



CITIZEN
RESEARCH
CENTRE



SHOUT-IT-NOW

Blessers & Blessees

Insight

Blessers & Blessee Relationships



Incentives and Deterrents

The mechanism of choice relies on the basic principles of incentive and deterrent. The balance between these two factors enables the individual to make a considered decision. The issue of blessers and blessees is an issue of human choice. It is thus crucial to address it from the perspective of incentives and deterrents.

Further research will be required to establish the intricacies of and interplay between these principles. We have however observed evidence of some of the factors which motivate individuals to enter into these relationships.

The motivation for blessers include genetic drivers (competitiveness with peers, displays of sexual virility etc.) as well as social drivers such as ego and status. The differentiating factors which motivate an individual to become a blesser include the normalisation and acceptability of transactional relationships among their peer demographic, which has massively increased the ease of finding a suitable blessee.

The motivating factors for blessees include socio-economic factors such as poverty and lack of opportunity for young South Africans - this is especially true for young women. Cultural factors such as the normalisation of compensation for sex (mavuso, girlfriend allowance etc.) and the role of media (both mainstream and social media) in glamorising opulent spending also play a major role in the expectations many have of themselves and their lives.

Blessers & Blessee Relationships



Incentives and Deterrents

In the context of HIV infection rates, the largest contributing factor is the ability to consent as well as to negotiate for safer sexual practices.

Blessers do not generally have many hindrances to their ability to consent to the relationships or to insist on protected sex. The preference for unprotected sex is a societal problem, not one specific to blessers - these individuals just have more power to enforce their wishes than the general population as the sex is transactional in nature.

Blessees, on the other hand, may be influenced by multiple factors which limit ability to consent, as well as their ability to negotiate condom use. These could include, but are by no means limited to, disempowerment due to financial dependency, not understanding the risks involved due to lack of life experience.

Blessers & Blessee Relationships



Types of relationships

Transactional relationships and transactional sex have been commonplace in human history and this extends to our current culture and societies - from brothels and strip clubs, to spouses staying together merely because of the financial dependency.

To better understand the risks of blesser/blessee relationships, it is important to understand the drivers and motivations of the individuals involved. By taking this approach, we have identified 5 main types of blesser/blessee relationships:

- Consensual Transactional Relationships
- Desperation Relationships
- Teenage Blessees
- Under-age Blessees
- Legal Loophole for Professional Sex Work

Consensual Transactional Relationships

South African law awards legal competence, to consent to sex, to any individual of age 16 or older. Consent is however not guaranteed merely because a person is of legal age.


The definition we have used - in addition to age - aims for freedom to consent, without undue manipulation. Thus, consent is only possible when all parties involved are able to withdraw their participation in a particular activity.

Consent, according to this interpretation, is present for many of the bleaser/blessee relationships and request we encountered in our research. These relationships are entered into without extenuating circumstances such as crippling financial situations or concerted manipulation from either party. They often have strict negotiated terms of engagement and all parties may end the relationship, at any time, without fear for personal safety and sovereignty.

Thanks for the response. My expectations are as follows:

1. Between 3-5K monthly. I prefer money over gifts and being entertained
2. Mustn't be over weight or short
3. Must be well groomed and presentable
4. Must be ambitious and career orientated
5. Must be a gentleman
6. Can stay anywhere in Johannesburg but preferably North or South

Here is a list of my attributes (what I bring to the table)



blesserfinder
[Follow](#)

mngoma_zz, shortbase511, mahlakwanerato and negumbo like this

blesserfinder Clarity of purpose, What a legend! !!!!!!!

Log in to like or comment. ***

2. I have my own car
3. I don't have a boyfriend or husband so there is no interference
4. I don't sleep around so I'm very tight- if he wants exclusivity with me it will cost him though
5. I have no problem in being very confidential- Won't harass him
6. I have travelled locally and abroad so I am accustomed to finer things
7. Take care of my body, always smell good and have make-up on
8. I'm a very generous lover and can keep him entertained with outfits and toys
9. ANAL and GROUP sex strictly prohibited
10. I'm relaxed as naturally


blesserfinder
[Follow](#)

mngoma_zz, kronellus_the_twin, nku_lee, xx_pile, mandynolwandle, carolforevercandy and negumbo like this

blesserfinder Clarity of purpose, What a legend! !!!!!!!

iamnoy Dead 🤔🤔🤔🤔 by VERY TIGHT

Log in to like or comment. ***

I don't know how this war on Blesser is gonna work. Most of these girls are over 18. Doesn't that mean you can sleep with whoever you want?

— Yanga (@GIFT_YANGA) May 13, 2016


C'hle
[@sihle27rams](#)
[Follow](#)

I wanna find myself a bleaser before I end my exams just so that I get hella spoiled once I'm done writing [#LookingForABlesser](#)

4:06 AM - 11 May 2016

Consensual Transactional Relationships

Allison Human
@allystar07

Follow

We give the blesser concept too much attention. Most of these women are legal. If they want blessers, why should it stress us all?

RETWEETS
2



7:21 AM - 19 May 2016



blesserfinder

Follow

blesserfinder: Loi keziah_nqubane 🤔🤔🤔

14 likes
2 DAYS AGO

Log in to like or comment.

that suit you?" And I told him it's perfect. He then transferred 60000 to my account. That's my bank balance after swiping the phone yesterday. Yazi I still don't understand how you ladies out there keep up with men who have disabilities in the pockets. Really I don't see myself dating R8000 salary and polo vivo driving type of a guy. You can call me a bitch or whatever, I just like rolling with guys ba di tender, business men and so forth. The ones that when you ask for R29 airtime voucher, he just eWallet you R500. Not those typical guys of yours who are renting backrooms, the ones who can't even afford to take you to spur once in 3 months. No girlfriend allowance, he buys you R12 airtime once in a month, the only time you get to talk for over 20 minutes is when you talk to him. I don't see

blesserfinder

Follow

blesserfinder Testimonials: This could be you but ubusy namaMorais #MoraisMustFall kimoramonique That could be me but u have not found me a Blesser yet all you do is ask for more n more pics zinhlemlongo Wow maosmartysihlomo How do i got my self a blesser? im from namibia..

33 likes
SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

Log in to like or comment.

13 MAY AT 19:03

Cn i also hv a blesser around jozi....m 24 stl a student at wits

18:24

Stl need a blesser around jhb

sebd us your expectations and your pics of yourself

Im engaged bt i jst want sum1 to spoil me nd hv fun wit.plz let dis b anonymous. Dat person mst b in his thirties. M 24 yrz staying at parktown.

blesserfinder

Follow

mngoma_za, its_pouty, aanna_13 and cecile_marylee like this

blesserfinder Engagement at your own risk

Log in to like or comment.

13:57

blesserfinder

Follow

11 likes

52w

blesserfinder No weapon formed against you shall prosper, This is your year of blessings. The devil is a liar

I contacted him, we had a short chat then he asked what I was upto n I told him I was having a little braai with my friends then BAM! Ewallet ya 2k he said I should get meat n some drinks n have a great day. We are too meet up for lunch during the week.
FINALLY !!! thanks admin



Log in to like or comment.

Hy admin thank u soo muchI'm talking to [redacted] and he shows alot of interest. ..He said he will start by giving me R5000 allowance excluding hair, makeup, clothes, trips and outings. ...We are going to meet for dinner sunday and he says he will bring his lawyer to put everything down on paper and I can bring mine too, to avoid sexual assault allegations . I'm okay with that tho since I know nigga won't back out

blesserfinder

Follow

mamyeni_and negumbo like this 53w

blesserfinder Testimonials: This could be you but ubusy namaMorais & namaStokvels

Log in to like or comment.

Desperation Relationships

Although legal consent applies to these types of blesser/blessee relationships, blessee participants are often reluctant to enter into these relationships but do so out of desperation.

Poverty and lack of opportunities mean that many young people cannot afford tuition, accommodation, transport or even food. A common photo posted on matchmaking platforms by potential blessees is that of an empty fridge. Assistance with university or college fees is also a common request.

The perception that this is socially permissible within their peer-group, may serve to lead individuals who would not consider professional sex work as an option, to look for a blesser.

 **Ntombikayise**
@koren_devereux

[Follow](#)

Poverty is definitely one of the reasons why Blessers/Sugar daddies have beeeeen prying in young girls.

RETWEETS 2

11:24 PM - 14 May 2016

 **Ntombikayise**
@koren_devereux

[Follow](#)

For many it's about putting bread on the table and not about wearing Gucci everything head to toe (so tacky btw)

RETWEETS 2

11:25 PM - 14 May 2016

 **For the Culture**
@_Odwa_


[Follow](#)

Then are girls even teenage girls who have blessers to survive that should be concerning

Reliable Force @_Aobakwe_
Needs vs wants. There's girls who have blessers because they want a particular lifestyle, I don't see how that should be our problem...

RETWEET 1 LIKE 1

11:39 PM - 14 May 2016


 **Siph Warrior**
@Sipho_Sabo

[Follow](#)

So basically 19yrs altogether to be a super specialist in internal medicine and 16 to be a specialist...how does 1 do this without a blesser

RETWEETS 2 LIKE 1

4:32 AM - 20 May 2016


 **Thando**
@Tidoz1

[Follow](#)

Now that she got that degree she now she wants to bounce. Anonymous wants to throw the blesser away like a used condom. 😂

[#AskAMan](#)

1:32 AM - 18 Jul 2016

 **Oratile Mratha PH**
@OratileMratha

[Follow](#)

[#CuttingEdge](#) poverty well always drive these young girls to these HIV positive elderly citizens called "Blessers"

1:00 PM - 15 Sep 2016



Desperation Relationships

MON AT 17:30

hi can a man also ask for a blesser

06:57

Good day iam in a serious financial predicament i need to find a blesser today..i dont know what else to do..iam a 25 year old male from centurion iam tall and colourd. Woman and Men are welcome. My number

mngoma_za_zeeyandah09, negumbo and martiniltmah like this

blessfinder That "msunu yenu nonke" moment when men want to be blessed by other men #MoralsMustFall

luqagal Mxm okamangethe Mxm uyanya lo

Log in to like or comment.

I am a student blesserfinder. I am struggling hle! can't be eating noodles everyday. It's just not okay ! Please give me a fit blesser who wants to bless girls. Not these little kids ezyitshelayo honestly. I need an old man to take care of me. Please #NeedToBeBlessed

mngoma_za_thato.mashilo, ke_tshoere_vibe, moretto, carollforevercandy and marlen_viana like this

blessfinder lol ku Bird bazalwane

Log in to like or comment.

small price to pay for escaping the difficulty of being poor, desperate and destitute. So as we proclaim our moral righteousness on social media, let's not forget how at some point in our lives, we came dangerously close to being the women we today want to condemn. Even if we ended up resisting, just the fact that the thought entered our minds is an indication that we're not as morally superior as we want to claim...

Sent from web

motinosmauna, khuthadzocuty942 and xoliswa159 like this

blessfinder The end!!!

Log in to like or comment.

10:29

Hi admin.. Please i need a blesser who can bless me with tuition fees, i am a graduate who is not working, want to study further thinking of changing careers please I'm willing to do anything for my blesser as long as he pays my fees and gives me time to study plz.. I am 26, vibrant, outgoing, ambitious lady who is willing to do anything for success plz

Sent from web

Help me with 2.5k please

nomboosaw_08, ihawulam, achumile_vellen, boitykash98, ayoki_I, negumbo, msewela1612, misslekgethiso, sebotse_seete and simply_size like this

blessfinder The freedom charter guarantees all of us free education. Did our leaders sell us dreams that now we must resort to this to educate ourselves?

Log in to like or comment.

City: Westrand
Province: Gauteng
Country: South Africa
Listed: May 27, 2017 12:23 pm
Expires: 36 days

Description

i am absolutely down on my luck, didn't predict my phone falling, didn't budget for it lol, so if somebody can assist me i collecting it the cost is 1.7k. i know, i can get a newer one for less but i really need mine from the repairs, it has alot of valuable data init. Once off help, please. we can go to the repairers, collect it, and take it from there.

22 black female 🙏🙏🙏 hear my cries right one.

we can discuss repayment options or do as you require, wouldn't be here if i wasnt desperate, thnx in advance lol

22:34

Hi, can I ask? Is it possible to get a "Blesser", who would help me without wanting us to date/have sex? I am a 3rd year variety student who is struggling financially, my parents have paid for this semester but next semester (my final semester) they won't afford so I might drop out . I'm so worried cause I'm almost done. I can't get a bursary cause I'm not studying in a public varsity. so I'm really requesting for someone who can help pay for the rest of my fees...In return I work for them on Weekends. In that way they can

blessfinder Blessers please come through for this lady

adv_das Shame

simply_keabae, moretto, itz_thandy, adv_das, negumbo and jamie05_sit like this

MAY 16, 2016

Log in to like or comment.

Dear Admin,does Guard know what you're doing to me in this time of need? I'm outchea waiting for your response.



Hi admin I'm so drained,hurt and down. As I'm typing this I'm weeping and flooded by tears. A very terrific incident happened to me was on my way to pay my honours fees and had the last 6000 i worked hard and saved. A white polo stopped one guy came out and pointed me with a gun took my bag with my books,student card,money and my laptop,two month old phone. I was left stranded and traumatized in melville .eventually walked to the nearest police station where the staff was rude and made this all a joke. I really need a Blesser/any good hearted person whose

blessfinder

mngoma_za_kinglino, uhandile_uthixo, negumbo, kokstaraidy, moretto, msewela1612 and princessileta like this

blessfinder Ku Bird bazalwane, we must continue to pray

leatohlatzwayo @blesserfinder reply to the poor girl🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏

princessileta Kunzima bazalwane, 🙏🙏🙏 masithandzeni

Log in to like or comment.

blessfinder

kayteemchai, mngoma_za, slim_mctershy_sa, usbundlovu, martiniltmah, evodiae and te_ma_po_96 like this

blessfinder Bathong thusang tuu

Log in to like or comment.

Teenage Blessees

Teenage blessees, in this context, refers to those individuals between the age of 16 and 19 inclusive, who willingly enter into a blesser/blessee relationship. The law does not explicitly protect them or prevent them from entering into these relationships, however this group of blessees is arguably at the greatest risk.

Although the motivating factors for these blessees are similar to those of the blessees in desperation relationships or consenting transactional relationships, the factors which limit their ability to fully consent or to negotiate for safer sexual practices are aggravated.

Susceptibility to false expectations set by the media, limited life experience and skills, along with a determination to make their own place in the world, are trademarks of adolescence. These and other similar factors serve to increase power imbalances caused large age discrepancies between blessters and blessees.



 Follow

At 16, Thuto had already planned on how to become a serial blessee

Meanwhile, I was just trying to turn my Physics mark from 12% to 21%

RETWEETS 7 LIKES 12



8:21 AM - 14 Aug 2016



Kanthan Pillay
@KanthanPillay

Follow

Blessers having sex with 16 yr olds is statutory rape. Why are we not locking them up?

Helen Zille @helenzille
Health Dpt predicts AIDS budget growth reaching R36-billion in 2020. End denialism. SA must focus on prevention through behaviour change.

RETWEETS 4 LIKES 4
10:25 PM - 21 Jul 2016

Tweet your reply

Deconstructed Patsy @crimemind3 · 21 Jul 2016
Replying to @KanthanPillay
@GPsych @helenzille consensual sexual in SA is 16 years and older. Not statutory rape.



»PrinCea«
@Bprincem93

Follow

You can't be 16 and want a Blesser

No, honey go do your homework!

3:54 PM - 26 Jul 2016

Item description

I am looking for a young black HIGH SCHOOL lady in JHB. I will reward. I will be your Blesser. Just Email me your Number. Will call back.

Item description

Hi there I am interested in high school girls who looking belsser to fulfill her need please you welcome onboard
I am good looking smart single man clean hot will make you happy with respect
U must be clean love fun as much I do we can be discreet if you want to keep secret your wish my comand so please don't hesitate to contact u will be in good hands
Can't wait to hear from you
Please contact with whatsapp number pls
I am in southern suburb

Sanelisiwe Ntabeni @QueenWordsmith · 29 May 2016
But ufuna ummtwana ounderaged... @SAPoliceService @HealthZA

Livhuwani Neluheni @LeeNelizz
Hi. Am a female blesser, looking for a male blessee between ages of 16 -22. Must be an A/B student, participate in extra curricular activity

Translate from German



Nobesuthu Cele
@ma_Ndosi

Follow

Replying to @QueenWordsmith

except 16 is age of consent...but u see we think real/borderline paedophiles care abt rules we create on blesser trend

7:25 AM - 29 May 2016

Tweet your reply

Sanelisiwe Ntabeni @QueenWordsmith · 29 May 2016
Replying to @ma_Ndosi
I understand that 16 is the legal age to have sex but this is prostitution...

Nobesuthu Cele @ma_Ndosi · 29 May 2016
so is it prostitution if the 16 yr old girl or boy consents to being paid & pampered for sex & other favours...



I dunno bro.
@BongoMuffing

Follow

That blesser lady is a little creepy. I know 16 is the age of consent but still.

6:48 AM - 29 May 2016

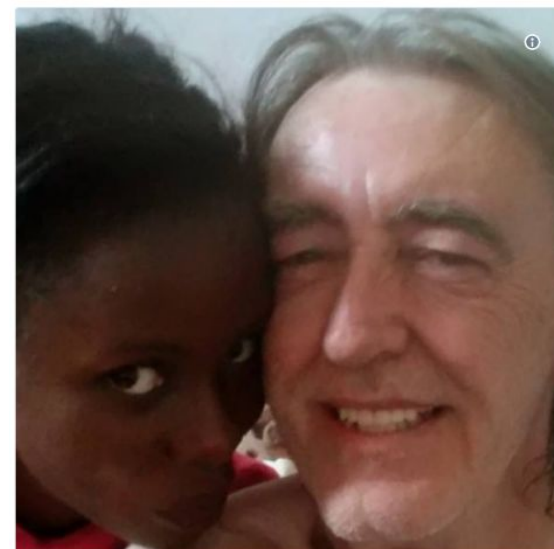
Tweet your reply

Campeones @ThabisoDeus · 29 May 2016
Replying to @BongoMuffing
it was funny until I saw 16. Then was like nah.

Teenage Blessees

If you are a teen and you have a blesser you are a sick child. Be young date niggas your age.

— Kwanda Dlamini (@KwandaDlamini5) May 28, 2016



Gossip Mill Mzansi
@gossipmillsa

Follow

North West teenager marry her blesser(pics)
gossipmillsa.com/north-west-tee...

10:12 AM - 20 Aug 2016

Item description

Hello beautiful high school girls how are you I am single guy no game straight truth if u need someone can take your financial need then you can contact me I would love to be your blesser you can depends on me when ever you needs I would love to fulfill
For your dignity and safety I promise to be discreet with you so please so please be lion fear not u in good gentle loving caring hand thanks for reading so contact

Under-age Blessees

Despite the sensationalism and outrage that this type of relationship elicits, it is likely that they make up a very small percentage of all blesser/blessee relationships. There are a few contributing factors to this:

The legal age of consent in South Africa is 16, with no sliding scale of permissible age difference. Most blessters are over 35, with many being much older. With this large an age difference (generational gap) the risk/reward equation of blessing a 14 or 15 year old, vs a 16 year old, just does not make sense. Although the aspiration and effort to become a blessee is observable in children much younger than 16, many will lie about their age. Older blessee candidates lament that they look younger than 16 and are therefore less likely to find a blesser.

True paedophilia is still reasonably rare, meaning the percentage of blessters who will be specifically or exclusively looking for very young, under-age blessees is likely to be low. Statutory rape is illegal and doing harm to children is still abhorrent to a large portion of society, even those with otherwise questionable morals, meaning relationships with very young children are likely to attract attention.

That said, the social acceptability and popularity of blesser/blessee type relationships is likely to be used as a mechanism by those who do wish to sexually exploit children. Any trend that normalises as glamorises transactional sex - as anything other than sex work - will have this effect.



14 year olds talking about their blesser not sending them money to buy pumps....absolutely disgusting

1:22 AM - 18 May 2016

RT @Sentletse Blessters are potential paedophiles masquerading as sexual philanthropists. Kenny Kunene admitted raping underage girls when he was a teacher

— Malope (@2felas) May 19, 2016



missy @IamCwayita - Jan 7
#Shorthairgang this year 🤔 I'm gonna miss braids thou 💔



missy
@IamCwayita



Idk how I'm gonna get a Blesser cause I look 16 with this short hair 🤔😭

10:38 AM - 7 Jan 2017

Under-age Blessees



Mam Nana
@ShazLehong

Follow

I don't how I expect to get a blesser when I look 16 smh

12:54 PM - 25 Sep 2016



Nomfundo Ngcobo
@NomfundoNgcobo

Follow

My only issue is the use of Blesser-Blessee when talking about underage girls and old men. That is statutory rape, not a phenomenon

RETWEETS
32

LIKES
7



6:37 AM - 31 Aug 2016



IG: yunattie
@misss_booi

Follow

Hi blesser remember there's still that thing called statutory rape... #Bhabhayi 🙏

12:07 PM - 20 May 2016



bougie mrs
@AfroFiend

Follow

If statutory rape was treated as such, there would be no need to demonize Blesser/blessee situations.

RETWEETS
3

LIKES
2



5:38 AM - 17 May 2016

@SakinaKamwendo Min Motsoaledi is assuming that all pregnant 14 to 16 year old is pregnant by blesser cos he doesn't see the big picture

— Pervy Sage (@Narrator1011) May 11, 2016



J.
@Mysterious_Jay

Follow

Arrest these blesser who are sexually engaging with minors then. Surely that's statutory rape. No 3 billion rands needed here

2:12 AM - 30 May 2016



lumos
@tiro_h

Follow

Lmao there are such responsible blesser outchea that make sure you're underage before they even start talking to you

6:45 AM - 26 Apr 2016



Tweet your reply



lumos @tiro_h · 26 Apr 2016
Replying to @tiro_h
"NOT

Wooooo 🙏



Kele
@Keiz_MS

Follow

I'm quite disturbed that even 13 year old girls are now talking about blesser.

2:23 PM - 6 May 2016



Keitumetse S Mngadi
@KeitumetseNana

Follow

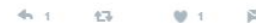
Replying to @akaworldwide

@akaworldwide what were you thinking glorifying these monsters who prey on underage girlz? What good have they done to be 'Blesser's'?

LIKE
1



9:37 AM - 7 May 2016



Tweet your reply



Boy @Xollane3 · 8 May 2016
Replying to @KeitumetseNana

@KeitumetseNana @akaworldwide those 'underage' girls ain't finna like what you saying :)



Keitumetse S Mngadi @KeitumetseNana · 8 May 2016
@Xollane3 @akaworldwide I don't expect them to becoz their brains are still developing!



Bhelekazi
@zO_Okey

Follow

Replying to @ze_herbstar1

Prostitutes are still in danger though legal or illegal. Mina nje a 15yr old looking for a blesser just breaks my heart 💔

@ze_herbstar1

12:52 AM - 17 Jan 2017

Legal Loophole for Professional Sex Work

Since all forms of sex work are still illegal in South Africa, many professional sex workers are now rebranding to blessees. This allows them to drive business in an open and legal way which makes their services easier to access. It also increases the market of clients, as the stigma of sleeping with a “prostitute” has not been linked to being a blesser for a night.

Item description

Hey ladies out there, I need to bless one beautiful lady who has big boobs, with cash.. Got enough cash with me here.. Whatsapp me soooo that I can take you out and spoil you... You must be beautiful and must have big boobs.

Blessing sexy cute lonely babe 700nite u won't regret - Pretoria

Item description

Hey yul I need to get my hands on you! You will love every minute you spend with me And if your feeling generous you can Try me out to I love to give and receive! Intimate private Pampering. Cl me if only u need me Znite pls!!

 **Lemogang Moretiwe**
@MoretiweLemo

 Follow

Dear Blessers
It is now legal to give your Blessie money without any shame. You can now show that you afford pussy in public
[#SexWorkSA](#)

9:18 AM - 11 Mar 2016



 **Tšhegofatšo**
@tmonyeps

 Follow

She can be a stripper, an escort, a prostitute, a blessee it doesn't matter!, she still got that GLE and Gucci bag, and wena?

1:33 PM - 5 Feb 2017

  1  4

I wonder how long it takes a typical blesser to bless. People are finding interesting n legal ways of prostitution.

— [simps \(@simps3099\)](#) Apr 26, 2016

Item description

I'm here to bless unhappy husband just 30 min 150 an hour 300 I don't host

Item description

Need a sugar daddy to help me out financially starting from 1K a visit. This can be a regular basis discreet agreement. Contact me if serious and you can prove yourself and I will prove myself too

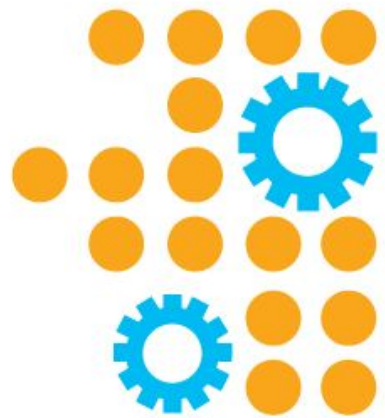
Item description

I'm here to bless unhappy husband I do every position or style just 30 min 150 an hour 300 I don't host I don't send pic

Looking for a Blesser to bless with cash today nd I'll bless u sexually also - Louis Trichardt

Item description

I'm a 21 year old black girl seriously looking for a blesser this morning or during the day. If you have good money you can fuck me how ever you want.jhb blesser please help



CITIZEN
RESEARCH
CENTRE