPTION, SINCE IT DOESN'T USUALLY RELY ON BIG STUDIOS THAT COULD EXPLOIT PERFORMERS, BUT RESEARCH SUGGESTS THAT AMATEUR PORN USUALLY PROMOTES THE SAME TOXIC, VIOLENT, AND PROBLEMATIC DEPICTIONS AS MAINSTREAM PORN—IN FACT, IT'S OFTEN WORSE.**

**BUT EVEN IF  
CONSENT IN PORN  
COULD BE FULLY  
GUARANTEED,  
THAT WOULDN'T  
MAKE PORN  
HARM-FREE.**

There are hundreds and hundreds of peer-reviewed studies that show that porn can play a role in relationship issues, poorer mental health, normalizing sexual violence, etc.

# IS WATCHING WORTH IT?

So while the concept of ethical porn may be well-intentioned, unfortunately, there is still no way to guarantee that it's truly exploitation-free.

And regardless, porn can still have serious negative effects on the consumer and their relationships.

## HELP SUPPORT US

You can help more people learn about porn's harms by supporting our educational resources at [ftnd.org/donate](https://ftnd.org/donate).