**Reducing The Harm: Talking About Children and Pornography**

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In recent years we have observed increases in children displaying harmful sexual behaviours in Australia. A range of adverse experiences in childhood have been observed in children displaying harmful sexual behaviours. One of the factors identified that may contribute to this rise is exposure to pornography.

The internet and more recently portable electronic devices, has transformed the way pornography is accessed and how pornography accesses children. Whilst pornography is not new, the nature and accessibility of pornography has changed considerably. The way we approach this topic, therefore, needs to be different. In the absence of adequate education in the home, school and wider community, pornography is the primary, and in many cases, the only education children and young people receive about human relationships and sexuality.

To respond to the harmful effects of pornography on children requires courageous conversations and collaboration across sectors. This emerging issue requires the mobilisation of a public health response. Protecting children from harm is a shared responsibility and this presentation will discuss why we must work proactively and collectively to safe guard children from the harms of pornography.