Sex Trafficking and Abusive Pimps

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.

There is a plethora of evidence of trafficking on OnlyFans, and creators being exploited by "managers" (aka. pimps/traffickers).

- OnlyFans: A Case Study of Exploitation in the Digital Age, The Avery Center, December 2021
 - This report came from a research collaboration project between The Avery Center and Human Trafficking Detective Joseph Scarammuci. The research included a survey of past and current OnlyFans creators.
 - "Six percent of respondents self-disclosed that their traffickers helped them create and market their OnlyFans content."
 - "Thirty percent of the content creators said they received private messages from suspected traffickers offering to manage their accounts for a portion or all the proceeds from their subscription revenue. Of those content creators, they shared that they had been messaged between three and 18times, with an average of seven times. Currently, OnlyFans does not have a way for content creators to report suspected traffickers approaching them on their platform."
 - "A sample of 97 public Instagram accounts of sex sellers were analyzed for indicators of third-party traffickers. Sixty-four percent of the accounts with OnlyFans links in their bio were categorized as 'unknown,' while the remaining thirty-six percent of accounts were categorized as 'likely third-party controlled.'"
 - The Avery Center partnered with Detective Joseph Scaramucci to identify indicators of third party control. They narrowed down 11 accounts for analyzing and then found:
 - "Fifty-five percent of these public accounts had numerous explicit indicators of third-party control confirmed across platforms. Two of these individuals were discovered to be under the control of the same trafficker, and upon further investigation of the trafficker, an additional three victims were identified, bringing that trafficker's known online operation to five total victims identified across all three platforms. In total, nine victims and five traffickers were identified over the day-long collaborative effort. Sixty-nine percent of the OnlyFans profiles investigated in this manner had explicit indicators of third-party control."
- "OnlyFan Models Allege Managers Exploited them during Covid-19 Boom", January 2022, RollingStone
 - Multiple OnlyFans creators testify about falling to the false promises of so-called "managers", only to be financially abused, deceived, trapped into exploitative contracts, blackmailed, and to have their images distributed without their consent.
 - ".... her earnings were dropping; one month, she says, she only made \$10-\$15,000 out of \$50,000 of earnings. When she confronted Johnson about this, he said he was spending much of that money on ads, but when Ari asked for proof of how much he was spending, he refused to show her any invoices or documentation, citing company secrets. And according to texts provided to Rolling Stone, he also publicly posted sexually explicit content that she had intended to only sell privately, though he apologized promptly after doing so. Ari says Johnson also pressured her to produce more content, though Johnson denies this, providing text messages to Rolling Stone that he did give her time off when she requested it."

- "After Ari left Johnson, she says, he continued to post as her under her Instagram and OnlyFans accounts and reselling explicit content she had already sold to her followers at a vastly reduced rate, leading to subscribers complaining about her scamming them."
- "In the months since she left Johnson, Ari says she's heard from nearly half a dozen models who had similar experiences with him, including Cora, who also left after she alleges Johnson took 60-70 percent of her income."
- "Another model who worked with Johnson, who we'll call Natasha, also signed up with Johnson after losing her job in May of 2020 due to Covid (it was, in fact, Ari who inherited her Instagram account when she left NJAC). When she signed with him, she agreed to give him a whopping 66 percent of her earnings. But like Ari, she alleges she saw far less than 33 percent of her total earnings. "When I asked him about it he told me that all the money spent on ads came off the top," she says. "I thought that was pretty normal being new to the industry and everything. I didn't really question it." She asked him to show her a spreadsheet showing the ad costs, which Johnson provided, but says that something didn't add up. Natasha posted a video on her OnlyFans saying she was creating a new account. Johnson continued posting as Natasha to her OnlyFans and Instagram using some of her old content, which Johnson says was also written into her contract, and sent her a cease-and-desist for violating the non-compete."
- "OnlyFans' increased popularity has translated into an emerging cottage industry of third parties, such as agencies, consultants, and managers, looking to show newcomers the ropes and make a few bucks in the process. . . But as modeling agencies pop up, bad actors are increasingly flooding the space as well. Last December, for instance, a number of models came forward to allege that the firm Unruly Agency, which manages prominent creators and OnlyFans influencers, as well as an affiliated firm called Behave, used deceptive recruiting practices to entice creators and, in some cases, posted nude or sexually explicit content without their consent. . . And nearly half a dozen OnlyFans creators Rolling Stone spoke with shared similar stories about other managers and agencies."
- Some of these supposed managers flooding the OnlyFans space use model recruitment as an opportunity to try to get free sexually explicit content. In August 2020, for instance, an OnlyFans creator named Josie, then 23, says she was contacted by another OnlyFans creator on a "like-for-like" Twitter DM thread, a common method for creators to encourage each other to follow each other and promote their content. The woman told Josie she had an opportunity for her with the modeling agency Infinite Possibilities, which was setting up a 3D holographic magazine, and set her up with a man who identified himself via text as CEO Russel Andrey. . . According to screengrabs of WhatsApp messages Josie shared with Rolling Stone, Andrey encouraged her to send one-minute videos of herself wearing "minimal clothing." . . . and then suggested they set up a FaceTime "training." "He wanted me to show off my skills, my talent, over the phone with him watching... I think what he wanted me to do was masturbate on video chat with him, [because] he told me to get my toys and I was gonna want to get naked," says Josie. "I was like, 'I can see where this is going." . . . Since then, "I've heard a lot about fake training where people can go to OnlyFans models and say, 'we can make you

- a real model, just go for this training,' and it turns out the training is just collecting a whole bunch of your work for free," she says."
- "Then Roxie started noticing the checks Morcy was sending her were less than she expected. When she confronted him about it, she says he admitted he was taking 50 percent, a number she says they had not agreed to. She also received DMs from an anonymous person addressed to her legal first name, saying Morcy had been impersonating her on Snapchat and selling her nudes without her consent."
- "OnlyFans used by sex traffickers to lure victims and buyers", July 2021, News4sanantonio
 - "When we looked at specific cases targeting human trafficking, there was very obvious signs of people that were under 3rd party control, "Scaramucci said.
 - He has seen many pornographic images that look consensual, but explained there are high indicators that the females in some of the pictures may be victims that have been coerced by sex traffickers."
 - "I can go on OnlyFans and see that's gonna be a victim," Franklin said. "That's gonna be someone who will be targeted, because I was groomed by my trafficker to look for that."

Franklin said she fell in love with the man that would become her trafficker, who then flipped her into becoming a recruiter.

"We'd target girls online to bring them to our stable," Franklin said.

The lowest hanging fruit, according to Franklin, were women who were willingly selling themselves for sex online, but she said teenagers posting beauty pics are also likely prey."

OnlyFans encourages grooming and pimping through its referral system which allows individuals to profit 5% of anyone's earnings who signs up via their referral link for the first year of their account. Given this system, it is no surprise that online pimps actively recruit new girls and women to join.

