

S.1837/H.R.3562 DEFIANCE ACT OF 2025

“DISTRUPT EXPLICIT FORGED IMAGES AND NON-CONSENSUAL EDITS ACT OF 2025”

The DEFIANCE Act of 2025 is a bipartisan bill that passed the Senate with unanimous consent. This legislation grants survivors a civil right of action against those responsible for creating, distributing, or soliciting nonconsensual sexually explicit deepfakes.

At World Without Exploitation, we understand the urgent need to provide victims with the federal protections they deserve. Young girls are especially vulnerable to deepfake pornography, which is often used as a form of harassment by classmates, peers, or strangers and can fundamentally alter the trajectory of their lives.

Currently, **there are no federal laws that allow victims to hold perpetrators of deepfake pornography accountable.**

THE PROBLEM BY THE NUMBERS

One in eight U.S. teens reports personally knowing someone who has been targeted by nude deepfakes.¹

Between **90% and 95%** of all online deepfake videos are nonconsensual pornography, and approximately **90% of those feature women.**²

WHAT THE BILL DOES

1. CREATES A CIVIL RIGHT OF ACTION

Establishes a civil cause of action enabling victims to hold perpetrators accountable for distributing or threatening to distribute deepfake pornography or AI-generated image-based sexual abuse, and allows survivors to seek financial and reputational damages for the harm they have suffered.

2. BUILDS ON THE TAKE IT DOWN ACT

The TAKE IT DOWN Act, passed in May 2025, criminalizes the publication and distribution of image-based sexual abuse at the federal level, requiring platforms to remove non-consensual content within 48 hours of receiving notice.

1. Thorn. “1 in 8 Teens Know Someone Targeted by Deepfake Nudes, New Report Finds.” Press release, March 3, 2025.

2. Hao, Karen. “A Horrifying New AI App Swaps Women into Porn Videos with a Click.” MIT Technology Review, September 13, 2021.