

Consensual vs. unsolicited sexting: What factors are linked to each?

Our study:

2,828 Canadians and Americans aged 18–30 reported on their sexting behaviours.

We also assessed impulsivity, attitudes toward sexting, sexual history, and other characteristics.

Key findings:

Men and straight participants were more likely to report **consensual sexting**.

Unsolicited sexting was linked to being a man, being straight, and holding more positive views of sexting.

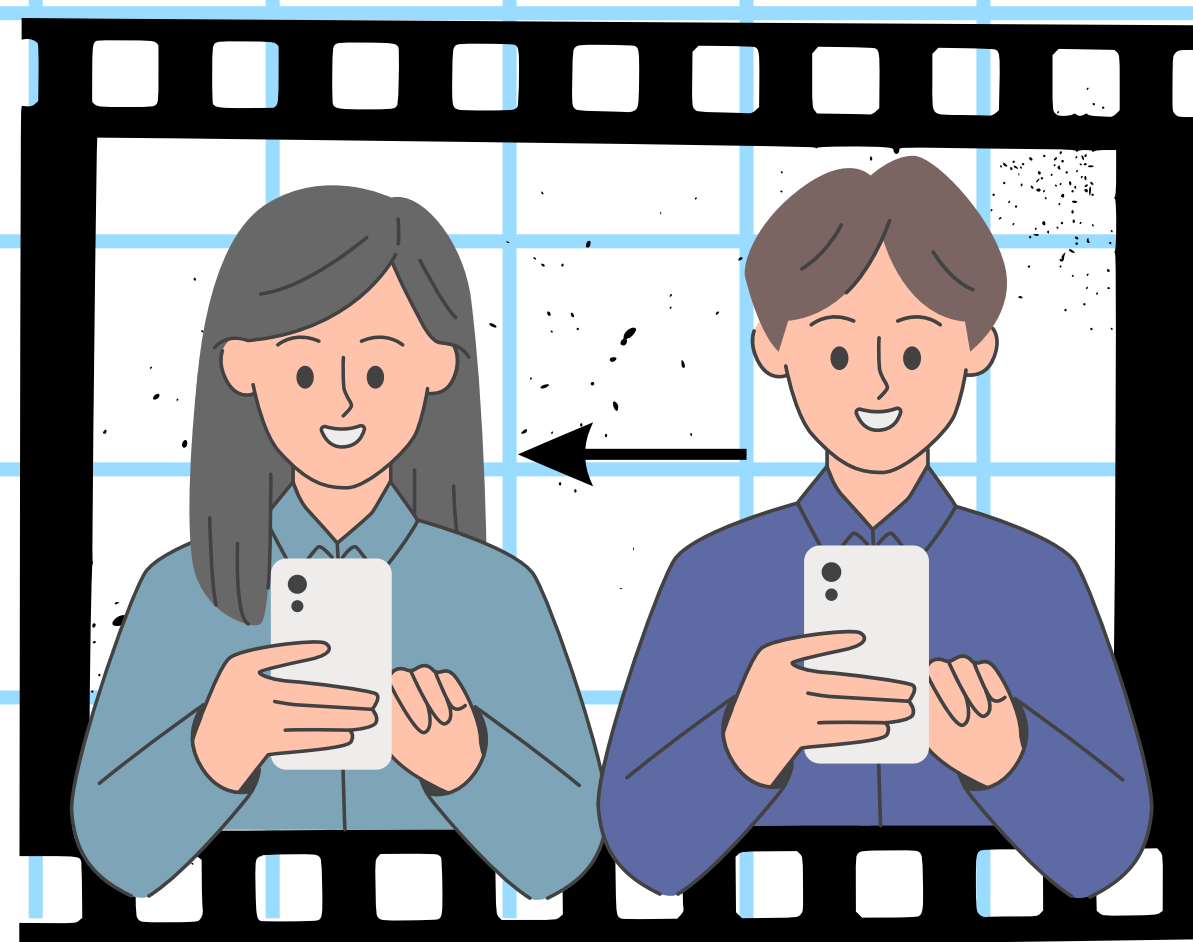
A more extensive sexual history was more strongly linked to **consensual sexting**.



Consensual sexting:
Sending sexual images or videos to a willing partner.



Unsolicited sexting:
Sending sexual content to someone who did not agree to receive it.



What stood out? Only sexual history differentiated consensual from unsolicited sexting.

Implications: Prevention efforts may benefit from emphasizing consent and the distinction between consensual and unsolicited sexting, rather than focusing on individual characteristics.