



# **PORN & SEX TRAFFICKING**

**WHAT'S THE CONNECTION?**

**#STOPTHEDEMAND**  
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# Sex Trafficking

Sex trafficking is legally defined as a situation in which **a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion**, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age.

For example, if a porn performer shows up on set to discover that the scene is much more aggressive or degrading than they'd been told, and their agent threatens to cancel their other bookings if the performer doesn't go through with it, that's trafficking.

## REAL QUOTES FROM PORN PERFORMERS:

“I was threatened that if I did not do the scene I was going to get sued for lots of money.”

“I tried to stop the scene but [the director] told me I was ruining the flow and to just put my head back in the frame.”

“He told me that I had to do it and if I can’t, he would charge me and I would lose any other bookings I had because I would make his agency look bad.”



**Situations like these are commonplace in the porn industry,** but accountability is rare, unfortunately. When victims speak out, they are often dismissed, blacklisted in the industry, or even threatened.

In another recent example, the owners of a wildly popular porn channel were **charged with sex trafficking after tricking and manipulating women into appearing in porn**, many of whom were originally told they would be modeling swimsuits or fitness apparel.

**AS ONE OF THE TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS FROM  
THAT CASE TOLD US IN AN INTERVIEW,**

“I didn’t know if they were going to  
kill me. Watching the video now, I  
can see it in my eyes, the  
quivering of my lips, and my voice.  
I know exactly how I was feeling in  
that moment, but to anyone  
else who sees it, they see what  
they want and they think  
I was complicit.”

**JANE DOE**

On the other side of the equation, traffickers often use porn to groom victims, normalize sexually abusive behavior, and train victims on what buyers expect of them.



These issues aren't rare.

Virtually every major porn site has reportedly hosted and profited from trafficking, child sexual exploitation, image-based abuse, and sexual violence.



Sex trafficking shares a variety of symbiotic connections to porn.

**Often, they're one and the same.**

**But as long as there's a demand for porn—especially porn that is extreme, abusive, or degrading—the porn industry will continue to exploit people to meet that demand.**

**#STOPTHEDEMAND**

**[ftnd.org/trafficking](https://ftnd.org/trafficking)**

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