

Image-based Sexual Abuse

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 proof, that information will only be used for our own, internal analysis. It will not be distributed, shared, or posted publicly or with outside parties.

Numerous OnlyFans creators testify to having their images stolen and distributed without their consent. This constitutes a form of image-based sexual abuse. There is also evidence of stolen images from OnlyFans being distributed on Reddit.

- [“Under the Skin of OnlyFans”](#), July 2021, BBC
 - “But in January, a hacker seized control of her account, blackmailed her for \$150 and uploaded streams of IS terror videos.

The footage, seen and verified by BBC News, depicts people being held hostage in warehouses, or running in fear, before being shot in the head.

“They seemed terrifying,” she says. “I kept deleting them and changing my password but kept getting locked out of my account.”

The perpetrator then spammed more than 40 of her fans, calling them the N-word, **before stealing all of her photos and posting them on a porn site.**”
 - **“Pirating content is illegal, and against OnlyFans' terms of service. But nearly all of the creators spoken to said their images had been leaked and traded by men in other social media and messaging forums.”**
 - “Madison, a 22-year-old student from Texas, discovered that her former roommate had been selling topless photos of her on OnlyFans for nearly four months last year without her knowledge.”
- [“Reddit Banned a Huge Community for Stolen OnlyFans Content”](#), January 2021, Vice
 - “Reddit is full of stolen OnlyFans content, and owners of that content say the platform often ignores their pleas for takedown requests. There are dozens of subreddits devoted to “leaked” or stolen content on Reddit. One of the biggest Reddit communities devoted to sharing stolen OnlyFans content, r/LEAKEDonlyfans, described itself as a place to “give people pictures from only fans when they can't afford it,” and had nearly 100,000 subscribers.”
- [“Thai woman’s OnlyFans content stolen, officers say she could face pornography charges”](#), February 2022, Thaiger
 - “A Thai woman who posts sexually explicit photos and videos on her OnlyFans account says her content, which was intended only for those who pay for a subscription to her page, was taken without permission and spread for free on a gambling website.”
- [“Reddit has an OnlyFans leaks problem”](#), August 2021, Mel Magazine
 - “In fact, subreddits like r/MegaFiles4Free and r/OnlyFansLeaksDaily explicitly label themselves as places to share pilfered adult content from independent creators. ‘This community was made for people that wanna post and/or see OnlyFans without paying,’ MegaFiles4Free, a subreddit with more than 100,000 subscribers, states in its description. Another, r/DailyMegaLeaks, has even prohibited comments to prevent the thieves’ names from being displayed, rendering it impossible for them to be found and reported by the creators themselves.”

- [“OnlyFans Files DMCA Subpoena Asking Reddit to Reveal Details of Copyright Infringers”](#), March 2021, TechDator
 - “An adult star from OnlyFans, a platform that lets content creators earn money from their paid subscribers, has filed DMCA notices with Reddit to takedown her infringing content. Her lawyer complained that some users share the images and videos of her commercial content from OnlyFans on Reddit for free”