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Cyber sexual assault: A Growing Challenge in the Digital Age

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Defining

- Cyber sexual assault is a term used to describe a range of harmful, sexually exploitative behaviors that occur through digital technologies. It encompasses any form of sexual violence or harassment that is carried out using electronic means or online platforms, often causing emotional, psychological, or reputational harm to the victim.

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Types

- Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images (Revenge Porn)
- Online Sexual Harassment or Cyberstalking
- Cyberbullying with a Sexual Element
- Hacking or Exploiting Connected Sexual Devices
- Deepfake Pornography (including AI generated Child Pornography)
- Sextortion
- Virtual Sexual Assault (via Online Games or Platforms)



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Discussion Questions

- Why is there a lack of awareness?
- Is this an issue in Education?
- Does this fall under Title IX?
- Is this really happening, and do we need to discuss it?
- Why do we need to talk about such things?

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Questions for Thought

- What are the common signs that someone might be experiencing cyber sexual assault, and how can we recognize these behaviors online?
- How can individuals protect themselves from becoming victims of cyber sexual assault, and what steps can be taken if someone is being targeted?
- What role do social media platforms and tech companies play in preventing or addressing incidents of cyber sexual assault? Should they do more?
- How can we create a culture of respect and consent online to prevent the spread of harmful or explicit content without consent?
- What resources and support systems are available for victims of cyber sexual assault, and how can we ensure that individuals know where to turn for help?



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Funding

- Department of Justice - The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)
- More to come

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Questions?

Thank you for your input