

## Useful Links

**SV2:**

[www.sv2.org.uk](http://www.sv2.org.uk)

tel: 01773 746 115

**Revenge Porn Helpline:**

<https://revengepornhelpline.org.uk/>

Tel: 0345 6000 459

**Internet Watch Foundation:**

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/>

**Stop NCII:**

<https://stopncii.org/>

**Childline (Report Remove):**

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove/>

# Intimate Image Abuse

## A Guide for victims

## What is intimate image abuse?

Intimate image abuse is sometimes called 'Revenge porn' and it means the sharing of or threats to share intimate images without your consent. It is against the law.

It is illegal to share intimate images of anyone under the age of 18 with or without consent (including sending images of yourself) this is classed as sending indecent images of children.

## Sextortion

Sextortion or webcam blackmail is when images or videos are recorded and used to extort money or force the victim to do something against their will.



## How can SV2 Help?

SV2 support people who have experienced all types of sexual abuse including online offences such as intimate image abuse. We can offer an ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Advisor) who can offer practical support and information or therapy/counselling services for children and adults.



## Reporting to the police

It's up to you if you decide to report to the police. If you decide you want to, here are some tips:

- You can get in touch with the police on their non-emergency number 101
- You are a victim of crime. Be prepared that they may not know the best way to deal with your problem, but you should always expect a non-biased, non-judgemental response.
- Make sure you keep a record of your log/case number so the police can quickly access your details if you want to add additional information or get an update on the investigation.
- If you are in immediate danger call 999

## Deepfake

'Deepfake' is when an AI generated image created by using one persons face on the body of another. Even though the sexual act may not be the victim, Deepfake images/videos can be just as upsetting.

## Voyeurism and upskirting

Voyeurism is the act of gaining sexual pleasure through watching or recording someone in a private act. It also includes using or installing equipment with the intent to do this.

Upskirting was made an offence in 2019 and this specifically covers recording or intending to record beneath someone's clothes without their consent.

The law requires that there is an intention on the part of the perpetrator to either; obtain sexual gratification, or cause humiliation, alarm or distress to the victim.

## My pictures have been shared, what can I do?

- **Stay Calm**, there are services to help you
- **Collect evidence** - take screenshots and save the URL where the image is shared
- **Block the perpetrator**, consider reporting the accounts they've used to contact you
- **Report to the police** - it is against the law to share intimate images without consent or threaten to share them. You can choose whether you want to report to the police.
- **Report the content** (see our useful links)
- **Get support** from friends/family or professional services such as SV2 or the Revenge Porn Helpline

## What else can I do?

### *Privacy and security*

It's good to review and raise your privacy settings on social media and be vigilant of new friend requests.



### *Google alerts*

Some victims find it reassuring to set up Google alerts. You can set up a tag so if anything is posted with your name you will be notified by email.

**Guides on how to do this can be found on The Revenge Porn Helpline.**