

Journal Entry # 7

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The rise of technology gave rise to the inventions of gadgets and equipment that raised the standard of living across the world. Sadly, the improper use of these technology also brought about other ways of committing a crime. One such invention is the camera phone. Nowadays, you can easily take, send, edit, and post a photo online. In the article that was provided in class, the woman had her private pictures posted online without her consent. Clearly, the woman was a victim of “Revenge Porn”. Revenge porn can be defined as the act of posting private and pornographic pictures of someone without their consent. However, this was the only type of cybercrime that the woman in the article was subjected to. She was also a victim of “Catfishing”. Catfishing happens when an individual tries to pretend to be a different person online, to gain trust and favor, without the intention of actually meeting in person. What made the woman’s situation worse was that the person who posted her private pictures online and the one who catfished her happened to be her friend. The friend apparently had romantic feelings that was not reciprocated, so in an act of revenge, he pretended to be a different person on multiple occasions and was able to gain access to the woman’s private pictures. When the woman found out the truth, the friend blackmailed the woman and released and leaked her private photos online.

The woman in the article suffered many psychological consequences because of the incident. Emotionally she is in a state of emotional distress, fear and anxiety. The amount of stress brought about by the ordeal is unfathomable. Her reputation and her digital rights online have forever been damaged. Additional psychological consequence that the woman experienced is that she will have a hard time trusting someone again. Her trust issue is at an all-time low that it might take years before she learns how to trust again. The article also showed that even in the

beginning, the woman already was experiencing confidence problems. Her low self-esteem is probably the reason why she sent those pictures to begin with. She sent those private photos willingly, at least initially, because she thought it was a way of being validated and acknowledged, by the person that she sent it to. Since her privates were made public, she constantly gets rude and random message from strangers. Lastly, there is also an ongoing threat that her work finds out about her pictures, which might cause her to lose her job. Her life is forever changed because the “friend” whom she thought she knew and trusted, decided to commit acts of cybercrime.