



If a Youth's Intimate Image Is Shared: First Steps

For caregivers responding to a real, edited or AI-generated sexual or intimate image involving a youth. Prioritize safety, dignity and evidence preservation. Do not punish the young person for asking for help.

First response

- ☐ Stay calm and tell the youth they did the right thing by telling you.
- ☐ Ask whether they are in immediate danger or being threatened right now.
- ☐ Do not demand that they retell the entire story repeatedly.
- ☐ Do not forward, repost or create extra copies of the intimate image.
- ☐ Record usernames, account names, links, dates and threatening messages where safe to do so.
- ☐ If there is blackmail, stop communication and do not pay or send more images.

Reporting and removal

- ☐ Report online sexual exploitation or sextortion to [Cybertip.ca](https://www.cybertip.ca).
- ☐ Use [NeedHelpNow.ca](https://www.needhelpnow.ca) for help requesting removal of nude or sexualized images of a youth under 18.
- ☐ Use the platform's reporting tools when appropriate.
- ☐ Contact local police if a crime may have occurred or there is a safety threat.
- ☐ If the incident involves school peers, notify the school and ask for a safety and response plan.



Intimate Image Incident: Information to Record

Date / time the youth told you

Platform / app

Username(s) or account(s)

Link or location of content, if known

Threats or demands made

School peers involved, if known

Reports made and reference numbers

Removal requests made

Follow-up support for the youth

- ☐ Canadian help
- ☐ Cybertip.ca: Canada's national tipline for online sexual exploitation of children
- ☐ Cybertip.ca phone support: 1-866-658-9022
- ☐ NeedHelpNow.ca: removal and support for youth intimate-image incidents
- ☐ Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868
- ☐ Immediate danger: 9-1-1