

What to do if someone is threatening to share your images?

Don't panic – there is help; you're not alone.

Don't give into their demands – DO NOT give them any money (it will just encourage them to ask for more).

Block them on all your social media accounts.

Speak up – talk to your family, a good friend or/and speak to Care and Concern about support available within the University and externally. You can contact Care and Concern by calling 020 8411 6200 or emailing careandconcern@mdx.ac.uk.

Report it to the police – call the police on 101: giving the police as much information as possible may lead to arrests, even overseas.

Report it to a website, app or social media platform - most apps and websites have built in reporting features, or an email to enable you to contact the administrators for threats. Find out how to report, as well as how to keep your privacy settings updated and how to use the untag and block features on applications on the websites you use, see below:

[Twitter](#)
[Facebook](#)
[Youtube](#)
[Google+](#)
[Linkedin](#)
[Instagram](#)
[Tumblr](#)
[Flickr](#)
[Reddit](#)
[Pintrest](#)
[Snapchat](#)

Report it to the University - if you have reason to believe the blackmail is being perpetrated by a Middlesex student or member of staff, report it to Care and Concern on 020 8411 6200 or careandconcern@mdx.ac.uk. To find out more, see 'Reporting to the University', accessible via the home page of this document.

Get specialist help – contact the revenge porn helpline. They can provide free confidential advice and if your images have been shared they can help you to get them taken down. Contact them from Monday to Friday, 10-4pm, by emailing help@revengepornhelpline.org.uk or calling 0345 6000 459. For more information: revengepornhelpline.org.uk.

What is sextortion?

Sextortion is where someone tricks you into online sexual activity where they record and then demand money. Sextortion can be committed by an individual or by organised criminal gangs.

An common example of sextortion is where a friend request from an attractive stranger leads to chatting and flirting. After gaining the victim's trust, the victim is quickly persuaded into sexual acts over webcam. But unknown to the victim, the activity is being recorded. For there, demands for money start.

If you have a friend request, how can you know who they are?

Ask yourself the following:

Have you got mutual friends? (if you've not got any mutual friends in common, you might question how they know you);

Have a look at their profile: does it show a busy life and a long history? Or is it just a few bland images with not much detail? (if there's not a lot of detail, you might question whether the profile is actually real);

Look for them online by name: can you find them? (if not, you might question whether they are a real person);

Reverse image search their photo to see if their photo matches their name.

If you think they might not be who they say they are, block them and report them to the platform. Click [here](#) for more information.