

Articles Regarding Etsy (includes screenshots)

Cover Page: National Center on Sexual Exploitation's Policy on Sharing Proof

WARNING: *The material in this document may contain graphic text, blurred images, and survivor quotes that may trigger the viewer.*

Why do we post proof in the first place?

NCOSE researchers have collected this proof as evidence of the material that is made, contained, and/or distributed by the corporations and institutions NCOSE is confronting.

Proof is shared with corporate executives, shareholders, and/or board members, as well as with policymakers, law enforcement, journalists, and the general public to **give witness to the sexual exploitation and abuse that is often rampant, yet sometimes hidden, on these platforms.**

Why do you blur out images, including faces, if they're publicly available?

While we believe it is important to provide ample evidence of wrong-doing to support our claims and inspire change, **we also strongly believe that no one – neither adult, nor child – should be exposed to the type of material our researchers collect:** either for their own well-being, or out of respect for those being exploited. It is for this reason we pixelate/blur/block not only nudity or sexually graphic content, but also the faces of those being exploited.

We also want to limit access to this material (unfortunately, a luxury not afforded to children and adults using many of the platforms and products made by these companies). Therefore, we add several layers before someone can access the proof, and also don't include all the proof that we have obtained. If someone feels they need to see more evidence to understand the extent of the problem or the type of exploitation that is happening, they may request it of NCOSE by writing to public@ncose.com.

Did you receive people's permission to post?

Any personal testimony shared to NCOSE directly is posted only with the affected parties approval.

For material that is publicly available, we do not seek permission to post. However, we redact names and usernames of survivors from articles, social media, etc. even when publicly available. To read more about our commitment to ethical engagement with survivors, please go [here](#). We do not redact names or usernames of exploiters who have posted publicly.

Disclaimer: while we do collect information on those who request access to more proofs, that information will only be used for our own, internal analysis. It will not be distributed, shared, or posted publicly or with outside parties.

The following quotes from news articles offer evidence of how Etsy sells products which normalize child sexual abuse, misogyny, sexual objectification, and racism.

[Shutting up Shop: Etsy sellers take a stand](#)

Source: Collective Shout

Date: February 21, 2022

- This article details how many Etsy sellers are closing down their shops, in protest to the exploitative merchandise sold on the platform.
- “I’ve made the decision to close the Etsy store due to news that they complicity host stores selling child sex dolls, reinforcing the sexualisation and abuse of young girls. Thank you Collective Shout for raising awareness about this.” - Nicole, Nicole Steenhof Art
- “Moving my small business away from Etsy to my own website is both nerve-wracking and exciting, but it was for good reason. Etsy continues to allow harmful products to be sold on their platform. I refuse to be associated with a business that allows this to happen.” - Angela, Dandelion Heart Quilts
- “Organisations and businesses can be part of the solution if they want to... consumers, sellers, all of us - we have power, we have to use it” - Naomi, Redeemed with Purpose

[Etsy ignores calls to remove child abuse merch: It’s been a year but we’re not stopping!](#)

Source: Collective Shout

Date: February 2, 2022

- “One year ago Anna Cordell – a Melbourne fashion designer, musician and mother of five – launched a [petition](#) calling on Etsy to stop selling child sex abuse dolls, replica child body parts and incest and child abuse-themed products... Since then, Anna’s petition has attracted almost 57 000 signatures. But Etsy has been silent, ignoring our concerns and continuing to prioritise profit over the most vulnerable members of our community – children.”

[‘Adult’, ‘full size’, detachable breasts: How child sex abuse doll sellers evade detection](#)

Source: Collective Shout

Date: December 13, 2021

- This article explains how childlike sex dolls are not explicitly marketed as such, but resemble children nonetheless
- “In recent months we’ve documented a change in the language sellers use to list these child exploitation material products. For example, in our [year-long investigation](#) of child sex abuse

Compiled by the National Center on Sexual Exploitation: www.endsexualexploitation.org.

dolls and replica child body parts marketed for men's sexual use on US platform Etsy, we've found that rather than explicit descriptions which indicate that the dolls are modelled off the bodies of children, sellers promote childlike and child-size sex dolls with terms such as 'adult' and 'full size'."

- "One listing on Etsy (documented November 2021) featured images of a child-size doll (available for purchase in a range of heights including 100cm and 140cm), with facial features unequivocally modelled off a young girl. Product descriptors included 'adult', 'D cup', 'woman' and 'girlfriend'."
- "A listing for 'Adult sex doll petite size' offered a choice of 21 different head options. Many appeared to be modelled off young girls."
- "An earlier listing combined terms 'lady' and '140cm' - the height of an average 9 year old girl. 'Adult' was almost always used to describe the products."
- Under Australian Federal legislation criminalising childlike sex dolls, the presence of one or more 'adult' features does not exclude dolls from being identified as child sex dolls. The Combatting Child Sexual Exploitation Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 explains:

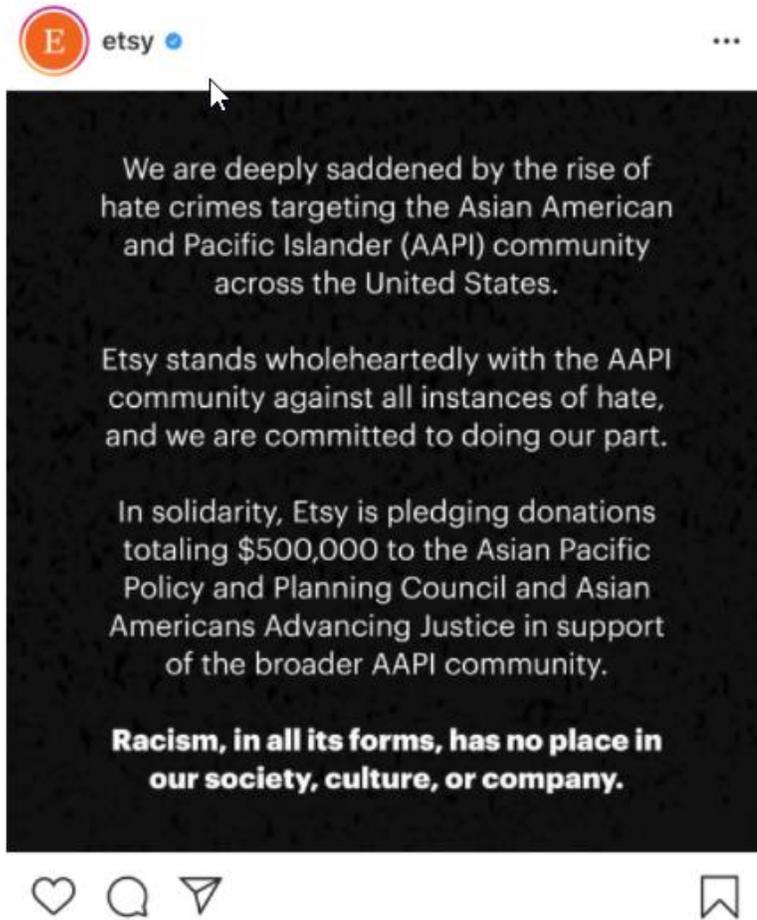
Child-like sex dolls vary in facial appearance, proportions, height, size and functionality. A doll or other object may be captured by this paragraph despite possessing one or more adult features, for example developed breasts or make-up. Consideration should be given to the characteristics of the doll in its entirety, including its functionality, proportionality, physical features and anything else that provides context to the purpose and age resemblance of the doll.

[Etsy 'celebrates women', 'condemns racism' while promoting racialised misogyny + degradation of women](#)

Source: Collective Shout

Date: March 30, 2021

- After the Atlanta shooting, Etsy released statements condemning hatred against Asian populations. See screenshot from article:



However, at the same time, Etsy hypocritically sells products which sexually objectify Asian women and promote racialized fetishes. See screenshots from article below:



Collective Shout
@CollectiveShout

'Custom Asian girl tight pussy' or child-size 'Asian girl mouth' sex toys your thing? @etsy's got it

#StopAsianHate #StopAAPIHate

#etsy #etsyhatesgirls
#etsysexploitation #etsypetition
@jgsilverman @fredwilson @peggysmyth @krutipie
@Edithwcooper #racismforprofit #etsysam




SunshineyStore
536 sales | ★★★★★

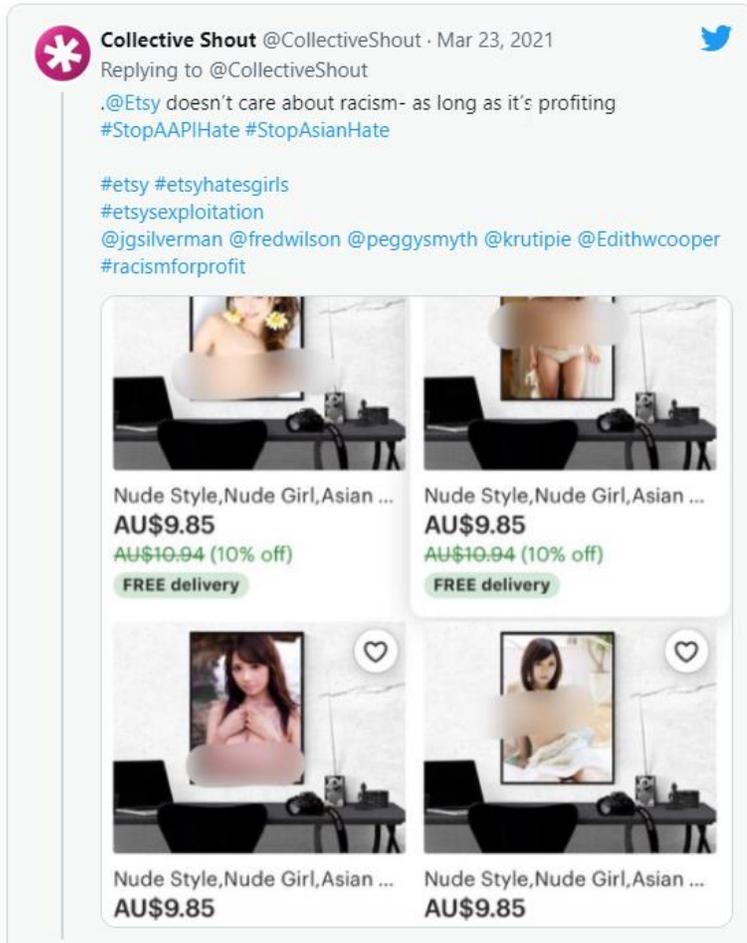
Mature Handmade Custom Asian Girl TIGHT
Pocket Pussy Flesh Light Sex Toy for Men

AU\$35.18 ✓ In stock

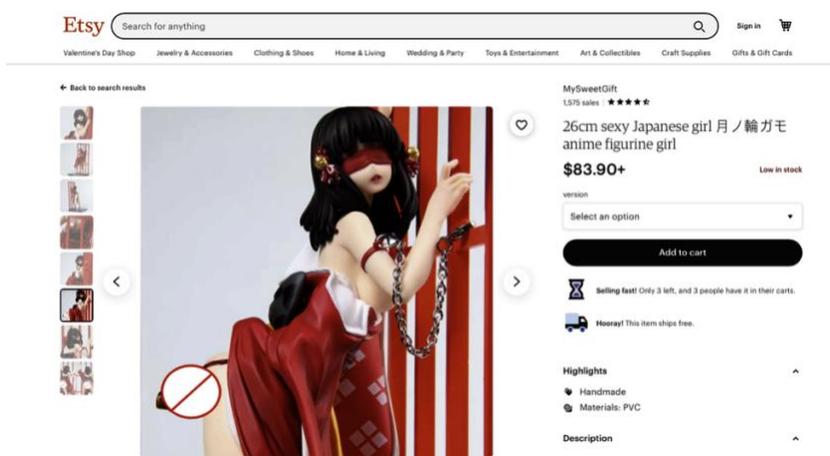
* Seller GST included (where applicable). Additional GST may be applied by Etsy at checkout.

8:38 PM · Mar 23, 2021





And NCOSE researchers also found racialized items, such as this Japanese girl BDMS figurine



[Federal ALP MP slams Etsy's child abuse themed merch](#)

Source: Collective Shout

Compiled by the National Center on Sexual Exploitation: www.endsexualexploitation.org.

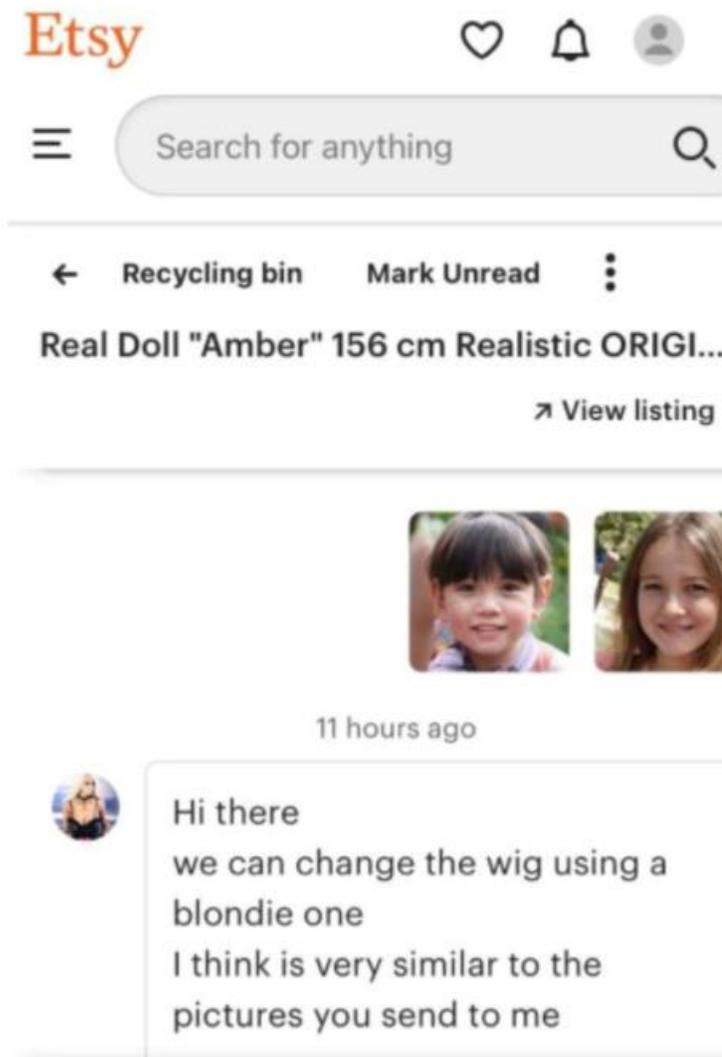
Date: February 5, 2021

- “During a February 3 parliamentary speech on the National Redress Scheme, Federal ALP Member for Lyons Brian Mitchell slammed Etsy for selling merchandise which eroticises child abuse and expressed support for the petition.”
- "I was absolutely shocked and disgusted when I read the recent article about the child abuse imagery items that were being sold on Etsy. Why any website with an ounce of ethics or civic responsibility would allow this content to be openly sold on their platform beggars belief. It is bad enough that there is a market for items that encourage the sexual abuse of children but to find a platform such as Etsy peddling this content is simply not acceptable. The silence from the company since the matter was raised in the media speaks volumes! We cannot remain silent and must demand better from online platforms. The sexual abuse of children is both abhorrent and illegal and any site that aids and abets this behaviour needs to be named and shamed.”
~Susan McLean, Australia's leading cyber safety expert and Collective Shout Ambassador
- “Etsy, like all other companies that operate for profit must place the best interests of children as a priority. To knowingly profit from the sexual exploitation and harm of children in the way Etsy appears to be doing is unconscionable and must not be tolerated legally or commercially.”
~Hetty Johnston, Founder and Executive Director of Australia's leading child protection organisation, Bravehearts Foundation

[Etsy seller providing childlike sex dolls modelled off 14-year-old Instagram star](#)

Date: December 9, 2020

- “One seller openly gloated on online sales platform Etsy that the sex doll they were providing was modelled off a 14-year-old Instagram star.”
- “The sex dolls are advertised as being 156cm tall — the average height of a 13-year-old girl — and are able to be customised to look like specific children if a photo is provided, according to disturbing texts sent to a member of advocacy group Collective Shout.”



- Caitlin Roper, Collective Shout Campaign Manager who is also completing her PhD on sex dolls and robots, addresses the argument that child sex abuse dolls may prevent pedophiles from abusing living children: “Ms Roper cited research from the Australian Institute of Criminology, which concluded there was no evidence these products prevented child sexual abuse. ‘Instead, they present a risk of escalation and may actually increase the likelihood of child sexual abuse,’ she said.”
- Caitlin Roper also explains how child sex abuse dolls do not act as a substitute for the abuse of living children – rather they act as a complement and an extension of it: “Men who are found with child abuse dolls are also (often) found with other forms of child sex abuse material, including things like photos and videos of children and babies being raped and tortured.”
- “There are reported scenarios from this year of men still incorporating living children into their child sex abuse doll use.”

[Our investigation exposing Etsy for selling child sex abuse dolls](#)

Date: October 6, 2020

- “We have discovered hundreds of lifelike sex dolls on Etsy. Many of these dolls are designed and sized to look like children.”
- “In our investigation, spearheaded by Campaigns Manager Melinda Liszewski, we posed as a potential buyer and approached sellers of child sex abuse dolls on Etsy. . . We then sent the seller computer-generated images of non-existing children and asked if they could make child sex abuse dolls that resembled the girls in the images. The seller indicated he could. . .”
- “When NCA Newsire contacted Etsy, they swiftly deactivated the account. But Etsy has known about child sex abuse dolls on their platform for months, and they ignored us. And what about all the other child sex abuse dolls still being sold through their platform, as well as those dolls which can be customised to resemble children upon request? What are they doing about that?”