NSW Inquiry into the Harmful Impacts of Pornography
Top Blokes Foundation

Additional questions:

1. Can you provide a list of the programs, apps, and sites through which these ads are being sent (e.g., TikTok, or in a game – if so, which game – what classification does that game have)?

Boys reported being exposed to sexual content, ads, and links to pornography through:

- **TikTok:** Users mentioned "slideshow" style posts with hidden nudity and AI-generated images slipping past filters.
- **Instagram:** Identified as a key platform for adult content creators and sex bots to share explicit content and direct users to external links (e.g. OnlyFans). Accounts like "Chantelle_1075646" requesting to be friends/followers are common.
- **Snapchat:** Boys described unsolicited nudes, AI-generated bots, and suggestive "Spotlight" and "Stories" content appearing frequently. *Snapchat Stories* often contain "big booty chicks in cosplay" and similar sexualised content
- **Discord:** Noted for unmoderated group chats where explicit images and links can be posted without age verification.
- **Reddit:** Described as a "whole different story" - widely recognised as a place where pornographic content is easy to find.
- **X (formerly Twitter):** Described as "Pornhub 2.0" - search results often return explicit images regardless of the query.
- **Threads:** Also mentioned as "weird" and problematic.
- **Streaming and gaming sites:** When watching anime or playing free games on aggregator sites (not mainstream games like *Fortnite*), pop-up ads often lead to fake "nearby women" clickbait ads leading to porn or malware. These sites typically feature token age checks (e.g., "Are you 18?") that are easy to bypass - you just click yes.

2. Should there be the option to block ads for pornography sites?

Yes, according to the boys – especially when managed externally (e.g. by parents or the system):

- Several used VPNs or browser-level ad blockers, but noted that these can be hit-and-miss and are easy to override.

- One boy's parent had set up internet-level malware filtering that was effective at shutting down dangerous sites.
- There was broad consensus that users should be able to block this content, but if it's left to the young person, they'll likely unblock it when they want to.

3. What about mixed sites (e.g., OnlyFans) where there is some pornography and some other material?

Boys viewed sites like OnlyFans as primarily pornographic or impossible to filter:

- "OnlyFans is just porn."
- Blocking porn within Reddit, Discord, or X was seen as nearly impossible. Attempts to restrict specific content would "break the app."
- Age-restricting the entire platform was viewed as the only viable option, though even that was seen as easily bypassed.

4. Should young people have the option to block themselves from accessing pornography sites online?

Most said yes – but with caution:

- Participants acknowledged that self-imposed blocks don't work, because the same person can remove them at any time.
- They agreed that parental controls or external restrictions are more effective.
- Several advocated for earlier education as the real solution: "There's no actual way to get rid of it completely… education is the best workaround."

Additional insights:

- **Parental involvement:** Boys felt most parents are unaware of the scope of content young people are exposed to online.
- **Education:** The most effective tool in their eyes is education, not prohibition — helping young people understand why and how to manage exposure is more impactful than relying solely on technical blocks.
- **Trust and conversation:** While most wouldn't speak to parents or teachers about porn, they would talk to trusted youth workers or their peers.
- Boys also talked about **PornHub** and **Shorties** - basically 30 sec porn content fed like an insta reel.