Addiction
   a. Definition
      i. Brain activity
      ii. Compulsive sexual behavior disorder aka Sex addiction
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Sextortion
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Addiction is a treatable, chronic medical disease involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment, and an individual’s life experiences.

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Addiction is a chronic disorder with biological, psychological, social and environmental factors influencing its development and maintenance.

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According to a University of Cambridge study published in PLOS ONE. Researchers found that, drug addicts who are exposed to drug-related triggers show three overactive regions of the brain.

What’s astonishing is that these three regions – the ventral striatum, dorsal anterior cingulate and amygdale – are the same regions that become activated in sex addicts.
Addiction Cycle

Stage One – Triggers: Frustration and internal pain that leads to anxiety and a demand for relief of these symptoms

Stage Two – Fantasizing: about using alcohol and drugs or behaviors to relieve the uncomfortable symptoms

Stage Three – Obsessing: about using drugs and alcohol and how his or her life will be after the use of substances

Stage Four – Engaging: in the addictive activity, such as using substances to gain relief (acting out)

Stage Five – Losing control: over the behavior

Stage Six – Remorse: guilt and shame, which lead to feelings of dissatisfaction

Stage Seven – Promise: or resolve to oneself to stop the behavior or substance use

Sex Addiction Cycle

Stage One – Triggers: (Shame/Blame/Guilt/Other Strong Emotions): Triggers are catalysts that create a need/desire to act out sexually. Most often triggers are some sort of “pain agent.” Pain agents include emotional/psychological discomfort and also (sometimes) physical discomfort

Stage Two – Fantasy: After being triggered and therefore needing/wanting to escape and numb out, sex addicts automatically turn to their primary coping mechanism – sexual fantasy.

Stage Three – Ritualization: Ritualization is where fantasy moves toward reality.

Stage Four – Acting Out: Most non-sex addicts think that this stage, rather than stage three, is the ultimate goal of sexual addiction. However, as stated above, the fantasy-fueled escape and numbness of stage three is the real objective.

Stage Five – Avoidance: After acting out, sex addicts attempt to distance themselves emotionally from what they’ve just done.

Stage Six – Despair: (Shame/Anxiety/Depression): Eventually, avoidance dissipates and sex addicts must face reality when they get caught.
Exploitative sex – is about power and dominance over a vulnerable person

Intrusive sex – sexual pleasure is derived from violating someone’s boundaries without their knowledge

Fantasy sex – sex is not pleasurable without indulging in a fantasy surrounding it

Seductive role sex – sex becomes about the conquest, and interest is quickly lost afterwards

Voyeuristic sex – sexual pleasure depends on visual stimulation

Exhibitionist sex – sex is about drawing attention and gaining a reaction from others

Trading sex – sex is bartered or sold to gain a sense of control or leverage over others*
World Health Organization (WHO) 2018
Added compulsive sexual behavior disorder (sex addiction) to the International Classification of Diseases.

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), does not recognize compulsive sexual behavior (sex addiction) it may be diagnosed as a subcategory of another mental health condition, such as an impulse control disorder or a behavioral addiction.

Some mental health professionals consider compulsive sexual behaviors (sex addiction) as sexual activities taken to an extreme with significant and negative consequences.

Harvey Weinstein sex scandal, claimed sex addiction.
James Franco sex scandal and law suite, claims sex addiction.
Amber Smith Sports Illustrated swimsuit model, stalked a man for 12 years, claims sex addiction.
David Duchovny X-Files, Unfaithful for years, claimed sex addiction.
Jesse James, Sandra Bullock's famous ex multiple affairs, claims sex addiction.
Rob Lowe, actor sex scandal w teenager, claims drug and sex addiction**
One characteristic may be secrecy of behaviors, in which the person with the disorder becomes skilled at hiding their behavior and can even keep the condition secret from spouses, partners, and family members. They may lie about their activities or engage in them at times and places where they won’t be found out.

But sometimes symptoms are present and noticeable. A person may have a sex addiction if they show some or all of the following signs:

- chronic, obsessive sexual thoughts and fantasies
- compulsive relations with multiple partners, including strangers lying to cover behaviors
- Watching or consuming pornography
- inability to stop or control the behaviors putting oneself or others in danger due to sexual behavior
- experiencing other negative personal or professional consequences

* Sextortion
Victims of Sextortion

Jeff Bezos; Amazon CEO and Washington Post owner

Gene Simmons; Lead singer for KISS

Cameron Diaz; American actress, model, author, and entrepreneur. *
SEXTORTION

The Silent Pandemic
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<tr>
<th>Pandemic</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Covid 19</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>N-95 Mask</td>
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<td>Vaccine</td>
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<td>Quarantine</td>
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82-85% lowering odds
70-95% effective (world wide)
93-99% effective
12-24% reduction in the odds of contracting Covid 19
Effective

0% effective
0% effective
0% effective
0% effective

What are you prepared to do to protect your most precious gift? Your children.*
Sextortion is a criminal act and a form of sexual exploitation. It involves coercing a minor or adult using, or threatening to use, images/videos previously obtained to demand additional images/videos that are sexual in nature.

Three Sextortion Strategies

**Catfishing:** assuming a false identity online. For example, an adult male perpetrator might pose as a teenage girl in order to get a teenage boy to send him nude pictures.

**Hacking:** infiltrate a victim’s private computer or network, control a victim’s webcam, activating the recording feature with the intention of capturing the victim in a compromising state of dress or activity, access to a victim’s private account and sift through private data, hoping to find sexual material belonging to the victim.

**Relationship abuse:** perpetrators threaten to disseminate sexually explicit photos or videos of a victim obtained over the course of a romantic relationship with the victim.*
PORTLAND, Tenn. – A Tennessee teen is accused of extorting underage girls online to obtain nude imagery of the girls which he is then accused of trading online for images of younger children being sexually assaulted by adults.

The 16-year-old teen is charged with 39 counts of aggravated sexual exploitation of a minor, five counts of stalking and five counts of extortion.

The teen stated “He started two years ago and created a brunch of fake profiles on different social media platforms and would reach out to girls that he knew or knew of in the Portland area as well as Bowling Green,” At first it was spreading rumors about the victims if they did not send photos. Then it progressed to him getting nude photos from other people.” His threats escalated from threats of public embarrassment to threats of physical crimes. He would try to extort these girls with threatening beatings and rape if they did not cooperate. He specifically targeted girls at Warren Central High School.

Portland (Tenn.) Police Lt. Detective Jason Arnold*
78% of the reports involved female children and 15% involved male children (in 8% of reports, child gender could not be determined).

Male and female children each ranged in age from 8-17 years old and had an average age.

In 24% of the reports, reporters mentioned that they suspected or knew that additional children were targeted by the same offender.*
Sextortion spans technology.

Sextortion is a wide-ranging problem and not isolated to one website or app. Perpetrators used many forms of technology to reach victims and 45% of victims reported contact with perpetrators on more than one platform.*

*Thorn and the Crimes Against Children Research Center conducted an online survey with 1,651 victims of sextortion ages 18 to 25.
• Shailesh Patel, 53, 2021: Eastern Michigan, pleaded guilty: Patel confessed that in approximately 2010, on at least one occasion, he gave a 10 year old female his cellular phone and instructed her to make a video producing a visual depiction that constituted child pornography. Life-Threats if non compliant.

• Buster Hernandez, 28, 2017: California known online as 'Brian Kil', was arrested in 2017 for a string of abuses against young girls including sending them graphic rape threats, threatening to blow up their schools and kill them, and blackmailing them into sending explicit photographs and videos. Facebook “six” figures Third party. 375 Victims multiple states. 75 years

• Joseph Isaiah Woodson, Jr. 30 2019: Virginia, sentenced to 50 years in federal prison for orchestrating a Snapchat "sextortion" ring that targeted children. He infiltrated the Snapchat accounts of these children by pretending to be one of their friends on social media.*
Michael Lucas Chansler 31 2015: St Johns Co. Florida, 105 years in federal prison, 350 victims. Still at least 240 of Michael Lucas Chansler’s victims have not been identified. He used 100 different identities. During a four-year period, Chansler is believed to have sexually exploited victims in 26 states, three Canadian provinces, and the United Kingdom.

Tyler Daniel Emineth, 23, 2019: of Hamilton, Montana, Was sentenced to 18 years in prison for production of child pornography. Emineth used a social media platform to exploit numerous minors by inducing victims to send him sexually explicit images and videos. Emineth also used life threats when inducing victims to provide sexually explicit material.

Mitchell James Ottinger, 25, May 2021: Minnesota: was arrested on criminal charges for alleged production of child pornography related to sextortion and threats of extortion. Substitute Teacher

Christopher Buonocore 35, January 2021: Tampa, Florida 15 years in federal prison and restitution order of $164,295.01, payable to the victims of the offense. According to court documents, over a seven-year period, Buonocore used fictitious phone numbers, text messages, and social media accounts to harass, intimidate, cyberstalk, and attempt to sextort six women, including a minor. *
Myles Frazier 29, December 2017 and July 2019: Atlanta Georgia, Myles Frazier targeted nine high school boys (three teens in the State of Georgia, six outside the State of Georgia). Using social media he coerced the teens to meet him for sex and to create and send him sexually explicit images and videos. Frazier met most of the teens using an Instagram account where he was posing as an older attractive woman. Threats of exposure if the teenagers did not comply. August 2021 —Sentenced to 24 years. *
Female, 17, sextortion survivor

“The reason I didn’t want to speak up is because I was afraid of what the adults in my life might think of me. I thought it was all my fault and I figured that’s what they would tell me”.

Male 14, sextortion survivor

“Tell someone you trust about the situation. It is a tough thing to go through alone. Especially since many of us are at a young age when we go through it, it’s wise to go through it with people older who can handle it with you”.

Female, 17, sextortion survivor

“You trusted someone and they let you down. Don’t blame yourself.”
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Recognize:

• Anyone who has access to the Internet by any means can become a victim of sextortion.
• Victims come from every background and demographic, and are targeted through all Internet devices.
• Victims may exhibit: Withdrawal from family and friends, Drop in grades or a withdrawal from typical activities
• Abnormal behaviors, such as elevated anxiety, fear, or unexplained anger
• Psychological, emotional, or physical trauma
• Self-harming ideations or actions
• Unexplained sense of urgency to “escape” to a different location to meet perpetrator's demands *
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Prevent: #STOPSEXTORTION

• Have open discussions about the dangers of the Internet and communicating with people you don’t know and people you think you know.

• Warn against risky behaviors – once an image, video, or comment is on the Internet, it’s there forever.

• Regularly reinforce to kids they are NOT at fault; they are victims and can always talk about their concerns or suspicious interactions.

• Encourage kids to talk to someone they trust about sextortion, such as a parent, teacher, coach, or school counselor *
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Protect:

• Sextortion can take place through the Internet, online gaming, applications and more.
• Educate yourself on computer applications, Internet websites, and online forums kids use
• Regularly supervise kids’ Internet-related activities
• Use basic security measures on computers to detect and avoid malware
• Keep computer software up-to-date
• Use strong passwords and do NOT share passwords with anyone except for parents or guardians
• Turn off computers and cover webcams when not in use
• Do NOT open attachments from unknown*
A BEDTIME STORY YOU NEVER WANT TO TELL

Tampa, Florida, Friday night, the sun has set, the doors are locked, the alarm system is on, your children are safe, and your 13-year-old child is in their bedroom. You noticed your once social butterfly is not so social. You brave the teen atmosphere in an attempt at a conversation.

You knock, nothing. You hear music (or at least what your teen considers music) in the background, You knock again but harder, 30 seconds later you hear the music (noise) shut off and the phone placed on the dresser, “Come in” As you enter the room you notice the phone is face down and not plugged in. In an attempt at Tialog (Tie-a-log)(teen-dialog),“Hey, what’re your plans for this weekend? Do you need a ride to your friend’s house? Shrickets. (Shrugging+crickets). How was school today? Good. What did you do? Not much. “enter the teen-attitude

What’s going on? Do you feel ok? Nothiiinga! Did you have a disagreement with your friends? Nowa! Ok, you know you can talk to me about anything anytime, right? I Knowwwwa! You hug your child, telling them you love them.

“What you don’t know”*
A 30-year-old child predator was able to reach into the room because your child was tricked into connecting with him online. Your child let their guard down because they thought it was another teenager. He tells your child he would kill them and their loved ones if they didn’t perform increasingly graphic and extreme acts over a video call. To keep your child from hanging up, he uses details he’d gathered from your child’s social media platforms, conversations, and information posted online, making his threats specific and terrifying. He says, “I know where you live, your school, and your friends’ I know where your mom works, and if you don’t do what I’m telling you to do, I’ll kill her.”

In Tampa, the FBI identified several other victims across the country—some as young as ten years old. Justin Testani pleaded guilty to child sexual exploitation in February 2020 and was sentenced to 60 years in federal prison on August 6, 2020. **
FBI officials issued a warning Thursday March 24, 2022 following an increase in “sextortion” reports of teenage boys 14 to 17 years old being targeted online by scam artists who entice them to share explicit content and then later extort money from the victims.

Authorities say scammers pose as young girls online via social media platforms and convince victims to produce sexual images and videos, according to statements released by the federal investigators.

The 2020 Internet Crime Report includes information from 791,790 complaints of suspected internet crime—an increase of more than 300,000 complaints from 2019—and reported losses exceeding $4.2 billion. The top three crimes reported by victims in 2020 were phishing scams, non-payment/non-delivery scams, and extortion/sextortion.

And then Case 360 happened *
17 Years Old Male
Fluffy Hair, Great Smile, Compassionate
Very devoted to his family
Dating for more than a year
Athletic, Baseball, Basketball, Football
High School Football Star
Inspire others, Mature
Good Student, course of study athletic training.
Enjoyed the beach, being in, on or near the water

Philosophy
“Be the best he can be as a person on and off the field”

“Working hard to achieve his best potential”*
Shortly after midnight, a request for nude pictures.

The Twitter profile showed a beautiful picture of a girl.

“She” sent a nude picture, he sent a nude picture back to “her”.

A demand for money $300

It was paid

Second demand for money $1,000

Could not pay

“He said you win, and that he was going to kill himself, and they said go for it,”

17 years, 9 months, 19 days and in less then 360 mins (6 hours) Jordan John DeMay would take his life.

Hours after this tragedy a student from Marquette Senior High received pictures of Jordan and a demand for money. *
“THERE IS NO GROUP OF PEOPLE MORE DESERVING OF OUR DILIGENT PROTECTION THAN CHILDREN, and no offender more deserving of strong justice than one who blatantly targets those most vulnerable to exploit our children”.
CALL TO ACTION

I CHALLENGE YOU TODAY TO HAVE THE CONVERSATION WITH YOUR LOVED ONES

SEXTORTION The Silent Pandemic
To report cases that involve child sexual exploitation (age 17 and younger):

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children: CyberTipline.org
1-800-843-5678


To report suspected sextortion, or get help from law enforcement, call your local FBI office or call toll-free: 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324)

John J Swangler
Director of Behavioral Health
Helen Newberry Joy Hospital
Email: John.Swangler@HNJH.org