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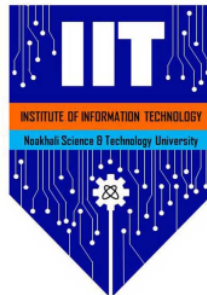
Revenge porn and blackmailing in the internet

Prep. ETS

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Abstract

This paper seeks to clarify the concept of revenge pornography. The meaning of 'Revenge Porn' is sexually explicit images of a person posted online without that person's consent especially as a form of revenge. We will talk about revenge porn as well as the impact of revenge porn, what action can be taken against it and blackmailing will also be focused. Blackmailing is an act of forcing or preventing someone to do or not to do something by using the threat on that person. Blackmailing can be done in many spheres such as in business sphere or any other sphere which creates THREAT OF ACTION and THREAT OF DEFACTION which may ruin individual's life.

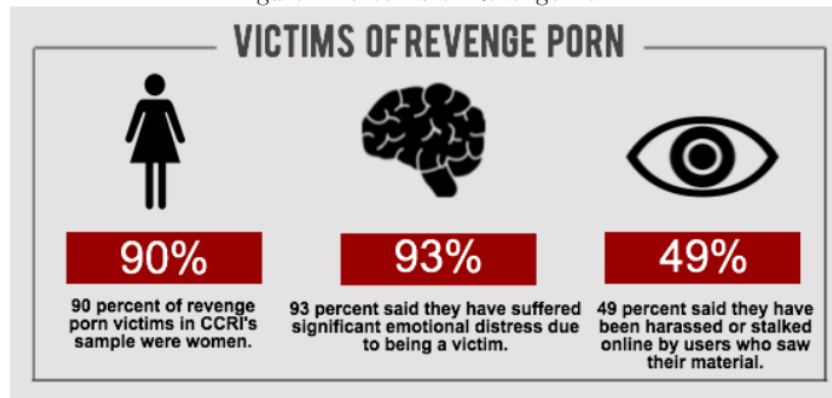
1 Introduction

Today in 21st century, we are living in a modern society where all human beings are profiled. Despite of modern age, various digital abuses occur due to technology. One form of digital abuse you might have heard of is non-consensual pornography, often called “revenge porn.” Revenge porn is the distribution of sexually explicit images or videos of individuals without their consent of the subject and in order to cause them distress or embarrassment. This type of abuse intersects with sexual abuse, as it involves the digital distribution of nude or sexually explicit photos and/or videos of a person without their consent. It’s called “revenge” porn because the images or videos are often used as retaliation or as blackmail material by a current or former partner. However, it includes pictures or videos that are spread by strangers, who may have hacked your phone/laptop/cloud photo storage account.

At love is respect, we hear from many people who have experienced this form of abuse. Some victims have willingly shared images privately with their partners, only to have their partners break their trust and later threaten to distribute those images publicly. Others have had partners coerce or force them into creating sexually explicit materials in order to shame, control and manipulate them. Alternatively, an abusive partner might take photographs or videos without the victim’s knowledge and then use the threat of sharing those materials online to maintain control over the victim.

Somehow, when they get nude pictures of someone, they try to blackmail them in various ways. Ex-partners are responsible for most of the nude viral infections. While in a relationship, the partner may voluntarily share a photo or video, or the partner may unknowingly take pictures. But later, when the relationship is broken, he often uses his nude pictures or videos to take revenge on his ex-partner. A lot of times old pictures threaten to show immoral relationship even after breaking up.

Figure 1: Victims of Revenge Porn



Attempts are made to blackmail the victim with pornography. Attempts were made to make him do dishonest things. If the victim refuses to do so, his pornography is blackmailed with the threat of going viral on the internet. A lot of Internet Blackmailing starts when a hacker starts taking control over victim's computer.

Then the hacker searches for compromising information which he can use against victim and to control victim's behaviour, leading to demand of ransom.

The main goal for blackmailing are:

1. to Maintain immoral relationship
2. to defame the victim
3. to make the victim disrespectful in the society
4. to do dishonest work or crime

2 Background

2.1 1980

Hustler magazine began publishing sexually explicit images of actual women in the 1980s, often without the consent or knowledge of the ladies depicted. Nude images of an unwilling and unnamed woman were published in Hustler's "Beaver Hunt," which were taken by her husband during a camping trip and then stolen. Hustler expressed her passion for collecting arrowheads (which is real) and her wish to be "screwed by two motorcyclists" beside the photos (false). These are thought to be the first documented cases of revenge pornography.

2.2 2000

Sergio Messina, an Italian researcher, has identified a new type he labels "realcore pornography"—photos and films of ex-girlfriends that were first exchanged in Usenet forums.

2.3

Several cases of revenge pornography have received widespread media attention in recent years, such as the case of EMMA HOLTEN, whose private, intimate, and sexual images were disclosed without her consent and who regained control by disclosing other images with consent, thus diverting attention away from her purported shame and refocusing it on the lack of consent in the disclosure of the images.

Other cases left victims more damaged and unable to regain control, like the case of TIZIANA Cantone, who committed suicide in 2016 after being unable to escape the attention and slut-shaming she faced as a result of her becoming a victim of revenge pornography.

3 The Emergence of Revenge porn

In the latter half of the twentieth century, technological innovations in camera, video, computing and communication technology were made widely available to the consumer market. Individuals were able to create and see their own media without the need for an intermediary for the first time on a wide scale. Consumer interest in this technology was sparked in large part by its applications in sexual life, as it allowed for the anonymous creation of erotic or explicit material. Individuals, couples, and sexual subcultures began generating and distributing amateur pornographic images and videos in the 1970s and 1980s. It wasn't long before it became evident that sexy material created in a consenting partnership may be abused. A pornographic home movie of then-married 'blacksploitation' stars Jayne Kennedy and Leon Isaac Kennedy, which began to be shared commercially and became one of the earliest known cases of revenge porn, was one of the earliest known examples of revenge porn. The film was only made public after Jayne divorced Leon, and it has been speculated that Leon published the footage as a form of retaliation for her leaving him. In the mid-1990s, as the internet became more widely used, online communities and networks sprang up to share and watch amateur and self-produced pornography. The appeal of amateur pornography was that it depicted 'real' individuals and sexual relationships, as contrast to professional pornography's staged experiences. This request stretched beyond material that had been shared informally to photographs and videos that had been disseminated maliciously or in retaliation. The internet overcomes the physical restrictions of VHS and previous media technologies, allowing for near-simultaneous image and video generation and distribution to a potentially worldwide audience. When someone wants to deliberately share another person's sexual photograph or video, the internet works as a "force multiplier," making the material publicly and worldwide available. This has been demonstrated by a number of high-profile situations in which ex-partners publicized or sold sexual photographs or video without their consent, destabilizing the careers of female (and some male) celebrities. Beyond these high-profile incidents, there are countless others whose photographs have been published to the internet without their consent, where they have been viewed and remarked on by a predominantly male audience [1].

4 Revenge porn, Blackmail and extortion

It's evident that revenge porn is a source of powerful but divisive feelings, which has prevented the creation of a unified policing or legal response. Efforts to avert vengeance Protecting pornographic victims from abuse and holding perpetrators accountable are in direct conflict. Believe that the lady who took the revenge is mostly to blame for the damages of revenge porn or consented to it being seized. This is the point of view of vengeance pornographers like Moore, for example, who reveled in the obvious amorality of his behavior while vehemently denouncing it. It is my obligation. Instead, he blamed people who use erotic or recreational drugs. He articulates a sexual ethos that is a paradoxical mix of prurient conservatism and libertarian machismo, in which women who take sexual photos of themselves deserve

to be publicly shamed and humiliated, and do not deserve the benefit of legal rights and protections but those that humiliate them do. However the allegations against him suggest that this served as a rationale behind which a more complex set of calculations were at play, in which Moore allegedly sought to meet viewer demand for more images (and thus maintain the profitability of his site) by engaging a hacker.

5 Impact of revenge porn and blackmailing

Girls are more likely to be blackmailed by boys. Which has a very bad effect on their lives both physically and mentally.

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Figure 2: Impact of revenge porn and blackmailing



- They are disrespected in the society.
- Being a married girl has a bad effect on her marital life.
- Many times they commit suicide.
- The family is often humiliated in the society.
- Is forced to do bad things. Immoral physical relations are also forced.
- People harass them in the streets.

6 Action against Revenge porn

There is a lot victims can do on their own if somebody posted naked pictures of them.

- **Document everything:** Victims should be sure to take screenshots of all links and pages that are posted. This could be important evidence later on.
- **Remove from search engine results:** Google and Bing have policies that enable victims to request removal of any search engine results that lead to revenge porn when one's name is typed in. You must submit the URLs on a form. To help you search for sites, they recommend the following: type your name into a search engine followed by the words "whore, sex, hooker, ex, slut, bitch, naked." Search images and videos.
- **Report to law enforcement:** To determine if your state has a law. If your state does have a law, report it to the police. Chances are it is a new law, so print out the law and take it with you when you report the crime. Be sure to take screenshots and to have them organized beforehand.
- **Send DMCA notices to websites:** Some websites will take revenge porn down voluntarily, but others require a formal "takedown letter." The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) is a federal law that gives Internet service providers safe harbor from liability for copyright-infringing material their user's post.
- **Get an order of protection in family court:** If you were in an intimate relationship with the offender, Within the day you can obtain a temporary order of protection that can be served on the offender requiring that he cease all contact
- **Sue in civil court:** If there is no criminal order of protection and family court does not have jurisdiction, you can sue for an injunction to stop the harassment. You can also sue for the intentional infliction of emotional distress.
- **Shore up your privacy and security settings:** If you are being attacked online by somebody, please immediately restrict your Facebook settings, require permission for anybody to post on your wall or tag you in a photo, and make your friends list private. Enable two-factor authentication on all accounts, devices, cloud storage systems, and modems, create unique complex passphrases and answer security questions in unexpected ways.

7 Safety tips and resources

You have the right to say "no" if you are not comfortable sending your partner sexually explicit images. No one is ever obligated to engage in sexual activity of any kind, with anyone. If your partner continues to request images or videos you are not comfortable taking or sending, here are some safety tips:

- Tell your partner your parents/guardian monitor your devices making it so you cannot take or send sexually explicit material.
- Change out your phone to one that does not have the capability of taking photos or recording video.
- Suggest other ways of connecting sexually that cannot be documented.

If your partner continues to pressure you or starts forcing you to send sexually explicit materials and you do not feel safe resisting or refusing, you may feel that the safest course of action is to send them. The following tips may help protect your safety and privacy as much as possible:

- Try to avoid showing any identifying features in the pictures you send.
- Take pictures using a neutral, non-identifying background with dark lighting.
- Add a filter to the photo that will alter coloring making the image less identifiable.
- Google has created a form where revenge porn victims can request that their images be removed from search results.
- Get support and make an emotional safety plan.

8 Conclusion

Revenge pornography presents crucial problems about how people negotiate responsibility, vulnerability, and trust in intimate relationships, as well as how to respond when betrayal of trust is amplified to a global scale by new media technology. In the absence of a sufficient criminal justice or law enforcement response, revenge porn has thrived in a legal gray area, spawning a slew of online countervailing forces. Men and boys in misogynist networks use revenge porn to harass and threaten women both online and offline, and some members of these networks try to eroticize and commodify female pain by creating dedicated revenge porn websites and extorting money from female victims. In opposition, victims and their advocates are organizing to provide support, formulate a political and collective response, and impose sanctions upon offenders since the justice system will not. However, without the legal or practical means to disrupt the circulation of their image online, victims of revenge porn remain vulnerable to ongoing abuse and harassment orchestrated by those hostile to women's online and public participation.

References

- [1] Michael Salter and Thomas Crofts. Responding to revenge porn: Challenges to online legal impunity. *New views on pornography: Sexuality, politics, and the law*, pages 233–256, 2015.

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