

LEARNING NETWORK VIRTUAL FORUM 2023 PROGRAM

Not Yours to Distribute! Intimate Images and Consent

Wednesday February 8, 2023 from 1:00 to 3:30 pm ET

Thursday February 9, 2023 from 1:00 to 3:30 pm ET



With the rise of sexting and further means of sharing intimate images through technology, there have been growing concerns about how to address the non-consensual distribution of intimate images. Sharing intimate images can be a form of healthy sexual expression, however, the distribution of such images without consent causes harm with social, emotional, and economic impacts on survivors. Non-consensual distribution of intimate images can be used to coercively control and exert power over a person, such as an intimate partner.

This Learning Network Virtual Forum explores non-consensual distribution of intimate images of adults in the Canadian context. An intersectional and sex-positive lens will be used to explore its forms and how it impacts different communities. Barriers to support seeking and trauma-informed responses to support survivors will be discussed.

This Forum is particularly relevant to gender-based violence and allied service providers, as well as human rights advocacy groups (e.g. rape crisis centers, shelters, victim services, community-based groups).

Live participants will receive a Certificate of Participation after attending each day. Forum recordings will be emailed to those registered.

Learning Objectives

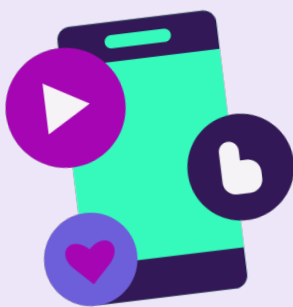
By participating in this Forum, participants will be better able to:

- Describe non-consensual distribution of intimate images including its various forms and impacts on survivors, as well as harmful myths surrounding it
- Understand experiences of non-consensual distribution of intimate images as they occur in diverse communities and intimate relationships
- Support survivors' efforts in seeking justice, services, and healing
- Challenge harmful actions through technology and promote healthy behaviour using a sex-positive and intersectional lens

Safety and Services

The content of these sessions is focused on non-consensual intimate image distribution. We want you to take care of yourself as some of this content may be difficult.

If you would like support, please [click here to find services](#).



Connect on Social Media

Connect with us on social media throughout the event!

You can tag us on:

Facebook: [@LNandKH](#)

Twitter: [@LNandKH](#)

LinkedIn: [Learning Network and Knowledge Hub](#)

Use the following hashtag: #notyourstodistribute

Zoom Support

Once you have registered for the Forum, an email from Zoom is automatically sent to you with instructions on how to access the session on each day. The email contains a unique link that should not be shared with others. Please use the link included in the email to join the session. If you can't find the email, please re-register for the session or check your junk mail folder in case the email was filtered as a spam message.

Please note:

- All participants are muted during the live sessions. Cameras will be turned off for all participants.
- If you have a question for session presenters, please type into the Q&A box at the bottom of your Zoom application.
- There will be an evaluation form link generated in your browser after each day of the Forum. Please fill out the form as your feedback will guide future forums and knowledge exchanges. A Certificate of Participation will be generated once you complete this evaluation.

For further support with Zoom, please [click here for helpful tips](#).

Accessibility

The Learning Network recognizes that participants have different accessibility needs. Live ASL interpretation will be provided by the Toronto Sign Language Interpreter Service on each day of the Forum. Any presentation slides presenters choose to use will be provided by email the morning of the session. Participants will have the option to turn on live closed captioning for each session. Recordings of the sessions will be emailed to registrants following the event and will contain closed captioning. If you have any specific questions and suggestions, please contact vawln@uwo.ca.

Code of Conduct

The Learning Network is dedicated to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive Virtual Forum. This Code of Conduct applies to Forum organizers, speakers, and participants within the Forum sessions, in addition to communications pertaining to the Forum (e.g. on social media). There is no place at this Forum for harassment or intimidation based on race, religion, ethnicity, language, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, appearance, or other group status.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- Deliberate misgendering or use of dead names
- Use of slurs and other dehumanizing language
- Doxxing (posting or threatening to post personally identifying information like addresses and phone numbers)
- Discriminatory “jokes” and language
- Intentionally disruptive behaviours (e.g. interrupting speakers, spamming, trolling)
- Sexually objectifying or harassing comments
- Bullying
- Threats or acts of violence

The Learning Network reserves the right to remove anyone who engages in harassing behaviour from the Forum. If you notice this behaviour, please report it by either sending a Zoom chat to the panelists or by emailing vawln@uwo.ca.

Audio and visual recordings of the Forum are not allowed. The Learning Network will release recordings to registrants following the event.

Forum At-a-Glance



Wednesday February 8, 2023 | 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm ET

Troubling Myths about Nonconsensual Intimate Image Distribution

Presenter: Alexa Dodge

Thinking Through Intersectionality and Consent in the Context of Non-Consensual Intimate Image Distribution

Presenter: Julia Chan

Same But Different: Understanding the Realities of Non-Consensual Intimate Image Distribution Across Diverse Communities

Panelists: Christopher Dietzel, Raine Liliefeldt, Faye Mishna, and Kate Sinclair

Thursday February 9, 2023 | 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm ET

What to Expect When Reporting the Distribution of Intimate Images without Consent to Law Enforcement

Presenter: Melissa Carty

Empowering Victims of Online Harassment

Presenter: Naomi Sayers

Strategies to Support Survivors of Image-Based Sexual Violence

Presenter: Rhiannon Wong

Survivor-Centred and Trauma-Informed Responses in Addressing Tech Abuse

Presenter: Hera Hussain

Session Descriptions

Wednesday February 8, 2023 | 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm ET

Troubling Myths about Nonconsensual Intimate Image Distribution

Presenter: Alexa Dodge

In this presentation, Dr. Alexa Dodge will explain the issue of nonconsensual intimate image distribution and discuss the different forms that this act can take. She will break down some of the common myths about nonconsensual distribution, with a specific focus on critiquing harmful victim blaming/shaming myths that are often expressed in responses to this issue. She will also provide insight into how to best support those impacted by nonconsensual distribution and will share helpful resources for frontline service providers and victims.

ALEXA DODGE

Dr. Alexa Dodge is an Assistant Professor in Criminology at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She is currently researching informal, restorative, and legal responses to technology-facilitated violence and bullying. Dr. Dodge is a socio-legal scholar and critical criminologist with research and teaching interests in the areas of digital criminology, sexual violence, crime & media, criminal justice, and restorative justice.



Thinking Through Intersectionality and Consent in the Context of Non-Consensual Intimate Image Distribution

Presenter: Julia Chan

This talk will consider how intersectional concerns and various forms of oppression intersect with popular understandings of non-consensual intimate image distribution (NCIID), including questions of race, gender, ability, class, and sexuality. In particular, it will provide a closer look at the complexity of consent in relation to NCIID, identity, and broader questions of image consumption within Western culture.

JULIA CHAN

Julia Chan is a mixed-race settler, writer, artist, and academic. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor in Critical Media Practice at the University of Calgary in the Department of Communication, Media, and Film. She holds a PhD in Cultural Studies from Queen's University at Kingston. Her doctoral research—which explored the connections between image-based sexual abuse, surveillance, and cinematic/visual cultures—was supported by a SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship, an Ontario Graduate Scholarship, and a SSHRC Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement. Her academic work has appeared in the journal *Porn Studies* and the edited collection *Screening #MeToo: Rape Culture in Hollywood* (SUNY Press, 2022). Recently, she was a Mitacs Postdoctoral Visitor in Cinema and Media Arts at York University and the Managing Editor of *PUBLIC: Art | Culture | Ideas*. In 2021, she was the inaugural Postdoctoral Fellow at Carleton University's Institute of Criminology and Criminal Justice.



Same But Different: Understanding the Realities of Non-Consensual Intimate Image Distribution Across Diverse Communities

Panelists: Christopher Dietzel, Raine Liliefeldt, Faye Mishna, and Kate Sinclair

This moderated panel discussion explores experiences of non-consensual distribution of intimate images (NCDII) in diverse communities. Panelists discuss how NCDII occurs in different communities, compounding barriers survivors face in seeking supports, and how service providers can support survivors in a trauma- and violence-informed manner. Key messages for service providers to consider in awareness campaigns about NCDII and promoting healthy sexual expression through technologies are offered.

CHRISTOPHER DIETZEL

Christopher Dietzel, Ph.D. (he/him) is a research associate on the iMPACTS Project and also works in the Sexual Health and Gender (SHaG) Lab. Dr Dietzel's research explores the intersections of gender, sexuality, health, safety, and technology. Recently, his interests have focused on issues of consent and sexual violence, particularly related to mobile apps and LGBTQ+ people.



RAINE LILIEFELDT

Raine Liliefeldt is a South African-born activist and artist whose career has led her across many sectors and has spent the bulk of her career in the non-profit sector in Canada. She is a communications professional, creative organizer, educator and project manager with extensive experience in governance and resource development. As the Director of Member Services and Development at YWCA Canada, she leads strategic programs and initiatives that strengthen the YWCA movement. She has secured funding and managed projects that endeavour to move the needle forward on women's labour market access, digital literacy, and ending gender-based violence. Raine supports arts, social justice, and youth organizations. She is a board member of the Canadian Black History Projects and Kensington Market Jazz Festival, and the Agora Foundation. She also sits on the Philanthropists' editorial advisory committee, and on the advisory committee for New Harlem Productions. She is energized by work that leads to transforming workplaces and being a good ancestor.



FAYE MISHNA

Faye Mishna, PhD, is Professor and former Dean at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto. She has over 20 years of practice experience in children's mental health. Her research focuses on bullying and cyberbullying from the perspectives of the victimized children and youth, their parents, and educators; sexting and online sexual harassment and gender-based abuse among youth; and the informal use of digital/ cyber technology in social work practice. An integral component of her research entails collaboration with schools and community agencies and organizations. Faye is the author of 2 books on bullying (2012 and 2015). She maintains a small private practice in psychotherapy and supervision.



KATE SINCLAIRE

Kate Sinclair is an award-winning adult filmmaker, sex worker rights activist, and revenge porn survivor/thriver. Her life's work is centered in queer sexual storytelling, resilience, and sex positivity as they relate to dismantling the shame and stigma that empower people to use non-consensual image sharing as a weapon. She is currently studying Law at the University of Ottawa with a focus on digital policy, surveillance, and privacy.



Thursday February 9, 2023 | 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm ET

What to Expect When Reporting the Distribution of Intimate Images without Consent to Law Enforcement

Presenter: Melissa Carty

In this presentation, Detective Constable Melissa Carty shares the process of reporting non-consensual intimate image distribution to law enforcement. She walks participants through the steps from the initial police investigation to completion in court. In doing so, Melissa answers survivor questions like “What will happen to my device – will it be seized?”, “Who will see the photos?”, and “Will I have to give access to all my accounts?”

MELISSA CARTY

Detective Constable Melissa Carty has worked for York Regional Police since 2006 in a variety of roles that included uniform patrol, Intimate Partner Violence and most recently in Internet Child Exploitation. She has completed a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a certification in Criminal Psychology and Behaviour. Melissa completed one of the first investigations in York Region into Distributing Intimate Image without Consent in 2015. The outcome of this investigation secured case law for the length of in custody sentence of the offender in that incident.



Empowering Victims of Online Harassment

Presenter: Naomi Sayers

Non-consensual distribution of intimate images (NCDII) and further forms of online harassment are often experienced together. This session will discuss the current landscape regarding online harassment and NCDII. It will also offer some tools to help manage your online presence and support further individuals in doing so as well.

NAOMI SAYERS

Naomi Sayers is a lawyer and Indigenous feminist, called to the Ontario (2018) and Alberta (2020) bars with nearly a decade of consulting experience. She worked in-house at one of Canada's largest electricity providers. She has appeared at all levels of court in Ontario; federal court – trial and appeals; Alberta Court of Queen's Bench; and various tribunals throughout Ontario.

Naomi represented Work Safe Twerk Safe, the first and only federally incorporated non-profit advocacy group dedicated to strippers' rights to work safely in Canada.



Her advocacy on their behalf resulted in a precedent setting decision resulting in the Court recognizing the harms that sex workers experience in trying to access justice. That decision was also cited by the Supreme Court of Canada, affirming stigmatized groups' right to privacy in litigation processes.

Naomi is a member of the Women in Canadian Criminal Defence; Criminal Lawyers' Association and its Indigenous Committee; Canadian Bar Association and its Aboriginal Law section executive; the Law and Mental Disorder Association; the Ontario Bar Association's Constitutional and Human Rights section executive, the Aboriginal Law section executive and the Women's Lawyer Forum section executive.

Strategies to Support Survivors of Image-Based Sexual Violence

Presenter: Rhiannon Wong

Anti-violence programs are often the first survivors turn to for support with their experience of image-based sexual violence such as non-consensual distribution of intimate images. In this session, we will share strategies that anti-violence workers can use when supporting survivors whose intimate images have been shared without consent. We will also present some ideas to increase privacy and reduce the risk of harm if survivors choose to share their intimate image with someone with consent.

RHIANNON WONG

Rhiannon Wong is the project manager for Women's Shelters Canada's new Technology Safety Canada project. Through her project addressing technology-facilitated gender-based violence, Rhiannon has been researching and developing practical technology safety resources for Canadian anti-violence workers, women, girls and gender diverse people that address how technology can be used both to keep women and children safe and misused by perpetrators to commit crimes of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, impersonation and harassment.

Since 2007, Rhiannon has been delivering technology safety trainings across Canada based on the work of the National Network to End Domestic Violence's Safety Net project located in Washington, DC. Her training explores technologically-facilitated gender-based violence, safety planning, privacy considerations and organizational technology use. Previously, she was the Technology Safety Project Lead at BC Society of Transition Houses (BCSTH). For more information, [click here](#).



Survivor-Centred and Trauma-Informed Responses in Addressing Tech Abuse

Presenter: Hera Hussain

Addressing technology-facilitated gender-based violence, including non-consensual distribution of intimate images, requires focusing on changes in technology, research, and policy. Systems are failing survivors and we need to design interventions that leave no survivor behind. This presentation will share some changes needed and how we can go about it based on intersectional work with thinkers, practitioners, and survivors from around the world collected by Chayn in the [Orbits field guide](#). It will also share online resources to support survivors on their healing and resilience journey.

HERA HUSSAIN

Hera Hussain is the Founder and CEO of [CHAYN](#) - a global nonprofit that creates resources on the web to address gender-based violence. Chayn's multilingual resources, designed with, not for survivors, have reached more than 500 000 people. Raised in Pakistan and living in the UK, Hera knew from early on she wanted to tackle violence against women. She believes in using the power of open source technology, trauma-informed design and hope-filled framing to solve the world's pressing issues. Hera is an Ashoka Fellow, and was on the Forbes 30 Under 30, MIT Technology Review's Innovators Under 35 and European Young Leader 2020 list.



Learning Network

The Learning Network is committed to ending gender-based violence through knowledge mobilization that identifies gaps and emerging issues, establishes meaningful collaborations, and values diverse ways of knowing. We develop evidence-informed resources, facilitate forums, present Webinars and Resource Spotlights, and promote Ontario-based resources for the gender-based violence sector and its allies.

The Learning Network benefits from the input of a Provincial Advisory Group. They provide expertise on research, curriculum development, practice, and prevention.

[Click here to learn more about the Provincial Advisory Group.](#)



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