

# NONCONSENSUAL PORNOGRAPHY

## *a safety guide*

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## GUIDE OVERVIEW

This guide includes resources, tools and strategies for anyone to respond to or prevent Nonconsensual Pornography (also known as revenge porn), which occurs when an intimate photo or video of someone is shared (or threatened to be shared) without their consent.

IT IS  
**NOT THE**  
VICTIM'S  
FAULT.

NONCONSENSUAL  
PORNOGRAPHY  
SEXTORTION  
REVENGE PORN  
CYBER SEXUAL  
EXPLOITATION



## YOU ARE NOT ALONE

1 in 12 Americans have experienced nonconsensual pornography. It is an awful form of online violence that has been criminalized in nearly all states.

And yet, you may encounter people who think the victim is somehow to blame. Let us be clear: **This is simply wrong.** It is inconsistent with the law and incorrectly focuses blame on the victim instead of the person sharing the images or videos.



# 1 SAVING THE EVIDENCE

Before deleting anything, be sure to preserve any evidence. Some ways to do this: (1) Download the video(s); (2) Screenshot the webpage, including the url, date & time and (3) Save the webpage as a pdf. Visit [withoutmyconsent.org](http://withoutmyconsent.org) to utilize their evidence preservation **resources** for nonconsensual pornography.

# 2 REMOVE FROM GOOGLE SEARCHES

Google enables victims of nonconsensual pornography to remove the offending image or video from appearing in their search results. [Remember: It does not mean it is removed from the actual website.] Click [here](#) to get started.



# 3 TAKE DOWN REQUESTS

Upon request, many websites and social media platforms will remove a post that includes nonconsensual pornography because it violates their content policies. [The Cyber Civil Rights Initiative](#) created content removal guides for any of the sites listed on the left (click any of them to start the process) or to see the entire guide, visit:

[www.cybercivilrights.org/online-removal/](http://www.cybercivilrights.org/online-removal/)

INSTAGRAM YAHOO  
FACEBOOK GOOGLE  
TWITTER SNAPCHAT  
REDDIT TUMBLR  
PORNHUB

## 4 TAKE DOWN REQUESTS: COPYRIGHT

Think of copyright law as another tool in a victim's toolkit. If the victim took the photo or filmed the video in question, they can claim copyright ownership. From there, they can initiate a take down process to have unauthorized use of their photo or video removed from a website. This process, along with sample forms, are available [here](#). We recommend speaking with an attorney if you have questions.



**ILLEGAL IN  
46 STATES  
+ D.C.**

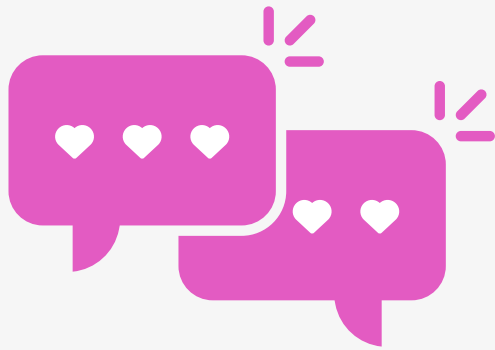
## 5 CRIMINAL LAWS:

To date, 46 states and the District of Columbia have made nonconsensual pornography a crime, usually a misdemeanor. If you have been victimized, report it to local law enforcement. Check [here](#) to see the criminal law in your state.

## 6 RESTRAINING ORDERS

You may choose to seek a restraining or protective order requesting that the restrained party take down, destroy and not distribute the photos or videos. For purposes of seeking a restraining order, nonconsensual pornography may be categorized as harassment, disturbing your peace, false impersonation, threatening behavior, inflicting emotional distress and more. Contact your local domestic violence or sexual assault organization for assistance.





## 7 HAVING THE TALK

Before you elect to exchange intimate photos or videos with someone, it is important to have a conversation about what that person is going to do with the images. Some questions to ask:

"Where are they being saved on your device?"

"Are you backing them up to the cloud?"

"Who else has access to your phone?"

## 8 SAFE SEXTING

If you do elect to exchange intimate images or photos with someone, one safety measure to consider is ensuring you can not be identified. Tips to do this include: not showing your face, identifying marks/tattoos or any identifying information that could link you to the photo.



## 9 SAFELY SAVING PHOTOS

On Apple and Android devices, anyone can edit an intimate photo to look like something else. By zooming in and cropping a photo, it can appear to have been taken by mistake or look like something else all together.

Edited photos are not permanent, and you can always revert to the original if and when you want to. In the meantime, the photo hides in plain sight on your device.

# RESOURCES & LINKS

## **Cyber Civil Rights Initiative ([cybercivilrights.org](https://cybercivilrights.org))**

A nonprofit serving victims of nonconsensual pornography, CCRI services include a crisis hotline; a list of Frequently Asked Questions; an online image removal guide; a roster of attorneys who may be able to offer low- or pro-bono legal assistance; laws related to NCP; and other related laws. They have also compiled a roster of International Resources for victims who reside outside of the United States.

## **Without My Consent ([withoutmyconsent.org](https://withoutmyconsent.org))**

A nonprofit providing resources to victims of nonconsensual pornography, WMC's **Something Can Be Done Guide** covers subjects like evidence preservation, take downs, copyright, restraining orders, sample forms and more.

## **K&L Gates's Cyber Civil Rights Legal Project: ([cyberrightsproject.com](https://cyberrightsproject.com))**

K&L Gates founded the Cyber Civil Rights Legal Project to help victims of nonconsensual pornography by providing them legal assistance on a pro bono basis. The Cyber Civil Rights Legal Project is founded on the principle that people have a right of privacy in their intimate photographs and videos, and that the public, online dissemination of that media without consent is an invasion of that sexual privacy amounting to a "cyber civil rights" violation.

## **EndTAB: End Technology-Enabled Abuse ([endtab.org](https://endtab.org))**

Live and online trainings and resources to address and prevent technology-enabled abuse - like nonconsensual pornography - perpetrated against victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking and elder abuse.

## **- GENDER BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES -**

**National Domestic Violence Hotline ([thehotline.org](https://thehotline.org))**

**National Network to End Domestic Violence ([nedv.org](https://nedv.org))**

**RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) ([rainn.org](https://rainn.org))**

**Joyful Heart Foundation ([joyfulheartfoundation.org](https://joyfulheartfoundation.org))**