

Debriefing

The purpose of this study was actually to study the effect on sexual arousal of **believing** that the content is AI-generated. We are testing the hypothesis that believing erotic images are fake leads to lower sexual arousal.

We are also assessing the role of **interoception** in this process. Interoception refers to the awareness of internal bodily states - both physiological (e.g., heart rate) and emotional - and it plays a crucial role in how we perceive and interpret the world around us.

Because we are interested in your *beliefs* about reality, **all the images you saw were actually real**. They were selected from a validated psychological database used in research on emotion.

We also told you we were working with an **AI startup** company based in Brighton. This was also not true; **there is no such partnership or company**.

We apologize for the necessary deception used in the task instructions. Deception was essential to maintain the validity of our experimental manipulation. We hope you understand the rationale behind this decision.

Thank you again! Your participation in this study will be kept completely confidential. If you have any questions or concerns about the study, feel free to contact us:

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To complete your participation, click on '**Continue**' and please **wait until your responses have been successfully saved** before closing the tab.

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