

# SENDING AND SHARING NUDES WHAT DO GUYS HAVE TO SAY?

Young people sending nudes - and sharing other people's nudes without their consent - is a hot topic in the media right now. Parents and teachers are concerned - but what do guys have to say about it?

## A "HEAVY TOPIC"

Sending and sharing nudes was talked about as a fairly common practice, particularly for those aged 12-14. It was also considered 'taboo' by some of the guys we spoke with: something that "a lot of people don't really wanna tough upon... people use the excuse not to talk about it". Guys were aware of the risks involved in sending nudes, but also explained that you "should be allowed" to do so without fearing that it would be circulated any further.



"It's not very ethical is it?  
When someone's trusting  
you with something pretty  
personal"

"It shouldn't be that you  
have to not do that because  
you're afraid that it'll be sent  
to lots of people"

"It's known as an  
achievement rather than  
something that's bad"

## STATUS

The young men we talked to explained that receiving a nude from a girl and showing it around could up a guy's 'status' and get him "some attention from his mates". Guys also identified a **sexual double standard** in how nudes tended to get sent and shared:

"It comes down to the whole sexism thing... you're a cool guy if you send that kind of stuff, where girls can be doing exactly the same thing and get a really bad reputation."

# WHAT DO GIRLS SAY ABOUT SENDING NUDES?

The girls talk to were clear about a sexual double standard they saw in the practice of sending nudes. The girls talk to were clear about a sexual double standard they saw in the practice of sending nudes. The girls talk to were clear about a sexual double standard they saw in the practice of sending nudes. The girls talk to were clear about a sexual double standard they saw in the practice of sending nudes.

"Maybe having intimate photos of females they're like oh yeah I'm so experienced look at all these girls I get you know"

"When you are a teenage boy there is some kind of expectation that like you are super sexual."

"Girls are not expected to be like that but guys kind of are, like it's more acceptable."

## WHAT DOES THE RESEARCH SAY?

The research to date in Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, and the United Kingdom aligns with what we have heard from young people and gender differences in sending nudes. A recent report from Netsafe and the Ministry for Women found that "images of girls were more likely to be shared by boys while girls were more likely to delete such images of boys" (Ref).

## WHAT NEXT?

The young people we spoke with told us that sending nudes (and sharing nudes) was a more common practice among guys and girls who were younger than them. Survey research conducted in Aotearoa to date has focused on young people aged 14-17 years old [ref Netsafe and MoW]. Our findings suggests that more research is needed with younger New Zealanders.

