

PORNOGRAPHY AGE VERIFICATION LAWS

PROBLEMS:

11-YEARS-OLD

On average, a child's first exposure to pornography occurs at 11-years-old.

80% EXPOSURE

80% of children and teens in the United States have been exposed to pornography.

Parental blocking and filtering technologies are ineffective. Filters do not work on 1 in 10 pornography sites accessed intentionally and 1 in 3 pornography sites that are accessed unintentionally.

Pornographic websites receive more web traffic in the United States than Twitter, Netflix, Pinterest, and LinkedIn combined.

Beyond obscene, most pornographic material is violent, degrading, and glamorizes assault, abuse, and rape. Most feature victims of sex trafficking, and even minors.

Pornography usage results in anxiety, addiction, low self-esteem, body-image disorders, and desensitization to harmful sexual behavior and abuse.

SOLUTION:

Create legal protections for children by requiring pornography websites to verify the consumers' age and create legal liability for failing to take steps to prevent the distribution of harmful materials to minors.

FREE SPEECH COALITION V. PAXTON:

Age verification laws are constitutional.

The U.S. Supreme Court has already upheld Texas's age verification law in the landmark case Free Speech Coalition v. Paxton. The Court affirmed that "states have a specific interest in protecting children from sexually explicit speech." Pornography distributors must use robust enforcement tools, rather than simply entering users' ages, that safeguard all sensitive information, including explicit boundaries against data storage.



CASE STUDY: When Louisiana passed a similar bill 2022, Pornhub.com traffic reportedly dropped 80% in the state. This legislation upholds constitutional standards and proves to be an effective solution to children's widespread exposure to pornography.