

# ONLYFANS & THE SEX TRADE

**“90% of the buyers we interviewed shared that they subscribed to content on OnlyFans.” One said “It wasn’t doing it for me anymore, so I decided to do this in person.”<sup>1</sup>**

OnlyFans is a platform where creators sell subscriptions to their content, primarily pornographic, under the guise of a safe, empowering way to earn income. In reality, most creators make little money, while many face violent and disturbing demands from subscribers.<sup>2</sup> Behind the paywall, predators and traffickers operate with alarming ease.<sup>3</sup>

Despite the platform’s assurances of moderation, it sells child sexual abuse material and footage of rape. OnlyFans is a stepping stone to sex buying, normalizing on demand personalized sexual content. OnlyFans ultimately reflects the broader dynamics of the sex trade: men's demand for paid sex fuels an exploitative system—both on and offline.

## THE REALITY OF CREATING CONTENT

The title of a video on OnlyFans: “Slutty collared submissive whore ... Gagging drooling and deepthroating . . . until she cries. Covered in degrading writing and dirty talking about how much of a dumb slut she is.”<sup>1</sup>

“I’d sometimes collapse, and **I wanted to die**—but I’d always go back. ... **you subconsciously accept humiliating, despicable, exploitative and abusive situations**—rape in every sense.”<sup>1</sup>

- OnlyFans creator

## CHILD ABUSE & TRAFFICKING

US Special Agent investigating child abuse online estimates he finds

**20-30 child abuse images**

a week originating from OnlyFans.<sup>4</sup>

A Reuters investigation identified **128 cases** with complaints to U.S. law enforcement agencies that **sexual images of them were sold on OnlyFans without their permission** between 2019 and 2023.<sup>5</sup>

1. Henderson, Angie. “What Porn, Loneliness, and OnlyFans.” Fight the New Drug, 2025.

2. Culture Reframed. OnlyFans Is Only Porn. 2023.

3. Anti-Human Trafficking Intelligence Initiative. Expert Analysis . . . OnlyFans.com. 2022.

4. Titheradge, Noel. “OnlyFans: How It Handles Illegal Sex Videos.” BBC News, 2021.

5. So, Linda et al. “OnlyFans: Sex Legal Cases.” Reuters Investigates.