Parental Mediation Regarding Children’s Pornography Exposure: The Role of Parenting Style, Protection Motivation and Gender

# Details

## Year

2019

## DOI

10.1080/00224499.2019.1590795

## Issued

2019

## Language

English

## Volume

57

## Issue

1

## Start Page

## End Page

## Authors

Boniel-Nissim M.;Efrati Y.;Dolev-Cohen M.

## Type

Journal article

## Journal

The Journal of Sex Research

## Publisher

Informa UK Limited

## Topics

Risks and harms

## Sample

A total of 1,164 Jewish Israeli parents began to fill out the questionnaire; however, only 1,070
completed it. Of the 94 parents who did not finish the questionnaire, 68% were men. Of the 1,070 participants, 79% were women. Regarding children, 48% of the parents’ reports related to their daughters

## Implications For Parents About

Parental practices / parental mediation

# Abstract

Communication between parent and child regarding pornography can be awkward. In the
following study, we examined if parenting style (authoritarian, authoritative, or permissive)
and gender was associated with parental mediation strategies (restrictive, active,
and co-use) in relation to pornography exposure, mediated by threat appraisal and
coping appraisal (protection motivation theory). A sample of 1,070 Israeli parents of
10- to 14-year-old youth completed a set of online questionnaires. Findings suggested
that authoritarian and permissive parents, who had lower scores in authoritative parenthood,
were more likely to have dysfunctional (i.e., low-quality) communication about
pornography and subsequently be less active in their mediation regarding pornography.
Conversely, parents who were more authoritative were more likely to perceive 1 the
severity of pornography consumption and were more restrictive and active in mediating
pornography. Finally, fathers tended to have more dysfunctional communication about
pornography than mothers and were consequently less active in their mediation strategies
concerning pornography.

# Outcome

In their study Boniel-Nissim, Efrati and Dolev-Cohen (2019) found that parenting style (authoritative and
authoritarian) was positively related to parental mediation strategies (restrictive and active). The analyses revealed that a more authoritarian parenting style related to restrictive mediation of pornography. A more authoritative parenting style was linked with all three mediation strategies. A more permissive parenting style was related to co-use mediation. The suggested model showed that parents who are more
authoritarian or permissive and lower in authoritative parenthood are more likely to have dysfunctional communication about pornography and consequently be less active in their mediation of pornography. Conversely, parents who are more authoritative are likely to perceive the severity of pornography
consumption and are more restrictive and active in mediating pornography. The analyses indicated that fathers were lower on restrictive and active mediation of pornography than mothers were. The model shows that fathers tend to have more dysfunctional communication about pornography with their adolescents
than mothers do and be less active in their mediation about pornography.