

3A – Image-Based Sexual Abuse Perpetrators: Demographics, Characteristics, Motivations and Legal and Non-Legal Responses

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RMIT



Image-based sexual abuse perpetration: Prevalence, drivers, & responses

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SOCIAL EQUITY RESEARCH CENTRE

RMIT UNIVERSITY

9 October 2024

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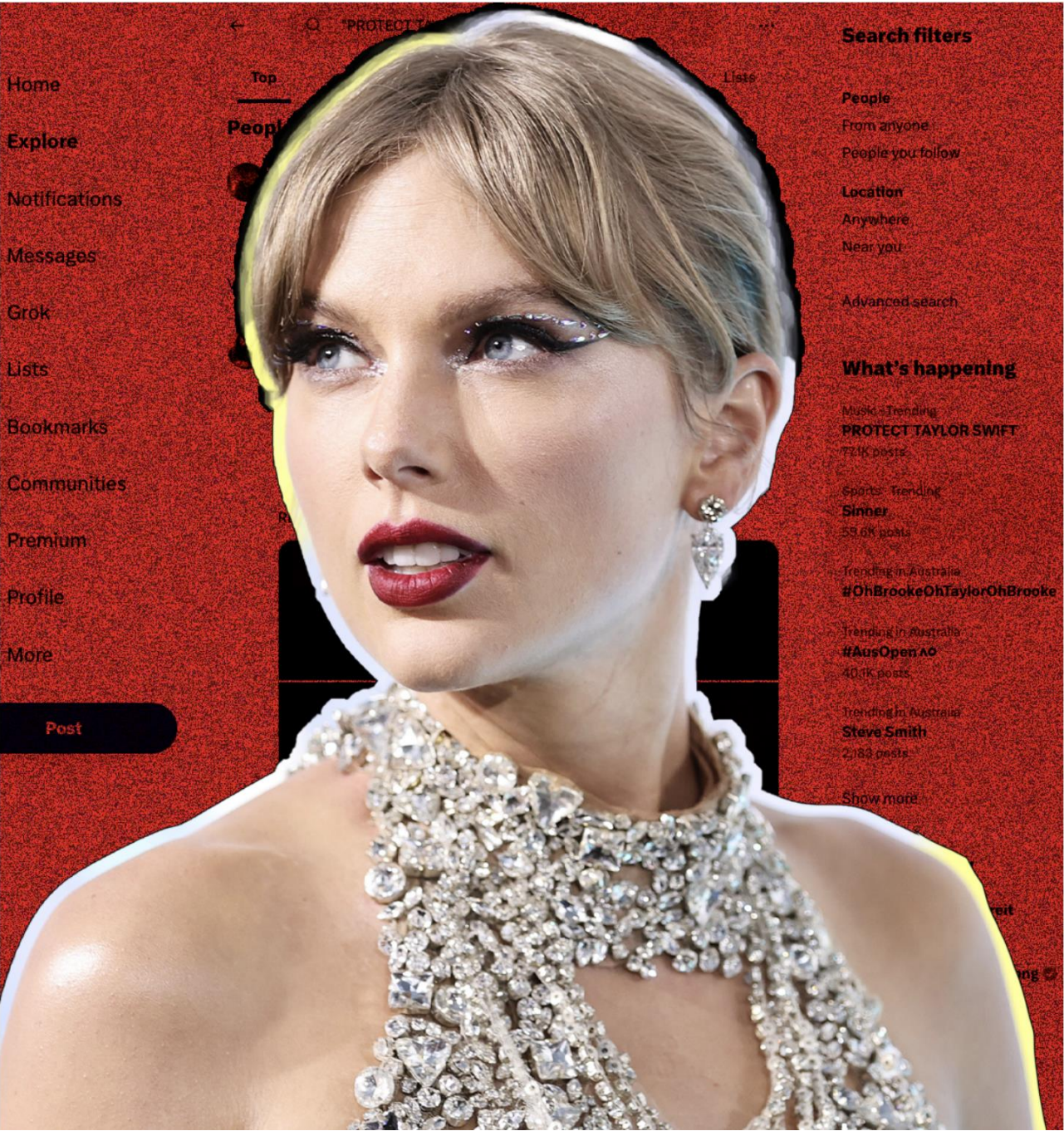


Acknowledgement of Country

RMIT University acknowledges the people of the Woi wurrung and Boon wurrung language groups of the eastern Kulin Nation on whose unceded lands we conduct the business of the University.

RMIT University respectfully acknowledges their Ancestors and Elders, past and present.

RMIT also acknowledges the Traditional Custodians and their Ancestors of the lands and waters across Australia where we conduct our business.



CAROLINE HADKINS BUSINESS MAR 8, 2024 11:35 AM

Florida Middle Schoolers Arrested for Allegedly Creating Deepfake Nudes of Classmates

In what appears to be the first criminal case of its kind, two teenage boys were charged under a 2022 Florida law for allegedly creating AI-generated images depicting middle school classmates.

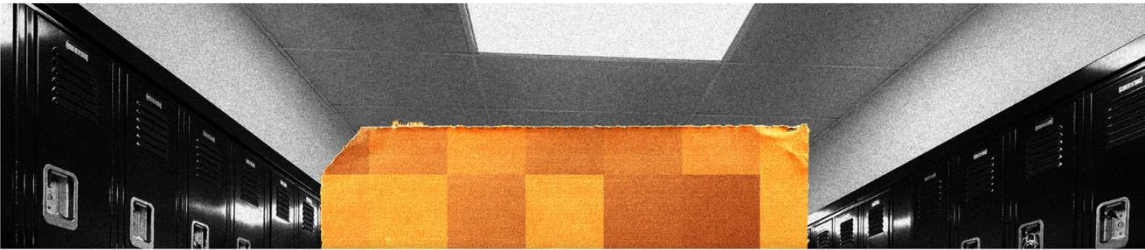








Image-Based Sexual Abuse (IBSA)

-  Creating intimate* images** without consent
-  Filming or photographing intimate images without consent
-  Sharing intimate images without consent
-  Threatening to share intimate images
-  Pressuring, threatening or coercing someone into sharing their intimate images
-  Sharing unsolicited and unwanted intimate images

*"intimate" = nude or sexual

** images = photos or videos

What do we know about IBSA perpetrators?

Other research (see Henry & Beard (2024) "Image-based sexual abuse: A scoping review):

- Knowledge limited.
- Most focus on non-consensual sharing.
- Prevalence varies.
- Most victims targeted by known perpetrators.
- Men, younger adults and LGBTIQ+ people more likely to admit offending behaviours.
- Motivations multifaceted but tend to relate to social rewards, power dynamics, sexual gratification and retaliation.
- Overlap: victimisation and perpetration.
- Dark Tetrad traits.
- Association with other behaviours.



PARTNER OR
FORMER PARTNER



DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE/ABUSE



POWER/CONTROL



MALICE



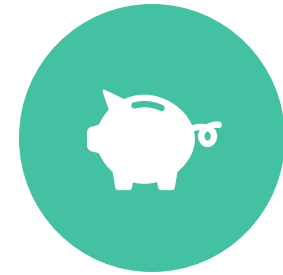
SOCIAL STATUS



FOR A "LAUGH"



SEXUAL
GRATIFICATION



MONEY

IBSA Perpetration Online

Homosocial boundaries; compliance to group norms.

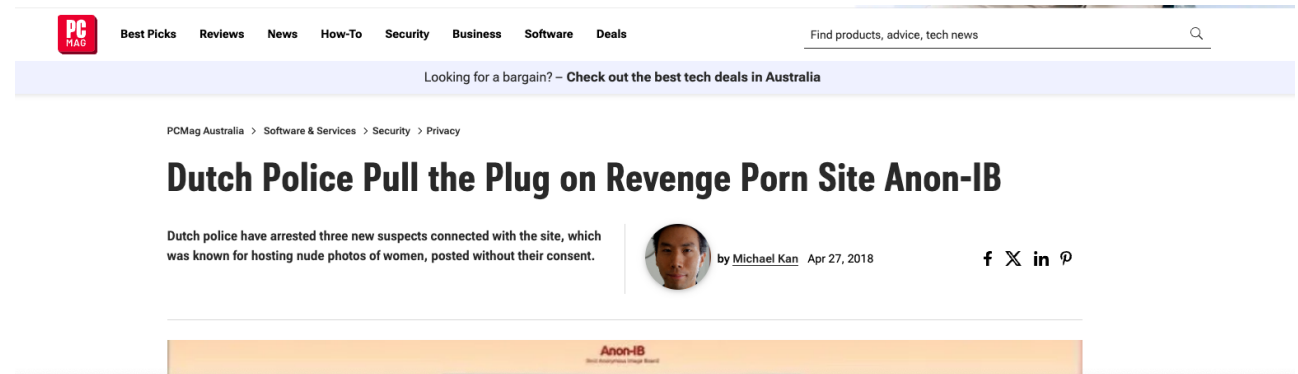
Strong rituals – a sense of belonging and affiliation.

Euphemistic labelling; a shared language.

Semen as a marker of ownership; breeding.

Gendered dimensions of racism.

Fetishization of "nubile" bodies.



Tribute (sexual act)

Add languages

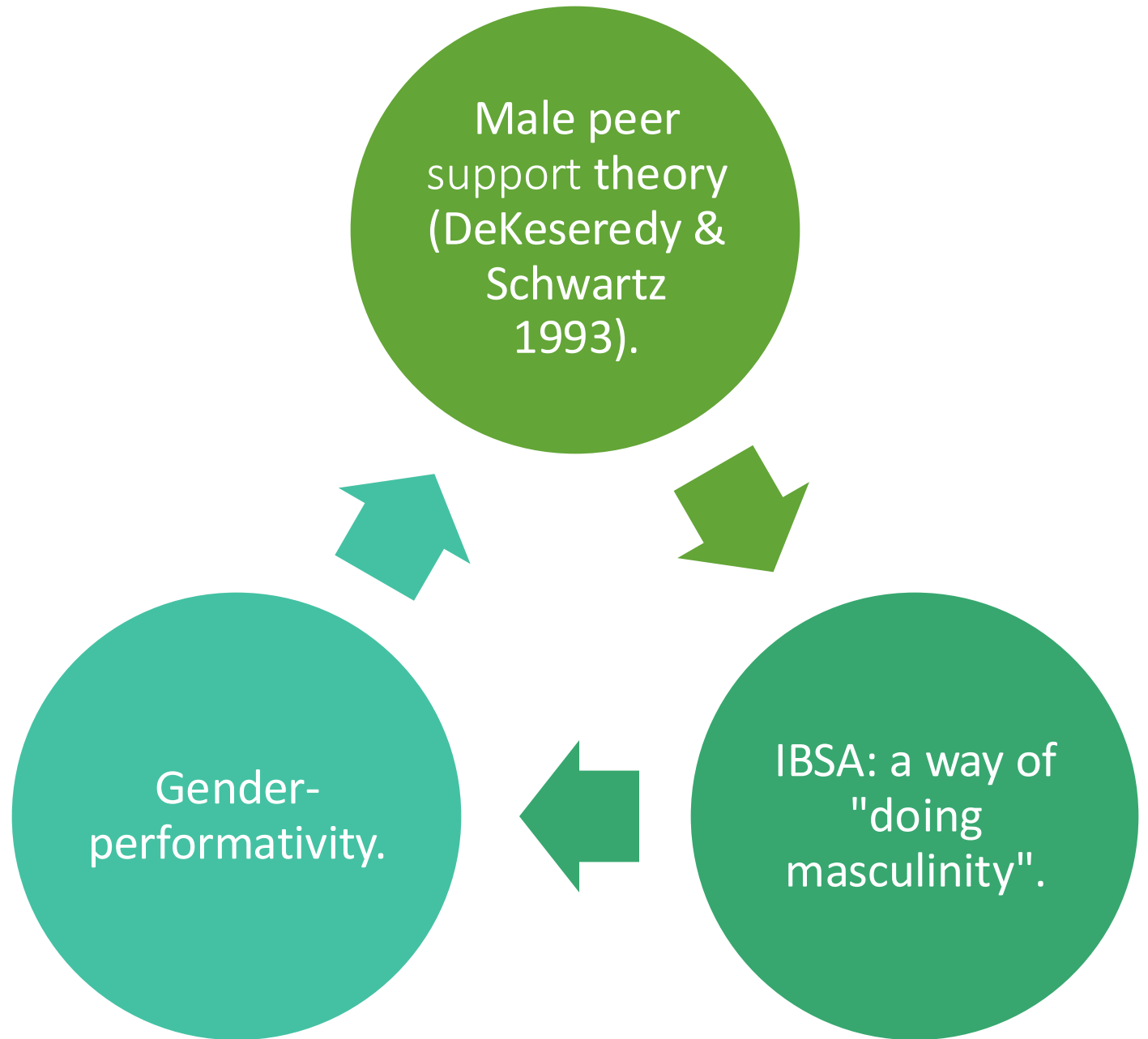
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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A **tribute** or **cum tribute** is [sexual activity](#) that involves [ejaculating](#) on the picture of someone. Originating as an online [sex game](#), this act has gained recent coverage for its use in [cyberbullying](#) as a way to spite, intimidate a victim or achieve sexual satisfaction over them with impunity.

Sociological & Criminological Theory





Prevention & Education



Technology Companies

Policies/community standards

Content moderation

AI and other detection tools

Safety by design

Provenance indicators (e.g., watermarks)

Signals and consequences for users

Reporting

Deranking/delisting search results

Banning deepfake apps and ads

Empowering users

An illustration on the left side of the slide. It features a large, stylized hand in shades of purple and grey holding a smartphone. The phone's screen shows a small, simplified figure of a person in a bikini. The background is a solid red color. In the bottom left corner, there is a small, partially visible purple shape with the word 'Two' written on it.

Criminal Laws

Federal Laws

- New federal bill introduced in June 2024 to create standalone IBSA offence (max. 6 years prison) and two aggravated offences.
- Expressly mentions that intimate photos, videos or audio can be altered or created entirely using digital technology (e.g. deepfakes).

State and Territory Laws

- 7 out of 8 Australian states and territories have specific criminal offences to address IBSA.
- Sharing or distributing intimate images non-consensually can typically attract up to 3 years imprisonment, and 3 years for making threats to share.

The *Online Safety Act 2021*

Key Provisions

- Grants the eSafety Commissioner with investigatory powers to administer complaints related to IBSA.

Remedies Available

- Formal warnings
- Service provider notification
- Removal notice (24-hour removal for individual users/service providers)
- Remedial direction
- Infringement notices
- Enforceable undertakings
- Injunctions
- Civil penalties for non-compliance



Conclusion



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Move between rooms

Next session starts at 14:45 (5 minutes)



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SAFETY SUMMIT**

Insight Studio 1