



Revenge Porn: Digital Crimes and Implications for Victims

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Abstract

In today's digital era, problems related to cybercrime are increasing, one of which is "Revenge Porn". Revenge porn refers to deliberately distributing pornographic content without the consent of the person seen in the content, often done by ex-spouses as a form of revenge. Due to the easy access and dissemination of information through the internet, revenge porn has become a threat to many individuals, especially women. Victims of this act often face social stigmatization, isolation, and depression. The stigma attached to victims affects their social and work lives, hampering their opportunities in many aspects of life. This research utilizes normative legal methods by adopting statutory, conceptual, comparative, and futuristic approaches. The nature of this research is descriptive-prescriptive. The data that has been collected is analyzed using the content analysis method. This research results in that apart from psychological and social impacts, and revenge porn also has legal implications. Some countries have responded by implementing specific laws to address this issue, but the challenge is distinguishing between the right to freedom of expression and invasion of privacy. Understanding this issue is essential for victims and society to build awareness and prevent the spread of this kind of digital crime. People can protect themselves and others from the dangers of revenge porn with proper understanding and preventive measures.

Keywords: *Revenge Porn, Digital Crime, Psychological Impact, Social Stigmatization.*

Abstrak

Dalam era digital saat ini, permasalahan terkait kejahatan siber semakin meningkat, salah satunya adalah "Revenge Porn". Revenge porn atau pornografi balas dendam merujuk pada tindakan sengaja menyebarkan konten pornografi tanpa persetujuan orang yang terlihat dalam konten tersebut, seringkali dilakukan oleh mantan pasangan sebagai bentuk balas dendam. Dilatarbelakangi oleh kemudahan akses dan penyebaran informasi melalui internet, revenge porn telah menjadi ancaman bagi banyak individu, khususnya wanita. Korban dari tindakan ini seringkali menghadapi stigmatisasi sosial, isolasi, dan depresi. Stigma yang melekat pada korban mempengaruhi kehidupan sosial dan pekerjaan mereka, menghambat kesempatan mereka dalam banyak aspek kehidupan. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode hukum normatif dengan mengadopsi pendekatan berdasarkan undang-undang, konseptual, komparatif, dan futuristik. Sifat dari riset ini bersifat deskriptif-preskriptif. Data yang telah terkumpul dianalisis menggunakan metode analisis isi. Hasil penelitian ini selain dampak psikologis dan sosial, revenge porn juga memiliki implikasi hukum. Beberapa negara telah merespons dengan menerapkan undang-undang khusus untuk mengatasi masalah ini, namun tantangannya adalah bagaimana membedakan antara hak kebebasan berekspresi dengan pelanggaran privasi. Pentingnya pemahaman terhadap isu ini tidak hanya bagi korban, tetapi juga bagi masyarakat luas, untuk membangun kesadaran dan mencegah penyebaran kejahatan digital semacam ini. Dengan pemahaman dan langkah pencegahan yang tepat, masyarakat dapat melindungi diri dan orang lain dari bahaya revenge porn.

Kata kunci: *Revenge Porn, Kejahatan Digital, Dampak Psikologis, Stigmatisasi Sosial.*

I. Introduction

In the past decade, advances in information and communication technology have created a new era for humanity, allowing information to be disseminated at an unprecedented speed.¹ As one of the leading products of this revolution, the internet has become the primary medium for people worldwide to communicate, learn, and do business.² However, as with every advancement, the internet also brings several new challenges and threats, including digital crime. One of the most disturbing and worrisome forms of digital crime is "Revenge Porn".³ Revenge porn is a phenomenon where someone intentionally publishes sexual images or videos without the consent of the individuals involved in the content.⁴ Usually, the perpetrator is an ex-partner seeking revenge after a bitter breakup, although other motives can also play a role. Due to its highly personal nature and abuse of the victim, revenge porn can leave deep scars, both psychologically and socially.

A recent case that has made headlines and surfaced online about the issue of revenge porn is the case involving Alwi Husaeni Maolana. The Banten Police's Ditreskrimsus arrested Alwi in February after being accused of distributing a video with moral content featuring a victim with the initials IAK. It is known that Alwi disseminated the video through Instagram direct messages; more concerning, he sent it to one of the victim's acquaintances. This case illustrates the importance of privacy awareness and protection in the digital age and highlights the dangers of disseminating content without the party's consent. Alwi was charged a 6-year prison sentence plus a fine of Rp 1 billion. He was charged under the Electronic Transaction Information Law (ITE Law), specifically Article 45 paragraph 1 to Article 27 paragraph 1. Ultimately, the court found Alwi Husen Maolana guilty and sentenced him to six years for his actions. This case warns many about the seriousness of the legal consequences of revenge porn in Indonesia.⁵

If we look back at the broader context, this phenomenon is part of a bigger problem: privacy violation in the digital age.⁶ In a world where almost everyone has a smartphone with a camera and where much of our lives are documented online, the potential for violating others' privacy, whether intentionally or not, has increased dramatically.⁷ In this sense, revenge porn is one of the most extreme and damaging forms of privacy invasion. Legal restrictions also complicate the issue. While many countries have begun implementing laws to ban and punish revenge porn, implementation is often complex. How to determine evidence? How to ensure that the punishment fits the offence? Moreover, how to distinguish between what might be considered

¹ Dharlinda Suri, "Pemanfaatan Media Komunikasi Dan Informasi Dalam Perwujudan Pembangunan Nasional," *Jurnal Komunikasi Pembangunan* 17, no. 2 (2019): 177-187.

² Peter Grabosky, "Organized Crime and the Internet," *The RUSI Journal* 158, no. 5 (October 1, 2013): 18-25, <https://doi.org/10.1080/03071847.2013.847707>.

³ Laura Pavón-Benítez, Nuria Romo-Avilés, and Pilar Tarancón Gómez, "'In My Village Everything Is Known': Sexting and Revenge Porn in Young People from Rural Spain," *Feminist Media Studies* 22, no. 8 (November 17, 2022): 2020-2036, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14680777.2021.1935290>.

⁴ Seth Wyatt Fallik et al., "Revenge Porn: A Critical Content Analysis of the Nation's Laws and Reflection upon Social Science Research," *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society* 23, no. 1 (2022): 1-22, accessed July 19, 2023, <https://scholasticahq.com/criminology-criminal-justice-law-society/>.

⁵ Aris Rivaldo, "Perjalanan Kasus Terdakwa Revenge Porn Alwi Hingga Divonis 6 Tahun Bui," <https://News.Detik.Com/Berita/d-6821927/Perjalanan-Kasus-Terdakwa-Revenge-Porn-Alwi-Hingga-Divonis-6-Tahun-Bui>.

⁶ Manuel Gámez-Guadix, Miguel A. Sorrel, and Jone Martínez-Bacaicoa, "Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence Perpetration and Victimization Among Adolescents: A Network Analysis," *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*, no. 0123456789 (2022): 1-13, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13178-022-00775-y>.

⁷ Isabella Crespi and Laurie-ann M Hellsten, "Cyberviolence and the Digital Experience: Reflections on a Problematic Issue for Youth," *International Review of Sociology* 32, no. 3 (September 2, 2022): 391-399, <https://doi.org/10.1080/03906701.2022.2133404>.

artistic expression or freedom of expression and acts that are invasions of privacy and acts of harassment?

In addition, while there has been progress in handling and preventing revenge porn from the legal side, society still needs to do its part. Public awareness, education, and preventive approaches are vital in combating this phenomenon. As long as people see this kind of content as a form of entertainment or a tool to hurt others, this problem will continue to exist. This research will delve deeper into revenge porn, why it is such a pressing issue, and what impact it has on victims. It will also investigate the efforts made in different parts of the world to tackle this phenomenon and what steps can be taken to prevent its further spread. By understanding revenge porn in the broader context of privacy violations and digital crime, we can better prepare to combat this phenomenon and protect those most vulnerable to its adverse effects.⁸

After understanding the background and urgency of the revenge porn problem, it must be recognized that it is not only a technical or legal issue but also a cultural and social one. In a digital age where information sharing can be done instantly, the boundaries between private and public spaces have become increasingly blurred. Social media has played an important role in redefining what is considered private and shareable. In this context, the line between what is acceptable and what is not becomes relative. For some, the act of sharing private photos or videos without consent may be seen as an expression of anger or even a joke without realizing the profound impact it can have on the victim.

It is important to remember that there is an individual whose life could be ruined behind every image or video that is shared without permission. The psychological impact of being a victim of revenge porn is significant. Many victims experience post-traumatic stress, depression, anxiety, and even thoughts of ending their lives.⁹ The social impact is no less devastating, as victims can lose their jobs, experience isolation from family and friends, and face social punishment that is often harsher than the perpetrator.¹⁰ Addressing this issue requires a holistic approach. Laws and regulations are undoubtedly important, but education and awareness are crucial. People need to be taught about social media etiquette, the importance of respecting others' privacy, and the real impact of their actions online. Technology must also be part of the solution. Social media platforms and internet service providers need to be more active in preventing and responding to reports of revenge porn. With advances in artificial intelligence and image recognition technology, there is potential to detect and remove inappropriate content before it becomes widespread. Finally, for victims, support is critical. Non-governmental organizations, support groups, and mental health professionals need to be engaged to provide the necessary assistance. In the face of trauma like this, understanding that one is not alone and that resources and support are available can make a significant difference. By combining education, law, technology, and support, we can hope to see a significant decrease in revenge porn incidents and ensure that victims get the justice and healing they need.

⁸ Alison Attrill-Smith et al., "Gender Differences in Videoed Accounts of Victim Blaming for Revenge Porn for Self-Taken and Stealth-Taken Sexually Explicit Images and Videos," *Cyberpsychology: Journal of Psychosocial Research on Cyberspace* 15, no. 4 (2021): 1-20, accessed July 19, 2023, <https://cyberpsychology.eu/article/view/13890>.

⁹ Karolina Mania, "The Legal Implications and Remedies Concerning Revenge Porn and Fake Porn: A Common Law Perspective," *Sexuality and Culture* 24, no. 6 (December 1, 2020): 2079-2097, accessed July 19, 2023, <https://link-springer-com.proxy.undip.ac.id/article/10.1007/s12119-020-09738-0>.

¹⁰ Itai Mafa, Simon Kang'ethe, and Victor Chikadzi, "'Revenge Porn' and Women Empowerment Issues: Implications for Human Rights and Social Work Practice in Zimbabwe," *Journal of Human Rights and Social Work* 5, no. 2 (June 1, 2020): 118-128, accessed July 19, 2023, <https://link-springer-com.proxy.undip.ac.id/article/10.1007/s41134-020-00118-0>.

II. Research Problems

Revenge porn, or the distribution of sexual images or videos without consent, is a form of digital sexual abuse that has profoundly impacted victims.¹¹ The following three sub-problems can be further explored about the research topic. How is the psychological and social impact on victims? Which looks at society's perception of revenge porn victims and how this affects victims' reputation and social relationships, the short-term and long-term psychological impact on victims, including mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, and trauma and how victims can get support and recovery, and how society can be more empathetic towards victims. Next, how are laws and policies related to revenge porn? Which looks at how laws in various countries address the issue of revenge porn and what the challenges are in enforcing them, the need for new regulations or policies that are more effective in dealing with revenge porn cases, how victims can get justice and what obstacles they face in the justice system. Finally, how are technology, privacy, and revenge porn prevention? Which looks at how social media platforms and online storage services contribute, either intentionally or unintentionally, to the spread of revenge porn content, what steps can be taken by technology companies to prevent the illegal distribution of personal content without consent, how education and awareness about digital privacy can help prevent revenge porn cases in the future.

III. Research Methods

Research on revenge porn, as one of the most prevalent digital crimes, requires an in-depth approach to understanding the complexity of the issue and its impact on victims. The method used in this research is the normative legal method, which focuses on the applicable legal norms and how they protect victims.¹² First, the statutory approach emphasizes the analysis of existing regulations and legislation, examining the extent to which current laws provide sanctions against perpetrators and protection for victims. Secondly, the conceptual approach helps understand the definition and basic concepts of revenge porn and how it is identified in the legal and social context. Third, a comparative approach is used to compare how the issue of revenge porn is addressed in different countries or other jurisdictions, highlighting best practices and challenges that may be the same or different in different places. Fourth, the futuristic approach aims to predict how this digital crime trend will develop and how the law should adapt to meet these challenges. The nature of this research is descriptive-prescriptive.¹³ This means that the research explains and describes the phenomenon of revenge porn as it is and provides legal recommendations or suggestions for handling and preventing this crime in the future. Finally, the data that has been collected is analyzed using the content analysis method, which is a technique used to understand and analyze existing information to produce a comprehensive and in-depth conclusion about revenge porn and its implications for victims.¹⁴

¹¹ Manuel Gámez-Guadix et al., "Assessing Image-Based Sexual Abuse: Measurement, Prevalence, and Temporal Stability of Sextortion and Nonconsensual Sexting ('Revenge Porn') Among Adolescents," *Journal of Adolescence* 94, no. 5 (July 1, 2022): 789–799, accessed July 19, 2023, <https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.proxy.undip.ac.id/doi/full/10.1002/jad.12064>.

¹² I Gusti Ketut Ariawan, "Metode Penelitian Hukum Normatif," *Kertha Widya* 1, no. 1 (December 31, 2013): 21–30, accessed October 5, 2022, <https://ejournal.unipas.ac.id/index.php/KW/article/view/419>.

¹³ Soerjono Soekanto and Sri Mamudji, *Penelitian Hukum Normatif Suatu Tinjauan Singkat* (Jakarta: Raja Grafindo Persada, 2001).

¹⁴ Herlambang et al, "Kejahatan Memperkaya Diri Sendiri Secara Melawan Hukum (Illicit Enrichment) Dan Aparatur Sipil Negara: Sebuah Kajian Kritis," *RechtsVinding* 11, no. 2 (2022): 247–264, <http://dx.doi.org/10.33331/rechtsvinding.v11i2>.

IV. Result And Discussion

1. Psychological and Social Impact of Revenge Porn Victims

According to Komnas Perempuan's annual report for 2020, there was a significant increase in complaints of cyber gender-based violence (GBV) cases. This increase reached 348%, with total cases increasing from 490 in 2019 to 1,425 in 2020, including revenge porn cases. Furthermore, data from LBH APIK shows that of the total cases they handle, only approximately 10% make it to the trial stage.¹⁵ Revenge porn has become one of the most destructive forms of online abuse in the last decade. While technology has brought many advancements to society, its ease of use has also facilitated heinous acts like this, which have profound consequences for victims.¹⁶ From the immediate psychological impact to the long-term effects on one's social status, this crime affects various aspects of the victim's life. As a starting point, the psychological impact of revenge porn is often profound and affects the victim on multiple levels. The initial feelings of betrayal and invasion of privacy soon give way to feelings of shame, fear, and isolation. Shame stems not only from the unauthorized exposure of one's body or sexual activities but also from the social stigma associated with being the subject of such material.¹⁷ Anxiety also arises as a reaction, especially when the victim does not know how widely the content has been disseminated, who has seen it, or how society will react.

Depression is another frequent response, especially when victims feel they have no control over the situation or their narrative. In extreme cases, some victims even experience symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), including nightmares, flashbacks, or sleep disturbances. Quite often, thoughts of avoiding socialization or even suicidal thoughts may arise as a way to cope with the seemingly endless stress. However, the impact is not limited to the victim's emotional and mental well-being. Revenge porn also has a significant social impact.¹⁸ In a society that is often quick to judge, victims can quickly be seen in a negative light, judged for something that is not their fault. This could mean losing friends, being the target of gossip, or even discrimination at work. As a person's online and offline reputations become inextricably linked, an incident of revenge porn can have long-term consequences for the victim's career, relationships, and social opportunities. Often, the social impact of revenge porn is compounded by societal backlash.¹⁹ Rather than supporting the victim, communities sometimes blame the victim, questioning their actions or decisions that may have provoked the act rather than blaming the perpetrator. Such responses add to existing trauma and reinforce stigma and barriers for victims to seek help or justice.²⁰ Amidst the damage caused by revenge porn, society must realize

¹⁵ Raja Eben Lumbanrau, "Kekerasan Online: Korban Revenge Porn Dimaki, Dicekik, Hingga Konten Intim Disebar - Saya Berkali-Kali Mencoba Bunuh Diri," *Https://Www.Bbc.Com/Indonesia/Indonesia-56629820*.

¹⁶ Jonathan Brown, "'Revenge Porn' and the Actio Iniuriarum: Using 'Old Law' to Solve 'New Problems,'" *Legal Studies* 38, no. 3 (September 1, 2018): 396–410, accessed July 20, 2023, <https://www-cambridge-org.proxy.undip.ac.id/core/journals/legal-studies/article/revenge-porn-and-the-actio-iniuriarum-using-old-law-to-solve-new-problems/6DA00DB420F8F6C7A7D3A7DEB15803FD>.

¹⁷ Antonio Gattamelata, "Cyberbullismo e Revenge Porn," *Rivista di Lingue e Letterature straniere e Culture moderne* 9, no. 18 (December 31, 2022): 173–180, accessed July 19, 2023, <https://ojs.unito.it/index.php/ricognizioni/article/view/7112>.

¹⁸ Valerio Veronica and Dina Di Giacomo, "Implicazioni Psicologiche Del Fenomeno Del Revenge Porn: Prospettive Cliniche," *Rivista di Psichiatria* 57, no. 1 (January 1, 2022): 10–17, accessed July 19, 2023, <https://www.rivistadipsichiatria.it/archivio/3749/articoli/37322/>.

¹⁹ Tessa Cole et al., "Freedom to Post or Invasion of Privacy? Analysis of U.S. Revenge Porn State Statutes," *Victims & Offenders* 15, no. 4 (May 18, 2020): 483–498, <https://doi.org/10.1080/15564886.2020.1712567>.

²⁰ Tahlee Mckinlay and Tiffany Lavis, "Why Did She Send It in the First Place? Victim Blame in the Context of 'Revenge Porn,'" *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law* 27, no. 3 (May 3, 2020): 386–396, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13218719.2020.1734977>.

and acknowledge such acts' long-term impact. Education about the dangers and consequences of revenge porn and the promotion of empathy and support for victims are essential steps towards a more caring and inclusive society. Every individual has the right to privacy and dignity, and violating those rights through acts such as revenge porn should be taken seriously by victims and society at large.

One of the seminar speakers, Nadya Karima Melati, discussed cyber gender-based violence by presenting material derived from the research of the Support Group and Resource Center on Sexuality Study (SGRC). Here are some facts about revenge porn:²¹

- a. **Form of Revenge**
Based on sources from the University of Indonesia, revenge porn is identified as an act of revenge where the perpetrator distributes explicit content of the victim without consent. Currently, Indonesia does not have a specific term to define this phenomenon.
- b. **Cyber Violence**
Revenge porn is a manifestation of sexual violence in the digital realm but genuinely affects the victim. Typically, victims are women, feminine-looking men, or individuals from minority sexual orientations.
- c. **Real Impact**
Although it occurs in cyberspace, the consequences are felt in the real world. For example, the victim's identity can be widespread and difficult to erase, unlike in Germany, where there is a "right to be forgotten" policy.
- d. **Types of Violence**
Forms of sexual violence include photos, videos, sexual conversations, screenshots, and even forcing victims to act explicitly in front of a camera that is then broadcast.
- e. **Victim Profile**
Most victims are between 15-20 years old. The perpetrator could be someone the victim knows, such as an ex-partner or even someone unknown who hacked into the victim's social media account. A study from SGRC shows that most perpetrators are individuals known to the victim.
- f. **Victim Assistance**
SGRC seeks to support victims through policy advocacy and by establishing support groups on several campuses. This initiative aims for victims to get justice without having to experience discrimination or expulsion from their educational institutions.

With revenge porn cases on the rise, society needs a more proactive approach to dealing with this issue. Several steps can be taken to prevent further spread and support victims.

- a. There is an urgent need for stricter legal changes. While some countries and regions already have laws against revenge porn, many more do not. Moreover, even in places with regulations, the penalties are often not proportional to the damage caused to the victim. Governments should therefore take another look at their laws and ensure that there are sufficiently harsh sanctions for perpetrators.
- b. Education is key. In addition to raising awareness about the dangers of revenge porn, sexual education in schools should include information about digital ethics, consent, and the consequences of sharing content without permission. This will provide knowledge to the younger generation and build a culture of mutual respect and understanding in the digital age.
- c. Social media platforms and internet service providers have a big responsibility. They should strengthen their reporting and response tools to infringing content. With

²¹ Yohanes Enggar Herususilo, "Kekerasan Seksual Itu Bernama 'Revenge Porn', Apa Itu? Ini 6 Tandanya," <https://Edukasi.Kompas.Com/Read/2019/03/18/22551911/Kekerasan-Seksual-Itu-Bernama-Revenge-Porn-Apa-Itu-Ini-6-Tandanya>.

artificial intelligence technology and algorithms, detecting offending content can be faster and more efficient.

- d. Society should support victims. This includes providing resources, such as counselling and legal support, and removing the stigma of being a victim. It also means changing the way we talk and think about revenge porn. Instead of blaming victims or dismissing the issue as trivial, we should recognize its real and profound impact.

In addressing the issue of revenge porn, the most crucial thing is coordination and cooperation between the government, industry, educators, and society. Only with a combined approach can we protect the rights of individuals and ensure that technology is used for positive purposes, not for harm. The more we talk about this issue, the greater the chance of making real change and providing justice for victims.

2. Laws and Policies Related to Revenge Porn

Around the world, countries are rapidly trying to draft laws and regulations to protect their citizens from this increasingly rampant form of digital abuse. On a global level, many Western countries have taken concrete steps to ban revenge porn. For example, the UK passed a law in 2015 making revenge porn a criminal offence with a maximum sentence of two years. Meanwhile, The United States has seen several states introduce similar laws, although there are differences in treatment and penalties between states. As laws tighten in the West, there is a global demand for other countries to follow suit. However, responses to revenge porn vary depending on each country's cultural, social and legal context. In some places, it is seen more as a moral issue than a legal one, complicating the process of creating effective legislation. In Indonesia, the issue of revenge porn has received significant attention in recent years. This issue has dire social consequences for a country with a deep culture and strong religious values. For many victims, the impact of being the subject of revenge porn can include social stigmatization, ostracization, or even physical violence. Indonesian law already has several instruments that can address the issue of revenge porn. Law Number 19 of 2016, Amending Law Number 11 of 2008 on Electronic Information and Transactions (ITE Law), for example, has articles that can ensnare perpetrators. Article 27, paragraph (1) of the ITE Law states that any person who intentionally and without rights distributes and transmits and/or makes accessible Electronic Information and/or Electronic Documents that have content that violates decency can be punished.

However, while the ITE Law can be used as a legal tool, there are some challenges in its implementation:

- a. First, the term "violating decency" can be interpreted in various ways, depending on the context and the party interpreting it;
- b. Many victims are reluctant to report for fear of further stigmatization or because of a lack of trust in the legal system to provide adequate protection.

Another problem is that the conception of Article 29 of the Pornography Law is often controversial. This article, which is supposed to function as a legal instrument to protect, ironically often has a detrimental impact on victims of revenge porn itself. Instead of getting protection, victims risk being charged by the same law that is supposed to protect them. This reflects the complexity and vagueness in the application of articles related to revenge porn, especially in content dissemination, which can lead to various interpretations. Thus, revisions

and clarifications are needed so that the law can more effectively protect those who need it.²² From the existing problems, there is a need for cultural and educational change. Society needs to understand that victims of revenge porn are not the "perpetrators" to blame but instead need support and empathy. Inclusive and thorough sexual education, including consent and digital privacy, is also essential to prevent revenge porn from taking root.²³ With the rise of revenge porn cases in Indonesia, it has become clear that further action is urgently needed. In addition to legal changes, establishing a support infrastructure for victims, including counselling centres, legal support services, and safe and confidential reporting mechanisms, is paramount. In the journey towards a more just and safe society, Indonesia must view revenge porn as a serious and urgent problem. Through strict laws, education, and support for victims, the country can protect human rights and respect individual privacy in the digital age.

Furthermore, this issue highlights the importance of cooperation between various parties, such as the government, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and the general public. As the leading providers of the digital space where much of this content is disseminated, social media platforms and technology companies have a special responsibility. They must innovate and continuously develop algorithms and reporting methods to quickly detect and remove revenge porn content. Collaboration with law enforcement agencies is also essential, ensuring perpetrators are identified and punished accordingly. Public awareness is also a crucial aspect of addressing this issue. Education and advocacy campaigns, which emphasize the dangers of revenge porn and the importance of respecting the privacy of others, should be intensified.²⁴ Changing society's perception of victims is also very important. Avoiding victim-blaming and ensuring that they get the necessary emotional and legal support are critical steps towards a solution.

Regarding support for victims, Indonesia needs more crisis centres and counselling services to help them overcome trauma and get justice. Non-governmental organizations and advocacy groups should be empowered to work with the government to provide such services.²⁵ They can also play a role in educating the public and advocating for policy changes. In the long run, a holistic approach to the issue of revenge porn can ensure that Indonesia addresses not only the symptoms of the problem but also its root causes. Thus, there will be greater hope of reducing or eliminating this practice from our society. To make that happen, all parties must be committed and work together. By combining legal, educational, technological, and advocacy efforts, we can face the challenge of revenge porn and make the digital world safer and more inclusive for everyone.

Revenge porn has become a global issue that has received serious attention from various countries. In the United States, regulations regarding revenge porn vary from state to state.

²² Jeo Kompas, "Awat, Revenge Porn! Sakit Hati Lalu Ancam Sebar Foto Dan Video Intim," <https://jeo.kompas.com/Awas-Revenge-Porn-Sakit-Hati-Lalu-Ancam-Sebar-Foto-Dan-Video-Intim>.

²³ Aislinn O'Connell and Ksenia Bakina, "Using IP Rights to Protect Human Rights: Copyright for 'Revenge Porn' Removal," *Legal Studies* 40, no. 3 (2020): 442-457, accessed July 20, 2023, <https://www.cambridge-org.proxy.undip.ac.id/core/journals/legal-studies/article/using-ip-rights-to-protect-human-rights-copyright-for-revenge-porn-removal/2C1840AC0EB870FB2134CEE9586E76D6>.

²⁴ Sarah Esther Lageson, Suzy McElrath, and Krissinda Ellen Palmer, "Gendered Public Support for Criminalizing 'Revenge Porn,'" *Feminist Criminology* 14, no. 5 (June 5, 2018): 560-583, accessed July 20, 2023, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1557085118773398>.

²⁵ Antonella De Angeli et al., "Reporting Revenge Porn: A Preliminary Expert Analysis," *ACM International Conference Proceeding Series* (July 11, 2021), accessed July 20, 2023, <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3464385.3464739>.

However, most of them have laws that criminalize the practice. Perpetrators can be punished with fines, jail time, or a combination. Some states even allow victims to file civil suits.

Meanwhile, the United Kingdom strengthened their efforts by implementing a law in 2015 which made revenge porn a criminal offence punishable by up to two years in prison. Law enforcement authorities in the country play an active role in handling cases and educating the public about the risks and dangers of these acts. On the other hand, Australia, similar to the United States, has a variety of laws in each state. Victoria and New South Wales are examples of states that have criminalized revenge porn. Perpetrators in Australia can face fines or jail time, depending on the severity.

Additionally, at the federal level, the government is actively pursuing digital platforms that facilitate the dissemination of such content. Canada considers revenge porn an invasion of privacy and criminalizes it. Victims in Canada also have the option to sue the offender civilly.

In a strong response, South Africa introduced legislation that explicitly criminalizes the unauthorized distribution of images and videos, including content related to revenge porn. Such offences can result in fines, imprisonment, or both. In India, while there are no specific laws regarding revenge porn, perpetrators can be charged under existing laws, particularly those relating to privacy and sex crimes. In addition, the Indian government is actively pressuring social media platforms to improve controls on sexual content uploaded without consent. Revenge porn, or the dissemination of sexual material without consent, has been in the global spotlight due to its damaging impact on the privacy and well-being of victims. Various countries have responded by implementing specific laws to deal with it.

The above comparison shows that while many countries have recognized the need to address revenge porn, their approaches vary. Some have specific laws, while others rely on existing laws to protect victims. Consistency in law enforcement and public education is critical to reducing incidents and supporting victims of such acts.

From the comparison of laws and policies regarding revenge porn in various countries above, there are several things that Indonesia can learn from:

- a. **Specifics of the Law**
Several countries have laws that specifically address revenge porn. This makes law enforcement easier as the act is clearly defined. Indonesia could consider having specific regulations related to this issue.
- b. **Education and Awareness**
Countries like the United Kingdom focus on educating the public about the dangers of revenge porn. Education and awareness can help prevent revenge porn before it happens.
- c. **Cooperation with Digital Platforms**
Australia is pursuing action against digital platforms that enable the spread of revenge porn content. Given the number of cases that occur through digital platforms, cooperation with platform providers is essential to break the chain of spread.
- d. **Victim Protection**
Some countries allow victims to file a civil suit against the perpetrator. This option provides space for victims to obtain compensation for the losses suffered.
- e. **Application of Technology**
For early detection and prevention, technology can be a powerful tool. Indonesia can utilize technology to detect content uploaded without permission and remove it immediately.
- f. **Consistency in Law Enforcement**

Consistency in law enforcement is critical to provide a deterrent effect to perpetrators and protection for victims. Through comparison, it can be seen that countries with consistent law enforcement tend to be more effective in reducing revenge porn cases.

g. Holistic Approach

Prevention and treatment measures involve the law, education, social support for victims, and cross-sector collaboration. A holistic approach will provide more effective results in the long run.

By studying approaches and policies from various countries, Indonesia can modify and adapt strategies that best suit the social, cultural and technological context in Indonesia. Policy changes and a more comprehensive approach will go a long way in eradicating the revenge porn phenomenon in Indonesia.

3. Development, Prevention and Treatment of Revenge Porn

Revenge porn was initially used to describe the act of someone sharing sexually explicit content, such as photos or videos, without the individual's permission, usually as a form of revenge after a bitter relationship. However, as it has evolved, many cases have shown that the revenge motive is not the dominant factor behind sharing such content. As technology advances and hacking capabilities increase, much personal content is being stolen and disseminated by third parties who may not have a personal relationship with the victim. According to data from The Cyber Civil Rights Initiative, 78 per cent of cases once labelled as revenge porn were not motivated by a desire for revenge or negative feelings towards the victim. Many perpetrators are hackers who steal data from email, cloud storage, or other platforms.²⁶ Dengan demikian, istilah "revenge porn" mungkin kurang tepat dalam menggambarkan fenomena ini, mengingat bahwa penyebaran konten seringkali lebih didorong oleh niatan untuk mendapatkan keuntungan finansial atau sekadar kepuasan pribadi dari tindakan mengumbar privasi orang lain.²⁷ In order to create greater awareness and understanding of this issue, many have suggested using the term "nonconsensual pornography" instead.²⁸ This term better reflects the essence of the problem, which is disseminating sexual material without the consent of the individuals involved. With this change in terminology, it is hoped that society can better understand and recognize the various aspects and impacts of this digital exploitation and improve efforts to prevent and handle it.

Moreover, the change in terminology to "nonconsensual pornography" also helps bridge the law's fragility in dealing with cases like this. When using the term "revenge porn", many laws focus on the motive as the critical element for prosecution, leaving many victims without legal protection when such motive cannot be proven. However, by understanding that the crux of the matter is the absence of consent, the chances of bringing the perpetrator to justice become greater.²⁹ Furthermore, labelling "nonconsensual pornography" recognizes that every individual

²⁶ Laili Zain, "Mengenal Apa Itu Revenge Porn, Dampak, Dan Ancaman Hukumnya," <https://www.idntimes.com/>.

²⁷ Sarah Beechay, "If i Go There Will Be Trouble, If i Stay There Will Be Double: Revenge Porn, Domestic Violence, and Family Offenses," *Family Court Review* 57, no. 4 (October 1, 2019): 539-553, accessed July 20, 2023, <https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.proxy.undip.ac.id/doi/full/10.1111/fcre.12447>.

²⁸ Sophie Maddocks, "Feminism, Activism and Non-Consensual Pornography: Analyzing Efforts to End 'Revenge Porn' in the United States," *Feminist Media Studies* 22, no. 7 (October 3, 2022): 1641-1656, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14680777.2021.1913434>.

²⁹ Tyrone Kirchengast and Thomas Crofts, "The Legal and Policy Contexts of 'Revenge Porn' Criminalisation: The Need for Multiple Approaches," *Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal* 19, no. 1 (January 2, 2019): 1-29, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14729342.2019.1580518>.

has a right to privacy and that any violation of that right is a criminal act, regardless of the reason or motivation of the perpetrator. It also recognizes that the impact on the victim is the same, whether an embittered ex-spouse or an unknown hacker disseminates the content.³⁰ Victims often experience psychological trauma, social stigmatization, loss of employment, and other negative impacts that are just as severe as other victims of sexual crimes.

However, while this change in terminology is essential, it is only the beginning. The government and other stakeholders must work together to ensure that laws and public policies reflect this shift in understanding. This includes but is not limited to ensuring public education and awareness about the dangers and implications of nonconsensual pornography, providing resources for victims, and improving law enforcement efforts. Ultimately, the paradigm shift from "revenge porn" to "nonconsensual porn" is not just a matter of semantics or terminology but rather understanding and acknowledging the realities many victims face in this digital age. This is an essential step towards a more informed and empathetic society where everyone is respected and protected from exploitation.

In this context, the role of technology, the importance of maintaining privacy, and prevention efforts are interrelated, such as:

- a. **Technology Evolution and Ease of Access**
With the development of information and communication technology, accessing, storing and sharing information has become easier and faster. Social media, instant messaging apps and video-sharing platforms allow users to publish content quickly. Unfortunately, this convenience also allows perpetrators to share unauthorized images or videos, often for revenge or damaging the victim's reputation.
- b. **Privacy Threats in the Digital Age**
Privacy is a human right that must be respected. However, in the digital age, maintaining privacy has become increasingly challenging. Without realizing it, users often share personal information or intimate content with others. Mistakes like this and a lack of awareness about digital security can make one an easy target for revenge porn perpetrators. The insecurity of digital platforms also contributes. Security breaches or "hacks" can access users' data, including private photos and videos, which can be misused.
- c. **Prevention Through Technology**
While technology can be a tool for the perpetrator, it can also be part of the solution. Many social media platforms are now introducing algorithms that detect and remove explicit content uploaded without permission. For example, Facebook has developed technology to prevent the re-uploading of photos or videos that have been previously reported and removed. In addition, apps and cloud services now offer end-to-end encryption to protect user data. This encryption makes the content difficult to decrypt and understand, even if data is compromised or accessed without permission.
- d. **Digital Education and Awareness**
One of the most effective prevention measures is through education. Teaching people the importance of maintaining digital privacy, using two-factor authentication, and thinking twice before sharing personal information can reduce the risk of revenge

³⁰ Nikolaos Z. Zeniou, "Criminal Law Responses to 'Revenge Porn' in Cyprus and England: Identification of the Offence and the Need for Legislative Regulations and Prevention," *EU Internet Law in the Digital Single Market* (June 25, 2021): 377-395, accessed July 20, 2023, https://link-springer-com.proxy.undip.ac.id/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-69583-5_16.

porn. Awareness campaigns should also be held to help people recognize and report content distributed without permission. This education should cover all walks of life, including teenagers, parents, teachers and workers.

e. Support for Victims

Technology can also be used to help victims. Online support services, helplines, and platforms that allow victims to share their experiences and get emotional support are needed. Some services help victims track and remove content uploaded without permission.

f. Multi-sector Cooperation

Preventing revenge porn requires cross-sectoral cooperation. Tech companies, governments, non-governmental organizations, and communities must work together to develop effective solutions.

In the face of revenge porn challenges, when used appropriately, technology can be a powerful instrument to protect privacy and support victims.³¹ Prevention efforts must be holistic, combining technological innovation, public education, and support for victims. We can only create a safer and more inclusive digital environment for everyone with an integrated approach.

V. Conclusion

In the face of the complex dilemmas of the digital age, where technology has become a two-sided coin, we are faced with the fundamental question of how we value and protect individual privacy. The phenomenon of revenge porn highlights how vulnerable personal security and integrity are in an increasingly connected world. First, it must be recognized that revenge porn is not just an individual or technological problem but a reflection of broader social issues. It is a manifestation of power inequalities, a lack of understanding of digital ethics, and the structural vulnerabilities of the technological platforms we use every day. While we have made significant progress in recognizing and addressing these issues, there is a great distance between awareness and action. The role of tech companies is crucial here. They serve as mediators of information and have a moral and ethical responsibility to protect their users. Therefore, advanced detection systems, responsive algorithms, and effective reporting mechanisms are crucial. However, this responsibility does not only lie with large companies. As consumers and users, we must also understand how technology works and how we can maintain our security and privacy. Educational institutions also have an equally important duty. Educational curricula must adapt to prepare students for today's digital reality in an ever-changing world. This includes understanding digital ethics, media literacy, and the skills to recognize and counter forms of online exploitation, such as revenge porn. However, technical and educational solutions alone are not enough. Legal and policy changes are also needed to create an environment that opposes the practice of revenge porn and provides legal recourse for victims.

Strict punishment for perpetrators and comprehensive support for victims should be prioritized. Finally, we must talk about cultural change. Building a society that values and respects privacy and individual freedom is necessary. This means educating the younger generation and all walks of life about the dangers and consequences of revenge porn and other privacy invasions. It also requires promoting empathy, awareness and collaborative action to counter this threat. Confronting the challenge of revenge porn requires the combined efforts of

³¹ Melinda Sebastian, "Privacy and Consent: The Trouble with the Label of 'Revenge Porn,'" *Feminist Media Studies* 17, no. 6 (November 2, 2017): 1107-1111, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14680777.2017.1380428>.

individuals, tech companies, educators, policymakers, and society. Society can hope to make the digital world safer and more inclusive only with strong cooperation and commitment.

The term "revenge porn", which initially referred to the dissemination of intimate content as a form of revenge, is now considered inaccurate in describing the broader phenomenon in today's digital era. With hackers and third actors sharing content without the motive of revenge, the term "nonconsensual pornography" is considered to reflect better the essence of the problem, which is the dissemination of sexual material without the consent of the individuals involved. This change in terminology is essential to redefine how we understand and address this issue, both from a legal and social perspective. This change in understanding emphasizes the importance of protecting individual privacy in the digital age and urges stakeholders to increase prevention, education, and law enforcement efforts related to nonconsensual pornography.

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