

## Image based abuse

In a world-first government lead initiative, the Office of the eSafety Commissioner is piloting an [online portal](#) to help Australians impacted by image-based abuse, also known as 'revenge porn'.

### **What is image-based abuse?**

Image-based abuse is when intimate, nude or sexual images are distributed without the consent of those pictured. It can also include the threat of an image being shared.

'This empowers Australians who experience this insidious form of abuse with practical information and a range of options to help resolve their situation and relieve their distress,' says eSafety Commissioner, Julie Inman Grant.

New research commissioned by the eSafety Office reveal the most-used social media sites for sharing intimate images without consent are Facebook/Messenger (53%), Snapchat (11%) and Instagram (4%).

Image based abuse affects 1 in 5 women aged between 18-45 and 1 in 4 for Indigenous Australians, according to [statistics released by the eSafety Office](#).

An extensive [FAQ section](#) is also available on the portal.

### **How will the portal work?**

Currently being run as a pilot by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, the portal allows Australians to directly report instances of image-based abuse. The eSafety Office will then work with social media providers, websites and search engines to help remove the images.

Throughout the pilot, the eSafety Office will work closely with the victims and stakeholders to determine the volume and complexity of the issues, and the final portal will officially launch early 2018.