



CULTURE, et cetera

Sex on line

Cyberspace has taken the embarrassment out of obtaining pornography in all its manifestations — from bestiality to pedophilia to sadomasochism — and consumers are taking advantage, a study shows.

Carnegie Mellon University's Martin Rimm led a team of researchers that for 18 months surveyed 917,410 sexually explicit images, stories and video clips available by computer and studied computer records of online activity.

The study found pornography is one of the largest, if not the largest, recreational uses of computer networks. Nearly all the users are men.

In a typical week, 83.5 percent of the digitized photos transmitted over Usenet news groups were pornographic, the researchers found.

• *Compiled by Jennifer Pinkerton from staff and wire reports.*