

# UNCENSORED

FOR THE FLEXIBLE READER



Inside This Issue: Tess Talks Orgasmic Moans And Commodification Of Sexuality... Learn How To Expand Your Pornographic Horizons...Dispelling Common Myths About Porn... Breaking Binaries.... How Well Do You Know Your Porn?

SPRING 2013

# SPRING 2013

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# THE **UNCENSORED** LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Reader,

Sex! Picture slimy, pulsating genitals rubbing against each other. Imagine the sounds we make during an orgasm, uncontrollable and arousing. Got it? Okay, time for self-reflection. What genitals did you imagine? Did they have pubes? Do you think an outsider could tell the difference between your imaginary orgasmic moans and someone being stabbed? What I'm trying to get at here is that our perception of sexuality is constructed—social forces influenced your responses to my questions. Some of these social forces have a comfortable spot in our public discourse. Sex education, advertising, and movies to name a few, all have an ongoing debate regarding the sexuality they portray. We at *Uncensored* magazine want to bring a new, equally important source of sexual influence into the public sphere, we want to discuss PORN.

Porn needs to be present in public discourse on sex. Feminists have consistently opposed a private/public divide, as discussed in Carol Hanisch's seminal essay, "The Personal is Political". After talking about seemingly personal experiences with her relationships, she discovered that "personal problems are political problems" (3). Although many issues feel personal, they are in a relationship with the political system. Pornography falls onto the

personal side of the binary and subsequently is often ignored by the masses as a political activity. I mean, it's just some pants-less kids in their bedrooms getting off, right? WRONG! After surveying 308 women ages 18-29, Professors Dawn Szymanski and Destin Stewart found that heterosexual women's self esteem, sexual satisfaction, and relationship quality decreased as their boyfriends' consumption of porn increased. According to Szymanski and Stewart, this was due to the feeling that they "could not compete with the sexual and physical ideals portrayed in pornographic materials, resulting in conflicting feelings about their self-worth" (266). These young women measured themselves against the ridiculous standards in mainstream porn. Porn influences our lives; it doesn't matter who's watching.

Past the fact that porn is an artificial production, (See: Nina's article *Porn Education for Better Fornication* on page 8) we want to bring into public the less prevalent, more FEMINIST genres of porn (See: Rosie's article *Toys, Queers and Doughnuts, Oh My!* on page 5). There is porn out there that EVERYONE can enjoy and relate to, without promoting unrealistic, oppressive notions of sexuality.

But alas, porn is a difficult topic to cover. In porn we see the commodification of sexuality, identities, and bodies. . . Yikes! Carole S. Vance touches upon the importance of a nuanced analysis of porn in her essay *Pleasure and Danger: Toward a Politics of Sexuality*. She argues, "To focus only on pleasure and gratification ignores the patriarchal structure in which women act, yet to speak only of sexual violence and oppression ignores women's experience with sexual agency" (327). *Uncensored* aims to avoid one-sided views of pornography and instead apply a multifaceted approach to the industry. Instead of censoring porn, *Uncensored* magazine chooses to explore its potential for FEMINIST ACTION. While doing so, we remain cognizant of the consequences we see translating between the private realm of porn and the public realm of sexual relationships. Read on for a raunchy, nuanced variety of pieces speaking to the role that porn can play in our lives.

Sincerely,

Tess Gattuso and the *Uncensored* Team.

Did you know  
that the male anus has  
**thousands**  
of nerve endings?



It's about time you found out.

Try the double-ended dildo for his and her pleasure.

Available at your local adult toy store.

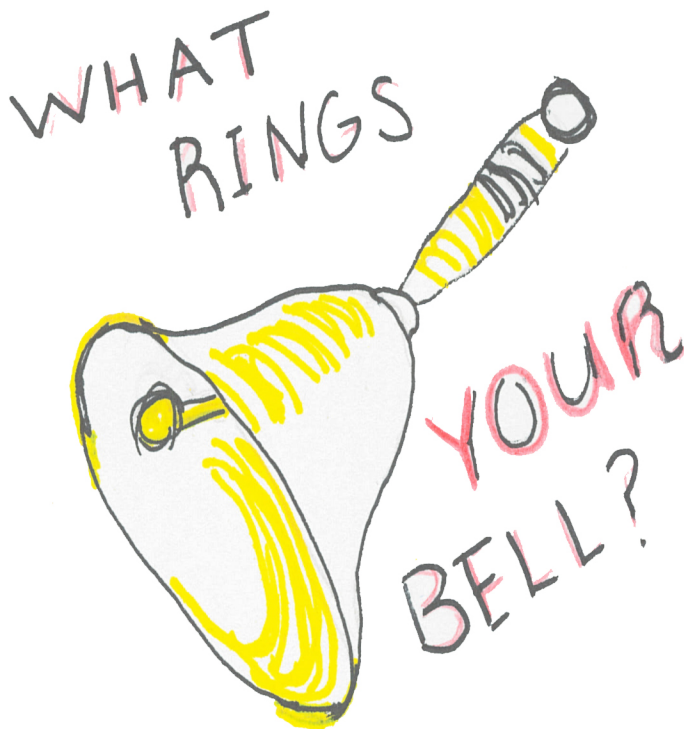
# TOYS, QUEERS, AND DOUGHNUTS, OH MY!

## EXPANDING OUR PORNOGRAPHIC HORIZONS

By Rosie Nelson

As Inga Muscio wrote in her oh-so-beautifully titled piece, *Cunt: A Declaration of Independence*, “[Women’s] true erotic nature is not exalted. Rather, it is mutated, into some manageable illusion created and sustained by men” (117). Fuck yeah, Muscio. Women’s sexuality is SQUASHED and SMOTHERED into what society (read: patriarchy) wants it to be. Nowhere is this more visible than in your typical mainstream pom. What am I talking about? Go look on your typical free pom site. Are the women there taking control? Are they enjoying themselves? Are they saying what they want? Do they enjoy a little oral action down under? Generally, no, am I right? But not for lack of want. Instead, these women are giving head until the cows come home without receiving anything in return. And WHAT’S MORE these women are loving it. Sure, giving a guy head may be AWESOME, but after a million videos of the same girl giving head, you gotta ask yourself, when is it her turn? As Muscio highlights this issue – WOMEN’S SEXUALITY IS USED TO PLEASE MEN. When he flips her into whatever contortion he wants and she positively SCREAMS with delight. Ah ah AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH.

But let’s talk about why we’re all here. You wanna watch some pom but you don’t want that typical blonde girl that looks like she’s proly a little young for this business. Or who makes those OH-SO-LOUD moans (does anyone really make that much noise? Am I s’posed to make that much noise?) while fucking that guy who looks like Ken on steroids. Honestly, if you replace the people, it’s all the same. It always follows that lick-suck-fuck combination. The fucking is a little acrobatic and it usually results in the girl being smothered in jizz. Not so much a turn on for me. Maybe you want to expand your horizons? Let me help you out with these handy dandy different genres. They may not be as plentiful, but they’re five times the fun. And the plus side? You won’t question whether it was consensual, or whether the actors enjoyed it – cause this is FEMINIST pom and we don’t take any shit.



But “woooooah woah woah” I hear you say. What the hell is feminist pom? Contrary to what you may think, it doesn’t include any man-hating. Back in the day, feminists hated pom. Ye olde feminists justly slammed it as objectification, sexualization and general oppression. No disrespect those feminists had a point and led us to a new branch of pom that we can all enjoy a hell of a lot more. As Cicitira puts it in *Pornography, Women and Feminism: Between Pleasure and Politics*, “feminists have highlighted the way cybersex provides opportunities for identity-bending, as users are able to take on different characteristics (e.g. gender, age, sexuality, race and physical appearance)” (284). Feminist pom is all about looking at each other differently, and saying ‘We are hella beautiful’ without being limited to the constraints of old school pom. I’m gorgeous, you’re gorgeous, that 250lb chick is hot, that 100lb chick is hot. We love ‘em all!

**Feminist pom is all about looking at each other differently, and saying ‘We are hella beautiful’ without being limited to the constraints of old school pom. I’m gorgeous, you’re gorgeous, that 250lb chick is hot, that 100lb chick is hot. We love ‘em all!**

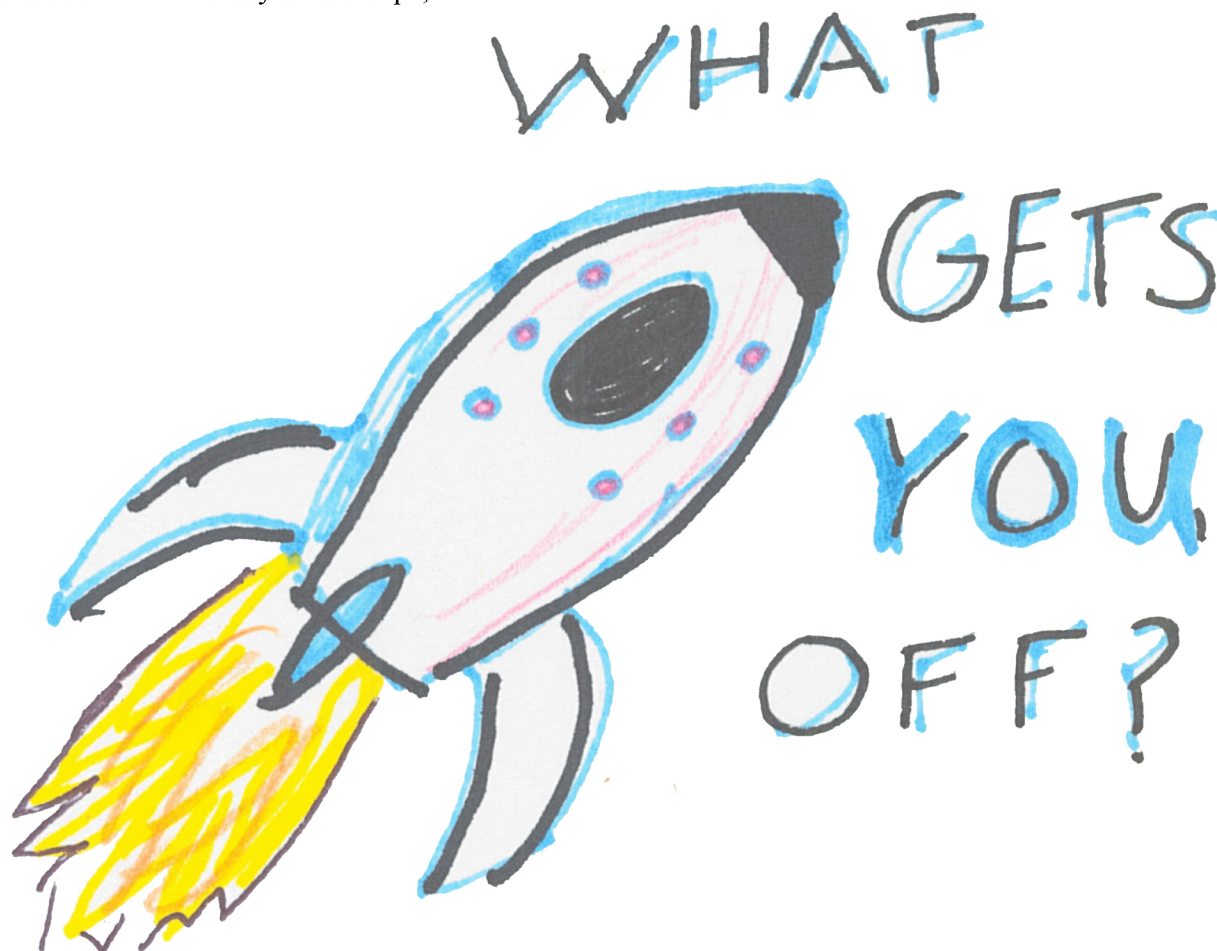
Back to business. What kinda stuff can you feast your eyes on? As Ms. Naughty says, “feminist porn seeks to take back the landscape of sexually explicit media, offering a more positive and inclusive way of depicting and looking at, sex.” Basically, we’re looking at SMASHING those stereotypical roles and putting women in POWER. We have the wonderful blonde girls, those super femme lesbians (that also have incredibly long nails. . . . Anyone else see issue with that?), but what else is there? LET’S GET INTO IT.

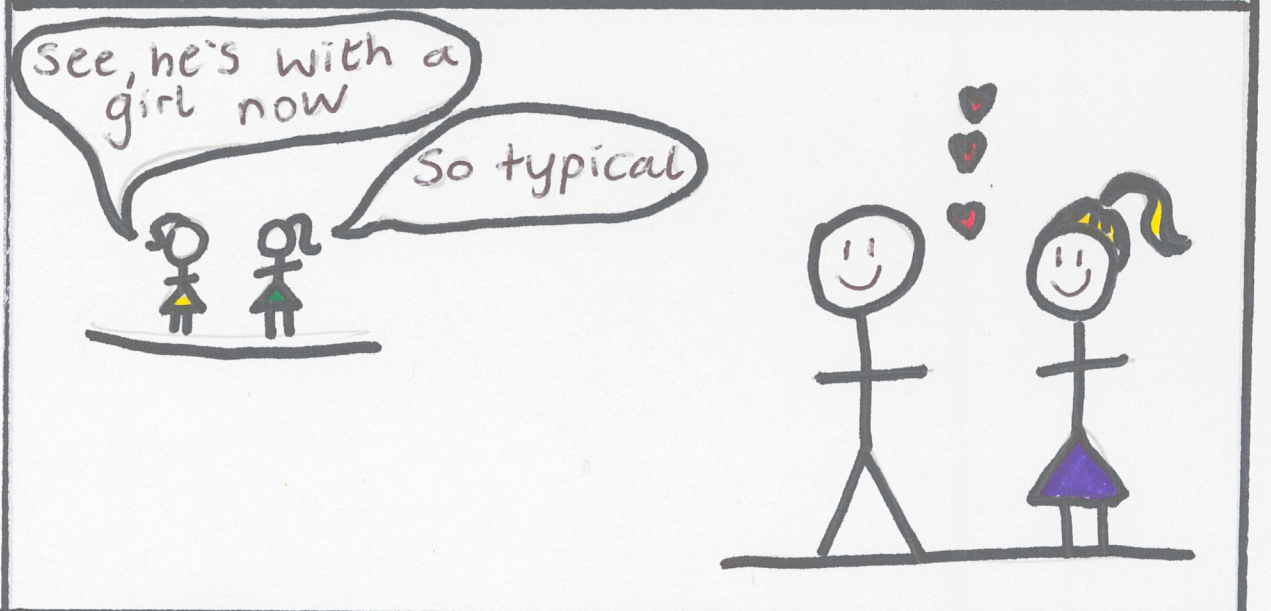
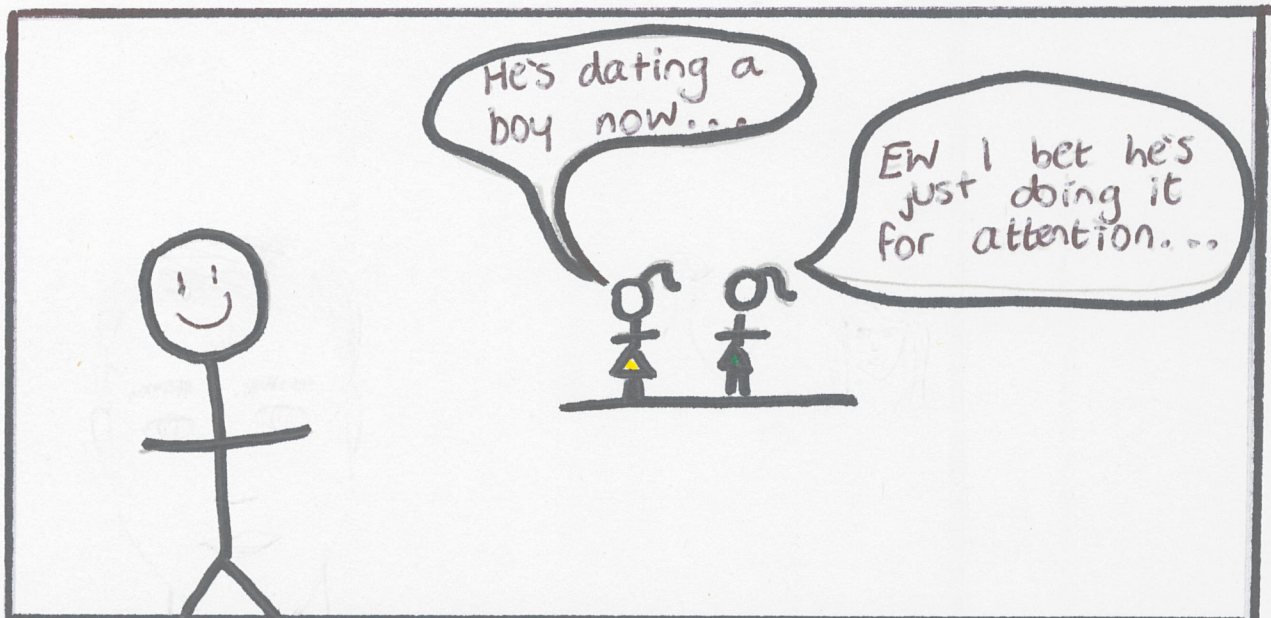
Queer porn anyone? Hell yeah. Let’s clip those nails, cut that hair and get some variety! These are the kind of faces that can be found in your local bookstore, dykes, femmes, bois, studs, genderqueers, trans women, transmen, queer men all enjoying strap ons, safe sex, cock-sucking, kink, BDSM, gender play and fluidity and multiple orgasms. What more could you want? This shit is hot, this shit is REAL. Women do what they want (including enjoying a little submissive action every now and again) in a way that the mainstream porn often doesn’t allow. In “The Straight Mind” Monique Wittig explains how typical porn “signifies that women are dominated” (295). Feminist porn on the other hand reclaims our INDEPENDENCE. Instead of typical porn that “orders us to stay in line” (Wittig 295), we crave the queer looks. Let’s get into some real diverse shit. This is something you can ENJOY. Not to mention, something the actors enjoy too. Not into queer porn? Let’s hit up some BBW work. That it, BIG BEAUTIFUL WOMEN. These women love their bodies—they break the boundaries and break ‘em with style. Rubenesque,

voluptuous ladies. Whereas the media works to make one identical image of woman that is all the skinny and whatnot, this genre works to break the need to be the same. Similar to Mohanty’s claim that Western women define “‘third world women’ as a monolith” (334), Western women are supposed to be this little thing that has never seen a doughnut. Instead, BBW celebrates what that is NOT. Get down with your natural self.

So what other genres can I recommend to you? There’s the typical porn; blowjobs, masturbation, heterosexual, BDSM, kink, tattoo, pierced, everything you could possibly want with sprinkles on it. But show those two genres up there some love. That’s what feminist porn is all about; letting people get down with whatever they want to see, instead of being force fed the same old shit. Explore! The more people watching feminist porn, the more people will begin to accept one another’s bodies as imperfect. With a greater demand, a greater representation will appear and we will be able to see one another through the actors in the porn industry.

So now, it’s time to explore these genres. Dim the lights, fire up the candles, break out those sex toys and lock the door. Time to embrace the raunchiest side of feminism and expand the definition of sex.





**SEXUALITY  
IS FLUID,  
STUPID!**

Rosie Nelson

# Porn Education

## For Better Fornication

By Nina Friedman

So we know it isn't always how it looks on TV. Yeah, okay. They call it reality television, but real bitches aren't even that dramatic. Pomography is the same way. They have an entire behind-the-scenes staff telling them how to act and what to say. Some women may be vocal as hell, some may enjoy the Big D all up in their business, but mainstream porn prolongs the myth that all sex has gotta involve a dick and a shrieking female. Today I hope to help clear up any confusion. Porn can be pretty influential, since it's often one's first exposure to sex ("Internet Pomography Statistics"). I'll do y'all a favor here—let's highlight some of the most significant differences between pomography and what people actually choose to do between the sheets.

We'll take it back to the topic of penetration. In pomography, it is all about penetrative sex. Anne Koedt's essay gives us the low-down on the myth that the vagina is a girl's major pleasure organ. Way back when, "Freud contended that the clitoral orgasm was adolescent, and that upon puberty, when women began having intercourse with men, women should transfer the center of the orgasm to the vagina" (196). Though this claim has no factual basis, it does demonstrate that when a woman pleased herself it was clitoral—when a woman chose how she received pleasure, she did not choose penetration. A lady just does not have that many nerves in her vagina! Why do women accept a fate of solely vaginal intercourse? Well, they often fake this pleasure to boost their bro's egos, to avoid society getting on their backs about being frigid, and because they do not get that sex is for EVERYONE'S enjoyment (Koedt 198). So boys, let me introduce you to the clitoris. It is the only human organ out there created solely for pleasure. I greatly implore you to use it for what it's made for. Make sex a two-way street!

Now that we've cleared up that myth, let's examine a little something that porn fails to offer. Somehow it leaves out all those great aspects of sex that are not the visual stimulation and despite popular belief ladies are not the only ones who love a good cuddle. The book *Feminism and Pomography* is comprehensive in that it addresses the drawbacks of pomography from the man's point of view. The authors describe how guys can actually get bored with such one-dimensional fuck-fests because viewers miss out on the emotional and social aspects of good lovin' (Berger et al 81). Nowadays a user can skip straight to the most stimulating scene and make orgasms quick, easy to achieve, and unfulfilling. Hell, porn films don't even have plot lines

like they used to! When I was your age... just kidding. But seriously, all porn and not enough intimacy makes Jack a dull boy. This is because over-stimulation can lead to addiction and the inability to make the love that all genders oh so enjoy (Berger et al 80). Dopamine is the chemical in the brain that controls pleasure centers and becomes active upon arousal. Researchers in collaboration with Psychology Today have discovered that "too much dopamine stimulation has a paradoxical effect. The brain decreases its ability to respond to dopamine signals" (Robinson, Wilson). If your body gets too accustomed to gratification, it becomes desensitized. The penis may not stay stiff when you need it most. It may decide it's done before you have time to disagree (despite those nasty rumors, maybe you can have too much of a good thing).

So you're a guy and you are watching some porn. All of a sudden—a lady-friend! (Or maybe a male-friend, but he'd probably be in the same boat as you, so for now, "lady friend"). But you aren't feeling so hot about doing the deed because your D is not as big as the D seen on TV. Also you just cannot get it up. Or maybe once you do get it up, it goes right back down (Castleman). Here we have another myth of

### Pomography leaves out all those great aspects of sex that are not the visual stimulation.

pomography: fucking is not a perfectly smooth affair. Penises are not massive on average and they do not always cooperate (Castleman). This is especially true if your beloved cock is accustomed to a fore-play-free session in front of the computer screen. But you even don't need dopamine deficiencies and erectile dysfunction to have struggles; in real life, everyone has these moments. Off the screen there are all kinds of penises of different shapes, sizes, and stamina. Either way, don't worry. It's the foot-long men with perfect ejaculatory timing who are actually a little off.

Now that we have touched upon dick diversity, let's talk more about the beloved vagina. It is similarly diverse in appearance. There are dark vaginas, light vaginas, pink vaginas, brown vaginas, labia and clitorises that you can't miss and some labia and clits that hide tucked away. And then there's hair. Somehow all the porn stars manage to remove the fluff, but in reality hair is there for a reason and it thus resists elimination. Removal can cause agitation, more so than hair removal on any other part of the body. When we discuss equality,



# Porn is clearly not an accurate representation of your average fuck.

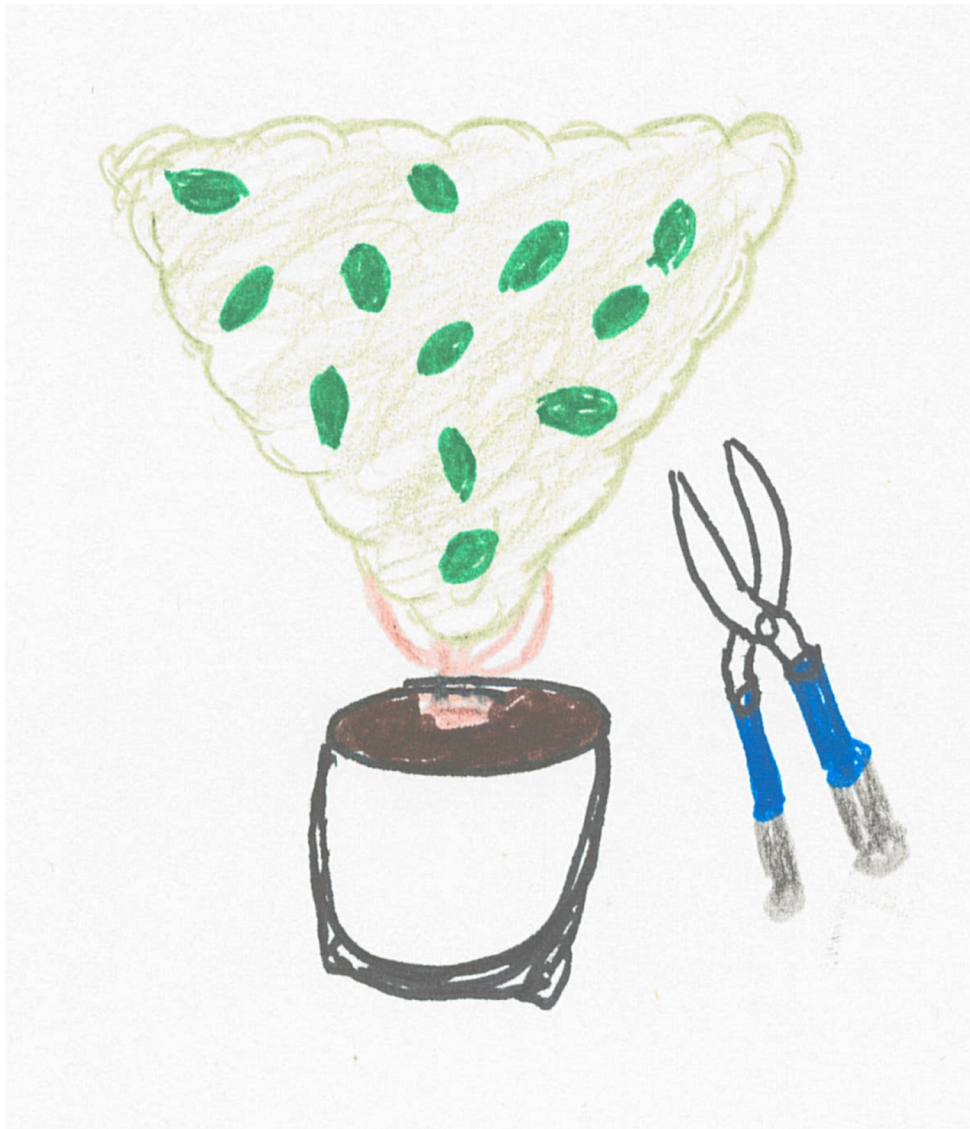
it is clear that some man-junk is similarly unshaven. Some women-junk is kept hairy—in fact, a completely bare vagina can be infantilizing, suggestive of child pornography. In summary, not all vaginas are cosmetically sculpted and nakedly bare. Have fun finding your favorite sexy sort.

Next, Catharine Mackinnon discusses male dominance, which leads to the sexual objectification of women. Fucking inequality, why can't we get that to go away? In mainstream porn, women are often represented as objects used for male pleasure, as shown through unreciprocated oral sex and lack of attention on the clitoris. Mackinnon explains: "If sex is a social construct of sexism, men have sex with their image of women" (422). Because guys often view porn long before their first sexual experience, they can harbor this idealized image of women

("Internet Pornography Statistics"). The extent to which men conceptualize women stems more from pornography than is generally admitted. Because porn is clearly not a representation of your average fuck, interactions with women in real life can become forced and uncomfortable.

This article wouldn't be written if we, as a magazine, didn't support a good ole educational and pleasurable bit of me-time in front of the screen but we hope that you, as consumers, understand the differences between pornography and real sex, and consider the dangers of excessive porn consumption. So be respectful of your partner and appreciate their uniqueness.

Happy viewing to all, and many-a-night to excite.



I want to make a new porn film

What?!

But it will be different...

Every woman will be over a size 20, they will all be pierced & tattooed, and everyone will play with their genders

FUCK  
YEAH!

FEMINIST  
PORN!

Rosie Nelson

SPRING 2013 10

# THE BINARY:

## THE ULTIMATE MOOD-KILLER

BY ROSE NELSON

Ladies, this is for you.

Once upon a time, I learnt about the existence of porn on the ole' interwebs. Being but a little sproglet at the time, I was flabbergasted at the sexy times the whole world could watch. Growing up, I thought it was fine for boys to watch porn because they're icky... they obviously would watch the horrors of porn. As far as I knew, girls were not supposed to be excited by porn / touch themselves to feel fuzzy wuzzy.

Only now do I realize that hell yeah ladies can enjoy porn. That is, if they want to. So why is there still a societal reaction against women exploring their sexuality? Why can't women talk easily about masturbation, or feel free to access porn? What is making us uncomfortable about sex? I'm going to tell you my theories regarding

female sexuality – mainly, that women have been 'pinned' as the passive receivers of male sexuality, rather than active seekers of sexual fulfillment.

We've already run into a huge problem here: the binary. There are all sorts of gender presentations out there, not just man and woman. But heteronormativity creates established gender roles that must be adhered to. This limits us by excluding the variety of gender presentations that really do exist.

However, while we're stuck in this binary, we have to explore its failings. Speaking of which...

Women's sexuality has always been perceived as a dangerous thing. Pregnancy and heirs were important, but only if they were legitimate. As a result, women were carefully passed from father to husband in a dowry system, like a little fragile Easter egg. Any woman having sex outside of marriage became a social pariah. In the 19th century feminist activists like Mary Woodhull wrote that, I hold that the poor woman who cast out by society, because in ignorance, she admitted her love, without procuring a license to the sacred relations of love, is compelled to sell her body to some demanding man, for the pitiful means to keep life in her body [...] is as high as heaven above her who [...] the sanction of the priest and the law, marries a home for life, with a repugnance in her soul for the man who furnishes it (Woodhull 103).

Essentially, "why the hell do women having sex out of wedlock get punished and women who marry for survival get valorized? In my eyes they're the same." I'm loving it, Woodhull. But opposition persisted. Throughout history we've dealt with conflicting images, as

Simone De Beauvoir wrote, "The saintly mother has its correlation in the cruel stepmother, the angelic young girl has the perverse virgin: so Mother will be said sometimes to equal Life and sometimes Death, and every virgin is either a pure spirit or flesh possessed by the devil" (267). Women are either absolutely awful or fabulously amazing – how do we deal with those expectations?! It's the curse of the feminine myth.

This polarization is nothing new. We're beautiful (Cinderella), hideous (the stepmother), lovely (the girl next door), heartbreakers (the head cheerleader), pure (the virgin), sluts (any girl who ever has sex). We can't combine these ideas. It's all well and good to be what men want us to be... but the moment we enjoy our body for ourselves, we're awful.

Historically, the ideal woman never trusts her body. She is a receptacle for male desire. She is in charge of restraining herself to keep men in check.

Women are supposed to be the frigid foil to man's passionate nature and acknowledge each other through the 'male gaze'.

You may think we're beyond that mind-set – but look at modern discourse around rape! According to No Nonsense Self-Defense's article on "How to Avoid Rape", "Don't put yourself in a situation where you could be raped. At first glance this is the biggest "NO DUH" statement we could make. And yet, it is something that the nearly 100,000 US women – who are raped every year – didn't manage!" (Anonymous). The wider patriarchal Western society does not aid

these survivors of rape. Instead, victims are told they should have been smarter, more careful, street-smart.

Ladies (and everyone else), if you get raped, it is never your fault. As Luce Irigaray says in "The Sex Which is Not One," due to the Freudian discourse around genitalia it is assumed that "Woman lives her own desire only as the expectation that she may at last come to possess an equivalent of the male organ." Women depend on men for sexual pleasure and are therefore sexually inferior. What is the language surrounding a girl who has a lot of sex? Whore, slut, prostitute, hooker, cocksucker, can't-keep-her-legs-closed, floozy, harlot, tart, tramp, vamp, hussy. What about a boy who has a lot of sex? Pimp, baller, hustler, the man, Casanova, Don Juan, Romeo, lady-killer, ladies' man. These divisive words come from somewhere. Even in day-to-day conversation we learn how women are supposed to relate to their sexuality. Language, behavior, directions and education all reinforce that women must behave passively and with restraint. Deviating from the valorized path means being punished verbally and socially. How can anyone be expected to express their sexuality if they're pushed down a one directional path?



We're taught that boys are horny. We're taught that nice girls don't 'give it up' until they're deeply in love. We're told boys will try to score 100% of the time AND that men think of sex every 7 seconds – not only is this view of masculinity limiting, it also makes us feel uncomfortable with our sexual desires. Women are supposed to be the frigid foil to man's passionate nature and acknowledge each other through the 'male gaze.' Women materially judge other women through their appearances in relation to the male sexuality, once more pivoting women as passive whilst men operate on a far more independent level.

Okay, society perceives women as passive – so what? How does this relate to women enjoying porn? Well, if women are not supposed to be sexual and are not supposed to touch themselves, would it not be considered WEIRD to watch porn? Is that the kind of thing you could talk about with your friends? Not really. It goes against the grain.

**Women have been 'pinned' as the passive receivers of male sexuality, rather than active seekers of sexual fulfillment.**

I reckon these are reasons why 75% of those who watch porn identify as male (Twohig et al. 253). I reckon women do not trust their bodies for thousands of reasons, the majority of which relate to expectations based on patriarchal expectations.

So shuck those concepts. Embrace porn if you WANT TO! Disregard the people out there who will think badly of you and act like the human you are, not the socially constructed women people want you to be. It's easier said than done, so let's take it slow and start by opening up the conversation.

Enjoyment will follow, I promise.

Available exclusively on [LunasErotics.com](http://LunasErotics.com)

She's teaching him  
everything he needs to know.

# BACK TO THE TUTOR





Our Featured Sexpert

SHANNA KATZ

# Our Exclusive Interview With A Board-Certified Sexologist

Porn is an endlessly debated, complex facet of feminist theory. *Uncensored* aims to reach out to college students and empower you to navigate through the field of pornography as part of your personal sexual journey. As a part of this journey, we believe it's important to provide the input of self-described "queer kinky disabled feisty femme board certified sexologist, sexuality educator and professional pervert,"\* Shanna Katz. After graduating from Colorado College in 2006 with BAs in Sociology and German, Katz went on to complete her Masters in Human Sexuality Education at Widener University in Pennsylvania in 2008. Among many of her endeavors since graduating, Katz is the former sex advice columnist for *HotmoviesforHer.com*, a porn website for women, by women and has had her erotica published in multiple anthologies. A self-identified feminist and sex-positive educator, he has both personal and professional experience with human sexuality and its relationship to porn.

Students may recognize Katz from Colorado College's wildly successful Sex Toy Party event back in December, where she spent over an hour educating around 150 students on the basics of sex toys. In fact, she has done multiple workshops, training sessions and written curricula at institutions of higher education throughout the nation. The way Katz discusses and works with sex and sexuality in public spaces is a rare experience for many college students attending her events. She is casual, sassy, funny and welcoming of the variety of questions from "vanilla" audiences. Questions about anal sex prompting bowel movements or seeking out BDSM communities? Katz is your woman. Her ability to create accessible, safe spaces to explore these taboo subjects is exactly why *Uncensored* reached out to her for an interview. To our delight, Katz took the time to sit down and answer some questions we think all readers will appreciate. Read on for an enlightening take on sexuality and pornography.

## **Do you think people should watch porn? Why or why not?**

I don't really believe in using the word "should" around people's sexuality. In answer to the question "can it be healthy for people to choose to watch porn," I would say absolutely yes. People, if interested in it, can definitely watch porn, either as single folks, or as part of a happy, healthy relationship (even watch it with their partner). I think like all media, people should watch it with a grain of salt—just because you don't SEE people using lube doesn't mean that it doesn't happen, just like as when you see someone driving 90 miles an hour in an action flick doesn't mean that you should do that on a city street. As long as folks keep that in mind, porn can be a great turn on, a way to explore new things, entertainment, amusement and much more.

## **In your experience as a sexologist, what personal observations have you made in relation to porn's impact on the people you're working with?**

When I first started doing work, people told me that I would probably see lots of porn addiction cases. Now, I put forward the caveat that I work with a lot of alternative/marginalized communities (kinky folks, non-monogamous folks, LGBTQ folks, etc), for whom there is not a lot of porn that is representative of them, but I have not ever had someone disclose to me that they have/have had or a partner has/had a porn addiction. Most of the people I've worked with have actually had really good experiences adding porn and/or erotica into their lives; single folks have figured out some new ways to experience their fantasies, and people in relationships have used porn to go new directions, and facilitate conversations about arousal. A few folks have watched porn and realized it was not right for them or their relationships, but most people have eventually found the type of porn that works for them, and have added it to one of the many things in their sexuality tool kit.

## **In *The Straight Mind*, Monique Wittig argues that "Pornographic images, films, magazine photos, publicity posters on the walls of the cities, constitute a discourse, and this discourse covers our world with its signs, and this discourse has a meaning: it signifies that women are dominated" (287). Do you think that porn has shaped the way people think of relationships in this manner?**

I think that SOME porn can certainly put forth that way of thinking, but I would argue that mainstream non-pornographic media causes the same mindset. Women always being rescued (from Disney movies always up to action films), wearing little to nothing, etc in the films you can see at the movie theater down the street from your house, or on network TV, has just as many issues, if not more than porn. I'd also put forth that there is porn directed by women, and/or starring women who have a huge say in what they are doing, what scenes look like, who they are partnering with, etc. Some of it might identify as "feminist" or "ethical" pornography, and some of it is just quality porn that values the performers in it.



porn/reading graphic erotica, there is much more equal partaking of both. For gay men and lesbian women in couples, there also seems to be a lot less hang ups around watching porn.

### **Do you think there is a difference between male and female sexuality? Why or why not?**

Again, I think that there does appear to be a difference, but much of that is socialization. In utero, pre-androgen wash, all fetuses have the same genitalia. Not that much changes, regardless of what forms. I think individuals absolutely have different sexualities, but you cannot make generalizations based on sex. . . or gender. . . or orientation. Not all lesbians have the same sexuality, nor do all genderqueer folk. Sexuality is an individual thing, shaped by a combo of nature, nurture, social pressure, and lived experiences. Everyone's is going to be unique.

### **Should porn have a larger presence in feminist dialogue?**

Absolutely. First of all, it exists. If feminists choose to ignore it, or to condemn by painting it all as evil with a wide brush, how does that serve anyone? Secondly, feminists are making porn – as producers, directors and performers. Ignoring that says that we are putting forth levels of feminist, and we create second class citizenship within our common identity as feminists. Thirdly, in order to create change, dialogue has to happen. That's how ethical and feminist porn has begun to develop, and the more conversation we have around it, the more we can change the world of pornography over all.

### **How can feminist porn be used to spice up your sex life?**

Ethical and/or feminist pornography can be used in a variety of ways. At the base level, it can be used as a turn on, either by yourself or with your partner(s). You can also use it to explore new ideas, to educate yourself and others, to push your limits, to see hot bodies that look like yours, to laugh at the fabulous parodies, to learn more about sexuality, to enjoy diverse body types and genitalia, and more. When people want to try something new, I sometimes suggest watching ethical porn with that act in it with their partner as a way to introduce it and discuss it. Example “wow, that looks really interesting, and kind of hot to me! How would you feel about adding in a little spanking into our play? Would you rather be spanking me, or be the spankee?”

### **Where would you direct viewers looking for more conscientious porn?**

There are lots of great places out there. I'd start by having people check out the winners of the last eight years of the Feminist Porn Awards ([http://goodforher.com/feminist\\_porn\\_awards](http://goodforher.com/feminist_porn_awards)). In general, some great companies and websites include (in no particular order): Pink and White, Handbasket Productions, CrashPadSeries.com, Heartcore Pictures... (more choices on the following page!).

### **How would you define feminist porn? In what ways is it different from mainstream porn?**

I would actually rename it as ethical pornography, as much feminist thought is anti-pornography, and also, people who don't identify as feminists can still make good quality, ethical pornography that values performers and crew. I would define ethical pornography as films, shorts, pictures, cam sites, websites, etc that are made by companies that value the time and safety of their performers. This includes letting performers decide on their partners, the level of safer sex practiced, and the acts performed. In this setting, performers are paid a flat rate, versus one that increases with the riskiness of the act (which is frequently present in much mainstream porn, encouraging performers to go beyond their limits in order to make more money). Ideally, ethical pornography would also celebrate the diversity of bodies (various sizes, levels of hair or not, etc), races, gender presentations, orientations, ages (over 18), etc. Many companies producing this type of porn identify as feminist, but not all.

### **A 2009 study at Utah State University claims 75% of internet porn viewers are men. Compared to women, why do you think it is that more men watch porn?**

I think men are socialized in a variety of ways that leads to them watching more porn. They are told that they are all visual, so that porn is the best way for them to get off. They're told that “real” men watch porn. They are told that women don't like to watch porn, so they should not invite their partners to watch it with them. Conversely, women are told that they are supposed to be pure, and that porn is dirty. They are socialized that porn is just for men, and that IF women want to be turned on, they should read romance novels. In heterosexual couples where both parties are open to the idea of watching



After you've read all this, it might be nice to take a second and let it all sink in. 1-Mississippi. And we're back! At various points in the interview, Katz compares the production of porn to the production of other mediums audiences engage in. As we don't see actors lube up beforehand, we don't see the consequences of driving 90mph on side streets. Tireless production takes place behind-the-scenes of pornography, as it does for television. As Nina discusses in her article Porn Education: For Better Fornication, it's important to consider the undeniable contrasts between reality and the screen. That person receiving hard-core anal has had more practice than you my friend.

Furthermore, Katz points out that a wide range of non-pornographic media perpetuate the dominance of women that Wittig, and second-wave feminists such as Catherine Mackinnon and Andrea Dworkin, blame on pornography. It is not only sexual spaces that present sexist conceptions of gender dynamics, but rated G films! This begs the question—

Was it pornography that perpetuated patriarchal values or a patriarchy that enabled sexist pornography to flourish?

To conclude, I think it's important to connect Katz's points about the socialization of sexuality and the individual experience of sexuality. Throughout this issue of *Uncensored*, we speak about the consequences of portraying sex solely as a heterosexual, phallogentric activity between Kens dominating barbies. Porn can serve as a tool for sexual growth, but not if it ignores sexuality as a multidimensional activity that people of all races, sexualities, genders, bodies and ages (as Katz said, only 18+!) engage in. Socializing sexuality as the binary female-male corresponding with the binary pure-carnal, when people actually exist outside of categorical structures leads to entire misconceptions of oneself in relation to sex and impedes on sexual experience. Which is why I hope this interview and the rest of our issue encourage you to broaden your idea of sexuality and, if you're interested, explore some of the ethical and feminist porn working to sexually liberate marginalized people.

## Looking For Feminist Porn? Shanna Katz Suggests:



### REEL QUEER PRODUCTIONS

"Documenting authentic, edgy, queer sex and culture with relevant, intelligent films inclusive of the many sexualities that identify as queer."

### Good Dyke Porn

"This site features real, amateur, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer sex."



### ERIKA LUST

### LUST FILMS

Erika Lust says: "I pledge to create new waves in adult cinema, to show all of the passion, intimacy, love and lust in sex: where the feminine viewpoint is vital, the aesthetic is a pleasure to all of the senses and those seeking an alternative to porn can find a home."

### indie porn revolution

"Indie Porn Revolution is the longest-running queer-focused indie porn site on the net. Since 2002, we've been bringing the finest in indie, alt, amateur, queer, and pro-am porn."

# No Beating Around The Bush

Let's get into the dirty... ENHANCE your porn education today!

1. What percentage of sex workers have reported dismay with clients' attempts to make them do what clients had previously seen in pornography?

A. 14%

B. 47%

C. 63%

2. What is the average age of first internet porn exposure?

A. 11

B. 13

C. 15

3. What percent of internet users view pornography?

A. 20.3%

B. 42.7%

C. 70%

4. True or False: U.S. porn revenue exceeds the combined revenues of ABC, CBS and NBC.

True

False

5. What state is the largest consumer of paid internet pornography per capita in the U.S.?

A. California

B. Illinois

C. Utah

1. B - Sex workers often bear the brunt of what their clients learn from porn. 2. A - You give a child google, what do you expect? 3. B - That's nearly half of all internet users. 4. True - Billions and billions of dollars, people. Any industry that makes that much is having an impact on our lives, whether we talk about it or not. 5. C - The more red, the more religious, the more porn.

**ANSWERS**

# UNCENSORED

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On our honor, we have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this assignment. Friedman, Gattuso, Javna, Nelson, Yafcah.