



SEXUAL EXPLOITATION EDUCATION

PORNOGRAPHY LINK

by WALKING WISE



NOTE TO PRESENTER

Log in to WalkingWise.com and refer to the Implementation Toolkit for classroom teaching tips.

Most importantly:

DEFINE SCHOOL POLICY

Establish a sexual exploitation reporting protocol with a trauma-informed response. The Walking Wise Implementation Toolkit provides a sample protocol.

AGE & AUDIENCE

This presentation can be edited by following the procedures on page 3 to align with your school policies, specific age groups, and the involvement of at-risk audiences.

SUPPORT PROCEDURE

Provide your students with guidance on how to access immediate help or arrange a private meeting with a social worker, counselor, nurse, school resource officer, or another trustworthy staff member to report concerns about themselves or a peer.

SECOND SAFE ADULT

Ensure a second trustworthy adult, such as a teacher, is present in the learning setting to observe student reactions and identify those who may benefit from a follow-up meeting. This person should remain focused and free from other duties during the presentation.

NOTE TO PRESENTER

This PDF contains the same content as the PowerPoint presentation but has been condensed into fewer pages for easier reference. For live presentations, please use the PowerPoint version. It reveals bullet points one at a time.

Meaningful learning takes time. By introducing topics gradually over several years, educators can create steady growth in awareness and understanding.

Our recommended teaching plan offers a long-term path for middle and high school students to build knowledge and confidence.



6-YEAR TRACK

PARENTS & STAFF

#1 Myths & Reality

6th GRADE

#2 Trustworthy vs. Unsafe Adult

#3 Grooming Process

7th GRADE

#4 Pornography Link

#5 Sextortion Scheme

8th GRADE

#6 Male Victims

#7 Runaways as Targets

#8 Rural Risks

9th GRADE

#9 Human Traffickers

#10 Female & Peer Recruiters

10th GRADE

#11 Family Secret

11th GRADE

#12 Hidden Buyers

NOTE TO PRESENTER

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NOTE TO PRESENTER

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For revision requests, please email us at: support@WalkingWise.com.

SENSITIVE TOPICS WILL BE DISCUSSED

CONTENT NOTICE

We'll be discussing serious safety issues today.

Some topics may be difficult to hear.

If you ever feel uncomfortable, you can step out and speak with a trustworthy adult for support.

You're not alone—help is available.

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NOTE TO PRESENTER

Trauma-Informed Delivery Guidelines

To support a safe and effective learning environment, please follow these guidelines:

- Present the information in a calm, matter-of-fact way and avoid sensational or alarming language.
- Avoid graphic details. Focus on helping students understand behaviors, risk, and ways to stay safe.
- Never blame victims. Responsibility always belongs to the person who caused harm.
- Maintain a steady, composed tone. Students often mirror the presenter's emotional cues.
- Do not ask students to share personal experiences or disclosures.
- If students laugh or react awkwardly, respond neutrally and gently redirect the focus.
- Pair all risk information with needed resources, practical solutions, and support options.
- Reinforce that students are not alone and that trustworthy adults are available to help.

STATISTICS

Why Study Results Can Vary

- **Some crimes are never reported, making it hard to reveal the entire issue.**
- **Studies collect information in different ways, leading to different results.**
- **Small studies may not represent everyone.**

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In this presentation, we'll discuss statistics, but it's important to note that while statistics provide valuable insights into an issue, they cannot be relied upon entirely.

Here are a few reasons:

UNREPORTED

Victims often do not report the crimes committed against them due to fear, shame, retaliation, or manipulation. Also, many don't realize that what is happening to them is a crime.

INCONSISTENT COLLECTION

Areas may define sexual crimes in various ways or use different methods to collect data, making it hard to compare information.

FOCUS GROUPS

Small or specific focus groups participating in a study or survey may not accurately reflect the diversity or experiences of the broader population.

WHY LEARN ABOUT THIS



KNOWLEDGE helps keep us safe.

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Education is one of the strongest tools for prevention.

When young people understand how predators operate, they are better able to recognize manipulation and avoid dangerous situations.

Reinforce that awareness increases safety.

PREVENTION EDUCATION



SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

includes grooming,
sextortion, pornography
& sex trafficking.

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SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Taking advantage of another person for their own benefit, especially in a sexual way, often using pressure, tricks, or control.

Below are different forms of exploitation:

GROOMING

Building trust, dependency, or an emotional connection to manipulate someone.

SEXTORTION

Threatening to share embarrassing or sexual images, videos, or information to pressure someone into following demands.

PORNOGRAPHY

Involving someone in creating sexual images who is under 18, or someone who is pressured, or unable/unwilling to give consent.

SEX TRAFFICKING

Manipulating or forcing someone into sexual activity in exchange for money or something of value.

Trafficking and Violence Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 (Legal Definition):

SEX TRAFFICKING is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person under the age of 18 for the purpose of a commercial sex act.

TVPA link: Retrieved April 14, 2026, from <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-106hr3244e nr/pdf/BILLS-106hr3244enr.pdf>

VOCABULARY



Words to Understand

- Pornography
- Overexposure
- Habit
- Addiction
- Dopamine
- Reward Circuit
- Brain Fog



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Understanding vocabulary terms related to the behaviors of sexual predators can empower young people to recognize warning signs of harmful situations.

Knowing these terms helps them identify manipulative tactics that unsafe people (predators/traffickers) use to build trust and exploit vulnerabilities.

With this knowledge, young people are better equipped to spot red flags, understand that these behaviors are abusive, and feel more confident reporting predators to trusted adults or authorities, potentially preventing further harm.

VOCABULARY

PORNOGRAPHY

Pictures, videos, or media that show sexual behavior to create excitement—often displaying unrealistic or harmful behavior.



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VOCABULARY

HABIT

Something a person does regularly or repeatedly, often without thinking about it.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Can viewing pornography often impact the human brain and a person's behavior?

Researchers study how repeated exposure to different types of media can affect the brain and behavior.

Today, we will learn what science says about how habits form and how repeated exposure to pornography can affect the brain, habits, and behavior.



This 3-minute Walking Wise animated video series teaches how sexual predators use manipulation, intimidation, and coercion to exploit young people.

NOTE

Log in to Walking Wise.com to watch the three-minute animated video with audiences.

Is animation appropriate for teens?

Yes, even businesses worldwide use explainer-style animation as a training tool for their employees.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What percent of teens say their friends talk about pornography in a normal or accepting way?

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NOTE TO PRESENTER

CommonSense Media research revealed that "45% of teen respondents agreed that online pornography provides helpful information about sex, and about 1 in 4 teens said pornography accurately shows the way most people have sex." [2]

Source

1. Josh McDowell Ministry (2016). The Porn Phenomenon: The Impact of Pornography in the Digital Age. Barna.com. Retrieved July 21, 2024, from <https://www.barna.com/the-porn-phenomenon/>
2. Robb, M.B., & Mann, S. (2023). Teens and pornography. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense, p. 6. CommonSenseMedia.org. Retrieved June 19, 2024, from <https://www.common SenseMedia.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-teens-and-pornography-final-web.pdf>

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What percent of teens say their friends talk about pornography in a normal or accepting way?

- A) 59%
- B) 69%
- C) 79%
- D) 89%

ANSWER

89% of teens talk about pornography with friends in a normal or accepting way.

VOCABULARY

OVEREXPOSURE

Seeing or experiencing something so often that it begins to influence your thoughts, feelings, or behavior.



OVEREXPOSURE

Activity:	When There is Too Much:
Eating Candy	Too much sugar can cause energy crashes and unhealthy habits.
Playing Video Games	Long hours can make it hard to stop and reduce time for sleep, school, and activities.
Social Media	Constant scrolling can lead to distraction, comparison, and less real-life connection.

VOCABULARY

DOPAMINE

A chemical released by the brain that creates feelings of pleasure and motivation.



BRAIN CHEMICAL

Dopamine: The Brain's "Feel-Good" Chemical

- Dopamine **creates feelings** of enjoyment and motivation.
- It is released when people experience something they like.
- Dopamine **helps the brain remember** what was enjoyable.

VOCABULARY

REWARD CIRCUIT

A system in the brain that connects certain actions with pleasure, encouraging the brain to repeat those actions.



REWARD CIRCUIT

Repeated Exposure Can Turn Into Habits

ACTION → DOPAMINE → REWARD → REPEAT ACTION

VOCABULARY

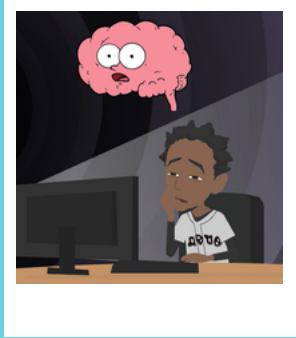
ADDICTION

A strong urge to keep doing something even when it starts causing problems or harm.



HABIT VS. ADDICTION

Habits can sometimes grow stronger and turn into an addiction.



REWARD CIRCUIT

Repeated Exposure Can Change the Brain

REPEAT OFTEN → HABIT

SOME HABITS → POSSIBLE ADDICTION

Many behaviors begin as habits. A habit means doing something repeatedly until it becomes automatic.

In some situations, habits can grow stronger and eventually turn into addictions, which means it becomes very difficult to stop the behavior.

OVEREXPOSURE

Activity:	When There is Too Much:
Eating Candy	Too much sugar can cause energy crashes and unhealthy habits.
Playing Video Games	Long hours can make it hard to stop and reduce time for sleep, school, and activities.
Social Media	Constant scrolling can lead to distraction, comparison, and less real-life connection.
Drugs or Alcohol	These substances strongly affect the brain and can lead to serious health problems.
Pornographic Images	Repeated viewing can overstimulate the brain and negatively affect how people think about relationships.

EARLY EXPOSURE



Why is the younger brain more affected by repeated exposure to activities?



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Young brains are still developing. That means they learn quickly from repeated experiences.

This ability helps young people learn new skills, but it also means repeated exposure to harmful content can influence habits more easily.

EARLY EXPOSURE

Why Young Brains Are More Vulnerable

- **Neuroplasticity:** Young brains change quickly in response to experiences and repeated behaviors.
- **Prefrontal Cortex:** The part of the brain that helps with decision-making and impulse control doesn't fully mature until about age 25.

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Wilson, G. (2014). *Your Brain On Porn: Internet Pornography and the Emerging Science of Addiction* (1st ed.). Commonwealth Publishing.
Casey, B., Jones, R. M., & Somerville, L. H. (2011). Braking and Accelerating of the Adolescent Brain. *Journal of Research on Adolescence: The Official Journal of the Society for Research on Adolescence*, 21(1), 21–33.

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NEUROPLASTICITY

The brain changes in response to life experiences. Because young brains are in the crucial stages of development, they are more malleable or “plastic.” This increases the risk of addiction because the young brain is highly receptive to repeated exposure to addictive substances.(1)

PREFRONTAL CORTEX

The prefrontal cortex is responsible for decision-making and impulse control. It continues to develop throughout adolescence and into early adulthood until approximately age 25. This prolonged development can make teenagers less equipped to make rational decisions and resist impulsive behavior, further increasing their vulnerability to addiction.(2)

Source

1. Wilson, G. (2014). *Your Brain On Porn: Internet Pornography and the Emerging Science of Addiction* (1st ed.). Commonwealth Publishing.

https://www.dirzon.com/file/telegram/somali%20educational%20books/Your_Brain_on_Porn_Internet_Pornography_and_the_Emerging_Science.pdf

2. Casey, B., Jones, R. M., & Somerville, L. H. (2011). Braking and Accelerating of the Adolescent Brain. *Journal of Research on Adolescence: The Official Journal of the Society for Research on Adolescence*, 21(1), 21–33. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1532-7795.2010.00712.x>

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What percent of children say they have seen pornography by age 13?

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NOTE TO PRESENTER

Common Sense Media reported in 2023 that 73% of teens have viewed pornography:
15% of kids 10 yr. or younger
54% of youth 13 yr. or younger
73% of teens 17 or younger

Furthermore, 41% of teens reported viewing pornography during the school day. Of these, 31% had watched pornography while attending school in person, and 44% of those teens viewed porn on school-owned devices.

Source

Robb, M.B., & Mann, S. (2023). Teens and pornography. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense, p. 5. Retrieved November 26, 2024, from <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-teens-and-pornography-final-web.pdf>

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What percent of children say they have seen pornography by age 13?

- A) 14%
- B) 34%
- C) 54%
- D) 74%

Many young people see pornography accidentally online, which is why online safety education is important.

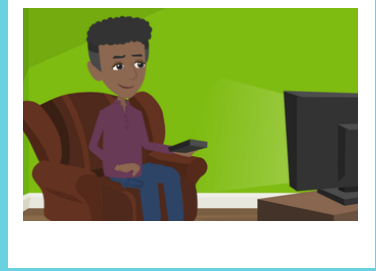
ANSWER

About **54%** of children say they have seen pornography by age 13.

Source

Robb, M.B., & Mann, S. (2023). Teens and pornography. San Francisco, CA: Common Sense, p. 5. Retrieved November 26, 2024, from <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/sites/default/files/research/report/2022-teens-and-pornography-final-web.pdf>

GROOMING



Why might some websites try to get young people interested in pornography?



GROOMING

Exposing Young Viewers

- Companies that produce pornography **make money** from people who watch it.
- Repeated viewing can train the brain to **form habits**.
- Some websites try to attract young viewers who may become **future customers**.

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Wilkinson Jr., Kevin L. (2024, July 4). The Breeding of Wolves: Understanding the Escalation Continuum & Escalation Dynamics of Contemporary Sex Trafficking.

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This discussion is centered around business incentives, rather than morality:

Some websites or companies try to build lifelong customers, just like video game companies or social media platforms. The concern is that pornography can create harm for the people who view it.

Source

Wilkinson Jr., Kevin L. (2024, July 4). The Breeding of Wolves: Understanding the Escalation

Continuum & Escalation Dynamics of Contemporary Sex Trafficking.

DigitalCommons.liberty.edu.

Retrieved July 31, 2024, from <https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/doctoral/4600/>

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

How many states declared pornography a public health concern between 2016 and 2019?

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Between 2016 and 2019, 16 states passed resolutions declaring pornography a public health crisis. These states aimed to address concerns about the potential societal and individual harms associated with pornography.

Source

Utah State Legislature (2016). Concurrent Resolution on the Public Health Crisis S.C.R.9. Le.Utah.gov. Retrieved February 25, 2024, from <https://le.utah.gov/~2016/bills/static/SCR009.html>

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

How many states declared pornography a public health concern between 2016 and 2019?

- A) 6
- B) 10
- C) 16
- D) 20

ANSWER

16 states declared pornography
a public health concern.

VOCABULARY

BRAIN FOG

A temporary feeling where it is harder to think clearly, focus, or remember things.



POSSIBLE WARNING SIGNS



What changes might happen if someone spends too much time viewing harmful online images?



POSSIBLE WARNING SIGNS

Possible Effects

- Brain fog
- Depression
- Academic decline
- Poor memory



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Wilson, G. (2014). *Your Brain On Porn: Internet Pornography and the Emerging Science of Addiction* (1st ed.). Commonwealth Publishing.

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These changes do not happen to everyone.

However, researchers have observed that repeated exposure to harmful online content can sometimes affect mood, focus, or relationships.

These signs can also occur with other unhealthy habits.

POSSIBLE WARNING SIGNS

Possible Effects

- **Secrecy & isolation**
- **Physically inactive**
- **Lower interest in dating & friends**
- **Less interest in hobbies or activities**



POSSIBLE WARNING SIGNS

Possible Effects

- Irritability & shame
- Lower self-esteem
- Lower empathy for suffering
- Increased aggression



MANIPULATION



Some pornography is made by pressuring, tricking, or taking advantage of vulnerable people.



MANIPULATION

How Predators Lure Vulnerable People

- **Threats:** Some may threaten to share a private photo unless the person does what they say.
- **Pressured:** Some promise money for basic needs, like food and shelter, in exchange for sexual images and videos.
- **Tricked:** Some make promises of fake opportunities, like acting or modeling, to trick vulnerable people.

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Not everyone involved in pornography participates willingly.

In some cases, people are pressured, tricked, or threatened. This is why understanding exploitation is important for safety education.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What percent of scenes in pornography are reported to show aggression?

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As far back as 2010, a study by Dr. Gail Dines revealed that 88% of pornography featured graphic displays of aggression and violence against women.

Source:

Dr. Gail Dines (n.d.). The Porn Crisis. CultureReframed.org. Retrieved February 25, 2024, from <https://culturereframed.org/the-crisis/>

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What percent of scenes in pornography are reported to show aggression?

- A) 28%
- B) 48%
- C) 68%
- D) 88%

MULTIPLE CHOICE: D

ANSWER

88% of scenes in pornography are reported to show aggression.

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Dr. Gail Dines (n.d.). The Dr. Gail Dines (n.d.). The Porn Crisis. CultureReframed.org.

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Many experts say pornography often shows unhealthy or unrealistic behavior, which can negatively affect how people think about relationships.

Source:

Dr. Gail Dines (n.d.). The Porn Crisis. CultureReframed.org. Retrieved February 25, 2024, from <https://culturereframed.org/the-crisis/>

LEGAL PROTECTION



Some pornography is connected to exploitation and human trafficking.



LEGAL PROTECTION

US Laws Protect Children & Teens

U.S. laws state that involving children under 18 in pornography is treated as a human trafficking crime.



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One Hundred Sixth Congress of the United States of America at the Second Session (2000, January 24).
Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000. Govinfo.gov.

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The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 is a federal law aimed at combating human trafficking and exploitation. It identifies child sexual abuse material (CSAM) as a form of sex trafficking.

Additionally, most states have enacted similar laws that address the production and distribution of CSAM.

Source

One Hundred Sixth Congress of the United States of America at the Second Session (2000, January). Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000. Govinfo.gov. Retrieved November 7, 2024, from <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-106hr3244enr/pdf/BILLS-106hr3244enr.pdf>

LEGAL PROTECTION

The Law Protects Victims

- Exploitation is **never the victim's fault**.
- People who exploit others often use **pressure, tricks, or threats**.
- Many people encounter harmful situations **by accident**.
- **Ask a trustworthy adult for help** when feeling uncomfortable.

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People who exploit others often rely on secrecy and fear.

Victims sometimes feel embarrassed or think they will get in trouble, which can make them hesitate to ask for help.

It is important for students to understand that exploitation is never the victim's fault, and trusted adults are there to help protect them.

Encourage students to think about at least two adults they could talk to if something online ever made them uncomfortable.

ASK FOR HELP



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Walking Wise asked a focus group of survivors:
What do you think young people should know about sex trafficking?

ANSWER

The survivors agreed that the most vital information teens should know is how to ask for help.

At the top of their list:
Tell a TRUSTWORTHY adult.

ASK FOR HELP

If You See Something Online

- **Close the webpage or app**
- **Do not share the image**
- **Tell a trustworthy adult**

Sometimes young people encounter harmful images or messages online by accident, especially when using search engines, social media, games, or video platforms.

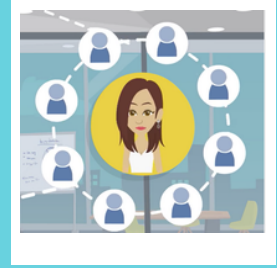
Seeing something inappropriate or uncomfortable online does not mean they did anything wrong. The most important thing is knowing how to respond safely.

First, close the page or exit the app to avoid looking at the content.

Next, avoid sharing or forwarding the image or message, as doing so can harm others and may even violate school rules or laws.

Then, tell a trusted adult as soon as possible. Trusted adults might include a parent or guardian, a teacher, a school counselor, a coach, or another responsible adult they feel safe talking to. Adults can help report harmful content and take any necessary steps to provide protection.

TAKE IT DOWN



It is possible to get help removing a private image or video from online platforms.



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NOTE TO PRESENTER

The TAKE IT DOWN Act is a federal law that makes it illegal to publish or threaten to publish non-consensual intimate images — including both real and AI-generated deepfake pornography — and requires online platforms to remove such content within 48 hours after a victim reports it. It was passed with strong bipartisan support and gives victims legal protections and tools to have harmful intimate imagery taken down quickly.[2]

The TAKE IT DOWN Act was signed into law on May 19, 2025. The law's criminal provisions took effect right away, and covered online platforms were given one year — until May 19, 2026 — to set up the required notice-and-removal processes to take down nonconsensual intimate images when victims report them.

Source

2. U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation (2025, May 19). Sen. Cruz Applauds Presidential Signing of the TAKE IT DOWN Act into Law. Retrieved on January 10, 2026 from, https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2025/5/sen-cruz-applauds-presidential-signing-of-the-take-it-down-act-into-law?utm_source=chatgpt.com

TAKE IT DOWN

Take It Down Service (by NCMEC)

- **Take It Down is a free service.**
- **It stops online sharing of nude or sexual images involving children and teens.**
- **This process protects the victim's privacy and keeps their identity confidential.**

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National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (n.d.). CyberTipline. Report.Cybertip.org.

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In the context of NCMEC's Take It Down program, a hash refers to a unique digital fingerprint or identifier generated from an image or video file. This fingerprint is created using specialized algorithms that convert the file into a string of characters or numbers.

Here's how it works:

HASH CREATION: When someone uses Take It Down, the program generates a hash from the image or video they want removed without uploading the actual file.

MATCHING: These hashes are stored in a secure database. Online platforms participating in the program can then use the hashes to identify and remove matching content from their platforms.

PRIVACY PROTECTION: The hash cannot be reversed to recreate the original image or video, ensuring the privacy of the person submitting the request. This system enables platforms to efficiently identify and remove harmful content while protecting the anonymity of individuals seeking help.

Source:

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (n.d.). CyberTipline. Report.Cybertip.org.
<https://takeitdown.ncmec.org/>

Help Lines for Sextortion

- ✓ National Center for Missing & Exploited Children 800-843-5678 or [CyberTipline.org](https://www.CyberTipline.org)
- ✓ Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) [IC3.gov](https://www.IC3.gov) or Contact your local office
- ✓ National Human Trafficking Hotline 888-373-7888 or TEXT 233733
- ✓ Homeland Security 1-877-4-HSI-TIP
- ✓ App or Internet Platform Go to the "Report" menu option
- ✓ Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 800-273-TALK (8255) or TEXT 988

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NOTE TO PRESENTER

Presenters may ask their audience to consider adding a few "hotline for help" phone numbers to their cell phone contacts or take a photo of this slide.

Thank you!

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Online Course for Adults Accredited by:
Postgraduate Institute for Medicine
Academy of Forensic Nursing



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NOTE TO PRESENTER

To access additional resources about pornography, please refer to the last page of Lesson Plan #4 in the Walking Wise Learning Platform.

We welcome your feedback at support@WalkingWise.com.

Thank you!
WalkingWise.com