



## The Frequency, Attitudes, and Beliefs of Sexting Among College Students

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## Problem

- Lack of research on new phenomenon
- Issues related to cyberbullying
- Children with cell phones




## Most recent definition

- In a more recent study, Elizabeth Eraker from the Berkeley Technology Law Journal (2010) states, "sexting refers to the self-production and distribution by cell phone of sexually explicit images in the course of consensual, voluntary activity by teenagers" (p. 557).




## Purpose

"The purpose of this descriptive study was to assess the frequency of sexting, attitudes regarding sexting, and the beliefs to engage in sexting among the college population."



## Review of Literature

- Timeline of the Evolution of Sexting Behavior
- Legal Issues Related to Sexting
- Media and Attitudes
- Sexting and the Six Dimensions of Wellness
- Theory



## Objectives

- Examine the frequency of sexting among college students,
- explore the attitudes regarding the activity of sexting among college students, and
- examine the beliefs of those that sext.

### Methods: Research Design

- Quantitative research design
- Convenience sample of university students
- Research created the Woolard Sexting Survey
- Data collection through EIU e-mail and Facebook
- Incentive to participate
- Data analyzed through Survey Monkey

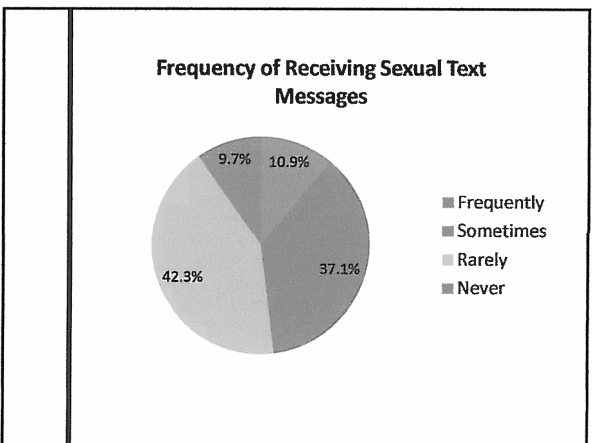
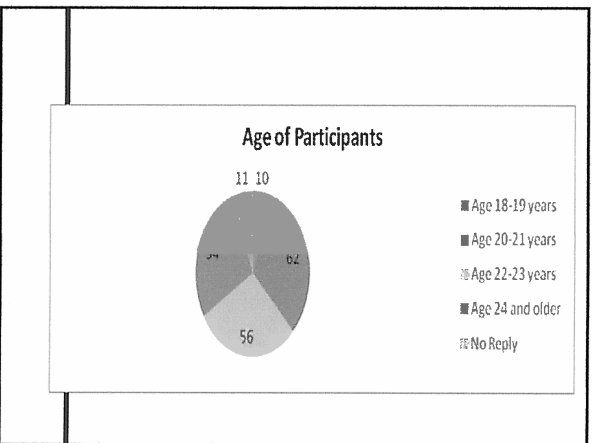
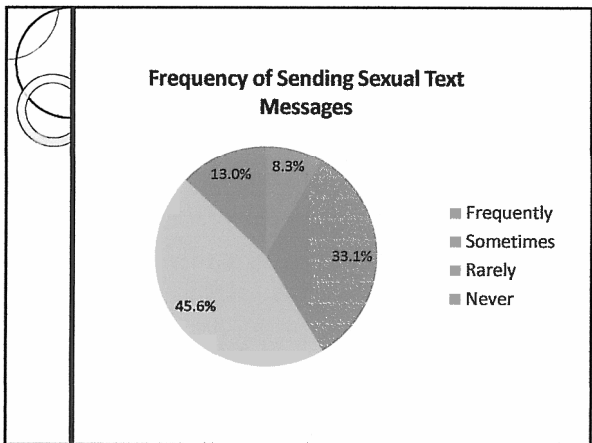
### Results

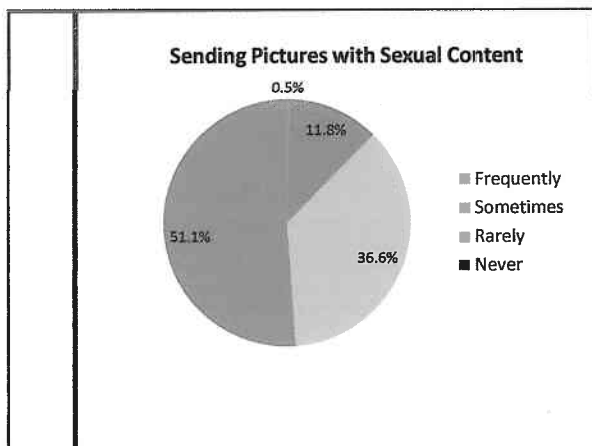
Objective 1: Frequency of sexting among college students

1. Frequency of sending sexual text messages
2. Frequency of receiving sexual text messages
3. Frequency of sexting pictures with sexual content
4. Frequency of receiving pictures with sexual content

### Results: Sample

- 193 participants
  - 69.8% (n = 134) females
  - 30.2% (n = 58) males
- Age of participants
  - 5.5% were 18-19 years old
  - 34.4% were 20-21 years old
  - 30.9% were 22-23 years old
  - 29.3% were 24 years and older

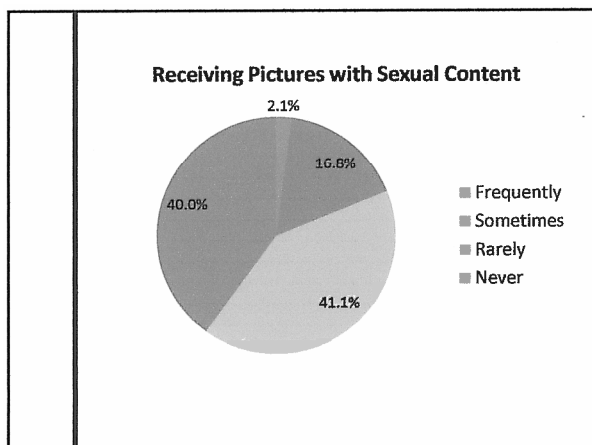




### Results

Objective 3: Beliefs of college students regarding sexting.

- Majority (79.7%) felt sexting is a sexual behavior
- 85.8% felt sexting could not replace sexual behaviors with a partner
- 77.4% felt sexting was an appropriate behavior to participate in with a partner



### Results

Objective 3 Continued

- 45.3% of individuals felt sexting remains private
- 52.4% reported sexting boosts confidence

### Results

Objective 2: Attitudes regarding sexting among college students

- Nearly half (49.5%) identified sexting as an entertaining behavior
- 47.4% stated sexting creates a feeling of comfort prior to sexual behaviors