

Do Now

Sexual image sharing, AI deepfakes and consequences



Liam and Tara's relationship had been going well – until today. Liam just broke up with Tara, saying he 'wouldn't be able to handle' what she does for a living.

Tara was very surprised; she works in a library. Then Liam showed her a link to a porn site.

'WHAT?!' Exclaimed Tara. 'That's NOT me! I don't do that! I never did that!'

Discuss: What might have happened to Tara? How could this happen?



What do we mean the terms 'non-consensual' and 'deepfakes'?

I think these terms mean...

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Learning outcomes:

Evaluate different motivations and contexts in which sexual images are shared, and possible legal, emotional and social consequences.

Deepfakes : An image or recording that has been convincingly altered and manipulated to misrepresent someone as doing or saying something that was not actually done or said.

Non-consensual image sharing: Images that were originally shared with consent. It can also include images obtained without the victim's knowledge.



What happened to Tara was absolutely appalling – but unfortunately a situation which is not as rare as you'd imagine. An ex-boyfriend, perhaps unhappy about Tara's new relationship, had tried to split Tara and Liam up, by creating a deepfake of Tara (using her head on pornographic film actors' body). The ex-boyfriend then uploaded the AI-created clip (we call this a 'deepfake') to an adult site, and sent the link to Liam, saying, 'rather you than me, mate.' We call this behaviour 'revenge porn.' It's illegal in the UK but it does still happen, and with AI deepfake technology, has only become easier to create.



RELATIONSHIP, SEX EDUCATION
BELOWING CARE ASPIRE SUCCEED



Did you know?

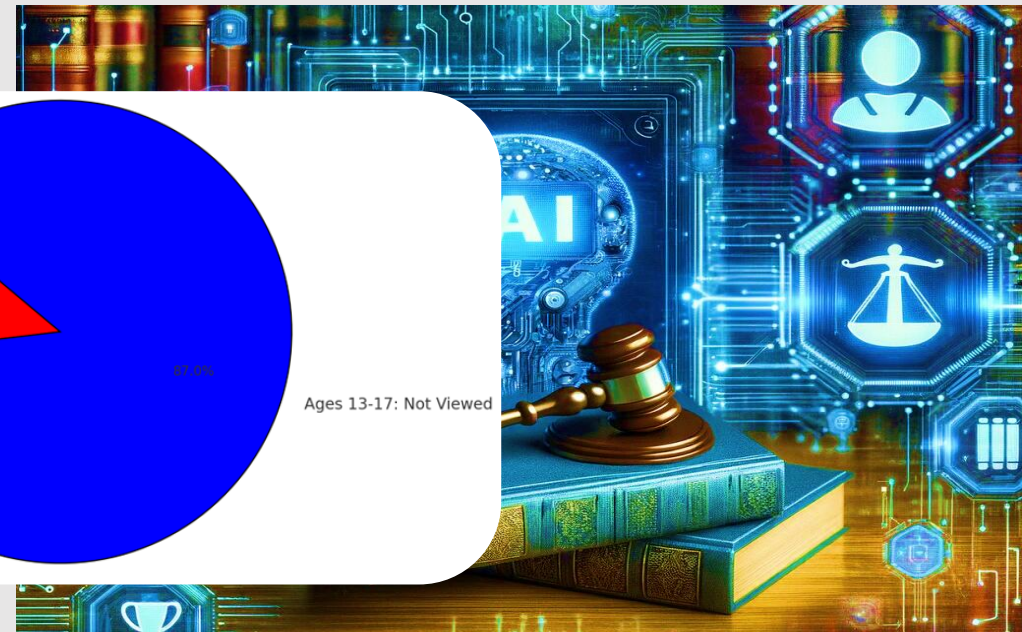
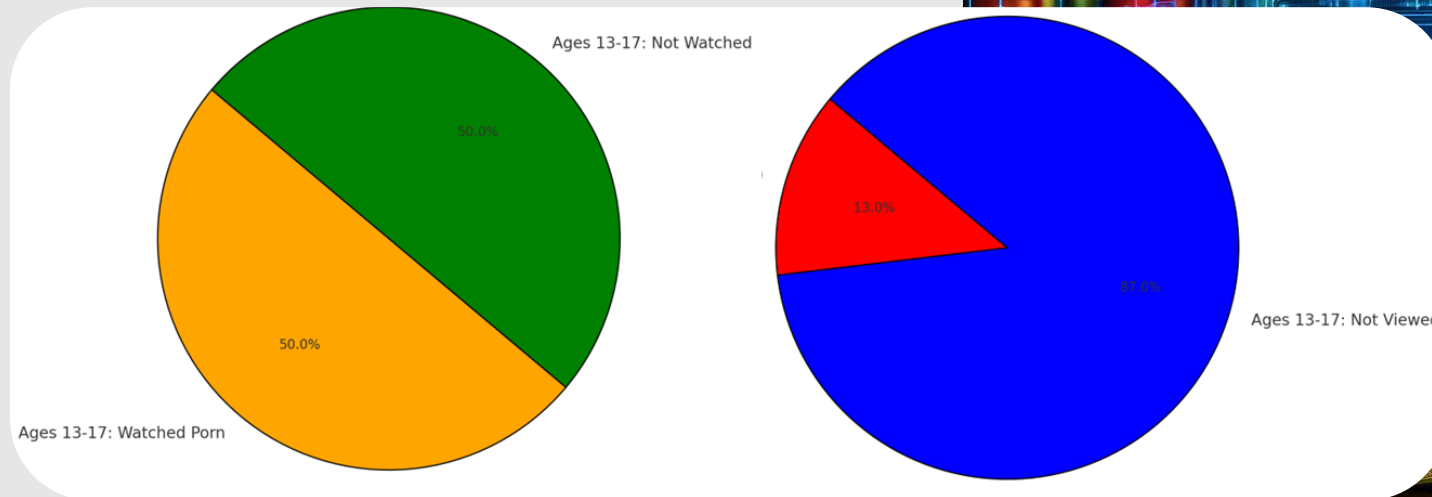
If your image is not used in a pornographic way or in a way to scam people, it can be legal to use it without your consent – but what do you do if you don't want that and it's on social media?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YD95R1MUyxU>

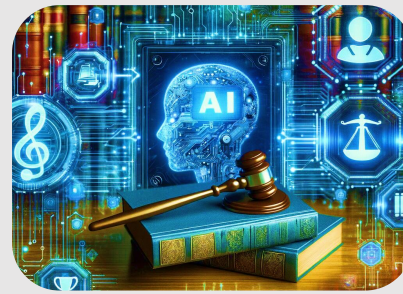
Why is this such an important topic for us to study?

Well, as we can see from our first chart (bottom left), in 2024, 50% of teens (13-17) admitted they had viewed online pornography. This is highly problematic in itself, due to the unrealistic and addictive nature of the material, which we've focused on in past lessons.

As we can see from our second chart, (bottom right), now in 2025, it's estimated at least 18% of the same group will have seen at least one deepfake pornographic video – and the amount of these videos online is still increasing in number all the time.



Pornographic deepfakes and the law: Watch the clips, listen carefully and complete your table in as much detail as you can. We'll go through the answers together as a class afterwards.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvbxizZkcAY>

Why is this such a big problem?	What's being done about it?

Pornographic deepfakes and the law:

Don't forget to write down any answers you may have missed – you'll be needing these for an activity later.



Why is this such a big problem?	What's being done about it?
It's easy to find and use the software	A new law will make non-consensual sexual creation a crime with up to 2 years imprisonment
The victim can be anyone, all a criminal needs is the person's image.	Closing the gaps in legislation, e.g. making it illegal to take photos of more covered areas of women, not just upskirting
If it's on a global website, it can be difficult for police to act.	The aim is to halve the current amount of crimes over a decade.
Prisons are full, and the police are currently struggling with resources. This is a lot of additional work.	The police are working with the education system, to ensure students are aware of the law and penalties
The tech companies need to be on board and support the police for the new legislation to be successful	Violence against women and girls (including sexual harassment) has been declared a state of national emergency and deepfakes are hoped to be made a priority offense in the Online Safety Act.

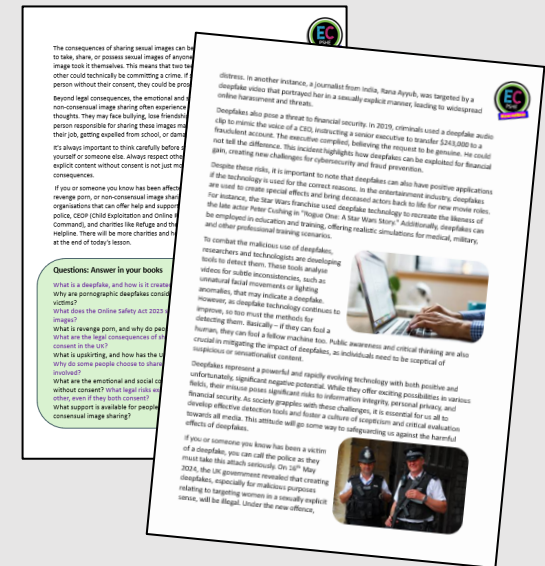
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We will now find out more about the significant issues and legal consequences surrounding the creation of deepfakes, revenge porn and upskirting and what it is that motivates criminals to involve themselves in these activities.

THORNDEN THREE READING!

This is an important, new and developing topic. Please follow the text being read to Closely. We can discuss questions afterwards.





Understanding Revenge Porn, Non-Consensual Image Sharing and the Law

Deepfakes

A deepfake is a type of artificial intelligence (AI) technology that changes or replaces a person's face or voice in a video so it looks like they said or did something they never did.

Some deepfakes are made for fun or entertainment, but others are created to deceive or harm people.

One of the most serious problems is pornographic deepfakes. These are explicit images or videos where someone's face has been digitally added without their consent. Such images can damage a person's reputation, harm their mental health and relationships, and leave them feeling humiliated or scared.

The Online Safety Act 2023 makes it a criminal offence in the UK to create or share a deepfake sexual image or video of someone without their permission. Those found guilty can face serious penalties, including prison.



Understanding Revenge Porn, Non-Consensual Image Sharing and the Law

Revenge Porn

Revenge porn is when someone shares private sexual photos or videos of another person without their consent, often to embarrass, control or punish them. It is most common after a relationship ends but can also happen through bullying or blackmail.

Since 2015, it has been illegal in the UK to share such images with the intention of causing distress. Offenders can be sentenced to up to two years in prison.

Upskirting

Upskirting is when someone secretly takes a photo or video under another person's clothing without permission, usually to capture private areas.

It often happens in public places, such as on transport or at events. Since 2019, upskirting has been a specific criminal offence in the UK. Offenders can face up to two years in prison and may be placed on the sex offenders register.



Understanding Revenge Porn, Non-Consensual Image Sharing and the Law

Sharing Sexual Images

Sometimes people share private sexual images willingly with a partner – this is called consensual image sharing. However, there are risks: if trust is broken or the relationship ends, these images could be shared without permission. Others may feel pressured into sending images (known as sexting) due to threats, manipulation or peer pressure. It is illegal in the UK to take, share or possess sexual images of anyone under 18 – even if the young person took the image themselves. This means that two teenagers sharing images with each other could still be breaking the law.

Consequences for Victims and Offenders

Having private images shared without consent can lead to anxiety, depression and even suicidal thoughts.

Victims may face bullying, lose friends or find it hard to trust others again.

Those responsible for sharing images can face legal action, lose their jobs, be expelled from school or harm their future opportunities.

Now answer the questions in your booklet.

- 1. What is a deepfake, and how is it created?**
- 2. Why are pornographic deepfakes considered harmful, and what impact can they have on victims?**
- 3. What does the Online Safety Act 2023 say about creating and sharing deepfake sexual images?**
- 4. What is revenge porn, and why do people engage in it?**
- 5. What are the legal consequences of sharing sexual images of someone without their consent in the UK?**
- 6. What is upskirting, and how has the UK law addressed it?**
- 7. Why do some people choose to share sexual images with others, and what risks are involved?**
- 8. What are the emotional and social consequences of having a private image shared without consent? What legal risks exist for teenagers who send sexual images to each other, even if they both consent?**
- 9. What support is available for people affected by deepfakes, revenge porn, or non-consensual image sharing?**





The consequences of sharing sexual images can be serious. Legally, under UK law, it is illegal to take, share, or possess sexual images of anyone under 18 – even if the person in the image took it themselves. This means that two teenagers sending sexual images to each other could technically be committing a crime. If someone shares an image of another person without their consent, they could be prosecuted under revenge porn laws.

Beyond legal consequences, the emotional and social impact can be devastating. Victims of non-consensual image sharing often experience anxiety, depression, and even suicidal thoughts. They may face bullying, lose friendships, or feel unable to trust others again. The person responsible for sharing these images may also face consequences, including losing their job, getting expelled from school, or damaging their future prospects.

It's always important to think carefully before sharing any private images, whether of yourself or someone else. Always respect other people's privacy and understand that sharing explicit content without consent is not just morally wrong – it is illegal and can have lasting consequences.

If you or someone you know has been affected by deepfakes, revenge porn, or non-consensual image sharing, there are organisations that can offer help and support, such as the police, CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command), and charities like Refuge and the Revenge Porn Helpline. There will be more charities and helplines sign-posted at the end of today's lesson.



Questions: Answer in your books

What is a deepfake, and how is it created?
Why are pornographic deepfakes considered harmful, and what impact can they have on victims?
What does the Online Safety Act 2023 say about creating and sharing deepfake sexual images?
What is revenge porn, and why do people engage in it?
What are the legal consequences of sharing sexual images of someone without their consent in the UK?
What is upskirting, and how has the UK law addressed it?
Why do some people choose to share sexual images with others, and what risks are involved?
What are the emotional and social consequences of having a private image shared without consent? What legal risks exist for teenagers who send sexual images to each other, even if they both consent?
What support is available for people affected by deepfakes, revenge porn, or non-consensual image sharing?

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Useful helplines and charities:

[Young Minds](#). Child and adolescent mental health charity for teens struggling with any subject.

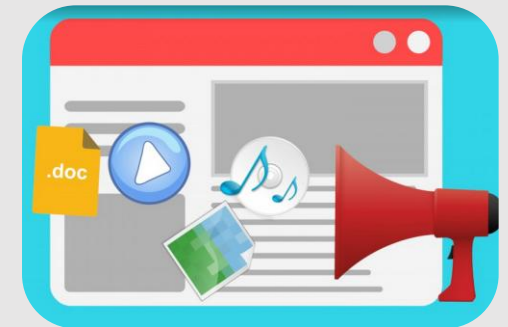
Call: 0808 802 5544

[Teen Line | Teens Support hotline - Connect, talk, get help!](#) Teen Line's highly trained teen listeners provide support, resources and hope to any teen who is struggling.

[SANE](#). National out-of hours mental health charity offering emotional support, guidance and information. Call: 0300 304 7000 (4.30pm to 10.30pm)

[Mental Health Foundation](#). Information and support for anyone with mental health problems or learning disabilities.

[Rights online \(coe.int\)](#) Your rights online as a young person using social media sites





Reporting a Concern at Thornden School

- It is important to us that all of you feel safe, happy and belong at Thornden.
- We also know that sometimes it is not as easy as simply telling a member of staff
- It could be:
 - A friend you are worried about
 - Someone being unkind to you
 - Something you have heard and think we should know

How can you report anything you are worried about?

- Speak to a member of staff or parent / carer
- Visit the Well Being Den or Head of Year area
- On Satchel each week you will be sent a link to a form to share any worries you have
- On our school website homepage there is a 'Report a Concern' link.
- In the Student Bulletin there is a 'Report a Concern' link
- On all school desktops there is a 'Report a Concern' logo to click and report anything

Need Support? You're Not Alone



If anything in today's lesson has affected you, or you want to talk to someone, there is help available.

Mental Health & Low Mood

YoungMinds – <https://www.youngminds.org.uk>

Kooth – <https://www.kooth.com>

Mind – <https://www.mind.org.uk>

Apps That Can Help

Calm – For mindfulness and sleep.

Headspace – Meditation and stress relief.

Clear Fear – Manage anxiety (designed for young people).

MeeTwo – Anonymously talk to other teens, moderated by experts.

Talk to Someone

Your Tutor or Head of Year – We're here to help.

Wellbeing Team and School Nurse

Report a Concern on Satchel

Safeguarding Team with the Purple lanyards

Eating Concerns

Beat Eating Disorders –

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

NHS Live Well – Eating Disorders –

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/conditions/eating-disorders/>

Healthy Lifestyle

NHS Every Mind Matters – <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters>

Change4Life – <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>