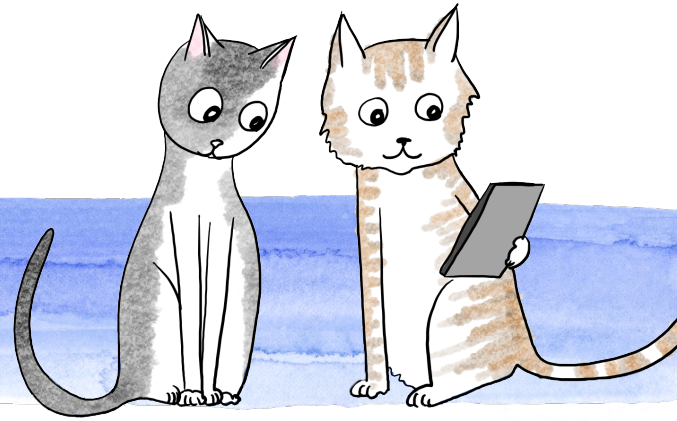


# FOR COMPANIES SEXTORTION?



“ THEY REMOVED THE ARCHIVE AND POSTS OTHER PEOPLE HAD PUT UP WITH MY IMAGES... YOU CLICKED A BUTTON NEXT TO THE POST AND WROTE A JUSTIFICATION IN THE BOX. THE POST WOULD USUALLY BE REMOVED WITHIN 24 HOURS.

- Female, 23, responding to Thorn survey

”

## TECH COMPANIES PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE.

When an individual experiences sextortion, they're often experiencing it simultaneously on multiple platforms. We know technology can be misused, so it is important to adopt industry standard best practices so that bad actors have fewer places to hide and victims can be adequately protected. Be sure to invest in your safety policies early to keep sextortion off your platform.



**THORN**

[www.stopsextortion.com](http://www.stopsextortion.com)

# YOUR NEXT STEPS

## REVIEW BEST PRACTICES AND ADAPT THEM FOR YOUR PLATFORM

### #1 TERMS OF SERVICE

should clearly prohibit sextortion. Depending on the service you offer this could range from prohibiting the storage and distribution of intimate images to removing offending URLs from search results. Policies should include instructions and support for victims, and appropriate consequences for offenders.

#### PRO TIP:

Find more resources to more broadly combat child sexual exploitation on your platform, download Thorn's [Sound Practices Guide](#).

### #2 ACTIVATE YOUR USER BASE

by providing users with an easy and visible tool to report abuse, multiple touch points to make reports, instructions on how to remove content and educational materials about how to stay safe.

### #3 IMPROVE VICTIM RESPONSE

by keeping victims informed about the timeline and status of their reports and aiming to resolve complaints within 48 hours. Include a notice of final resolution.

### #4 SCREEN PHOTOS

to prevent attempts to share photos that have already been reported. Use PhotoDNA or another hash system to protect victims from having their images more broadly distributed.

### #5 MAKE REPORTS

if you find child sexual abuse material on your platform. Build a relationship with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) [[www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com)] to understand the actions you should take and establish an appropriate process for rapid reporting.

### #6 INVEST

in resources for your safety teams - tools and staffing appropriate to the scale of your platform, and resiliency resources for these teams dealing with difficult subject matter.

#### PRO TIP:

Consider contacting the Technology Coalition [[www.technologycoalition.org](http://www.technologycoalition.org)] to learn more about best practices from other companies working together to combat child sexual exploitation.

