

Protecting Teens from Digital Pornography

The Problem: The majority of U.S. teens are exposed to porn

12 average age of first exposure

73% teens report consuming porn before 18 y/o

58% of teens accidentally have seen porn. Of those, 63% report they have been exposed in the past week.

52% of teens in the study who report viewing porn, 52% reported “having seen...depict[ions] of what appears to be rape, choking, or someone in pain.”



Source: Common Sense Media. “Teens and Pornography.” 2022.

NEGATIVE IMPACTS FOR TEENS:

Teenage exposure to pornography is associated with increased sexual aggression risk, increased depression, and increased anxiety.

Sources: <https://doi.org/10.1080/10810730.2021.1887980>
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0202048>

These companies are coming for kids, even when kids are not looking for pornography.

Solution: Age Verification to enter a digital porn website

HF1434/
SF2105

Twenty-five states have laws requiring digital porn companies to age gate users.

Rather than having users *attest* to being 18 years old, these laws require the websites to verify (through third party provider or the website itself) that any potential user is 18 before entering.

After confirming a potential user as an adult, the website grants access. The AV industry is designed to check age and to delete identifying data. The law requires **any identifiable data be deleted under penalty of lawsuit or AG action.**

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OPINION ANALYSIS
Court allows Texas' law on age-verification for pornography sites

By Amy Howe
on Jun 27, 2025

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