



SHEBBEAR COLLEGE

Safeguarding Alert: Understanding "Undress AI" – A Guide for Parents and Carers

Artificial intelligence is advancing rapidly, and unfortunately, not all developments are positive. One concerning example is "Undress AI," a type of technology that uses AI to undress individuals in photos. Many apps and websites offer this troubling service freely, posing significant risks. It's crucial for parents and carers to understand these tools and their dangers to better protect young people online.

What is 'Undress AI'?

"Undress AI" refers to tools that use AI to remove clothes from individuals in images. Although each app or website may work differently, they all provide this invasive service. While the manipulated image isn't an accurate depiction of the victim's body, it implies nudity, leading to serious consequences.

Perpetrators may keep these images for themselves or share them widely, potentially leading to sexual coercion (sextortion), bullying, abuse, or revenge porn.

Risks to Look Out For

Inappropriate Content and Behaviour

Undress AI tools can expose children to inappropriate content. The misleading nature of these tools might lead children to believe they are harmless fun. Sharing such images, even in jest, is illegal and harmful. Without proper guidance, children might continue these behaviours, causing potential harm to themselves or others.

Privacy and Security Risks

Legitimate AI tools often require payment or subscriptions, whereas free undress AI websites may have poor security measures. Uploading images to these sites can lead to misuse of personal photos and the distribution of 'deepnude' images without consent.

Creation of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM)

The Internet Watch Foundation reported a 417% increase in 'self-generated' CSAM from 2019

to 2022. With undress AI, children might unknowingly create AI-generated CSAM by uploading clothed images of themselves or peers, which are then 'nudified' and potentially shared widely.

Cyberbullying, Abuse, and Harassment

Undress AI tools can be used for bullying, such as falsely claiming a peer sent a nude image or mocking them with AI-generated images. Sharing nude images of peers is both illegal and abusive.

How Widespread is 'Deepnude' Technology?

Usage of these AI tools is rising, particularly targeting female victims. Most of these tools are trained using female imagery, and a significant portion of AI-generated CSAM features female children. Research from Graphika showed a 2000% increase in referral link spam for undress AI services in 2023, with some providers receiving over 24 million unique visitors in a single month.

What Does UK Law Say?

Recently, UK law has made it illegal to create and distribute sexually explicit deepfake images without consent. The Online Safety Act, effective from January 2024, prohibits sharing AI-generated intimate images without the subject's consent, covering any sexual images, including nude or partially nude subjects.

However, this law depends on proving the intention to cause harm, which can be challenging. Ensuring awareness of these legal aspects is crucial for preventing the misuse of such technology.

Guidance for Parents and Carers

To protect children, it's essential to have open conversations about the dangers of undress AI. Discuss the risks, legality, and ethical considerations surrounding these tools. Encourage critical thinking about online content and ensure children understand the importance of consent and privacy.

For more information and support on this issue, visit Internet Matters and other trusted online safety resources.

By staying informed and proactive, we can help protect young people from the harms associated with undress AI and other dangerous online technologies.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-undress-ai-guidance-for-parents-carers/>

