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## **APPENDIX-A**

### **PURPOSED MODEL LEGISLATION**

#### **Cyberbullying and Sextortion Prevention Act**

##### **Preamble:**

An Act to combat sextortion and cyberbullying, safeguard people from online harassment, and set standards for offending behaviour in terms of reporting, prevention, and legal repercussions. This law seeks to provide proper responses to instances of cyberbullying and sextortion, foster a courteous and safe online community, and protect people's wellbeing.

##### **Section 1: Title**

The "Cyberbullying and Sextortion Prevention Act" shall be the official name of this legislation.

##### **Section 2: Definitions**

- a) Any act of harrassment, intimidation, or bullying committed through electronic communication tools, including but not limited to phones, computers, and the internet, is referred to as cyberbullying.
- b) Sextortion is defined as the act of forcing sexual favours or other forms of agreement by utilising explicit photographs or recordings of a person.

##### **Section 3: Prohibition of Cyberbullying and Sextortion**

- a) Cyberbullying and sextortion against any individual are prohibited, whether done directly or through a third party.
- b) Sextortion and cyberbullying will be regarded as harassment under current anti-harassment rules.

##### **Section 4: Committee Formation and Duties**

- a) Create a Cyberbullying and Sextortion Committee (CSPC) with members from Cyber cell, Police department, Social Worker, Social Media Platforms.
- b) The social worker should be a woman so that the female victim feels at ease discussing her issues and displaying the photos sent to or sent by her.
- c) The task of a cyber specialist is to remove any image or video that has been uploaded, track the IP address, and file a complaint on behalf of someone who is unaware of how



to file a complaint online. The CSPC will be in charge of developing and putting into practise strategies, policies to stop sextortion and cyberbullying.

### **Section 5: Penalties for Cyberbullying and Sextortion**

- a) Anyone found responsible for cyberbullying or sextortion will be sentenced to a minimum of one year in jail and a fine of at least Rs 4000
- b) The penalty is increased to a fine of at least Rs 8,000 and a period of imprisonment of at least two years if the victim of cyberbullying or sextortion is a minor.

### **Section 6: Victim support**

In order to aid victims of sextortion and cyberbullying in overcoming the emotional and psychological impacts of the abuse, access to expert counselling, support services and resources is necessary.

### **Section 5: Reporting and Investigation of Cyberbullying and Sextortion**

- a) Any person who has cause to suspect that someone is engaging in sextortion or cyberbullying must report the incident to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.
- b) All allegations of cyberbullying and sextortion must be looked into by the relevant law enforcement agencies, who will thereafter take the necessary action against the offender.

### **Section 6: Education and Awareness**

- a) To educate students, teachers, and parents on the risks of cyberbullying and sextortion, the Department of Education must establish and execute a curriculum.
- b) To inform the public about the risks of sextortion and cyberbullying, as well as the legal repercussions of engaging in such behaviour, the Department of Justice shall design and implement public awareness campaigns.

### **Section 7: Effective Date**

After being passed and approved, this law will go into effect right away.

## **APPENDIX- B**

### **INTERVIEW WITH POLICE OFFICIAL AND CYBER CELL OFFICIAL**

1. Can you provide an overview of how sextortion cases are typically investigated? what steps are involved in identifying and apprehending the culprits?
2. How often do you come across cases of sextortion in your line of duty?
3. How prevalent is sextortion in your jurisdiction?
4. What are the typical methods or tactics used by sextortionists to target and exploit their victims?
5. What challenges do cyber cell officers face when investigating sextortion cases, both from a technical and legal standpoint?
6. How do you advise victims of sextortion to respond to threats and demands made by their perpetrators?
7. Are there any educational initiatives or awareness campaigns conducted by the cyber cell to educate the public about the risks of sextortion?

## APPENDIX- C

### QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Respondents,

I, Violeena Borah, student of LL.M 4<sup>th</sup> Semester, Department of Law, Tezpur University, Napam, Tezpur, Assam, is conducting research work **“CYBERBULLING WITH REFERENCE TO SEXTORTION AMONG STUDENTS OF SONITPUR DISTRICT”** in partial fulfillment of Degree of Master of Laws (LL.M).

I request you to kindly spare your precious time in filling this questionnaire which will be used solely for educational purpose. This information given by you will be kept confidential and no details will be shared anywhere without your consent. I would be grateful for your valuable opinion.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Yours Sincerely,  
Violeena Borah  
4<sup>th</sup> Semester  
Department of Law  
Tezpur University

**Respondent Profile:**

- 1. NAME: .....
- 2. AGE: 15-20  21-25  26-30  30 and Above
- 3. GENDER: MALE  FEMALE  OTHERS
- 4. EDUCATION QUALIFICATION: 10<sup>TH</sup> PASS  12<sup>TH</sup> PASS  UNDER GRADUATION  GRADUATION
- 5. NAME OF THE COLLEGE.....
- 6. MARITAL STATUS: MARRIED  UNMARRIED  WIDOW  SEPARATED

**CONSENT FORM**

I have read the information and have an opportunity to ask questions about the research and how my information will be used. I understand the purpose of the research and what my participation involves. I agree to fill the questionnaire. I understand that anonymous research about me may be used and published for only academic purposes. I know that my participation is voluntary and that I can choose to withdraw from the research at any point.

.....

Signature of Respondent

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON CYBERBULLYING WITH REFERENCE TO SEXTORTION  
AMONG THE STUDENTS OF SONITPUR DISTRICT**

1. Have you heard of the term "cyberbullying"?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  D) Not sure

2. Have you or anyone you know ever been cyberbullied?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  D) Not sure

3. Which of the following online platforms do you think are most prone to cyberbullying?

A) Social media  B) Online gaming  C) Instant   
D) messaging apps  E) Other (please specify)

.....

4. Do you think cyberbullying is a serious issue?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  D) Not sure

5. What do you think are the consequences of cyberbullying?

A) Emotional distress  B) Depression  C) Anxiety   
D) Suicidal thoughts  E) Other (please specify)

.....

6. Have you ever been a victim of cyberbullying?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  E) Not sure

7. How frequently have you been cyberbullied in the past 6 months?

A) Daily  B) Weekly  C) Monthly  D) Rare   
E) Never

8. How did you feel after being cyberbullied?

A) Angry  B) Hurt  C) Anxious  D) Depressed   
E) Other (please specify)

.....

9. Have you ever witnessed cyberbullying?

- A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  D) Not sure

10. If you witnessed cyberbullying, what did you do?

- A) Intervened and helped the victim  B) Reported the incident to an adult or authority figure  C) Ignored the situation and did nothing   
D) Encouraged the bullying behaviourOther (please specify)  
.....

11. How serious do you think cyberbullying is?

- A) Not serious at all  B) Somewhat serious   
C) Very serious  D) Extremely serious

12. Do you think that the punishment for cyberbullying is sufficient?

- A) Yes  B) No  C) Unsure

13. Have you ever cyberbullied someone?

- A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  D) Not sure

14. If you have cyberbullied someone, why did you do it?

- A) I was angryI thought it was funny  B) I wanted to fit in with a group   
C) I was retaliating for something that person did to me  D) Other (please specify).....

15. Do you think that cyberbullying should be a criminal offense?

- A) Yes  B) No  C) Unsure

16. Have you ever witnessed someone being cyberbullied through sextortion?

- A) Yes, and I reported it  B) Yes, but I didn't do anything about it   
C) No, I have never witnessed such behavior

17. Have you ever heard of the term "sextortion" before?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  D) Not sure

18. Do you know what actions can lead to becoming a victim of sextortion?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  D) Not sure

19. Have you ever received unsolicited sexually explicit images or videos from someone online?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be

20. Have you ever shared sexually explicit images or videos with someone online?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be

21. Have you or someone you know ever been a victim of sextortion or online sexual exploitation?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be

22. Do you think schools should provide more education on the topic of online safety and awareness of online sexual exploitation?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be

23. Have you ever been contacted by someone online who pretended to be someone else in order to obtain sexually explicit material from you?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be

24. How confident do you feel about your ability to protect yourself against sextortion or online sexual exploitation?

A) Very confident  B) Somewhat confident

C) Not very confident  D) Not at all confident

25. Have you ever been a victim of sextortion?

A) Yes  B) No  C) May be  D) Not sure

26. What type of communication method was used to threaten you during the sextortion incident?

A) Email  B) Social media platform  C) Dating app

D) Other (please specify)

.....

27. Was the sextortionist known to you prior to the incident?

A) Yes  B) No  C) I'm not sure

28. Did you report the incident to the authorities?

A) Yes  B) No  C) I'm not sure

29. Did you pay the requested amount to the sextortionist?

A) Yes  B) No  C) I'm not sure

30. Did the sextortion incident cause any emotional or mental distress?

A) Yes  B) No  C) I'm not sure

31. Do you think the sextortionist will continue to target you or others?

A) Yes  B) No  C) I'm not sure

32. What steps have you taken to protect yourself from future sextortion attempts?

A) Changed passwords  B) Blocked the sextortionist

C) Increased privacy settings  D) Other (please specify)

.....

33. Do you think enough is being done to prevent sextortion?

A) Yes  B) No  C) I'm not sure

34. Have you received any help or support after the sextortion incident?

A) Yes  B) No  C) I'm not sure



35. Have you yourself heard of anyone experiencing any incident where money has been demanded in lieu of any images?

A) Yes, I have been threatened with the release of personal sexual images or videos

B) No, I have not been threatened with the release of personal sexual images or videos

36. Have you ever been asked to send sexually explicit images or videos to someone you did not know well or had never met in person?

A) Yes, I have been asked to send sexually explicit images or videos to someone I did not know well or had never met in person

B) No, I have not been asked to send sexually explicit images or videos to someone I did not know well or had never met in person

37. Have you ever engaged in sexual activities online or through messaging apps with someone you did not know well or had never met in person?

A) Yes, I have engaged in sexual activities online or through messaging apps with someone I did not know well or had never met in person

B) No, I have not engaged in sexual activities online or through messaging apps with someone I did not know well or had never met in person.

38. Have you ever shared someone else's sexually explicit message or photo without their consent?

A) Yes, I have done it before  B) No, I have never done it before

39. Have you ever felt pressured to engage in sexual behaviour or share sexually explicit messages or photos in order to avoid harm or negative consequences?

A) Yes, I have felt pressured before  B) No, I have never felt pressured before

40. Did you feel that you could seek help from your parents or guardians if you were being sextorted?

A) Yes  B) No

41. Have you ever received education or training on how to stay safe from sextortion or how to report it?

A) Yes, I have received education or training before  B) No, I have never received education or training before

42. Have you ever felt that your school or institution could do more to prevent or address sextortion among students?

A) Yes, I think more could be done

B) No, I think enough is being done

43. Have you ever discussed the topic of sextortion with your friends?

A) Yes  B) No

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