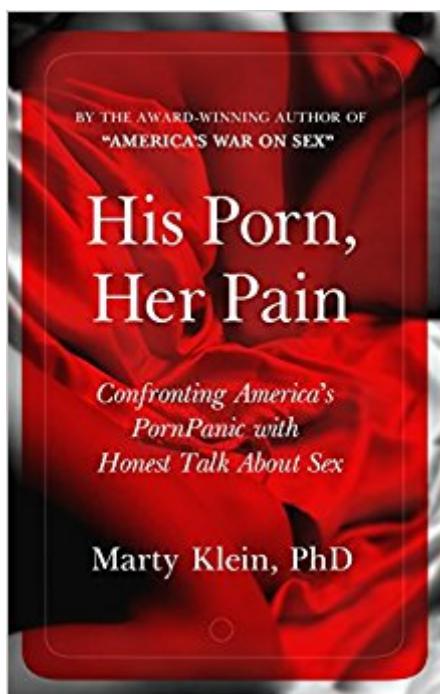


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# His Porn, Her Pain: Confronting America's PornPanic With Honest Talk About Sex



## Synopsis

Written by an award-winning author and veteran sex therapist, this practical, innovative, and often passionate book addresses the explosion of pornography use, advises couples on defusing conflict about it, guides parents in helping their kids deal with it, advises people concerned about their use of it, and shows how honest talk about sex can resolve America's "porn panic." Provides the only book to discuss and resolve conflicts about pornography without demonizing porn or porn users. Confronts a common source of conflict in marriage and anxiety in parenting and presents innovative, practical ways to resolve these problems using down-to-earth language. Shows why there's no such thing as "porn addiction," explains why it really matters what we call it, exposes the billion-dollar industry behind this failed concept, and offers real insight and hope for people concerned about their involvement with pornography. Shows how new technologies are always adapted for sexual purposes, making the Internet's application to pornography a technology issue as much as a sexual issue. Identifies and corrects the most common myths and junk science about pornography. Describes the politics through which progressive feminists and the Religious Right have wound up in bed together opposing pornography by re-branding porn from an immorality problem to a public health crisis. Explains how America's lack of real sex education and frank talk from adults leaves young people looking at porn for sex information and what they're actually learning from it. Relieves parental anxiety with easy-to-follow advice on talking with kids about porn, including conversations about youth "sexting." Appeals to general readers: educators, psychologists, clergy, and social workers; and policymakers, scholars, students, and researchers in psychology, law, public policy, communications, and media studies.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Marty Klein's take on 'porn addiction' and 'sex addiction' is invaluable. If you aren't already reading him, you should be." (Dan Savage, Syndicated Columnist, Savage Love; Founder, It Gets Better Project)"Marty Klein is a keen social observer, a writer full of wit who challenges our misguided assumptions, and an astute therapist who helps couples delve into the thorny issues of love, sex, and lust. When Marty Klein writes a new book, I can't wait to read it. I suggest you do so, too." (Esther Perel, Author, Mating in Captivity)"When porn took over the Internet in 2000, everyone panicked—except Marty Klein, who did the research. His Porn, Her Pain should be read by everyone in an intimate relationship, along with parents, clinicians, and lawmakers, to help us all avoid a moral panic over porn." (Michael Shermer, Publisher, Skeptic Magazine, Author, The Moral Arc)"For years, Marty Klein's innovative and sensitive thinking about pornography has been very helpful to my students. His book America's War On Sex has been extremely popular in our curriculum, so I'm eager to assign His Porn, Her Pain to my classes." (Sandra Caron, Professor of Human Sexuality/Family Relationships, University of Maine)"For couples struggling with one partner's porn use, this insightful book will foster deeper communication and understanding. Parents will appreciate Dr. Klein's practical advice on talking with kids about pornography. With humor, research, and case studies, this is a must-read for individuals, couples, parents, and professionals." (Laura C. Strom, President, California Association of Marriage & Family Therapists)"America has a love-hate relationship with porn, consuming it more than any other form of entertainment, while simultaneously wringing our hands about it. In a sea of activism and self-help books that feed on our collective anxiety, Dr. Marty Klein stands as an oasis of reason and thoughtful perspective. I am always so happy when Dr. Klein writes a new book, since I know America becomes more sexually intelligent with every word they read." (Bill Taverner, Chief Editor, American Journal of Sexuality Education) --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Marty Klein, PhD, has been a Certified Sex Therapist and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist for 34 years. He has written seven books about sexuality, including the recent Sexual Intelligence and the award-winning America's War On Sex.

Pornography: the good, the bad, the ugly, and just plain common senseStarting with a historical perspective, Dr. Marty Klein leads us through a labyrinth of confusing beliefs, attitudes, ideas, and sexual practices leading up to the moment in American history where suddenly high quality porn became readily available in every household. How could our culture be ready for such an overstimulating onslaught? The resulting PornPanic has left us with conflicting and dizzying results that Marty sorts out with honest, no-nonsense talk. He effectively focuses on how we can manage and talk about these often volatile issues as they arise in our intimate relationships and with our children. Neither for nor against pornography, Dr. Klein analyzes our current confusion and panic with illuminating results and many hopeful prospects. Most meaningful to me as a psychotherapist are the numerous recounts of conflictual and deeply personal dilemmas that Marty has had an opportunity to help people with as a long-time therapist. This iconoclastic shattering of numerous time-honored shibboleths of sexual desire, fantasy, behavior, pleasure, and intimacy inhibition leads us through the myriad confusions surrounding sexuality into a creative and optimistic view. This wonderful and helpful book--brilliantly conceived and written--is an apt followup to Dr. Klein's other books on couples issues and sexual dilemmas including his recent Sexual Intelligence: What We Really Want From Sex, and How to Get It. HIS PORN, HER PAIN is a must-read for all of us caught in the overwhelming effects of the ongoing sexual revolution and witnessing the dismayed effects of the PornPanic in ourselves, our sexuality, and our children. Lawrence E. Hedges, PhD, PsyD Author, Sex in Psychotherapy

If you, your relationship, or someone you care about is being affected by porn, read His Porn, Her Pain. Couples who struggle with one partnerÃ¢Â¢Â¢s porn use will find this book offers valuable new insights, and fosters deeper, open communication and understanding. Parents will appreciate Dr. Marty KleinÃ¢Â¢Â¢s frank, honest advice on talking with kids about pornography which, he points out, they are likely to view on somebodyÃ¢Â¢Â¢s cell phone. With KleinÃ¢Â¢Â¢s decades-long experience as a marriage and family therapist and internationally acclaimed sex educator, he skillfully delivers sound guidance coupled with clever, humorous wit, research, case studies and historical perspective. A must-read book for individuals, couples, and parents, I highly recommend it - especially to those who work in human services fields.

Dr. Klein does it again. His book America's War on Sex revealed the depths of our country's ambivalence towards sex and those who aren't ashamed enough of liking sex. Now, he turns his

brilliant insight onto the modern panic around pornography. His book is an excellent resource for both therapists and lay people. It dispels the fear and panic, but acknowledges the pain in those who are struggling with pornography, in their life or relationships. But, because it takes a grounded approach that doesn't paint porn as inherently bad or good, there will always be those who hate it. Too bad, we all have a lot to learn from Dr. Klein.

As always, refreshingly honest, logically sound, and desperately needed. I recommend it to those concerned about porn, its affect on them, their family, and/or society at large as well as anyone looking to help people with those concerns.

Marty Klein breaks through the hype and hysteria over porn, offering common sense advice based on reality rather than false assumptions. He asks the key question that exposes the paradox of sex in America: Why is porn so demonized when it's so commonly used? This book is a fascinating ride through our sex-phobic history and charts a way forward toward a healthier sex positive world.

I can't say enough about how much I liked this book. It's an excellent follow-up to his America's War On Sex, and deals with all the misinformation floating out there about "porn addiction," and how family therapists like himself should understand it (Klein makes a good case for why such "addiction" doesn't exist) and yet deal with the underlying problems of partners failing to communicate with each on the subject of porn. Along the way, he's got advice on how parents can talk to their kids about porn, and how anti-porn activists have managed to turn looking at porn from a "sin" to a (bogus) "public health crisis."

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