

Question

Does sexual shame affect men's sexual satisfaction?

Hypothesis

Male pornography use directly affects their sexual satisfaction. Furthermore, sexual shame mediates the outcome of sexual satisfaction, and gender moderates both pornography use and sexual shame, conditionally affecting the outcome of sexual satisfaction.

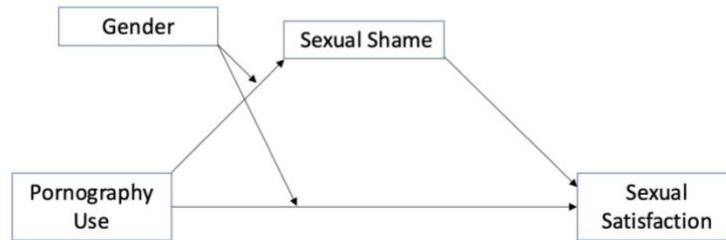
Our model is a moderation of the direct and indirect effects in a conditional process (Hayes, 2018). This model suggests that as pornography use increases sexual satisfaction decreases. However, sexual satisfaction increases or decreases according to the amount of sexual shame a person is experiencing along with pornography use. We have chosen to focus on men in this study, as the research suggests that males experience a higher rate of mediated sexual satisfaction and women use pornography less overall.

The literature suggests that evidence exists to support our hypothesis and that more research needs to be done to measure the effects of gender and sexual shame on sexual satisfaction. For example, Floyd et al.'s (2020) study of a mediated moderation model suggests that there is a correlation between male pornography use and sexual satisfaction. Additionally, research has suggested that male pornography use is associated with lower sexual satisfaction (Willoughby et al., 2021). Sniewski et al (2020) found that men who used pornography had a diminished sense of sex and sexuality, and the use eroded their sexual function. Also, a 2013 study showed that physical symptoms increased as self-judgment elevated regarding self-kindness (Hall et al., 2013). The findings suggest that when self-judgment is engaged more frequently the person will engage less in healthy behaviors and respond less to taking care of physical needs (Hall et al., 2013). It was also suggested that further research needs to be done to measure how self-compassion affects physical and psychological well-being longitudinally (Hall et al., 2013). All these articles and more are encouraging to the hypothesis, and we believe that we will find a positive correlation and that our mediator and moderator will prove to play a role as well.

X= pornography use
Y=sexual satisfaction
M= sexual shame
W= Gender

X = output variable
Y = Outcome variable
M = mediator
W = moderator

X influences y through an M
W interacts with x & y; influences magnitude of causal effect



Model 8 Hayes p588

References

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