

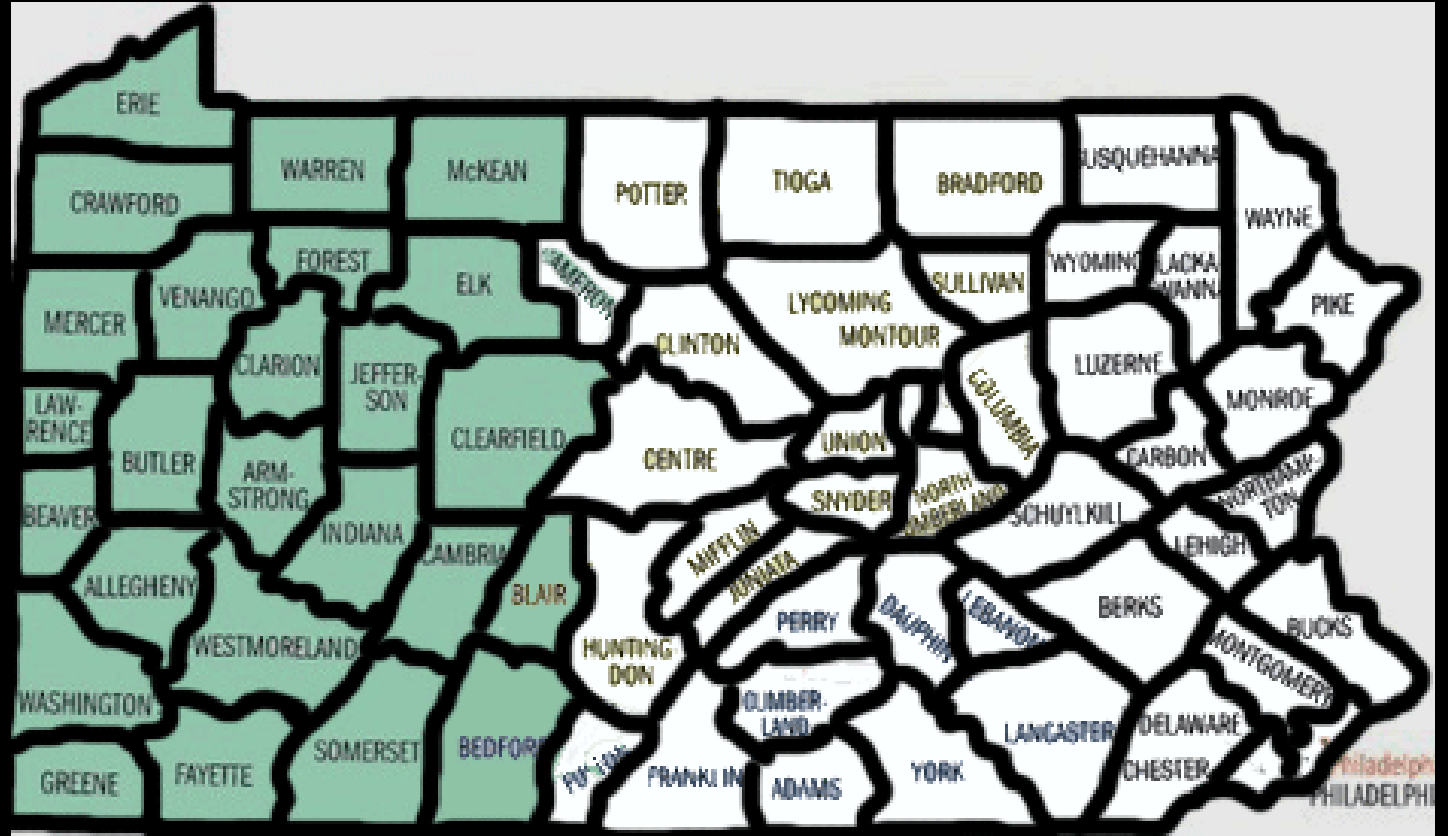
Federal Resources for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

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UNITED STATES
ATTORNEY'S
OFFICE FOR THE
WESTERN
DISTRICT OF
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FEDERAL CRIMES THAT MAY ARISE IN THE IPV & SA CONTEXT

- Illegal Firearms Possession
- Computer/Phone Crimes
- Crimes Involving Interstate Travel or Federal Property
- Human Trafficking
- Color of Law
- Supervised Release Violations

ILLEGAL FIREARMS POSSESSION

It is a federal crime to possess a firearm or ammunition:

- while subject to a qualifying Protection Order (PFA);
- after a conviction of a qualifying misdemeanor crime of domestic violence (simple assault/strangulation if domestic relationship);
- after having been convicted of a felony or a Pennsylvania first degree misdemeanor.

A victim's testimony is not usually necessary to prove such crimes.





COMPUTER/PHONE CRIMES

Abusers often use computers and phones to harass or abuse their victims. Possible federal criminal actions include:

- Cyberstalking
- Threats transmitted in interstate commerce
 - DOES NOT NEED interstate travel
 - Can be shown with text message or phone call that was routed outside of PA, for example
- Threats by mail
- Obscene or harassing telephone calls
- Identity theft
- Access device fraud
- Accessing victim's computer & obtaining info/damaging/intercepting communication

CRIMES INVOLVING INTERSTATE TRAVEL OR FEDERAL PROPERTY

- In certain circumstances, like crossing state lines or being on federal property, it is a federal crime to:
 - commit or attempt to commit a crime of violence against an intimate partner;
 - stalk or harass a victim; or
 - violate a qualifying Protection Order



Human Trafficking

- Human trafficking is a federal crime involving:
 - the use of force, fraud, or coercion to make a victim provide
 - labor or sex services,
 - or the commercial sexual exploitation of a minor (someone under 18 years old)
- Human trafficking need not involve any smuggling, movement or transportation of the victim



INDICATORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Does the student...

- Suddenly have more material possessions?
- Defer to another person to speak for them?
- Suddenly become extremely quiet, reclusive, and avoid eye contact?
- Appear to be deprived of food, water, sleep, medical care, or other necessities?
- Have bruises or other signs of physical trauma?
- Have a romantic partner who is noticeably older?
- Engage in unhealthy coping behaviors (i.e. increase in use of drugs or alcohol, etc.)?
- Seem restricted from contacting family or friends?
- Not seem to be in control of their own money?
- Lack control over a personal schedule and/or identification or travel documents?

VICTIM-CENTERED APPROACH

Make victims feel safe and develop trust and rapport by:

- Explaining who you are, answer their questions, and address their fears and urgent needs.
- Being sensitive to cultural differences and language barriers and use an interpreter when needed.
- Conducting interviews in a neutral location, after urgent needs have been assessed.
- Being patient and give the victim time to stabilize and recover.
- Engaging a victim specialist who can connect victims to support services.

REPORTING AND ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Homeland Security Investigations Tip Line:

1-866-347-2423

National Human Trafficking Hotline:

1-888-373-7888





Color of Law

- Includes sexual misconduct by police officers, probation officers, corrections officers and other employees of jails and prisons, as well as judges, prosecutors, and other federal, state, and local law enforcement and public officials, *acting in their official capacity*
 - Sexual assault without consent (rape)
 - Sexual contact procured by force, threat of force, or coercion
 - Unwanted or gratuitous sexual contact, such as touching or groping
- Obstruction of Justice
 - attempting to prevent the victim from reporting sexual misconduct
 - lying to federal officials during the course of a federal investigation into sexual misconduct
 - writing a false police report to cover up sexual misconduct

SUPERVISED RELEASE VIOLATIONS

- If an abuser is under federal supervision (also referred to as “supervised release”) and commits a crime:
 - the abuser may be sentenced to imprisonment, even if the abuser was not sentenced to jail by the state court;
 - a victim’s testimony is not always necessary to prove that an abuser has violated supervised release.



CIVIL REMEDIES THAT MAY ARISE
IN THE IPV & SA CONTEXT



About the Civil Rights Division

We protect your rights through:

Enforcement

We sue or prosecute individuals and organizations who violate civil rights laws.

You can help us do this work by reporting a possible civil rights violation through our [online form](#).

Education

We help the public understand how to comply with these laws.

We do this through public speaking, technical assistance, and more.

Coordination

We help the entire federal government work together to enforce these laws.

Our teams work with other agencies to promote a consistent approach to civil rights laws.

Sex-Based Discrimination in Schools

- Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 authorizes the Attorney General to address certain equal protection violations based on sex, among other bases, in public schools and institutions of higher education
- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities operated by recipients of federal financial assistance
- When a school has actual knowledge of sexual harassment in any of its programs or activities it must respond promptly in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent
 - A school is deliberately indifferent if its response to sexual harassment is clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances



DOJ's Sexual Harassment in Housing Initiative

- Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, and disability.
 - Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by the Act
- Goal of the Initiative is to address sexual harassment by landlords, property managers, maintenance workers, loan officers or other people who have control over housing



How to report a civil rights violation

If you believe that you or someone else experienced unlawful discrimination, you can report a civil rights violation.

1 Report using our online form.

By completing the online form, you can provide the details we need to understand what happened. You will receive a confirmation number and your report is immediately sent to our staff for review.

2 We review your report.

Teams that specialize in handling your type of issue will review it. If it needs to be forwarded to another team or agency, we will try to connect your complaint to the right group.

3 We determine next steps and get back to you.

Possible outcomes include: following up for more information, starting a mediation or investigation, directing you to another organization for further help, or informing you that we cannot help.

Have you or someone you know experienced a civil rights violation?

[Start a report](#)

If you cannot access the online form, you can [call](#) to report a violation or report a violation by [mail](#).

Crime Victims Rights Act

1. The right to be reasonably protected from the accused
2. The right to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of any public court proceeding, or any parole proceeding, involving the crime or of any release or escape of the accused
3. The right not to be excluded from any such public court proceeding, unless the court, after receiving clear and convincing evidence, determines that testimony by the victim would be materially altered if the victim heard other testimony at that proceeding
4. The right to be reasonably heard at any public proceeding in the district court involving release, plea, sentencing, or any parole proceeding
5. The reasonable right to confer with the attorney for the Government in the case
6. The right to full and timely restitution as provided in law
7. The right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay
8. The right to be treated with fairness and with respect for the victim's dignity and privacy
9. The right to be informed in a timely manner of any plea bargain or deferred prosecution agreement
10. The right to be informed of the rights under this section and the services described in section 503(c) of the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 10607(c)) and provided contact information for the Office of the Victims' Rights Ombudsman of the Department of Justice



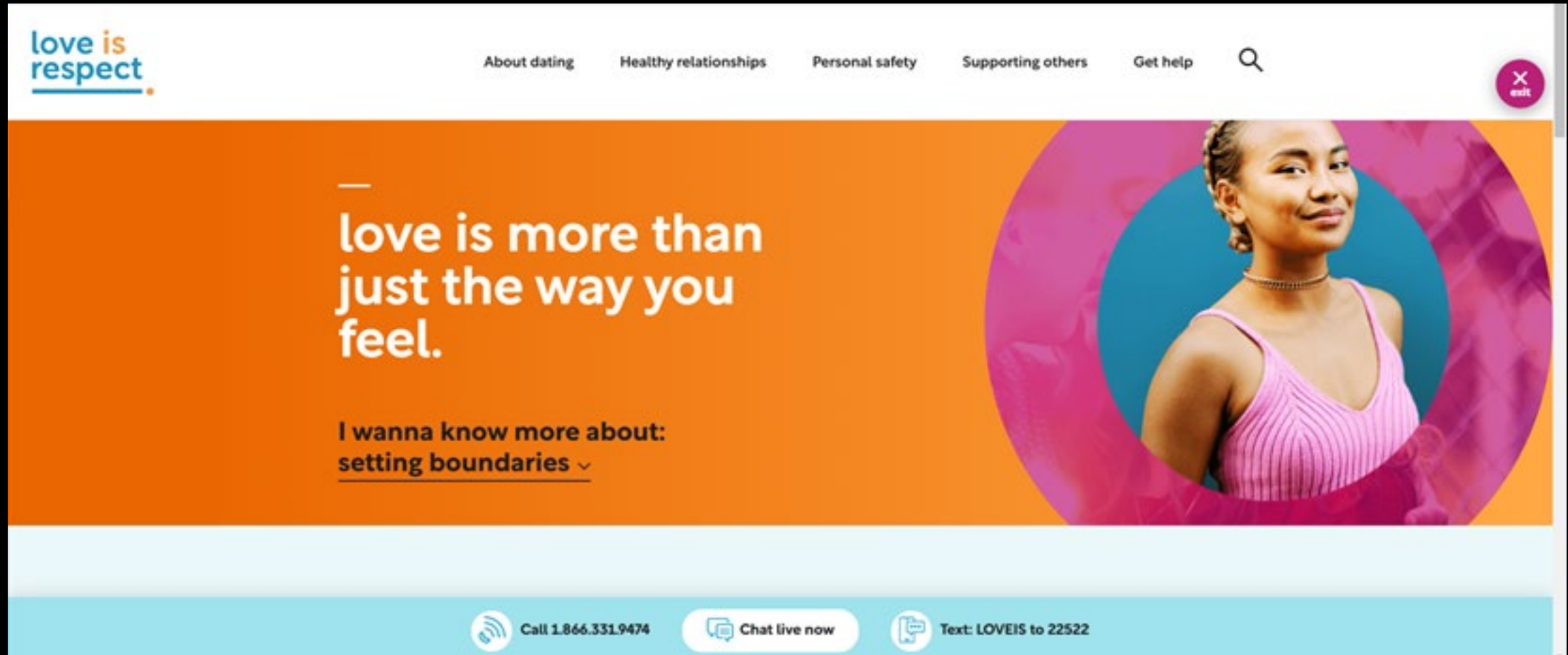
Resources



Ovcttac.gov

Intimate Partner Violence (ages 13-26)

Loveisrespect.org



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Love is Respect website. The top navigation bar includes the logo on the left and menu items: "About dating", "Healthy relationships", "Personal safety", "Supporting others", and "Get help". A search icon and an "exit" button are also present. The main content area features a large orange background with the text "love is more than just the way you feel." and a link to "I wanna know more about: setting boundaries". To the right is a circular image of a young woman. The bottom of the page has a light blue bar with three contact options: "Call 1.866.331.9474", "Chat live now", and "Text: LOVEIS to 22522".

love is respect

About dating Healthy relationships Personal safety Supporting others Get help

love is more than just the way you feel.

I wanna know more about: setting boundaries

Call 1.866.331.9474 Chat live now Text: LOVEIS to 22522

Sexual Assault

rainn.org

GET HELP 24/7:

CALL 800.656.HOPE (4673)

LIVE CHAT

Donate

RAINN

Sexual Violence ▾

How to Help ▾

Public Policy ▾

Press Center ▾

Consulting & Training ▾

About RAINN ▾

En Español ▾

Safety for Students

Sexual violence can happen to anyone, and it's not the only crime that can occur on a college campus. College students have the opportunity to look out for their friends, speak up about sexual violence, and take steps to increase personal safety.

Staying Safe on Campus

Sexual violence can happen to anyone, and it's not the only crime that can occur on a college campus. We can all take steps to increase safety on college campuses.

[READ MORE](#)

Alcohol Safety

There are steps you can take to increase your safety in situations where drinking may be involved. Like any safety tips, they are not a guarantee, but they may help you feel more secure in social situations.

[READ MORE](#)

Practicing Active Bystander Intervention

When you see something that doesn't seem right, there are simple ways to step in and help a friend.

[READ MORE](#)

What Consent Looks Like

The laws vary by state and situation, but you don't have to be a legal expert to understand how consent plays out in real life.

Student Activism

Want to do more for sexual assault prevention on your campus? You can get information about sexual assault prevention and response—including bystander intervention and healing resources.

Human Trafficking

Dhs.gov/blue-campaign

Humantraffickinghotline.org



The image is a screenshot of the National Human Trafficking Hotline website. At the top left, there is a blue header with the text "NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE" in white. To the right of this header, there is a navigation bar with the following items: "Get Help | 24/7 Confidential", "1-888-373-7888" (with a phone icon), "TTY: 711" (with a speech bubble icon), "Text* 233733" (with a text message icon), "Chat" (with a speech bubble icon), "Español", "English", and a "QUICK EXIT" button. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal menu with the following items: "Get Help", "Report a Tip", "Find Local Services", "Safety Planning", "Human Trafficking", "Statistics", and "Resources". The main content area features a large heading "We'll Listen. We'll Help." in blue. Below the heading is a paragraph: "If you or someone you know is a victim of human trafficking, we're here to provide the support you need." To the right of the text is a photograph of a man and a woman looking out of a window. Below the text and image are four buttons: "CONTACT THE HOTLINE", "REPORT A TIP", "STAYING SAFE", and "LEARN THE STATS".

Stalking

Stalkingawareness.org



The screenshot shows the top portion of the SPARC website. At the top right, there is a link to sign up for the newsletter and a 'Donate' button, followed by social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn. Below this is a navigation menu with links for 'About', 'Information', 'Resources' (highlighted in yellow), 'Training', and 'Awareness', along with a search icon. The main banner features the SPARC logo on the left and the text 'Resources for CAMPUS PROFESSIONALS' in large, bold, yellow-outlined letters on a dark blue background with starburst patterns. To the left of the text is a stylized icon of a person wearing a graduation cap and glasses, holding a book. Below the banner, the text explains that stalking is a serious issue and provides information about SPARC's training services.

Sign up here for the SPARC newsletter [Donate](#) [f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [v](#) [in](#)

[About](#) [Information](#) [Resources](#) [Training](#) [Awareness](#) [🔍](#)

Resources for CAMPUS PROFESSIONALS

Stalking is a serious, prevalent, and dangerous issue that impacts every campus in the United States; is a violation of student conduct codes and Title IX; and is a crime under the laws of the 50 states, District of Columbia, U.S. Territories, and Federal government. Individuals 18-24 years old experience the highest rates of stalking (among adults) and many college stalking victims disclose to their friends before talking to anyone else. This provides a unique opportunity for universities to increase awareness around stalking and support victims.

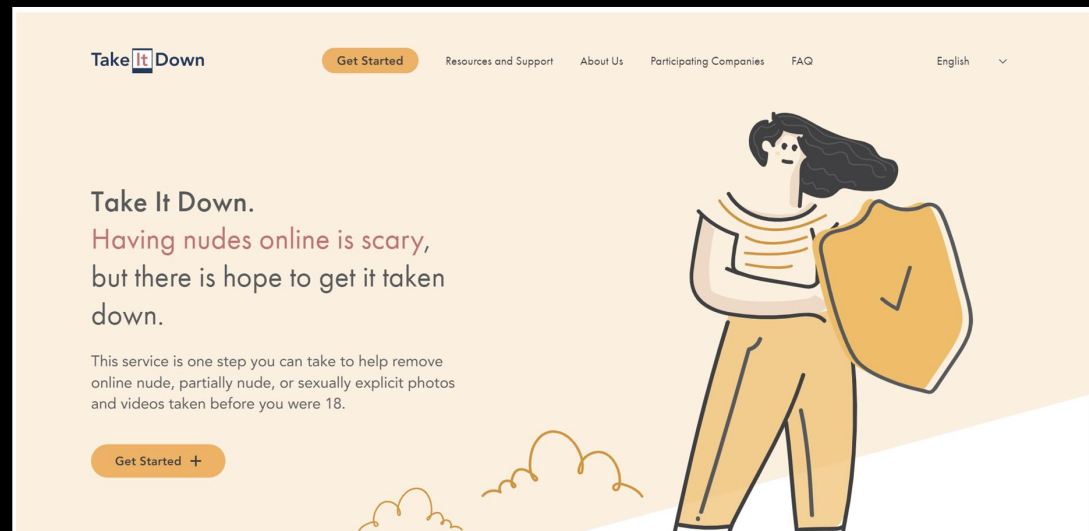
SPARC also provides training that is victim-centered, research informed and practice based. SPARC staff members are available to provide trainings to practitioners at the local, state and national levels. [Click here](#) for more info about our trainings.

We encourage universities to use the resources below to increase understanding of stalking on campus, raise awareness about available services, and make it clear that stalking behaviors are unacceptable and will be taken seriously:

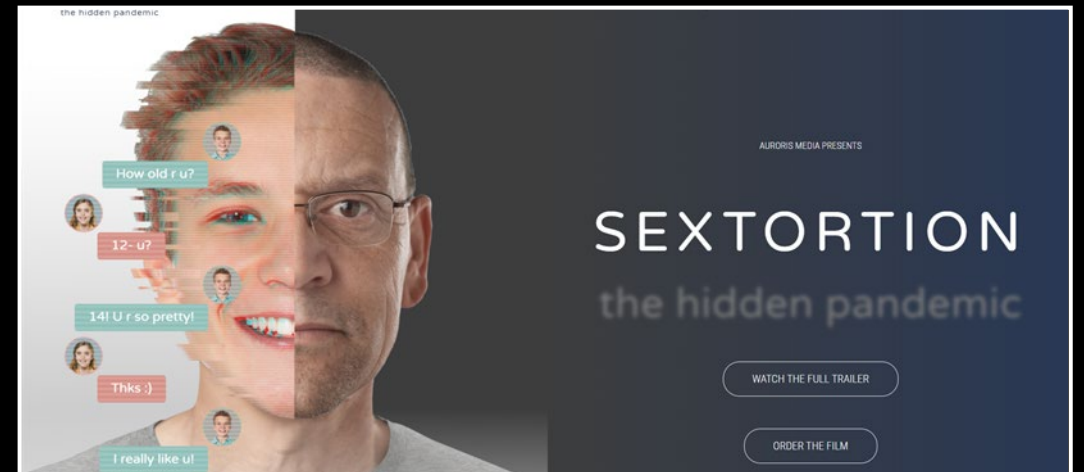
Online Exploitation

[Takeitdown.ncmec.org](https://takeitdown.ncmec.org)

[Sextortionfilm.com](https://sextortionfilm.com)



The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Take It Down' website. The header includes the logo 'Take It Down' and navigation links: 'Get Started', 'Resources and Support', 'About Us', 'Participating Companies', and 'FAQ'. A language dropdown menu is set to 'English'. The main content area features a large illustration of a woman in a yellow dress holding a shield. The text reads: 'Take It Down. Having nudes online is scary, but there is hope to get it taken down. This service is one step you can take to help remove online nude, partially nude, or sexually explicit photos and videos taken before you were 18.' A 'Get Started +' button is located at the bottom left.



The screenshot shows the homepage for the film 'Sextortion: the hidden pandemic'. The header includes the text 'the hidden pandemic' and 'AURORA MEDIA PRESENTS'. The main title 'SEXTORTION' is prominently displayed in large white letters, with the subtitle 'the hidden pandemic' below it. The background features a man's face with a digital overlay of a chat conversation. The chat messages include: 'How old r u?', '12- u?', '14! U r so pretty!', 'Thks :)', and 'I really like u!'. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: 'WATCH THE FULL TRAILER' and 'ORDER THE FILM'.

Questions?

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