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**" SMARTPHONE USAGE AND DEVELOPMENT OF SEXUALITY  
AMONG LATE ADOLESCENT BOYS IN HEALTH SCIENCES  
COLLEGES OF MANGALORE, KARNATAKA"**

. Jayashree K

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**PAPER UNDER REVIEW:**

**TITLE: " SMARTPHONE USAGE AND DEVELOPMENT OF SEXUALITY AMONG LATE ADOLESCENT BOYS IN HEALTH SCIENCES COLLEGES OF MANGALORE, KARNATAKA"**

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**ABSTRACT**

**INTRODUCTION:** Better affordability of data plans and an increase in "budget" smartphones have resulted in an exponential rise in internet and smartphone users. The ease of access to sexually explicit material (SEM) coupled with adolescents' impulsivity, makes them prone to excessive SEM exposure and may affect the development of sexuality via the perceived realism of such content.

**OBJECTIVES:** To study the association between problematic smartphone usage (PSU) and sexuality development among late adolescent boys.

**METHODS:** One hundred and thirty-four adolescents aged 18-19 years, studying in a medical university, participated in an online cross-sectional study. Smartphone Addiction Scale – short version (SAS-SV) to evaluate PSU and a prevalidated semi-structured proforma to evaluate gender identity, sexual orientation, sources of information on pubertal changes, and exposure to pornographic content was used. We expressed results as proportion and summary measures (Mean±SD), Chi-square test to find an association between PSU and adolescent sexuality development.

**RESULTS:** We found a 45.5% prevalence of PSU. Among study participants, 88% were attracted to the opposite sex, 6% were attracted to the same-sex, and 6% were attracted to both sexes. Three percent of participants liked wearing clothes of the opposite sex, 7.5% wanted to be members of the opposite sex, whereas 10.4% were not comfortable with their genitalia. They obtained information regarding pubertal changes participants from friends (85) and media (78). Exposure to pornographic content (90%), with the youngest being nine years old.

**CONCLUSION:** Nearly half of the late adolescents have PSU. Pornographic contents are accessed through Smartphones.

**Keywords:** Adolescent boys, sexual orientation, gender identity, smartphone addiction, pornography