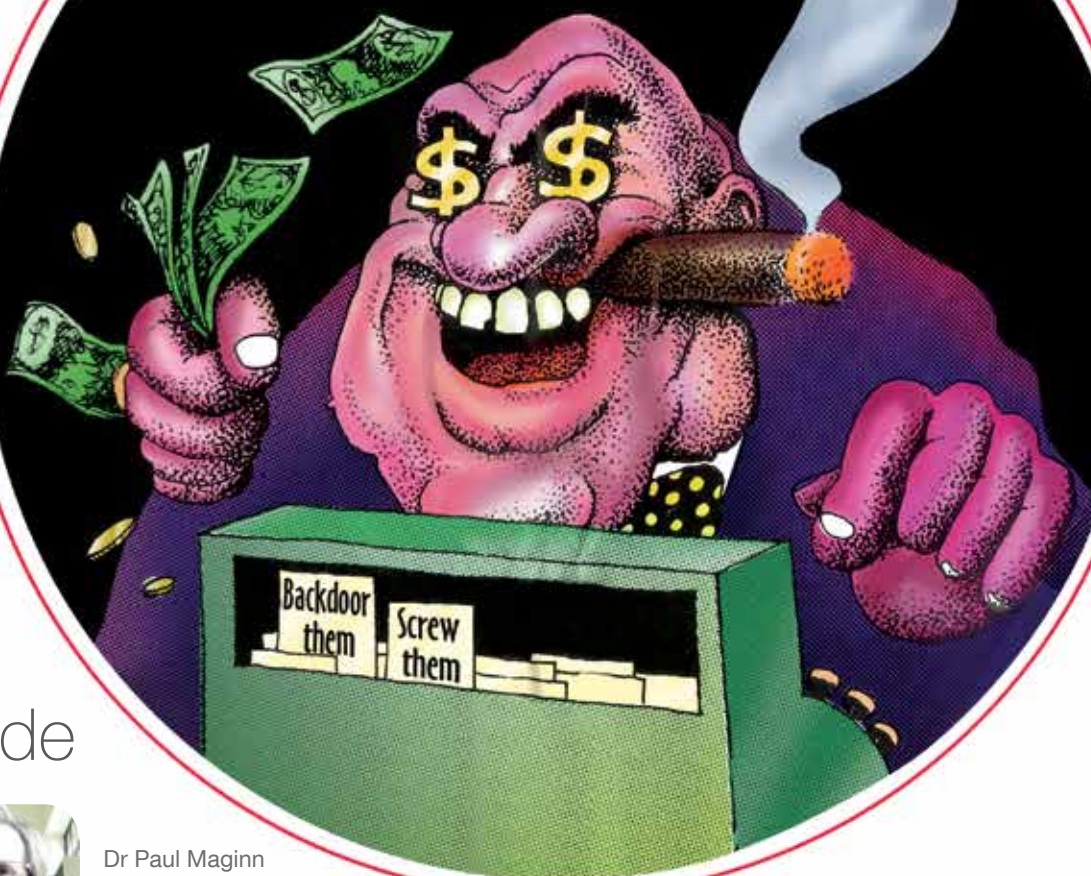


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Adult's Only Retailing in Australia
ISSUE 3 | 2016

How banks deal with the adult industry



Inside



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University of WA
Putting adult businesses
on the map



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Executive producer:
The Eros Association Board

Art Director:
Ilia Chidzey

Contributing Editors:
Nick Wallis
Joel Murray
Cyndi Darnell
Eva Sless

Managing Editor:
Rachel Payne

Editor:
Robbie Swan

For advertising and further information contact admin@eros.org.au
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The Latest from the Eros Association

By Rachel Payne



Can you believe the year is almost over? For some of us, the end of this year cannot come fast enough and for others it has been highly invigorating. Whatever position you take, it must be agreed that 2016 has definitely been an eventful year.

To wrap up what we have accomplished in 2016:

On a tangible level, we have seen the re-launch of both the publication and the website.

The New Eros Journal has been extremely well received amongst industry professionals and advocates alike. I am so pleased to hear the positive responses of members who have enjoyed the content and an opportunity to see the latest products advertised.

It has also been humbling to receive international attention, with many overseas contributors and manufacturers taking interest in the publication. This is the third edition and it continues to grow in popularity and substance with each release. I think it is incredibly important to have a professional publication representing the industry and something that we can all enjoy and benefit from.

The re-launch of the website has taken some time, however I feel the end result has been well worth it. Making sure online resources are available to members in an easy to follow format and retrieval has been the priority. The aim was to keep the website clean and concise, with key points of entry: the directory, member's services, media and advocacy and latest news. Content has been well thought out to accommodate the specific needs and requirements of members, and we continue to develop more specific content based on member feedback and queries received in the office. The next development is to take the website one step further and provide members with online training services, and opportunities for engagement through online forums, both with other members and the Eros office. I welcome your feedback on content, and how best

to make this website work for you.

When it has come to campaigns, we have had some movement of the classification front; appearing before a senate committee, media airplay, and meeting with the Department of Communications who were interested in a less-adversarial approach by working with the industry in reviewing the X-classification. I recently appeared on a C31 program 'The Leak' to discuss the stifled and archaic state of the classification system as it stands. What I find most interesting is when you start to relay the classification system to the general public (and journalists for that matter) there is an overwhelming sense of bemusement - that it is still illegal to sell X-Rated films: acts of consensual non-violent erotica. I can almost see the penny drop - but it's online?

I feel that it is important to keep pushing the envelope with the Department of Communications in moving forward with the laws surrounding the X-classification, especially when you consider the emerging technologies and the subsequent demands of consumers. In the UK (where it is legal to sell X-Rated material) consumers are moving away from DVD's to buying porn on a lockable

USB. Consider this, you go into your local adult store and you can pick a number of titles from a viewing kiosk (much like what we see with movie kiosk in a shopping centre). With a simple transaction, you are provided with a lockable USB containing all of your purchased titles. These number sequenced locks are something similar to a bike lock. Simple, safe and secure. Although there is so much content online, there is still a demand for content offline. Consumers like the idea of going and picking a title, not having material on their computer drives or in their search history, and having something secure to reduce the risk of minors getting into it. It also encourages ethical consumption of porn as the material would be classified, sold in an age-restricted premises, and the consumer is paying for it! Maybe one day this could become a reality here in Australia too.

Speaking of porn, it has been getting some media attention yet again. Articles for and against are going viral online, Toowoomba is trying to ban it, and conversations of 'critical thinking', 'ethical porn' and 'feminist porn' have become common rhetoric in the debate.

I recently had the opportunity to be a panelist at a Q & A discussion on 'the proliferation of porn'. Other panelists included ABC reporter Madeleine Morris, medical practitioner and relationship therapist Dr Anita Elias, project coordinator of *Reality & Risk: Pornography, young people and sexuality* Maree Crabbe and RMIT University research fellow Anastasia Powell. The diversity of both the panel and the sell-out crowd of a hundred invited a lively debate, with questions and comments emphasising both the positive and negative nature of porn. One thing that we all agreed on however, was that porn is not going away.

Interesting was again the rhetoric that is becoming commonplace in these discussions. Terms such as 'revenge porn' and 'child pornography' have

been rejected by professionals across almost all sectors, and rightly so, as it has become understood that the very nature of *porn* stipulates consent between adults. This separation needs to be clear if we are going to have any meaningful discussion about pornography and its place in society.

What is troubling however, is the evidence used to emphasise what some call the harmful effects of pornography - that 88 percent of porn depicts aggression, overwhelmingly towards women. These figures are undoubtedly damaging and outright incorrect, however continue to be used to substantiate these fallacies. It has to be questioned whether this research is at all meaningful when you consider that out of the plethora of evidence that has been collected over the last 40 years, no figure even close to this has been reported. Something that should ring all the alarm bells is who is behind this particular research - anti-pornographers and religious institutions.

The Eros Association is taking this matter very seriously and creating a positive and informative campaign around counteracting these arguments. Watch this space in 2017.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Eros members and contributors who received awards at the Australian Adult Industry Awards. Keith Boswell of Be Daring won best chain of adult retail stores, best adult podcast winners Eva Sless and Angelo D'Costa for LLF, and finally Club X for best retail stores. It was a fun night had by all and I was so happy to be there to wish you all my congratulations.

I look forward to seeing member's at the Member's Meeting, hosted at Sexpo on Friday 25 November 2016, and for those who are unable to attend I will be recording the meeting for all of you to access.

Another year almost over and all the best for the new year.

I look forward to working with you all in 2017

Rachel



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A Word from the President

If you were to travel back in time to the 1980's, and then again in the early 2000's, you would find every adult industry supplier in the USA would have somewhat of an unusual welcome for you at their offices or place of work.

And it's not what you think.....

A trophy cabinet? A fine piece of art? Their latest wiz-bang product or a proud patriotic portrait of their beloved President?

Often, if not always, the entrance to their usually very tastefully decorated offices would be secured by a large, over the top security door, no window large enough to crawl through, and sadly bullet proof glass between you and the smiling receptionist.

I know what you're thinking, but you may be wrong!

Back in these times it was also likely that every Friday the principles of these businesses would go out to lunch or take off for an early weekend, are you thinking that is because that's what bosses do? Again you might be wrong!!

You see, when the George Bush's and the Ronald Reagan's ran the World, they had a hard-on for our friends in the American Adult Industry. They made up all sorts of bullshit, raided peoples businesses and charged them with all sorts of things – often knowing that the charges wouldn't stick, but did it anyway.

They used their power, influence and the G(overnment)-Men to try and stand over, bully and intimidate our colleagues' abroad. Their strategy was to disrupt and destroy by any means possible.

They felt they had a duty and a mandate to wind back the influence of what they considered the underbelly of American society.

Yet these people, most of them that we know, were running legitimate businesses, employing thousands of Americans, paying their taxes and contributed positively to their communities.

Documented history shows that despite this, these legal businesses were being targeted by the FBI (*side bar, if you have visited any of these businesses in the last 50 years, or been to a trade show in the USA, there is probably an FBI file on you too! I hope they caught yousmiling*)

“ One of the FBI strategies was to raid an industry supplier on Friday afternoon, throw the principle and some staff in jail, knowing that their legal people wouldn't be able to get bail until the Monday. ”

Only later to drop all charges, which of course was a relief...but you have spent the weekend with some not-so-nice people. This was disruption and harassment, but it was commonplace back in those dark old days.

Everyone had their turn.

This is one of the reasons why I personally, have much respect for the old-school industry guys & girls past and present. People like Susan Colvin (Calex Novelties), Ron Braveman (Doc Johnson), Elliot Schwartz (Nasstoys) and Steve Orenstein (Wicked Pictures & Sensual Care Products) are just some of the few that have survived and

thrived from those times. They are a very resilient lot, and even though they compete hard, they have shared experiences that encourage them to work together.

In Australia I have seen and have been the victim of government and police harassment, been raided a few times, been charged and accused of things that I haven't done. (I have been accused of things I have done too, but that's another story, usually something as sinful as selling an adult DVD/Video of consenting couples).

I know old school guys and girls in our local industry that have been through some tough physical, financial and emotional times also due to the same misguided do-gooders.

At the time of writing it is reported that Rudy Giuliani is Trump's pick for Attorney General, or Secretary of State. You know, the second most powerful office in the USA, only Trumped by Trump himself (sorry, couldn't help myself!)

Quick history lesson is required here: He was the guy that wiped out the red light district in New York when he was the Mayor - his strategies have been used

“ I fear for our friends and hope that the Trump gamble doesn't return them to the old World of discrimination and harassment ”

in Sydney's Kings Cross. He introduced one of the worst police policies to hit New York City streets ever – he gave police the power to 'stop & frisk' anyone, without cause.

How does that end?

Some of the USA suppliers I have spoken with have expressed their concerns that under Trump, and the Republicans it could be worse than ever. Besides the likelihood of the re-targeting of this sort of harassment to the industry, their

concerns are over the talk of building walls both with bricks and tariffs that will lead to increased pricing and isolation.

I fear for our friends and hope that the Trump gamble doesn't return them to the old World of discrimination and harassment. It seems that the land of the FREE will need to be BRAVE once again!

As for Australia; "she'll be right mate", it couldn't never happen here, could it?

P.S. If I'm not at work on Friday, I'm sure you'll understand.

P.S.S. Big Disclaimer: In the unlikely event that Mr Trump and friends see this, my opinion is not necessarily the position of the members or staff of Eros or the Australian Adult Industry.

David Watt

david@windsorwholesale.com.au



How The Banks Discriminate Against the Adult Industry

By Robbie Swan



At the height of Victorian-era morality in Australia, it became illegal to swim at the local beach during daylight hours. As the flow of convicts from the UK slowed and Australia started to develop its own identity, free from the 'taint' of a convict past, the authorities thought that adopting this extreme measure would send a message to the world, that we were now a civilised and moral country who would not tolerate the morally 'iffy' business of swimming at a public beach when others could see you.

Of course by 1902 when the bans were finally lifted, most of the community had breached them or rallied against them for more than a decade and the false modesty was being seen for what it really was – an attempt to paper over the 'shame' of our convict roots. But as happens so often in Australia, commonsense and majority public opinion are often way ahead of tired old governments and institutions who continue to cling to the ways of the past. Witness the long-standing 86% public support for dying with dignity* (voluntary euthanasia), and the 75% support for marriage equality*. Ending discrimination is also a big issue for multicultural Australia and yet the banks are bucking popular support for this initiative by implementing unfair banking practices on some sections of the legal business community.

In Australia, it's generally illegal to discriminate against people on the basis of their race, creed, colour, sex, age or political belief. State and federal discrimination laws provide enforcement mechanisms to give the laws clout and to make them effective in daily life. In the ACT, there are extra grounds to sue someone for unlawful and unreasonable discrimination under the broad heading of job, occupation, profession or calling.

The ACT's adult goods and services industry has a long history and has been legally trading since the early 1970s. In 1983, the Commonwealth passed an ACT Ordinance (pre self-government) for the Classification of Films and Publications that included an X rated category for explicit but non-violent films. This classification was created so they could only be sold from age-restricted

premises.

In 1992 the ACT Attorney General's Advisory group recommended to the Legislative Assembly that sexual services be legalised and regulated for the safety of both the community and sex workers. Stopping sex work from becoming a vector for HIV AIDS into the broader community was paramount in the minds of legislators at the time and when rates of infection in other countries became known a decade on, the wisdom of the ACT legislators was open for all to see. The ACT still does not have one reported and authenticated case of HIV infection from sex worker to client, while some countries have reported 90% of their nation's infection has occurred through sex work.

In 1995 Kate Carnell's Liberal government implemented an X Licensing Scheme to allow for revenue to be raised for the ACT taxpayer, on the \$34 million a year X rated film industry. The industry became the second largest export revenue earner for the Territory after pine products and plantations through the sale of X18+ classified films.

However following this legalisation, the industry noticed that it was still being denied many of the normal business products and services that were being offered to other industries. These included public liability insurance cover, other insurances, advertising opportunities and financial services. This made it very difficult for some businesses to function legally, as they were then forced into seeking these services from black and grey market operators or from those who would only offer them at hugely inflated prices. Of course this defeated the purpose of legalising



the industry in the first place and it wasn't long before both major political parties read the riot act to the business community that the adult industry was here to stay and that anyone who continued to unfairly discriminate against it on moral or religious grounds, would be heavily penalised.

The bipartisan support in the ACT Legislative Assembly for an amendment to the Anti Discrimination Act to include job, occupation, profession and calling as grounds to lodge a complaint, was evidence of the intent of the local parliament to make its laws around the adult industry, workable. The new laws made it easier for the adult goods and services industry to function, however major breaches of the law have continued and via some of the largest corporations in the land. They have continued to dismiss the ACT laws with impunity and argue to Eros members that they are not bound by them.

Banks are among the worst offenders and even letters penned by their legal departments in the wake of a complaint from an adult trader, shows that they clearly believe that the law does not apply to them.

A recent letter from the ANZ Bank's 'Office of Customer Advocate' shows just how brazen the banks have become in ignoring the ACT laws. The letter is a statement of policy on discrimination at a national level, which clearly offends ACT law and may well offend in other jurisdictions on other grounds like 'political belief'. This letter took months for the bank to produce and was adjudicated on by senior managers and legal advisors. It was typical of the responses that Eros has received

from other banks when responding to a criticism. Follow up calls to the bank have not resulted in a relaxation of their position.

Under the heading of 'ANZ's General Policy' the bank stated that:



With respect to providing products and services to individuals, ANZ does not differentiate on the basis of a customer's occupation or industry affiliation and considers applications from all potential customers, subject to the same credit checks and assessments.

With respect to providing products and services to businesses, ANZ considers both commercial and reputational aspects. ANZ's general policy is that there are a number of industries that ANZ does not typically service as it considers that these fall outside of the expectations of ANZ stakeholders and impact ANZ's reputation and standing. As previously advised, ANZ currently considers the adult industry to fall within this category.



Let's just deconstruct this policy for a moment to see what it means beneath the 'bank-speak'. The first paragraph says unequivocally that they do not discriminate against individual customers on the basis of what they do for a living. Well, Eros already has reports of this happening and once we send out the clarion call, we will get many more. But the bank is saying they don't care if you work for a stripping agency or in an adult

shop – they won't treat you differently than someone who is a housewife, student or businessperson.

In this paragraph the bank also leaves the door open to refuse services to a person if a credit check or assessment reveals that a particular customer could be a financial risk to them. No problem with that as long as they don't see owning or working in an adult shop as intrinsically 'risky' - simply because it offends a bank manager's religious belief or moral view on life.

In the next paragraph they appear to say that in the process of providing products and services to *business* customers, the bank can mysteriously take on the 'karma' of that business, and that in the process of taking their money, can somehow earn a negative reputation for themselves. How can they substantiate this?

They then go on to suggest that it is some sort of moral odium (a term made popular by Senator Brian Harradine in his Senate debates on porn during the 1990s) around some industries that 'falls outside of the expectations of ANZ stakeholders and impact (sic) ANZ's reputation and standing.' So let us examine who the 'stakeholders' are that they refer to.

'Stakeholders', as first defined in a 1963 internal memo at the Stanford Research Institute, are 'those groups without whose support the organization would cease to exist'. No one in their right mind would argue that shareholders are not stakeholders. The ANZ Bank has a million shareholders. How many of them even know about the bank's decision to boycott and discriminate against adult

industry businesses, let alone support it? How many of the bank's shareholders own a vibrator or have purchased an X rated film? They would be surprised to find that probably 50% would have done one or the other at some time in their lives.

And what about those other 'stakeholders' – the ANZ Bank Board members and Executives? How many of them have ever bought or watched an X rated film or bought a vibrator for themselves or a partner?

Probably a better question would be to ask them how many of their staff still use cocaine and head off to the local strip club after work, as was publicly revealed earlier this year. Two executives of the

bank have begun a multi million-dollar court case against the ANZ claiming that drinking, drugs and sex were all part of the bank's daily culture and that following the signing of some contracts they would all head off to a strip club.

A few months ago the embattled ANZ boss Shayne Elliott told The Australian newspaper "Conduct and values are absolutely critical in any business and around the world our industry is quite rightly in the spotlight and being asked to change."

And they wonder why people get angry. The fact that the Bank's managers could go through the massive embarrassment, illegality and shame of such revelations and then put their faces to the teller's

window the next day and tell a vibrator and lingerie distributor that they won't deal with her because her morals are in the gutter – what can you say?

And who are the other industries they say they deny and who made the decision on these? Did shareholders get to vote on this? Are other financial institutions that are in competition with the bank for financial services part of the suite of 'immoral industries' that ANZ discriminates against?

The bank should be publishing all of this information on their website so the world can see and make up its own mind on whether to continue dealing with them, or change to a more switched on bank.



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Employment Contracts

Why Are They Necessary?

Employment contracts can be written, oral or a mixture of both. Written employment contracts are always preferable to oral agreements which are difficult to enforce, especially when disputes arise. Employment contracts are essential to any business and employers should use them as a tool to protect the interests of the business and to properly manage staff. Without employment contracts, businesses expose themselves to unnecessary and avoidable risk.

What is an employment contract? An employment contract consolidates all the relevant conditions of employment for your employees into the one document. Unlike modern awards which are general, an employment contract will only contain provisions that specifically affect your employees. Therefore, an employment contract can be simple to read and understand.

Benefits of written employment contracts:

- Protects the interests of both parties;
- Provides certainty for both parties;
- Provides a legal record of the intention and agreement of both parties at the beginning of the employment;
- A document which is detailed (as compared to a letter of offer);
- Protects the commercial interests of the business through the use of restraint of trade, non-solicitation and confidentiality clauses;
- Provides employers with avenues to dismiss employees if they are not performing to expectations (i.e. reasons and grounds for termination, probationary periods etc.);
- Assists in preventing misunderstandings and disputes by providing the essential details in regards to payments, position expectations etc.;
- Provide avenues and assistance for workplace dispute resolution;
- Regulates taking of leave entitlements;
- Stipulates notice periods to be provided when terminating employment allowing sufficient time to recruit;
- To protect the intellectual property of businesses;
- Avoids reasonable notice claims from employees – if an employment contract does not exist, the employee may be entitled to reasonable notice upon termination which is determined by the Court;
- Outlines how the contract can be varied; and
- Specifies how the contract can be terminated to avoid disputes in this regard.

What should an employment contract include?

- Job title and position description;
- Duties and responsibilities of the parties;
- Pay details;
- Leave entitlements including procedure for taking leave;
- Flexible working arrangements available;
- Rights and obligations of the parties;
- Duration of employment (if applicable);
- Probationary period;
- Benefits offered – overtime, bonuses, severance pay etc.;
- Confidentiality, non-solicitation and restraint of trade clauses;
- Payment in lieu of notice;
- Reasons and grounds for termination;
- Notice periods;
- Any relevant industrial instrument, modern awards, national employment standards or statutory obligations; and
- Redundancy.

Need assistance?

EROS Employer Assist provides all EROS members with advice in regards to all aspects of employment law. We can assist members with drafting employment contracts.

Please contact EROS Employer Assist on 1300 054 542 if you have any questions relating to this article or to discuss any issues that arise in your business.

Paying employees above award wages:

There is a common misconception by employers that paying employees a salary or a rate which is above the minimum award rate circumvents the need for a written employment contract or to pay any additional overtime, allowances, penalties etc., however, this is not correct. If employees are covered by an award, even if they are paid a wage which is above the award rate, the clauses relating to allowances, penalties etc. still apply unless they have been specifically set off. In other words, if employers offer award covered employees a "salary" or above award rate, they must have an employment contract with a carefully drafted set off clause (setting off the award component against the award entitlements). Failure to do this could result in the employer being required to pay the allowances, penalties etc. on top of the above award amount (plus potential penalties for breaching the award) because there was no clear written agreement to the contrary.

Risks of not having employment contracts:

- Difficult to rely on what someone said if it isn't written down – Courts may not enforce the contract as it may be difficult to prove the existence of the contract or its terms;
- Disputes may arise because both parties are relying on memory; and
- Misunderstandings could arise in regards to important aspects of the agreement, i.e. payment details or even job title and position description.

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Victim Blaming 101: Radical Feminists Say Pole Dancing “Normalises Violence Against Women”

by Alessandra Izzo

*I am a pole dancer.
And a feminist.*

*For a while after I discovered
the feminist path I floated
along in a love bubble
thinking it was just “us
against the patriarchy” and
naively wondered how we
couldn’t muster the woman-
power to purge this evil
systemic oppression.*

Then, one day I encountered the evangelical “Feminazis” I had heard so much about in the myths and legends of putrid Men’s Rights Activists misogynists. I briefly stalked these places while investigating the dudebro hell-lounges that spawn such delightful creatures as Julien Blanc and Roosh V. If you want to lose all faith in humanity, by all means explore the Return of Kings website.

One day while surfing the black hole of Facebook, I came across a post that had attracted a crowd of people hell bent on shaming women in the sex industry. It was on the Young Greens Facebook page of all places, and the shamers were identifying as feminists. This was a watershed moment for me.

While I passionately believe in the feminist fight for equality and smashing the patriarchy, I’m nonetheless shocked when reminded that I am also pitted against other feminists who sit on the opposite side of the sex-positive fence. Thus making me, a pole dancer and supporter of women’s autonomy in the sex industry, the enemy.

My outrage and despair over the opposition we face by our very own sisters recently resurfaced when the London Abused Women’s Centre (LAWC) very publicly withdrew support for the “Take Back the Night” march in London, Canada.

This occurred because organisers initiated an open discussion over inclusion of a pole fitness demonstration at the event. A discussion! The organisers raised the question and in response, the LAWC - like a petulant child - not only announced they would not be supporting the event, but also created an offensive meme that went viral.





The Australian Pole Dancers Magazine was launched in 2013 as the brainchild of Editor Jane Blair. In 2015 she joined forces with industry figure Alessandra Izzo (aka Ally Cat) and together they create a quarterly publication which aims to inform and inspire the pole community.

Quarterly issues cover feature artists and key industry players, competitions, health and wellness advice, recipes, tutorials, and some regular fun pole dancing whimsy.

APDM Online (www.auspoledancersmag.com.au) provides coverage of important issues facing the pole community as they happen, as well as being a primary learning resource for pole dancers.



Needless to say, this sent waves of outrage through the pole community, and rightfully so.

The particularly galling thing about the situation was that other women were labelling our sport/art form/passion as something which “normalises violence against women”. In other words, the LAWC were saying to us “your chosen activity is telling men it’s ok to be violent against you”. Welcome to Victim Blaming 101.

Now, pole dance in its many and varied forms can appear vastly different from the stereotypical “strip club derived” or exotic-style pole dancing the LAWC were talking about, but for the sake of argument let’s just focus on that. It is ludicrous to attribute the symbol of pole dancing to the normalising of violence against women. Connections to the sex industry is by association suggesting that the sex industry itself is to blame for violence against women.

Now, I can see the strong arm of patriarchy inside some strip clubs I have frequented (and having worked as a stripper), however this does not mean that the very existence of strip clubs in any way “normalises” violence against women.

Sure, some men disrespect women and may even abuse them after visiting a strip club. But one does not cause the other, in the same way that short skirts do not

cause rape. A man allows himself to behave in a particular way, and hence the man can also choose to modify his own behaviour.

None of these situations warrant blaming of the woman, and should certainly not require her to adapt her own behaviour lest the man be “unable to control himself”. That is a clear message of “it’s your fault for being raped”, and “he can’t help it so you need to stop what you’re doing to provoke it”. How about we start expecting more from our men, and not just assume they are a slave to their testosterone? Can’t we give them more credit?

In September we saw SlutWalk take to the streets of Melbourne to protest this ongoing propensity of men (and women!) to victim blame and slut shame. There are so many people who “get it”. Why is it so hard for organisations like LAWC whose fundamental principles are about supporting equality, to see that they are engaging in the very behaviour that creates rape culture?

In fact, the irony is that somehow pole dancers have taken an activity historically geared towards the male gaze, and morphed it into something that helps large swathes of women find deeper self-appreciation, self-worth and inner strength (as well as outer). If that isn’t the perfect symbol to include in a “Take Back the Night” rally, I honestly don’t know what is.





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Why I Like to Suck Cock: A Feminist Pornographer's Perspective

by **Angela White**

I love sucking cock. I firmly believe that you can be a strong independent feminist and also enjoy slobbering on a hard dick. However, after receiving blowback for shooting my first blowbang, I realised that not everybody agrees with me. Some of my fans panicked and sent me anxious emails about the patriarchy and the supposed 'pressure' I am under to perform in harder scenes to remain relevant. White knights offered their encouragement to leave the porn industry and regain my self-respect. But what these well-meaning supporters missed is that... I LOVE SUCKING COCK.

And when I say that I love sucking cock I'm not saying it to stroke your ego or give you permission to enjoy my blowjob or blowbang scenes with a little less guilt. I actually, legitimately, LOVE SUCKING DICK, in a way that is deeply rooted in my sexual awakening and the story I tell myself about how I 'became a woman'.

When I was younger, sucking cock was something I could do while retaining my precious virginity. Through giving head,

I explored being sexual without actually having sex. And getting on my knees to deliver a blowjob was a great way to avoid being painfully finger-banged by teenagers who had no idea what they were doing. This is partly why you don't see me getting fingered in my blowbang-fantasy-come-true. I've come to positively associate blowjobs with a denial of my own pleasure... except that I gain pleasure from that very denial.

Everything is always more complex than it appears.

But the negative mythology that cloaks porn production in a blurry bukkake haze prevents some viewers from being able to analyse porn in the same way they might analyse mainstream film; with a keen awareness of multiple and deeper meanings. There is also a deceptive amount of work and decision-making that goes into a scene that on the surface may look like I'm just on my knees sucking seven cocks (yes, seven) for 30 minutes. When I direct, produce and perform in pornography I showcase and capture authentic chemistry and

passion, and my blowbang scene was orchestrated to convey my agency and desire at every moment.

I excitedly undid their jeans and exposed their dicks for me to devour. I enthusiastically and energetically worked their shafts and throat their cocks until I choked myself. I communicated my pleasure and desire throughout the scene and unapologetically demanded more. You can practically see a sign in my wild eyes flashing: I LOVE SUCKING COCK!

Yet, even with so much evidence that I desperately want to be in the scene sucking dick, people still question my desires. It's demoralising and belittling to have anyone tell you that you don't actually enjoy something, or worse, that you are experiencing false consciousness.

As a feminist, I believe that we should all be able to ethically express our sexual desires without shame.

Now excuse me, but I have some cocks to suck!

Angela



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Prop 60 Defeated

By Joel Murray

California, USA - The heavy-handed California Proposition 60 was recently defeated by more than a seven point margin. The proposition would have seen the demise of California's adult film industry by making condoms mandatory to wear in all adult films. Thankfully due to the campaign by the Adult Performer Advocacy Committee and the Free Speech Coalition, this backward law won't come into place.

As someone who works also in the HIV and sexual health sector, the proposition surprised me when I first heard about it for a few reasons. If this was the 1990s during the height of the AIDS epidemic then it would have made some sense that mandatory condoms could be a way to protect performers from HIV. However, with HIV treatment being so effective for people living with HIV and other biomedical tools such as preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention, the idea of state-enforced mandatory

condoms in adult films is outdated and paternalistic.

According to proponents of the proposition, the legislation was "poorly drafted" and would be "the creation of an unprecedented lawsuit bonanza that will cost taxpayers millions of dollars."

In fact, the proposed legislation would have enabled private citizens to mount lawsuits against both production companies and performers. Clearly the positive health outcomes cited by proponents was a smokescreen for ideological opposition to the industry itself.

Let's not forget the notion of informed consent. One reasonably assumes that the adults who are performing in these films are making decisions that are informed and rational. Research shows us that sex workers in Australia are sexual health experts because the presence of sexually transmitted

infections means that there are realised commercial losses. It's likely that the same could be said for adult performers.

And while at least in the gay adult film space, there is market competition at play with some studios adopting their own mandatory condom policies. The choice then is for the performer to assess their own risk of HIV acquisition, aim to reduce that risk through a range of options and work with the studios that support the performer's ethics.

The AIDS Healthcare Foundation who were behind the proposition, threw a lot of money and resources to defend their undefendable position. The fact is that adult film performers do not represent a significant risk of HIV acquisition — in my opinion, the money would have been much better spent on targeting individuals within the Californian community who are at risk and a broader education campaign about all the tools in HIV prevention. Just use condoms is no longer a nuanced message, especially when their effectiveness is only 70% compared with at least 96% for HIV prevention medicines.



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Dawn of the Sexbots

By David Levy from the Daily Mail.



It is as sinister as it is compelling – a futuristic theme park in which saloon girls are raped, townsfolk are pumped full of bullets and native Americans are actually scalped.

But the storyline of new Sky Atlantic TV drama *Westworld*, in which lifelike robots are abused for human pleasure, has provoked a host of disturbing questions about violence, sexual exploitation – and when exactly this world of near-human robots will become a reality. And the answer is very soon indeed. Because, with Far Eastern manufacturers already creating machines of astonishingly accurate appearance, the first commercially available sex robots are now expected to go on sale next year.

This coming wave of sex robots will be humanlike in appearance and size. They will have human-like genitals. And they will allow intercourse according to their owner's sexual orientation and tastes. The machines in question are being developed by Abyss Creations at their Californian factory, and are likely to retail for around \$15,000 (£12,300). But we can be certain that rival companies in America, Japan and Korea are scrambling to catch up.

Scientists have already created robots capable of walking, playing soccer, climbing the stairs, playing the trumpet, creating works of art, and many other things besides – artificial creatures not unlike Gemma Chan's Anita, the robot servant 'synth' in Channel 4's popular drama *Humans*, which returns tonight.

But the latest advance in the field of social robotics is a revolution more

shocking still because it comes in the sphere of intimate human relationships.

As an expert in consumer electronics, this is a field I've studied for some time. I first wrote about love and sex with robots a decade ago, arguing not only that people would fall in love with robots and have sex with them, but that we would also be marrying robots by the year 2050. I've seen nothing since then to change my prediction.

The key elements for creating sex robots are a combination of an adult-sized sex doll of the type selling in the US for prices of \$5,000 upwards, together with some of the attributes of electronic sex toys such as vibration technology.

There are some additional technologies, such as heating elements to simulate bodily warmth, and synthetic speech to enable a robot to talk to its lovers in an attractive, sexy voice. We can expect the first ones to resemble the current *RealDolls*, a range of expensive but extraordinarily detailed silicone sex dolls made in America, but with more 'functionality'. This will be comparatively limited at first – some basic words, some simple movements and vibrations in response to touch. The real point, though, is this: as time goes by they will become ever more lifelike as technology advances and new material becomes available and affordable.

Synthetic skin embedded with electronic sensors will enable the robots to react with (artificial) pleasure as they are caressed by their owner-lovers, for example. And as Artificial Intelligence researchers improve the quality of

computer-generated conversation, robots will develop the skills needed for seduction and the whispering of sweet nothings during love-making. Hanson Robotics, based in Hong Kong, has been at the forefront of ultra-lifelike robots for some years, as has Japan's leading humanoid robotics designer Professor Hiroshi Ishiguro in Osaka.

In fact, Ishiguro's robotic versions of himself are so convincing that he often sends them to deliver lectures when he is too busy to go himself. The appearance, at least, is breathtakingly lifelike. But when it comes to 'sexbots', Abyss Creations, which started life 20 years ago, is leading the way. Don't forget that electronic sex toys – the technical term is 'dildonics' – have been available for decades.

The field is expanding rapidly. And in December the Second International Congress on Love and Sex with Robots is taking place at Goldsmiths University in London. The event was cancelled last year when it was due to be held in Malaysia, because the Chief of Police in Kuala Lumpur decreed that the subject was immoral and announced that he would throw the co-organisers, of whom I am one, in jail if we went ahead.

I've no doubt some will find it creepy, but we can be clear on this: the arrival of sexually responsive robots will have enormous consequences. We have already seen rapid changes in human relationships thanks to the internet, mobile devices and social media. That same proliferation of technology has also brought about an explosive increase of



David Levy is the author of *Love And Sex With Robots* (Harper Collins). He has a PhD from the University of Maastricht for a thesis on the same subject, entitled *Intimate Relationships With Artificial Partners*.

Read more: www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3885592/Dawn-Sexbots-new-TV-Westworld-s-future-tourists-romance-robots-just-sick-fantasy-No-soon-buy-androids-talk-touch-feel.html#ixzz4P8ImDSj4

intimate encounters of every kind that we can experience on our screens.

The next major advance will enable us to use our technology to have intimate encounters with the technology itself – to fall in love with the technology, to have sex with robots and to marry them. People have already shown a propensity to engage in some kind of relationship with technology, for example the millions who have attempted to flirt with or insult Siri and other virtual assistants online.

The YouTube video 'Making *Siri* Talk Dirty!' has 1.3 million hits, and the sequel has been even more popular with 2.2 million.

Fantasies featuring relationships between human beings and robots are nothing new, from Ira Levin's book *The Stepford Wives*, first filmed in 1975, to the growing list of more recent and current productions: *Lars And The Real Girl*, *Her*, the TV series *Humans*, and now *Westworld*.

Matt McMullen, the founder of Abyss Creations, is keen to ensure that in future his dolls give every appearance of enjoying their 'sexual' experiences.

'I want to have people actually develop an emotional attachment to not only the robot but the actual character behind it. To develop some kind of love for this being,' he says. and the Wild

Of course, there are those with doubts. Dr Kathleen Richardson, of De Montfort University, has started a campaign against sex robots, arguing that they will encourage us to regard real human beings as no more than 'things'. 'Sex dolls are inspired by ways of relating that

do not require empathy. By promoting and cultivating these objects, we are in effect promoting non-empathetic forms of living as adults,' she says.

Certainly, the arrival of robot sex partners raises difficult questions about the future of relationships. After all, it seems inevitable that humanoid robots will eventually acquire sophisticated artificial emotions and artificial personalities.

My research over the past decade has revealed that the main reasons people fall in love could equally apply to human-robot relationships.

One example is similarity – people tend to like other people who are similar to themselves in one or more important aspect, perhaps in level of education, attitudes or a common interest.

And it will be possible to simulate all of these characteristics with sophisticated Artificial Intelligence software. Another common reason for falling in love is knowing that one is liked by the other person.

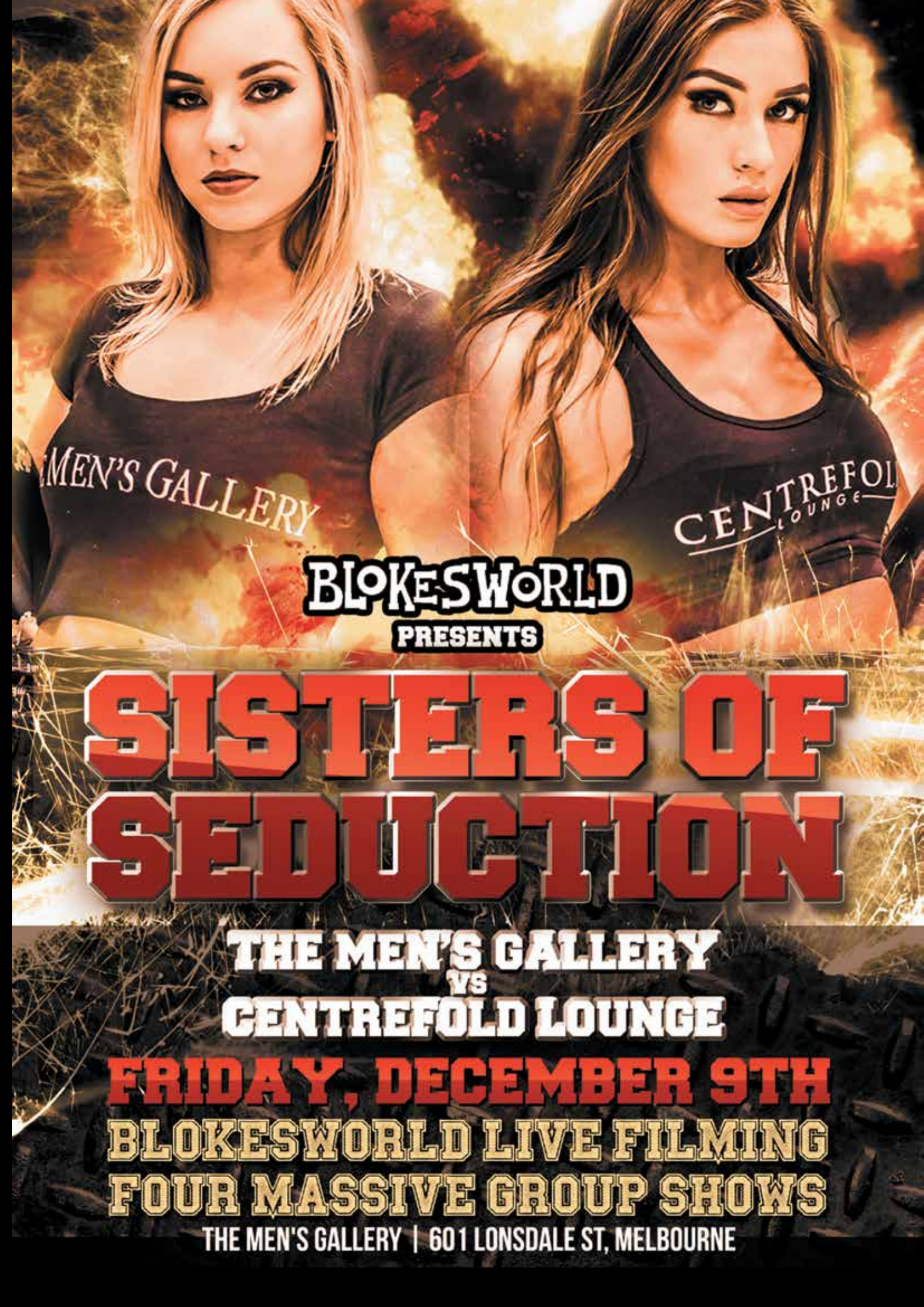
Again, it will be relatively straightforward for researchers working on artificial personalities to develop software which simulates a liking, or a loving, for the robot's human partner – and to spark the interest of the human in return.

There are some obvious and rather tricky questions: is it cheating your spouse or partner if you have sex with a robot, for example? The answer, in my opinion, is 'No'. If using a vibrator is not cheating for the estimated 2.5 million women per year in the UK who buy one, then why should sex with a robot be considered cheating?

I, though, believe sex robots will be a great boon to society and will, for example, encourage greater frankness in sexual matters. Robots could certainly act as sex therapists. People experiencing psycho-sexual problems will no longer need the expensive service of humans. Then there are the downright lonely. Sex robots will eradicate a huge void in the lives of lonely, unloved people, creating emotional and sexual satisfaction for them in place of the loneliness and sexual frustration which blights their lives.

There are many millions of people in this world who are very lonely because they have no one to love and no one who loves them. This might be for any of a number of reasons. They might be shy. They might have psychological or psycho-sexual hang-ups. They might be socially unacceptable for one reason or another – ugliness, personal hygiene, totally lacking in social skills, unable to make interesting, amusing conversation at the right level with those who they find attractive. For these socially challenged people, a more appropriate question to ask is not 'Why is it better to love or have sex with a robot than with another human?', but 'Is it better to love or have sex with a robot or to have no love or sex at all?'

Certainly that will be the view of Abyss Creations as they prepare to release the planet's first commercial 'sexbots'. And for the moment at least, the future is theirs.



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Won't somebody think of the children? Gonzo puts teens in conversation with porn stars

A new play reveals porn performers can be the key to teen porn literacy, writes Zahra Stardust



Sarah Walker: Sol Rumbi, Ari Maza Long, Sam Salem and Jack Palit in Gonzo.

In September Clare Watson's sold out theatre piece *Gonzo* brought together two demographics whose voices are underrepresented in pornography debates: teenage boys and porn performers.

The Malthouse play, featuring four teens in conversation with queer kink performer Gala Vanting and sex documentarian Helen Betty Corday (aka Liandra Dahl), posits teens as savvy media-literate porn consumers and reveals the potential in engaging with performers to make sense of online pornography.

This is not the first time porn performers have collaborated on projects to discuss sex education, safety and consent, and nor should it be the last. In 2015, Helen Betty Corday worked alongside Fitzroy High School to host five community forums, including 'Pornography and Teenagers: Developing Porn Literacy' (run twice due to high demand), where porn performers spoke alongside sexologists, family planning and psychologists. Health professionals on the panel reported to Helen that 'the presence of a porn performer... removed the scepticism the teenagers had toward community concern and lent credibility to the sexual health nurses in the eye of the teens.'

Porn stars have also created public resources on sex and consent. In a BuzzFeed clip veteran Nina Hartley

reminds viewers that consent may be impaired if a person is intoxicated, and in Stoya's 'Porn Star's Guide to Sexual Consent' she discusses safe words, saying no and the right to retract consent. Gala Vanting runs sex education workshops focusing on women's pleasure, emotional safety, clear communication and avoiding goal-orientation. Even the many 'porn stars without makeup' photo shoots online can 'humanise' performers and illustrate the labour of performing femininity to break down gender stereotypes of the ideal pornographic body.

Gonzo addresses concerns that teenage boys are being increasingly 'exposed' to pornography, learning sexist behaviours, and that porn is affecting relationships. Instead of representing young boys as blank slates upon which media is projected, *Gonzo*, based on peer-led focus groups among teenage boys aged 12-18 in Melbourne, depicts teens as 'conscious and critical consumers' developing a sense of 'porn literacy.'

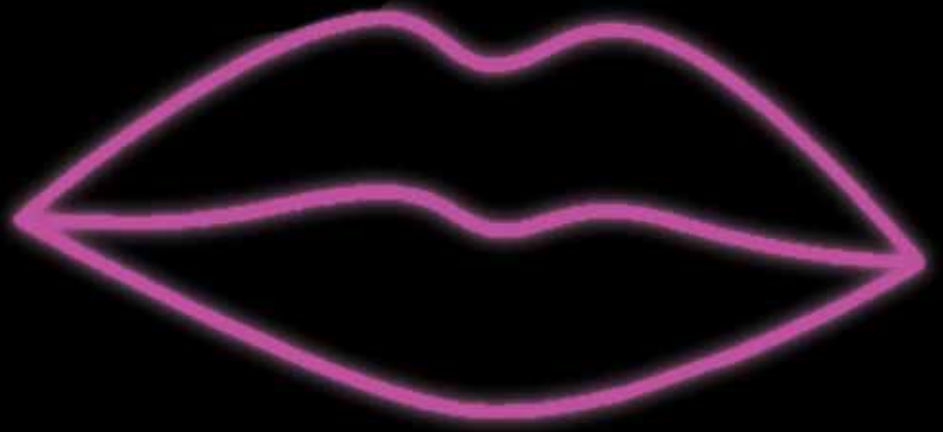
In digital culture, we are no longer viewers but users who interact, participate and generate content. And indeed, the boys on stage are curious. In the conversational, improvised scene with Gala and Helen, they want to know everything from the artistic aspects of films to maintaining romantic relationships to labour conditions on set. How did you get into it? Have you ever had a bad time at work?

The boys care about the women involved, how they are referred to and whether they are having a good time. They want to know if the activities are consensual and even pay attention to whether the performers are using lube.

Many porn performers – some of whom are mothers and feminists – are invested in political change and actively role-model consensual sexual negotiation, bodily autonomy and respect in their films and behind the scenes footage. Sensate Films let viewers know in advance whether the performers in a scene are an off-screen couple, particularly experienced, fluid bonded, or just have negotiated certain activities in advance.

Madison Young has documented an example of a behind-the-scenes sex scene negotiation where the performers discuss the effects of anti-depressant medication on libido, their preferred speed, pace and pressure of penetration, and how they like to orgasm. Lesbian and same sex attracted women's health project Claude have worked with porn performers to create sexual health resources with information about women's anatomy, pleasure and safety.

The value in speaking with performers is in its deconstruction of the production process. It takes away the power of pornography to be represented as ideal or proscriptive. Instead, it reinforces that performers are 'real people' outside their work personas, invests viewers



in performer health and wellbeing, and helps them differentiate between fantasy and reality.



Gonzo star Gala Vanting suggests porn producers create work that models consent and safer sex practice. Photo: ABC

The irony is that porn performers, those arguably best able to assist in understanding screen sex, are deterred from dialogue with teens. Performers must be vigilant in ensuring their work is only available to 18+ audiences, and face barriers to open discussion of pornography in educational settings. A New Zealand teacher who posed for *Australian Penthouse* was deregistered and in the United States a woman was charged with conduct “unbecoming a teacher” for writing about her prior sex work experience. Porn performers are accused of bias, recruitment or being inappropriate influences for young people instead of experts in the field.



Photo: Sarah Walker

The visual backdrop of *Gonzo* features a montage of pixilated, bouncing breasts, erotic art, neon animation, and pandas masturbating to barrage the audience with both the absurd and the mundane array of clips available on the Internet. The images are juxtaposed with banal conversations among the boys about the Kardashians, Donald Trump, terrible bosses and favourite pets. The message is: pornography is just one of many mediums young people encounter online. It is no more exceptional than other media. And like other media, research indicates that pornography is used for a variety of reasons, including boredom.

Pornography is not a substitute for sex education. But in the absence of comprehensive sex and relationship education, young people are turning to the internet to fill in the gaps. Being competent in mediated sexuality has been identified by Australian researchers as a crucial part of healthy sexual development. Porn literacy could easily be included within sex education curriculums, and porn performers could be a valuable part of this process.

Gonzo takes a step in this direction. Even the plays’ title reflects a genre of porn in which the performer interacts directly with and speaks to the camera-person. Bringing teens in conversation with performers is a bold and necessary step towards equipping our youth with porn literacy, sexual ethics, and responsible media consumption. Porn stars hold the key.



*Zahra Stardust is writing her PhD on pornography in Australia at the University of New South Wales. She has chapters in books such as *Coming Out Like a Porn Star: Pornography, Protection and Privacy* (3L Media, 2015), *Queer Sex Work* (Routledge, 2015) and *The DIY Porn Handbook: Documenting Our Own Sexual Revolutions* (Greenery Press, 2016). She has published in journals *Porn Studies*, *Research for Sex Work and the World*, *Journal of AIDS*, and written articles for *The Conversation* and *Hustler Magazine*.*

Vaping and Public Policy

By Nick Wallis

After six years of observing regressive vaporiser and nicotine policy and some pretty shocking prosecutions, you do start to wonder whether some of the older generation in public health drank the infamous 'Kool-Aid' made famous by Tom Wolfe in his groundbreaking 1960s book, the Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test.

Back in 2011, a West Australian vape retailer, Vince Van Heerden of Heavenly Vapes, experienced the full force of these defenders of health first hand. A discrete court order for search and seizure was obtained by the WA Department of Health, who sent three black SUV's to his residence and spent an hour and a half ransacking his place, putting all of his hardware into big, black garbage bags. There was no warning for Vince or his family. Over the next five years, Vince spent over \$100,000 battling the WA Department of Health over vaporisers. And in the end, he lost.

What happened?

Like several Australian states, Western Australia's tobacco control legislation has a small section in it to prohibit the sale of products that, 'resemble a tobacco product, but are not one'. These laws were added to tobacco controls to try and stop what public health experts saw

as subversive marketing of cigarettes, through candy products such as fads, or toy cigarettes or anything else that might get into the hands of children and start them mimicking smoking behaviour.


So here's a law that is intended to protect children from mimicking cigarette smoking behaviour, which is being used to prosecute an adults-only business selling products that give smokers an alternative to tobacco.

In 2014 the Judge presiding over the case found in favour of the prosecution, expanding the conclusion to determine that in effect, any product that involves a hand-to-mouth action and results in the expulsion of 'vapour' does, in fact, resemble a tobacco product.

Let's just remind ourselves here for a moment that vaporisers and the fluids they use, that sold in Australia, do not contain nicotine. Nicotine is a scheduled poison and requires a doctor's prescription for people to be able to access it (unless its in the form of a cigarette). There has been an urban myth floating around recently that suggests people can legally import personal amounts of nicotine. It appears that in these cases, people generally still need to obtain a prescription – even though this may or may not be enforced.

The devices we are talking about contain none of the components that tobacco contains and yet politicians are happy to make laws saying they 'resemble' tobacco products. From that madness they then justify \$100,000 fines and public funding of five year court cases aimed at prohibiting these devices -





all the while protecting the market for smoked tobacco. It sounds like the sort of politics you get from a third world dictatorship but no....it's Australia's State of Excitement in 2016.

Vaporisers are products that are targeted at adults and based on new technology that is designed to reduce the harmful effect of smoking - while still giving people a similar experience to smoking. They are banned because they are said to resemble the far more dangerous product they are trying to displace. Welcome to the politically correct and illogical world of modern public health policy!

“ Across Australia, states and territories have passed laws that equate the use of a vaporiser to using a cigarette. Public health officials argue the inconsistencies of their position by saying they don't want to undo the good work of tobacco controls. Yet tobacco is still a widely available product that many Australians choose to use, despite all the efforts to get them to stop. ”

Perhaps there's a missed lesson in this? Perhaps there is some percentage of the population that no matter how well they are educated, no matter how many messages featuring rotten teeth and cancerous limbs are put to them to change their behaviour, they won't. Maybe there are going to be roughly five per cent of the population who will seek out and consume tobacco no matter what.

There is something admirable and important about those who seek to rectify wrongs, such as informing a previously uninformed market of the risks of a product they are consuming. Also admirable is assisting vulnerable people and making sure they aren't being taken advantage of by big multinational companies. But treating everyone as if their decisions, their choices and their thoughts are irrelevant unless they fall in line with the orthodoxy? That's just authoritarian.

Many smokers have shared their stories online and offline about how using vaporisers has helped them reduce or cease their use of tobacco. Mid-way through 2015, the UK's Public Health stated that their current estimate of the evidence showed vaporising to be 95% less harmful than smoking. Of course it follows that completely abstaining would give a 100% success rate, but this sort of absolutist thinking doesn't allow people to make their own choices.

Vaporisers are pieces of technology, designed to vaporise liquids, often containing a chemical flavour in a base of vegetable glycerine or propylene glycol. Ideally, they would also contain a specific concentration of nicotine. The device quickly heats the liquid, turning it into a vapour which can be inhaled. Most vaporisers are customisable products, with options for different battery packs, cartridges, mouthpieces, atomiser, wick and chamber.

Innovation in these industries should not be discouraged just because there may be some harms involved. The people who are in these industries are usually there because of a passion and often want to make things better for everyone. This is the cornerstone of good capitalism. Unfortunately, it is being undermined by those who would prefer that we made only choices that they approve of.

LEGISLATION SURROUNDING E-CIGARETTES AND VAPORISERS

The rise in popularity of vaporising technology has caused a stir in some circles who wish to see the products more heavily regulated. The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) note that any product that is sold to, *"help people quit smoking"*[1] is a therapeutic good and therefore regulated by the TGA. If a product that claims some therapeutic benefit has not been approved by the TGA, then it is illegal. Nicotine is considered a Schedule 4, 6 and 7 substance by the TGA, depending on how it is prepared and presented. It is also controlled (usually as a component of tobacco) under state and territory legislation to different levels. Some states and territories also have legislation prohibiting the marketing of products that resemble tobacco products.

The TGA notes several concerns surrounding e-cigarettes, particularly around potential quality issues with products, *"delivering unreliable doses of nicotine (above or below the stated quantity), or containing toxic chemicals or carcinogens, or leaking nicotine. Leaked nicotine is a poisoning hazard for the user of electronic cigarettes, as well as others around them, particularly children. Dangerous and lethal doses of nicotine can be absorbed through the skin."*[2]

This industry understands better than most the need to separate adult products from those available to the general population and to ensure that appropriate regulatory standards are put in place. The Eros Association supports the sale of nicotine vaporisers as a competitive alternative to tobacco. We also support a number of regulations on the market for nicotine vaporisers, including:

- Product safety including manufacturing standards, quality testing, tamper proof packaging and appropriate labelling
- Age of sale restrictions (18+)
- Appropriate restrictions on marketing and advertising

The market for personal vaporisers is currently made up of a number of brick and mortar and online retailers. Most of these are small businesses, where the retailing of vape products tends to operate quite differently from tobacco

sales, with more customer engagement and a wider range of products relating to the equipment itself rather than the consumable material. These products are electronic devices after all, and legislation that allows for appropriate display and sale should be taken into account when considering consumer understanding and safety. These small businesses should be able to access appropriate licenses for selling e-cigarettes and personal vaporisers, including nicotine vaporiser liquids, ensuring that they meet industry regulations. Here is a breakdown of the legislation as it currently stands.

- [1] "Electronic Cigarettes", <http://www.tga.gov.au/consumers/ecigarettes.htm#U36e4iNfea> 12/03/13
- [2] "Electronic Cigarettes", <http://www.tga.gov.au/consumers/ecigarettes.htm#U36e4iNfea> 12/03/13
- [3] Section 3 of the Poisons Act 1971 (TAS)
- [4] Division 5, Section 15N & 15O of the Tobacco Act 1987 (VIC)
- [5] Section 4 of the Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981 (VIC)
- [6] Tobacco Amendment Bill 2016, www.legislation.vic.gov.au/domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubPDocs.nsf/ee665e368dcb6cb0ca256da400837f6b/f61457d545b7b0c7ca257fbd0081d68e1?OpenDocument accessed 04/10/2016
- [7] Part 4, Section 9 Tobacco Amendment Bill 2016
- [8] *ibid.*
- [9] DICTIONARY in the Tobacco Act 1927 (ACT)
- [10] Section 19 of the Tobacco Act 1927
- [11] Part 3.2 Section 14 of the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2008 (ACT)
- [12] Section 9 of the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 (NSW)
- [13] Section 10 of the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 (NSW)
- [14] Section 22 of the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 (NSW)
- [15] Section 21 of the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 (NSW)
- [16] Section 58 of the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 (NSW)
- [17] Section 22,23 of the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998 (QLD)
- [18] Section 23A of the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998 (QLD)
- [19] Section 26A of the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998 (QLD)
- [20] Section 26ZS of the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998 (QLD)
- [21] Section 36 of the Tobacco Products Regulation Act 1997 (SA)
- [22] Section 4 of the Tobacco Products Regulation Act 1997 (SA)
- [23] Section 6 of the Tobacco Control Act (NT)
- [24] Section 20 of the Tobacco Control Act (NT)
- [25] Section 14 of the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act (NT)
- [26] Section 106 of the Tobacco Products Control Act 2006 (WA)
- [27] HeavenlyVapours - <http://forums.aussievapers.com/e-cigarette-vaporization-political-media-discussion/22715-heavenlyvapours-court-loss-results-total-ban-all-e-cig-model-sales-wa.html>

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

It is an offence to sell any product that is not a tobacco product, but is designed to resemble a tobacco product or packaging. [26] A Supreme Court decision in 2014 has set a precedent that, "any product E-Cig or otherwise that involves a hand to mouth action and results in the expulsion of vapour does in fact resemble a tobacco product and therefore falls under section 106a of the Tobacco Products Control Act of 2006." [27]

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

It is an offence to sell any product (other than a tobacco product) that is designed to resemble a tobacco product. [21] A 'tobacco product' is any preparation of tobacco for consumption and any product that does not contain tobacco but is designed for smoking. [22]

COMMONWEALTH

Nicotine is considered a Schedule 4 (prescription only) medicine except for use as an aid in withdrawal from tobacco smoking in preparations for oromucosal or transdermal use. It is considered Schedule 6 (poison) in preparations of 3 per cent or less of nicotine when labelled and packed for treatment of animals and a Schedule 7 (dangerous poison) except if in preparations for human therapeutic use or in tobacco prepared and packed for smoking.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

A 'tobacco product' is any product containing tobacco or other lawful plant matter that is designed for human consumption by smoking, but not any nicotine product regulated by the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act.[23] Tobacco products must not be displayed for sale.[24]

Nicotine is not specifically controlled under the Northern Territory legislation. The Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act picks up the TGA's SUSMP.[25]

QUEENSLAND

Cigarettes and herbal cigarettes must only be sold in packages containing 20 or more and loose tobacco must be sold in packages of 25g or more.[17] Loose smoking blends must be sold in packages of 15g or more.[18] A supplier must not display a smoking product.[19] It is an offence to supply an object, other than a tobacco product, which resembles a tobacco product. If a reasonable person considers the object or its packaging to resemble a tobacco product or if it has been declared under regulation, then to supply the product is an offence.[20]

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Herbal products are controlled in a similar way to tobacco products in the A.C.T. and are defined as a, "product prepared for smoking that contains a herb or other plant matter but does not contain tobacco or a controlled drug within the meaning of the Criminal Code, chapter 6 (Serious drug offences)."[9]

It is an offence to sell cigarettes (tobacco or herbal) in a quantity of less than 20.[10]

Nicotine is not specifically controlled under the ACT legislation. The Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2008 picks up the TGA's SUSMP.[11]

NEW SOUTH WALES

Smoking products are more rigorously controlled in New South Wales. Both tobacco products and non-tobacco products that are sold with the intention that they be smoked are regulated. Displaying these products or any smoking accessory is considered an offence, whether inside or outside of the premises.[12] These products must also be sold from only one point of sale on the premises.[13]

It is an offence to sell either product to a person under the age of 18.[14]

A person must not sell a product that resembles a tobacco product or is packaged to resemble a tobacco product.[15]

There are a number of regulations that retailers may have to adhere to when selling tobacco or non-tobacco smoking products.[16] These regulations can be found in the Public Health (Tobacco) Regulation 2009, which does not currently contain restrictions for non-tobacco products.

VICTORIA

Under the Tobacco Act 1987, the Secretary may recommend to the Minister that a product or class of products be banned via Government Gazette if the product[4]:

- i. Is a tobacco product and the product or its smoke possesses a distinctive fruity, sweet or confectionery-like character; or
- ii. Is a tobacco product and has packaging that appeals to children or young people; or
- iii. Is not a tobacco product but resembles a tobacco product; or
- iv. Is of a nature or is advertised in a way that may encourage children or young people to smoke.

Nicotine is not specifically controlled under the Victorian legislation. The Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981 picks up the TGA's SUSMP, meaning nicotine is controlled through proximity to the federal legislation.[5]

The Tobacco Amendment Bill 2016[6] will mean a number of changes for those operating in the vape industry. These provisions have not yet been passed by Victorian parliament and a number of amendments have been proposed, which may affect the following points:

- Vaping is likely to be defined as 'smoking'. This means that restrictions on smoking in certain areas will also be restrictions on vaping.[7]
- Retailing in vaporiser products will be considered the same under the regulations as retailing traditional tobacco products.[8]
- It is not clear whether components of vaporisers (such as wicks, tanks and flavoured juice) will be considered as 'tobacco products' and regulated as such.

TASMANIA

Nicotine is not specifically controlled under the Tasmanian legislation. The Poisons Act 1971 picks up the TGA's SUSMP.[3]

The Eros Association

Founded in 1992, the Eros Association is Australia's longest serving adults-only industry association. Eros is an incorporated, not-for-profit membership-based organisation.

Eros' core focus is ensuring its members' success through a combination of representation, education, liaison, advocacy and service provision.

The Eros Association is the first port of call for many adults-only businesses that required assistance, referrals or advice

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- **Legislative** | a range of laws affect the adults-only industry, varying between local, state and federal jurisdictions. Eros staff can provide general advice about current laws as well as update members when changes in legislation occurs.



- **Customs** | customs issues are a stalling point for many adult businesses. The Eros approved protocol ensures that Eros Members take necessary steps to minimise the possibility of objectionable material being imported.



- **Media relations** | advice to members on how to deal with negative media, assistance with media releases and media liaison.



- **Eros member directory** | an online directory of Eros members available to the public.



- **Eros holographic sticker program** | for approved products that are compliant with legislation and the Eros Code of Practice.



- **Affiliate Partners** | access to a range of allied industry partners.



- **Industrial relations** | complimentary industrial relations advice provided by the IR Group.



- **Advocacy** | Eros provides liaison services between members and local, state and federal governments, including preparing submissions and lobbying for changes to policy and law reform.



- **Members only** | access to member's only articles on the Eros website, discounted rates on advertising in the Eros Industry Journal, discounted tickets to Annual Industry Conference, and Education and Networking Events

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How to make social media work for your adult business

By Joel Murray

Social media has been a part of our lives for over two decades and includes a range of different websites with an emphasis on the sharing of ideas and content between individuals, private companies, government and the community/not-for-profit sector. Although it is tempting to think social media is the easiest and cheapest way to promote your business, it should be considered as one part of the marketing mix. As the popularity of social media has increased, so has the competition for your business to be heard. However, with an understanding of how different platforms work, who your audience is, and a focus on content and customer relationship management, your brand can stand out amongst the crowd. This article will focus on the three most commonly used social networking sites Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Facebook

Overview

Create a personal profile and connect with people you know by adding them as 'friends'. Users post content to their 'wall' and can also 'like' business 'pages'. Content from friends and pages you like appear in your 'news feed'.

Pages vs Profiles:

Profiles are for people, pages are for businesses. There are a range of useful business tools such as 'insights' (analytics) and the ability to schedule posts that you cannot get from creating a profile.

Content

Content should be diverse with sales and product promotion integrated with other posts. Share content from other pages (for example, from the official page of an adult toy that you stock) and don't forget to have fun. Content should drive positive emotional responses with your audience. Keep it relevant.

Content must adhere to Facebook's community standards (www.facebook.com/communitystandards/#) which includes a restriction on posting images that contain nudity. You can restrict the audience of your page through the settings, meaning that as a responsible retailer you are not allowing people under the age of 17 to see or like your page (based on US content ratings).

Less is more - a couple of posts per day allows for those posts to have more

exposure over time. The more people react to, share and comment on the post (called interaction), the more likely your post will appear in people's timelines. Don't forget to respond to people's comments on your posts.

Scheduling posts

Scheduling posts can be an excellent way to keep business and personal separated and avoid getting lost in a 'social media time vortex'. It's also a good way manage content across a number of pages, for example if you have one page for each of your store locations, or if you wish to delegate responsibility to a specific staff member. Unlike most other retail businesses, adult retail businesses are open late. This provides an opportunity to schedule posts in the evening when people are at home.

Insights

This is the data centre for your page. It tells you demographics about the people who like your page across a range of indicators. Knowing your audience should inform content creation. You can also review statistics on each of your posts, such as audience reach. Reflect on what works for your page and audience as it will be different for every business.

Paid advertising and boosting posts

Facebook is driven by data and algorithms and they want businesses to pay for this powerful marketing tool. If you post to your page without spending any money, it will turn up in the newsfeeds of only around five per cent of



your all your page's likes. It's good to first test content to see how much organic reach you can achieve. Posts that perform well can then be boosted.

It is much easier to convert sales with existing customers rather than with new customers. Facebook Custom Audiences is one way to find and direct your advertising to existing customers. You can upload your email lists or data on visitors to your website through Facebook's secure business servers. Facebook uses these emails to find your customers. You can then segment this audience using demographics and then target advertising that is relevant to that segment. More information can be found at www.facebook.com/business/a/custom-audiences



Twitter

Overview

You have 140 characters for you to communicate from your 'handle' (ours is @eros_assoc). All content is public and 'tweets' appear in live time to your 'Twitter Feed' from those you follow. You can use #hashtags to group your tweet with other tweets on the same subject manner. 'Retweet' to share content from someone you follow with your followers, reply to tweets and mention followers.

Twitter: for adults

Unlike many other social media platforms, Twitter treats adults like adults and does not censor content per se. Twitter may issue warnings about sensitive content that requires a person

to click on the media to show it. This an opt-in feature based on a user's settings. Many adult performers and businesses love Twitter for this as it offers an opportunity for direct engagement of adult content with followers.

Unlike other social media, Twitter allows users to be anonymous and so there is a higher incidence of spam, trolls and haters, especially where adult media, adult entertainment or sex work is concerned. Watch out for the anti-sex feminists and we have seen some attacking Eros members with false and misleading allegations. There is the ability to report users if they are impersonating or defaming your brand. You can mute users if they are annoying you or block them if they are really pissing you off (they won't be able to see your posts). Or you can simply choose to ignore.

Time is money

It is very easy to spend a lot of time on twitter, especially if you get into a discussion with another user that spans a number of tweets. It is important for businesses to consider whether the time invested in Twitter is about generating sales or building customer relationships. You can use third-party tools such as HootSuite to manage and schedule tweets - using this will maximise your reach in the least amount of time. Again this is great for delegating responsibility to one staff member or team. But if a business cannot measure outcomes, then time and money might be better spent on other social media platforms that do generate sales or improve customer service.



LinkedIn

Overview

This is like Facebook but for business. Individuals and businesses can create profiles, allowing connection between colleagues and business to business. Colleagues can endorse your skills or provide written references for specific role you have listed on your personal profile. Businesses can list job advertisements, post information about their business or projects or start discussions about particular topics. Individuals can join groups and follow businesses.

Adult retail okay but not some forms of adult entertainment

There are no restrictions for adult retailers to have a business listing. This is one excellent feature of LinkedIn - you can post job advertisements without worrying about having the listing removed (as has happened with with some of our members on other job listing websites). LinkedIn do make a distinction between adult retail and some forms of adult entertainment, stating that "prostitution" (sex work) and "escorting" businesses are not permitted to use their site. It is unclear if this includes adult entertainment venues such as a strip club.



Porn Panic!

Don't Under Estimate It.

My book Porn Panic!, which was published in August by Zero Books, is an unusual book, and has had strong reviews - from those on both sides of the porn debate. The book charts attacks on pornography - in part from a personal perspective - and then takes a big step back to take a broad look at the state of our society today; and concludes that we're not in a good place, nor moving in a good direction. This is more than a book about pornography: it's a book about fascism.

It's no secret that authoritarians will always target sexual libertines, nor that authoritarian states consistently attempt to suppress the sexual urge. This is a lesson that has been learned repeatedly through history; every spike in sexual freedom has eventually been met with a conservative backlash. The pattern is so marked, and so consistent, that it almost seems burned into our DNA. And of course, it is: sex is such a fundamental part of the human psyche that it plays a hidden role in most of our behaviours. Sex is about far more than either reproduction or pleasure. It forms a vital role in our economic and social life; it is probably the most valuable commodity we as humans trade, and it was certainly the first. Sexual freedom offends, because it threatens so many vested interests.

So when, as a tech entrepreneur in the mid-90s, I built some of the earliest Internet porn sites, I was uniquely positioned to watch the backlash unfold. Indeed, I fully expected the backlash, and watched with interest. After all, I live in the UK, a country that has gone through more contortions than almost any other to stop its citizens watching smut. Would our prudish authorities simply roll over as the digital network swept away their carefully assembled powers of censorship? Not a chance.

And similarly, the grassroots backlash was to be expected. What took me by surprise was the nature of the backlash. In a country where religion has withered to a point of virtual irrelevance, a Christian campaign for decency would be simply laughed off. Instead, the anti-sex fury came from my tribe, the political left. A conservative strand of feminism, born in the USA in the 1980s, was at the core of the anti-sex reaction. Its first victims were strippers in east London, who fought back as feminists and trade unionists attempted to put them out of well-paid work and kill a niche culture. One of the strippers, who features in Porn Panic!, referred to herself as the "canary in the coalmine". She understood like few others that a tsunami was building.

From strip clubs, the movement surged forward, attacking sexual expression in all forms, and then expanding to attack free speech in general. It was a movement of the left that embodied all the worst attributes of the old conservative right: it began to attack concepts of racial and sexual equality that had been the outcome of the liberal revolutions of the 1960s. It was inherently anti-science, preferring to create new facts that suited its ideology. This was a new fascism, and its ideas were entering the mainstream.

Porn Panic!, by Jerry Barnett, is published by Zero Book, and available through all good book outlets.



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The Most Explicit Book Ever Classified - Part 3

In this edition of the Eros Journal we continue with part three of our serialisation of a book by Eros consultant and writer, Robbie Swan. It was a catalogue of erotic art, craft and memorabilia that had been classified by the Australian Classification Board in 2014, amidst some controversy over the use of some usually banned images.



From Repression to Expression

>> Erotic art offers us a great guide to changing sexual attitudes in society. While this catalogue showcases Australian erotic art from many different eras and through many different genres it's sometimes hard for Generation X and Y to grasp how prudish and old-fashioned Australia used to be. Baby boomers are well aware of how repressed the 50s and the early 1960s were but those in their 80s and 90s will tell you that that was nothing to the lack of sexual freedom that artists had in the early 1900s. The artworks on these pages show the two ends to that spectrum.

The beautiful pair of early 1920s watercolours by Sydney chocolate box illustrator, Ozzie Brock are filled with sexual suggestion and innuendo but because of the tenor of the times, they are extremely subtle and repressed. The opened flowers, the shawl falling off the shoulder, the wistful downward glance, the comb and the strange hybrid fox/marsupial, all have their own hidden and suppressed meanings.

When placed alongside Brett Whitley's 1980s 'The Lovers', the contrast could not be greater. The Museum purchased this after much hunting around. Most of the 20 copies that Whitley made,

were tightly held. It is perhaps the first truly pornographic piece of artwork by a major Australian artist. Drawn in the early 1980s, Whitley senses the coming X rated video revolution, Internet porn and the whole 're-positioning' of sex in society. This is a couple that is into sex for the sheer pleasure it brings them and they aren't afraid to let it all hang out. Their position is the preferred position of porn stars - her heels around her ears and him plunging in there, deep and rhythmical. It's all there. The big cock, the big hair and even the porno moustache!

But Whitley also picks up on the developing post-porn, tantric themes that Osho's taught and even Eckhart Tolle's mindfulness. This couple's gaze is inward and their eyes are closed. They're totally absorbed in the moment. With Whitley's eroticized Olgas selling for a record \$3.36 million in 2007, he may well have been a tantric master in his own right.

Signed 11/20.





Salvatore Zofrea

>> Zofrea is a bit of an enigma. He is one of the best religious painters in Australia and has had some impressive commissions by big businesses over the years. However, a section from his work (mainly from the 1960s and 70s) is highly erotic and full of sexual passion. This 120 x 90 canvas was purchased by the Museum in the late 1990s and is probably Zofrea's most explicit work to have surfaced into the mainstream art community. He did a number of mildly erotic pieces in this period including *Girl Undressing* and *The Old Madam* but none were quite as bold in their depiction of the physical act of

sex as this painting above. The failure to locate this piece in any of Zofrea's books or exhibitions is probably due to the fact that reputable art galleries would consider such artwork controversial or not to their 'taste'. Besides, this painting was done in 1969- the year of the moon landing and Norman Lindsay's death, so young Zofrea was probably up to his eyeballs in the swingin' sixties!

But this painting (which we have called '*The Growl*') is no ordinary painting. Against two relatively unemotional faces, Zofrea's use of colour and texture to convey the inner feelings of the two

characters is rich and luscious. Has Zofrea painted himself into it as the little demon growler? And who is the young woman at the receiving end? Despite the mystery behind this painting, *The Growl* is one of the finest expressions of eroticism to surface in the late 1960s in Australia.

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Geographies of Pornography

by Assoc. Prof. Paul J. Maginn, University of Western Australia

Here's a question for you: What has geography got to do with pornography?

NO! It's got nothing to do with the fact that geography and pornography rhyme with one another!

If you were thinking that a number of performers have a country, city or physical geographical feature within their name then you are getting hotter. Here's a short list of some geographically-inspired performer names: Alexis Texas; Phoenix Marie, Savanna Samson, Asia Carrera, Houston, Aletta Ocean, India Summer, Madison Ivy, Kylie Ireland, Bambi Woods, Pandora Peaks and Christy Canyon.

And who said geography was boring! In fact, I wonder how many adult performers have majored in geography whilst at University.

To Pornlandia and beyond

As an academic geographer-planner, geography plays a vital role in understanding the where, why and how of the production, distribution and consumption of pornography. For example, most people will probably know that Los Angeles, the 'San Pornando Valley' to be more precise, is the global epicentre of porn production; relatedly, San Francisco is the home of queer and, fetish porn production.

Whilst porn is produced in Australia there is no 'porn valley' per se. Instead, the porn industry and production is highly dispersed. This is largely because, as Zahra Stardust, an Australian-based performer and scholar, notes: 'In most states in Australia, the production, exhibition, advertising and sale of pornography is criminalised'¹

The spatial concentration of the porn industry in LA/San Francisco did not just happen by accident. Rather, the emergence of the San Pornando Valley is a result of a complex set of inter-related legal, economic and social processes.

First, the right legal and regulatory frameworks need to be in place in order to ensure that commercially-produced adult films can be legally produced on a film set or on location; that production crew and performers are permitted to be on sets and take part in productions; and appropriate occupational health and safety regulations are in place and adhered to.

Next, economic factors such as land costs and rents for production and distribution facilities need to be right in order to

ensure that costs are not prohibitive.

Finally, there is a comparative advantage of the adult entertainment industry being based in LA due to the agglomeration and spillover effects that stem from the mainstream entertainment industry being located in Hollywood.

As the porn industry flourished in Los Angeles during the 1970s and 1980s it attracted hundreds, if not, thousands of women and men from around the US and the world. An analysis of the profile of adult performers listed on the Internet Adult Film Database (www.IADF.com) by John Millward (2013)² found that almost half (48.3%) of performers (N=1,941) were from California. This was followed by Florida (11.1%), Texas (8.9%), New York (7.6%) and Ohio (4.7%). These five states alone accounted for four out five US-based performers.

In terms of the nationality of porn performers (N=5,291), Millward found that almost 54% were from the US. The next most popular countries of origin were: (i) Hungary (13.3%); (ii) Czech (10.1%); (iii) UK (4.8); and (iv) Russia (4.6%). All up, these 5 countries accounted for approximately 87% of all performers.

This geographical pattern of adult performers raises the question of why are so many performers from these relatively few locations. Is it because they are sexually liberal environments? Or, is it because they are sexually repressive societies and doing porn is a way of rebelling against so-called social norms? Did they get into the adult industry intentionally? Or, did they fall into the industry by accident? Or, are there some other factors at play.

There is a growing body of scholarly sociological (think Chauntelle Tibbals and Shira Tarrant), cultural (think Clarissa Smith and Mirielle Miller Young) and film studies (think Linda White) research on pornography. You may have noticed that these various scholars are all female. Despite all this research there is an absence of systematic scholarly research on the social, cultural and economic geographies of pornography.

Adult Performers: A minority migrant Community?

Given the various geographical backgrounds of adult performers based in LA it is probably fair to view them as migrant sex workers. For those performers that work in LA, but live elsewhere, in say California, interstate or even internationally,



Paul Maginn, AVN Expo, Las Vegas, 2015

¹ <http://www.nswp.org/sites/nswp.org/files/Performer-Centred%20Pornography%20-%20Stardust%20-%202016.pdf>

² <http://johnmillward.com/blog/studies/deep-inside-a-study-of-10000-porn-stars/>

they can be seen as DIDO (drive-in drive-out) or FIFO (fly-in fly-out) workers. There are clearly some porn-related puns to be derived from the terms DIDO and FIFO... but I'll let you decide on what they might be.

Furthermore, given the fact that only a small proportion of the population are employed in commercial porn, performers can be seen as a minority community. This minority status is compounded further by the social stigma that often surrounds performers and porn more broadly. As Mireille Miller-Young notes in the preface to Jiz Lee's edited book, *Coming Out Like a Porn Star*³:

“Coming out as a porn star has critical consequences for one's relationships, one's sense of self and integrity, an one's livelihood and social mobility. Coming out means risking everything”

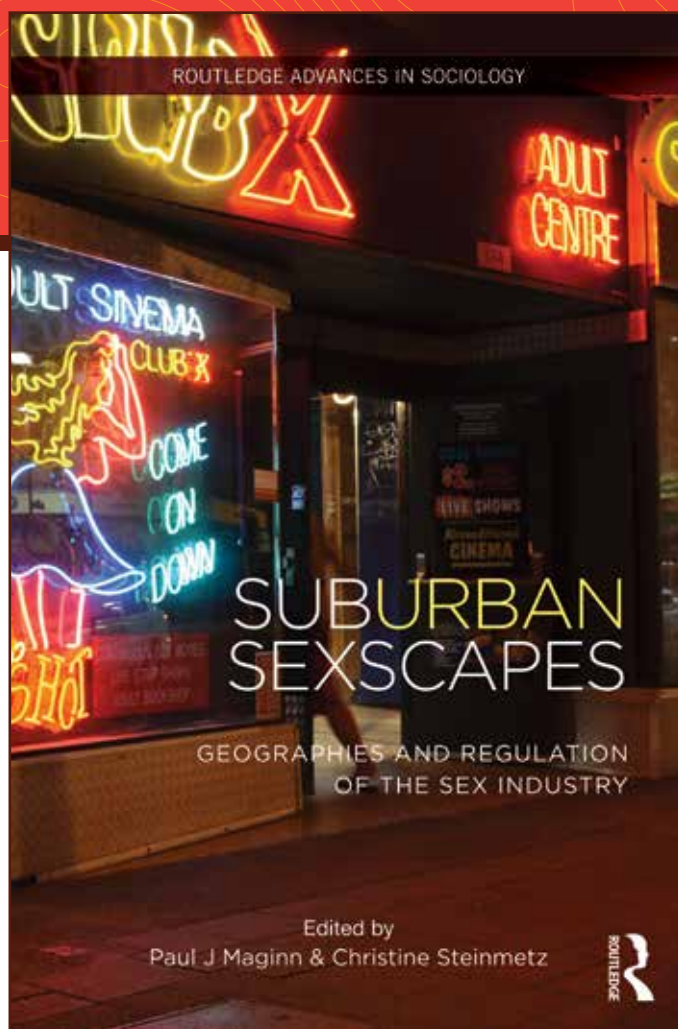
There is something of a paradox, then, when one considers the ubiquity and mass consumption of porn in the 21st century. We seem to live in a world where it's perfectly fine to watch porn – data from *Pornhub* (www.pornhub.com/insights) for example indicates that millions of people access their websites on a daily basis. Furthermore, there has been what I call the *pornification of suburbia*. That is, many couples are exploring their 'inner porn star' if the volume of sales of fetish and kink-related products since the publication of *50 Shades of Grey*, and the number of people who record sex acts on their smartphones are any measure of things.

Despite all this, there still appears to be a reluctance within society and amongst policymakers to acknowledge that consensual commercial porn constitutes a real job or a professional career. Furthermore, there is a need to recognise that just because someone is in porn that porn does not completely define who and what they are as an individual.

There is a need to look beyond the porn aesthetic as presented on the tube sites, DVDs and magazines and recognise that adult performers are essentially just ordinary people from ordinary backgrounds.

As a minority migrant community that tends to live mainly in LA/California this raises a number of interesting geographical and sociological questions about the migratory pathways, settlement and housing patterns and social networks within the adult performer community.

³ <http://www.comingoutlikeapornstar.com/>



We know for example from studies of other minority migrant communities such as African Americans, Irish, Italians, Chinese, Koreans, Jews and Muslims that such groups tend to initially cluster in certain neighbourhoods. Such clustering provides an opportunity for intra-community support and helps sustain a sense of identity. In short, and to use a sociological term, it's all about building social capital!

Furthermore, after migrant communities have established themselves they have a tendency to move outwards and upwards to newer and better housing and neighbourhoods. Conversely, when some minority communities move into an established area this may provoke negative attitudes, claims and reactions from pre-existing residents thereby stifling minorities chances of realising their dreams and aspirations.

Towards a Human(istic) Geography of Pornography

So, all of this has got me thinking over the last couple of years about whether some or all of the above applies to adult performers in some way:

Do adult performers live and concentrate in particular neighbourhoods – i.e. *porno-burbs*?

Do performers, especially those new to the industry and LA/San Francisco, live as room-mates with one another?

Do performers tend to date other performers thereby maintaining tight social networks?

Geographies of Pornography

What type of social relations do performers have with their neighbours, especially when/if their neighbours find out that they work in porn?

When performers become successful and financially secure do they move house and suburb?

What other career and study paths have performers taken prior to, whilst in and after working in the adult industry?

As a 'sexademic' with an interest in the geographies and regulation of the sex industry, exploring these questions and others about the who/what/when/where/why of the adult industry and porn performers can help challenge the stereotypical perceptions that wider society tends to have about porn and those involved in it.

I realise of course that developing such an evidence base is a major challenge. For a start, porn performers along with other types of sex workers have long been suspicious of researchers on account of how research has often been used against them, with, as Miller-Young notes, some researchers 'misrepresenting [performers] as dupes complicit in their own exploitation'. In short, I am interested in conducting what might be termed a humanistic geographical analysis of porn performers.

In a sense, I want to turn Jiz Lee's *Coming out Like a Porn Star* inside out - in a positive manner of course - and conduct a project tentatively called *More than just a Porn Star: A Human(istic) Geography of Adult Performers*.

This article is part of my ongoing efforts to advance this research idea, which I have discussed with a number of US- and Australian-based performers over the last year or so, to the next stage. In order to ensure that the research that I am trying to develop is robust it is vital that it is performer- and industry-informed. To that end, if you're a performer, an agent, director or producer based in Australia or Los Angeles/San Francisco and interested in hearing more about what I am trying to do and, ultimately, assisting or partnering in some way I would very much like to hear from you.

You can find out more about me by visiting my university homepage: <http://www.web.uwa.edu.au/people/paul.maginn>. And, you can also find me on Twitter - @planographer.

I will be at SEXPO in Melbourne in late November 2017 so can meet up with any performers and adult industry representatives then. And, I am also planning on being at the AVN Expo in Las Vegas in January 2017 to work on a project with Prof Barb Brents (UNLV) and Prof. Crystal Jackson (John Jay College, NYC) looking at peoples' attitudes and experiences of the AVN Expo and Las Vegas.



Assoc. Prof. Paul J. Maginn is Programme Co-ordinator of the Masters of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Western Australia. His co-edited book, *(Sub)Urban Sexscapes* (Routledge), won the Planning Institute of Australia (National) Cutting Edge Research and Teaching Award in 2016.

Angela White, AVN Expo, Las Vegas, 2015



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Online Security

by Nick Wallis

In late 2014, the Federal Government passed a law that required Internet Service Providers (ISP) to collect all metadata of their customers.

We are living through one of the pivotal changing points in history. When early humans first moved from a nomadic lifestyle to an agricultural lifestyle, we developed new ways of communicating to manage the needs of an agricultural society. The same thing has happened time and time again with the development of new technologies.

Economist and advisor to the European Union Jeremy Rifkin has written extensively on these patterns of change.

*"The great pivotal economic changes in world history have occurred when new energy regimes converge with new communication regimes. When that convergence happens, society is restructured in wholly new ways... In the late nineteenth century and throughout the first two thirds of the twentieth century, first generation electrical forms of communication—the telegraph, telephone, radio, television, electric typewriters, calculators, etc.—converged with the introduction of oil and the internal combustion engine, becoming the communications command and control mechanism for organizing and marketing the second industrial revolution."*¹

Each shift requires new methods of governance. The internet allows us to structure that governance world in a more connected and dynamic way. But it has also meant that those with criminal and inhumane intent can use this technology to structure and carry out much more sophisticated attacks.

A number of academics have written about the fall of violence in the 20th century, while attributing what some see as an apparent rise of violent atrocities across the world as a perceptual error, created by our fast-paced global media. The suggestion is that in prior centuries, societies were far more violent and inhumane to their population, but word of atrocities did not travel as quickly. There may be some truth to this but there is also a darker side.

Philosopher John Gray counters these academics, noting that many of the enlightenment ideas from which they have built their ideas had a darker side.

*"John Locke denied America's indigenous peoples any legal claim to the country's 'wild woods and uncultivated wastes'; Voltaire promoted the 'pre-Adamite' theory of human development according to which Jews were remnants of an earlier and inferior humanoid species; Kant maintained that Africans were innately inclined to the practice of slavery; the utilitarian Jeremy Bentham developed the project of an ideal penitentiary, the Panopticon, where inmates would be kept in solitary confinement under constant surveillance... More generally, there is no mention of the powerful illiberal current in Enlightenment thinking, expressed in the Jacobins and the Bolsheviks, which advocated and practised methodical violence as a means of improving society."*²

The road to hell is paved with good intentions. The panopticon may have once been an architectural design, but with the advent of new technology, it is now possible to monitor citizens more widely than ever before, in even more sophisticated ways.

That brings us to the Australian government's requirement that all ISPs collect everyone's metadata. Metadata has been described as similar to the writing on the outside of an envelope. But imagine that the envelope is also GPS traced from writer to receiver. There are a surprising number of things that can be learned by tracking metadata, without actually seeing the content that is being tracked. Who you interact with, at what time, how regularly, where you go, where you live, where you work, where you shop etc.

Surveillance of this scope and nature does have an effect on the way people interact. For those who internalise the knowledge that they are being watched all the time, they may start to do things differently and act from a place of constant low-level paranoia. For those who the idea seems more abstract to, they may be unwittingly giving away information that could be incriminating in the future.

Regardless of whether or not you break any law, recording information about what you've been up to and making it available in the future, on the premise that maybe, someday you'll do something wrong doesn't seem very just. There are ways for you to legally defend yourself.

¹ 'The Hydrogen Economy - The Third Industrial Revolution: Leading the Way to a Green Energy Era and a Hydrogen Economy', Jeremy Rifkin, <<http://www.foet.org/lectures/lecture-hydrogen-economy.html>>

² 'Steven Pinker is wrong about violence and war', John Gray, The Guardian, <<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2015/mar/13/john-gray-steven-pinker-wrong-violence-war-declining>> 14/03/2015

VPN

A Virtual Private Network (VPN) is a way to encrypt your internet data by tunnelling it through a secure server. If you're serious about using a VPN and encrypting your data online, it's worth paying for one. It will still be recorded that you visited a VPN, but everything else you do on the internet will be encrypted. There is nothing wrong with using a VPN.

Some VPN providers you can lookup: IPVanish, ExpressVPN, Slick VPN, Ivacy or NordVPN.

Turn OFF your mobile device location tracker

There are many apps that use your geolocation to track you and Google records everywhere you've been. You can even see it, if you want to be creeped out by your little pocket stalker. Go check out this website: maps.google.com/locationhistory

This is your location metadata. Turning off your location tracking on your mobile device(s) won't stop this information being collected all together, but it certainly helps to make it a little harder to access.

BACKUP

This is just general advice if you use any kind of computer, including smart phones. You should always ensure you backup your data, especially your administrative and Point Of Sale machine data. When you do back it up, don't store it in the same building as the original. It might be fine if your equipment just reaches the end of its life, but if something awful happens, such as a fire, a backup copy that isn't far from the original could perish too. There are many online services and out of the box products that make backing up your data very easy.



Fiona Patten MLC

MEMBER FOR NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

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The background of the image is a dark, out-of-focus photograph of city lights at night, creating a bokeh effect with various colored light spots (white, yellow, blue, green, red) scattered across the frame.

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Bodypolitics with Fiona Patten

ACT Election

The recent ACT election was a watershed moment for the Australian Sex Party in the national capital.

It was the first time that the party had run a large campaign for a territory election and the results didn't disappoint. The team ran in three of the five electorates.

Steven Bailey, our lead candidate in the electorate of Brindabella, took out the highest percentage vote for any Sex Party candidate at any election. Together with running mate, Venus de Siren, they claimed an incredible 7.9% of the vote while the Greens could only manage 5.1%. In the electorate of Yerrabi, lead candidate Andrew Dewson took out 4% of the vote and in Murrumbidgee, Robbie Swan raked in a respectable 3.5% without even doing an interview or placing an ad.

The Sex Party promoted a wide range of alternative policies that were markedly different from the majors. Liberal, Labor and the Greens fought the election based around the local issue of light rail. You were either for light rail (Labor/Green) or you were against it (Liberal). It was cut and dried. So offering a completely different set of ideas seemed to attract voters who were sick of the one-sided debate that was taking place. Bringing back fireworks, renovating the iconic Telstra tower, legalising cannabis, taxation of religious institutions and building a speedway in Canberra's south, all captured the voter's imaginations and sparked much debate.

The long campaign time advantaged the party as well. Steven had been out and about as a candidate for nearly two years and this was a huge help. Voters clearly knew who he was and what he stood for and this was reflected in his vote. After

preferences flowed, he was unfortunately pipped at the post by a few hundred votes. It was an incredible effort and sets the party up for a possible win in four years time.

There were many positives to come from the ACT's campaign. The party scored enough of the vote in two of three electorates to gain a small amount of electoral funding in return – another first for the party. Congratulations should be given to Steven and his team of candidates and volunteers who worked tirelessly spreading the Australian Sex Party message across the territory.

Getting Published

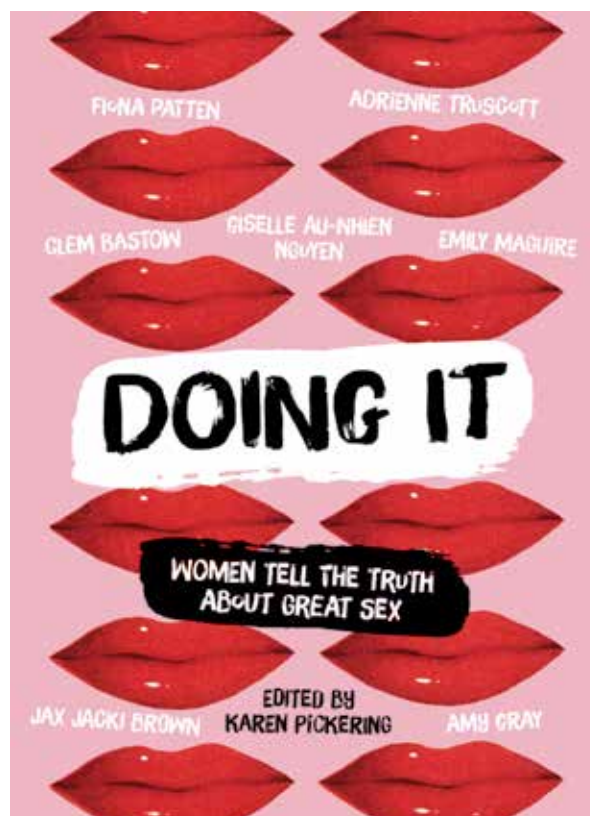
At the beginning of the year I was asked to contribute to a new University of Queensland Press book on women and feminist attitudes to sex and especially great sex. As a member of parliament who had come from the adult industry



they wanted me to write about what it was like to make that transition and more importantly to comment on how my background influenced my politics. I'm not sure that I've done that but anyway, the book is out there in the bookshops if anyone wants to have a look.

Around the same time I was also asked to contribute a chapter to a new book called *Things My Mother Taught Me*. My mum sadly passed away only a few years ago and so she never saw me take a seat in parliament but she knew where I was headed and I think that she still guides me in many ways. Writing a chapter in this book was quite exacting

as it forced me to put down on paper the many things that my mother had done for me which had helped me in my career. You forget the influences that your parents have on you until you actually think about it and put it down on paper. Even the way you work with staff, front the media and do your tax is often using the skills (or lack of!) that a parent bequeathed you.



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Bodypolitics with Fiona Patten

And of course there was the Herald Sun magazine cover story that billed me as the 'rock star' politician. A couple of days later they billed me as a 'dope' for having a very small number of shares (openly declared) in a medical marijuana company. They were trying to suggest that if I voted for medical marijuana in the parliament, there could be a conflict of interest. Apart from the fact that members of parliament should and are able to own shares in public companies, I'm proud of the fact that I'm choosing to back medical marijuana rather than invest in the ANZ Bank or a weapon's manufacturer for my super. Its called ethical investing and I encourage everyone to do it!

Making Paedophile Religious Institutions Pay

The Federal Government is proposing a 'free pass' for religious institutions who have sexually abused children via a national compensation scheme for survivors funded by the taxpayer! Mr Turnbull and the religious right extremists in his party need to re-read the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The Commission did not recommend an 'opt-in' scheme.

It is simply unbelievable that institutions like the Catholic Church, failed to act on the abuse in the first place. Now it looks like they are being let off the hook again when it comes to compensation for survivors. The Federal Government should stop protecting the institutions that let the abuse happen by actually implementing the Royal Commission's recommendations. Recommendation 35(a) of the *Redress and Civil Litigation Report* issued by the Royal Commission states: *The institution in which the abuse is alleged or accepted to have occurred should fund the cost of redress.*

Recommendation 36 states: *The Australian Government and state and territory governments should provide 'funder of last resort' funding for the redress scheme or schemes so that the governments will meet any shortfall in funding for the scheme or schemes.*

Is it any wonder that the Catholic Church's Truth, Justice and Healing Council applauded the Government's announcement? It places no obligation on the Church to contribute. The Royal Commission also called on State and Territory Governments to introduce legislation reversing the onus of proof, so institutions are held liable for abuse unless they show they took reasonable steps to prevent it.

The Australian Sex Party was the first party to call for a Royal Commission into child sex abuse in religious institutions. It's time for abuse to be stamped out. Reversing the onus of proof to make institutions show that they are actively taking steps to prevent these horrendous crimes is the first step towards much needed transparency on how institutions actually deal with abuse.

GREAT READING TODAY

ROCK STAR POLLIE

MEET SEX PARTY LEADER FIONA PATTEN

WEEKEND LIFTOUT



“ The Federal Government should stop protecting the institutions that let the abuse happen by actually implementing the Royal Commission's recommendations. ”



Meeting Group Captain Cate McGregor

All my friends in the adult industry know that I like a party and so when I got an invite to the opening of Lisa Wilkinson's recent photographic exhibition, *Women of Influence*, I was there in a flash. After a few champers I started to really look at the portraits on the walls and before I could blink I came face to face with one of those women - the out trans woman, Cate McGregor.

I was always a fan from a distance but having had a decent discussion with her now, I realise what an incredible person she is and what a fabulous role model for all trans people she is.

In 2012, McGregor was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for exceptional service to the armed forces. In November 2013 she became the highest-ranking transgendered person in the Australian Army.

Legalising Cannabis

There were lots of sparks but not much smoke when my motion to legalise personal use of cannabis was debated in Parliament. Even though quite a few in the chamber would have at least inhaled at some point, my fellow parliamentarians were heckling that cannabis is a "gateway drug". All their heckling must



have made them deaf though, because when I pointed out that the 2,600 cannabis related arrests per year are a massive waste of taxpayer's money, there was no response. The final vote was lost 6 votes for with 32 against, but that is only the beginning of the long march toward change.

Fight against discrimination continues

Discrimination has been a constant theme over the last few sitting weeks, starting with the Government's bill to bring back the "inherent requirements" test so religious institutions have to explain why they want to discriminate. I pointed out that religious bodies

shouldn't have any exemptions in the first place and called for them to be scrapped. Rather than just tweeting, I also took action on the "boots off campaign" seeking equality for the women's AFL teams. In my open letter to the Premier I highlighted the gross inequality in conditions and pay, despite the women's teams forming part of the existing AFL teams and training alongside their male counterparts.

I've also tabled a motion in Parliament for the Economic, Education, Jobs and Skills committee to inquire into the discrimination faced by the Adult Industry, calling for an investigation of legal changes necessary to ensure no-one is discriminated against because of their occupation or calling. I'll provide an update when the motion is due for debate.

Eros Designer Snapped Up by Big Business

Well it had to happen sooner or later. You get someone with exceptional skills, pay them peanuts and before you know it, they get snapped up by a bigger fish!

Our long time magazine and website designer, Ilia Chidzey, has taken the bait and is moving on to bigger and better things. Ilia's design has been part of Eros for nearly 20 years. She has helped to make us the professional and successful industry association that we are, by giving us a highly original and visual corporate identity that has been the envy of way more wealthy industry associations. Her trademark swirling curves and licks have stood out in sea of standardised corporate design and her palette has made the Eros trademark instantly recognisable – whether it be on the door of an adult shop or on a submission to a Senate Committee.

Ilia has also been a brilliant artist and illustrator in her own right and has done design and illustration for many Eros members over the years. A few years ago she started her own art and artist's website called Visual Emporium (<https://visualemporium.com.au>). Last year her portrait of Eros consultant, Robbie Swan, was amongst the finalists for Australia's premier satirical art competition, the Bald Archys (<http://www.baldarchy.com.au>).

All Eros members will wish her well in her new career which will see her managing other artists as well as creating top level corporate designs for a major Queensland company. And when you see her name up in lights in the future as the creative genius for this event or that campaign – you can proudly say she was once one of ours.

Good luck Ilia!

The good news for Eros is that Ilia is being ably replaced by another old Eros stalwart in Rebecca Lanning. Bec worked in the Eros office as far back as the late 1990s and has also been a candidate for the Sex Party.. Bec completed a Bachelor of Graphic Design and has turned out some very impressive work since graduating.

So... welcome back Rebecca!





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Drug Testing Kits

By Nick Wallis

Summer is nearly upon us and across Australia, young and old will be heading outdoors to chase the music and experience Australia's diverse festival scene. Many of them will also choose to take an illicit drug at one of the many festivals, despite warnings from authorities and potential criminal convictions.

No one deserves to die because of the choices they make. Though there are risks involved with drug use, they are nowhere near the 'Russian Roulette' rhetoric often pulled out by authorities following an incident. Many of the risks of drugs are quite manageable. This year, many festival-goers will face the added risk of potentially buying a drug that they think is one thing and receiving something else. Imagine buying a glass of wine and ending up with something that tastes similar, but is fifty times the alcohol content. Or isn't even alcohol, but is a substance

that makes the person feel like their skin is crawling. It's much more difficult to manage risks when you don't know what to expect.

A number of festivals have taken to selling drug testing kits, known as re-agent test kits. These relatively inexpensive vials come with a chemical that produces a variable colour reaction, depending on the drug. One of the most popular commercial products comes from EZ Test, though there are others available with a quick Google search.

These products are not stocked by many retailers, usually relegated to adult stores or head shops. There is no legal grey area in selling these products. They are not illegal to sell at all. Stocking and promoting them may be a worthwhile endeavour for your business over the summer period.

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Around the traps



ABC Airs 'Meet the Pornographers: Ethics, Virtual Reality and Cams'

ABC radio national's Download This Show aired a very positive program on Australia's adult film industry, in late October 2016. Online adult producer and director Michelle Flynn (Lightsouthern) and adult performer Lucie Bee talked about the push to make ethical adult entertainment. They also commented on how technology has been changed by erotic content and how porn is changing, with new digital innovations like virtual reality and more. The program followed hard on the heels of the first Eros Journal's profile of Michelle Flynn who is now building quite an international profile for her film and production work.

Priceline Pharmacy Stocks Vibrators

Priceline Pharmacy, a branch of the popular health and beauty chain, Priceline, has started stocking the Swedish brand of adult products - Smile Makers. The move is reminiscent of a Woolworths initiative only a couple of years ago when the supermarket giant started stocking Ansell's vibrating bullet. Woolworths withdrew the vibrators after only a couple of weeks in the face of what appeared to be a Christian group inspired backlash. Little did they know that Eros had also registered complaints on behalf of a few of its members and a few media outlets quoted Sex Party MP, Fiona Patten, as saying that the move created issues around unfair trading.

The Priceline move will also cause plenty of adult shop owners around the country to see this as unfair and anti-competitive. This is comparable to Westfield and other retail corporations allowing lingerie stores

such as Honey Birdette to sell vibrators as part of their standard leases, without having to go through the planning and development requirements adult retail stores endure. If Club X, Sexyland or Adultshop tries to lease space in a shopping centre to sell similar products, they have traditionally been denied.

Priceline are not pretending that their new line is some sort of novelty or toy or that they are not adults only products. They are stocking them on higher shelves away from children and in order to see the listings on the Priceline website you have to go through an age check. Interestingly, in some states like NSW, Priceline will actually be breaking the law by selling these vibrators from an unrestricted premises.



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National Video Rental Association Closes Down

The Australian Video Rental Retailers Association (AVRRA) has announced that it is shutting up shop. It's a sign that even the large DVD distributors have now acknowledged that the internet has won the movie wars.

Adult retailers have been feeling the shift from DVD to internet viewing for many years now and indeed some adult shops do not even stock media anymore. However, as Eros Board member, Michael McGregor has pointed out, X18+ DVDs will still make up a profitable line (up to 20% of turnover) for many older consumers for quite a few years to come. Many parents, he argues, do not want

adult internet sites on family computers because they leave a trail that innocent young eyes can easily pick up on and so it's safer to go down to the local adult shop and pick up a DVD. There are also an increasing number of people reporting viruses from porn sites, which is another reason to choose a DVD.

The AVRRA wound up its association on October 31. The not-for profit membership body represented video stores across the country. Board director Scott Dew, said that it signaled an end to the careers of many of his members but even through the association had folded, he said it would come back

if needed. "Like vinyl became retro again and sort of bounced back," he said. The ABC reported that in 2001 there were about 2,600 video stores nationally; today there are about 750 according to AVRRA's executive director Ross Walden. He blames the internet and piracy as the "worst enemy" of video stores, compounded by the lack of government assistance. He said at the peak of his business, back in 2008, on a Friday or Saturday night 600 to 700 DVDs would be rented out. "It's less than half now, so maybe 280 to 300 [and] that's a combination of weekly, three-day hire, TV series and new releases".

Seller's and Buyer's Rights

Lawstuff.org.au is an Australian website that defines and deconstructs many complicated legal issues including the rights of people who are buying goods and the rights of those who are selling. http://www.lawstuff.org.au/nsw_law/topics/shopping-laws

Here's an example of the straightforward way they explain laws:

I've bought something but I've changed my mind – can I return it and get a refund?

No, you can't get a refund just because you've changed your mind. However, some bigger stores may still give you a refund or gift card if you ask nicely, but they don't have to.

You also can't get a refund just because:

- you bought the goods for someone else who does not want them anymore;
- you found out you could get it cheaper from somewhere else;
- you knew about the problems at the time of purchase but bought it anyway; or
- you damage the product by using it in a different way from how it should be used.



Clitoris Crop Circle Appears in France

It sounds a bit like a riddle. *What's 400 feet long, French, and guaranteed to make a woman smile?* The answer is this representation of a clitoris that materialized in a field in the village of Montferrier-sur-Lez in the department of Hérault near the Mediterranean Sea.

The image is the handiwork of two sexologists named Marie-Noelle Lanuit and Jean-Claude Piquard, and a protest against the taboos that prevent the depiction of lady parts in public places, especially in textbooks, which, according to the two professors, become curiously euphemistic when female sexuality is the topic.

"The clitoris still has no visibility in biology textbooks," Lanuit said to the *Midi-Libre* newspaper. "Either it's absent or it is included but with no mention that it is the organ of female pleasure,"

Ms Lanuit said, "Female pleasure is taboo in the medical world. Only the vaginal pleasure is taught where the clitoris plays a secondary role, with arguments that are often incompatible with anatomical data. It is sometimes named, but it is never drawn in textbooks in the complete form. In books it is usually presented as a small bean."



Jim Hamill with the first commercially produced prototype vibrator ever made in Australia. The Museum of Erotica still holds this fascinating piece of equipment and the incredible story of how he manufactured and sold them in Sydney during the mid 1960s.



19th century hand cranked Vee Dee vibrator used to cure 'Hysteria'. Article held by the Museum of Erotica.

ABC Runs History of the Vibrator

The ABC has aired a very informative and non-judgmental radio program on the history of the vibrator. The program was called **The history of the vibrator: From steam power to the Magic Wand** and it aired on **Radio National's Blueprint for Living**, in late October. The listening audience, after repeats and podcasting, would probably be in the vicinity of a quarter of a million.

The program went on to say:

'The idea that the womb is the seat of irrational and emotional behaviour in women has seemed perfectly logical to men throughout history.

In 1801 the condition was finally labeled hysteria, from the Greek word for the womb. The treatment of this disorder was carried out by doctors who used pelvic massage to bring the patient to what was called a "hysterical paroxysm", relieving the patient of that troublesome tension.

Horse-riding was an alternative, and in the 1860s, the French advocated directing a powerful stream of water to the area. But hysteria continued to spread and doctors complained of spending too much time relieving their

patients of their symptoms. Various gadgets were invented to deal with the problem, including a steam-driven vibrating device called the Manipulator, created in 1869, which had a vibrating ball set within a tabletop.

It was the British — ever inventive, mindful of time management and, at that time, fearful of matters below the belt — who finally came up with a simple machine in 1883. Dr Joseph Mortimer Granville's invention, which had a vibrating part attached by wires to a generator, was soon popularised. Many doctors saw how successful (and indeed popular) it was in relieving the tensions of patients. By 1902 there were electrical versions that could be used in the privacy of the home, which were also a great commercial success. These personal massagers were widely advertised, with one American catalogue labelling the product a "delightful companion" that would enable "all the pleasure of youth ... to throb within you". The devices promised to deal with all kinds of complaints, from headaches and flatulence to hair loss and gout, but they were especially good at bringing about the relief of tension.

In the 1920s, thanks to the emerging adult film industry, it became clear that the personal massager was only being used in one way. Advertising ceased, shame followed and lips were sealed. That is, until the women's movement in the 1970s called for women to take matters into their own hands again.

Hitachi came up with the battery-driven Magic Wand, a bestseller, and since then sales (and use) of vibrators has become commonplace and acceptable, if still somewhat shyly. In 2009, a study showed that 53 per cent of American women and 45 per cent of American men had used a vibrator. The word "hysteria" now has more comical connotations, which must imply that people get a buzz out of different things these days'.

Programs like this send mainstream audiences into adult shops looking for pleasure products and normalise seeking out such products.



Cyndi Darnell is one of Australia's leading, trusted well-being therapists and relationships educators. She is also a speaker and media spokesperson on modern relationships, well-being and sexuality, specialising in helping people develop the transformational life skills they need to create a satisfying life and meaningful connections from the boardroom to the bedroom.

Follow her on Facebook @thecyndidarnell, Twitter @cyndi_darnell or subscribe to her newsletter www.cyndidarnell.com



The Satisfyer Pro 2

Let it be said, I am not much of a fan of adult toys - in general!

I know. Astounding! Especially for a sex therapist who liaises with the adult retail industry - to be poo-pooing adult toys is just ridiculous! So when I have something good to say about a toy, you know that I am SERIOUSLY impressed.

But here is the thing, it's not that I think sex toys are rubbish, I do not. It's just that a lot of sex toys simply do not offer much in the way of innovation, variety nor do they deliver what they are supposed to; endless waves of self-stimulated (or partner-stimulated) pleasure. For this reason I have always been a fan of the magic wand style vibrators. Powerful, reliable and guaranteed to please even the most inexperienced or anxious. That is, until I became acquainted with The Satisfyer Pro 2! A game-changer in the sex toy field!

The Satisfyer Pro 2 boasts an entirely different sensation all together, and for some this may take a little getting used to. Unlike the magic wand style vibes which vibrate and pound you into exquisite orgasm (the downside is they can create a numbing effect which means it's curtains for your orgasm if it hasn't arrived before you numb out), the SP2 creates a pulsating and sucking sensation which is localised and a much

gentler option. But don't let this fool you. The Satisfyer Pro 2 yields extremely powerful results time after time.

The SP2 is based on the same technology as the Womaniser but I am told the SP2 is significantly superior while coming in at a cheaper price point for the consumer. I have never tried a Womaniser and quite frankly I don't see why I would now that I have discovered the Satisfyer Pro 2. While a different shape to the Womaniser, the SP2 nozzle fits over the glans of the clitoris and offers a sucking and pulsating sensation that is unlike anything a standard vibrator offers. It is advised you use the toy with lubricant which creates a seal around the nozzle to intensify the sensation. Even on the lower speeds, this product delivers EVERY.SINGLE.TIME.

And as an added bonus the SP2 is completely waterproof and works even more powerfully when used underwater! Can it get any better?

Yes!

This little beauty is made of a light-weight hard, non-porous washable plastic that fits easily into a handbag or toiletries bag, while the suction nozzle is made of a removable and washable softer silicone. It's USB chargeable with a magnetic charger so there are no issues using

it overseas; unlike the plug in wands which are much larger, bulkier, heavier and require converters and adapters to function. Careful though not to store it near magnetic credit cards or your phone due to the powerful magnetic receptors.

Available only in metallic rose gold (at this stage...are they making a wider range?) it's an inoffensive colour to suit all clit owners. It's ideal for solo use with easy to manage controls that you can feel without having to look down or change positions to adjust the speed. And it surprisingly delivers incredible sensations on the lower speeds as well as the higher ones. Another feature is it can be used easily during partnered activities such as penis-in-vagina intercourse or fingering, or with other toys that stimulate the vagina, anus and g spot as well. It's small enough to not get in the way of another body and big enough for you to not lose grip of.

Overall, this product is the single best new toy I have tried this century. Never since the wand have I been this impressed. I have a new favourite companion... and I haven't used my wand in months!

The Satisfyer Pro 2 is available at Windsor Wholesale Australia www.windsorwholesale.com.au

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