



## Safer Nudes Nigeria: A sexy guide to digital security

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**Research and Writing** by Aumarh & Xeenarh, with input from Sophina

**Graphic Design, Illustration and Copyediting** by ModdCom

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Front Page

Back Page



1

## YOUR PHONE BUZZES, ITS A COMPELLING REQUEST...

We dare say that a vast majority of us yearns to send and receive nudes...

Making and sending selfies and nudes can be an exercise of self-determination, and also an act of pleasurable resistance against racism, sexism, machoism, conservatism and heteronormativity. Nevertheless, we believe that the privacy of your communication is a RIGHT; and the decision to have them published or not should be EXCLUSIVELY YOURS



2

Nudes are not always PORN, they can be anything intimate or revealing. In some communities, just sharing a picture of your face on certain websites or dating apps like Grindr and Planet Romeo can be compromising. For that reason, sharing your pictures or not must be a choice that is exclusively yours.

But while sending nudes can be fun, there are some perils associated with losing custody and control of your images so, the following pages outline some strategies and tools that can help you reduce those fallbacks and send your nudes online in a safer way.

## But first, a few guidelines for creating Nudes...



#pepperdemgang



Never ever feel pressured to send nudes to anyone.



Do not send unsolicited photos: Yes your body is sexy, the photos are lit but before you send them to someone, make sure the person agrees, or wants to be a part of your nude receiving buddies



Lights, camera, angles! Before you decide to take a nude photo, be sure the light is right, your camera lens is clean and ready to shoot and document your sexiness. The best lighting is usually achieved when the light source is facing you, instead of behind or above you.



Know that you are magic and enjoy yourself: Use your camera to discover the best part of yourself. Take as many pictures as you want and remember: there are no rules or limits. Keep it to yourself or share it, the choice is 100% yours; your nudes, your rules. Feel 100% comfortable and sexy.

## Now, your Sexy Guide to Digital Security



1. **Do not put your face in the photos:** Staring at the camera while being completely naked is not a good idea (and mirror selfies are not the most flattering).
2. **Edit and remove distinguishing information:** Before blessing the other party with your sexy nudes, be sure to remove distinguishable marks like tattoos, moles, birthmarks, scars and other identifying information from your photo. Use a photo editor to blur, remove them, or place emojis over anything that shouldn't be in the shot.

You're either sending 'The eyes OR the Prize', never both.

3. **Location, location, location!** Where you take your photos matter: whether it is the bathroom of a hotel, or the uncluttered side of your bedroom. Be sure to pick an angle that doesn't say too much about where the picture was taken. Turn your photos to black and white, monochrome or sepia. It's classy, and it makes it harder to identify your home or furniture.

4. **Watermark your photos:** Always mark and track your photos before sending them to anyone. That means you can share the same photo with different watermarks, and this way you can trace a leaked photo to the origin. We suggest using the person's name; For instance, when sending to Uju, you use 'FOR UJU' or 'FOR SEUN' as the watermark for that image.
5. **Show me yours if I show you mine:** If someone has your pictures, insist on having theirs in return. Not for the purpose of sharing their nudes if they leak yours but for them to stop and think "they have my nudes so let me take care of theirs".
6. **Use the right platform:** Sometimes, it all comes down to using the right application and this is one of those times. For something as valuable as your intimate images, you need a secure app that is open-source and offers end-to-end encryption. It should also block screenshots; have self-destructing messages that will disappear from both devices and servers; requires no email, phone number or real name to sign up – We recommend you use **SureSpot** as it allows



you sign up without a phone number or an email. Alternatively, you should consider Wire, Confide, as you can sign up with a 10minute email. It's also best to avoid apps that do not use end-to-end encryption, since unencrypted messages are much easier to intercept.

**Apps like WhatsApp, Facebook messenger, Signal, Snapchat and other social media are not the best platforms to use as they are directly connected to your phone number, email and/or legal name.**



**suresspot**

7. Be wary of the infamous screenshot and screen recorder: It's all good and well to use platforms that automatically deletes photos or won't allow others to screen grab, but remember that the screenshot/video recorder is still one of the biggest weaknesses to our images. Keep that at the back of your mind when deciding to send your sexy pictures to someone or not.



8. **Keep your photos under lock and key:** Always lock your phone with passwords or/and passphrase, pin or other secure forms of keeping people out of your phone. You should also lock your phone apps especially your gallery, your messaging and dating apps. You can download **Vault** from your Android or/and Apple store to safely hide and lock your photos and videos. Keeping your nudes in an encrypted folder can also be a good way to go. In case you want to keep your nudes in your computer, make sure the folder is encrypted and that you alone have access to the password or passphrase.

9. **Data Scrub your photos:** Every time you take a picture, information about your devices, time and location are attached to them. Such information are called metadata and can be used to identify you. In order to get rid of them, you can use metadata editors such as **Photo Exif Editor** (available for iPhone and Android). Remember your phone can create backups of your pictures in various folders, and that it is crucial to make sure every copy has been deleted. Use an app like **CCleaner** to clean up temporary files regularly

## What else do I need to know?

Yes, having our nudes in the wrong hands can compromise our safety but we can reduce the risks associated with losing control over our images. Our images can get into the wrong hands when we send them to the wrong people, when the people we send them to lose access to their devices, when we take our devices for repair, or when someone else gets access to our devices. To reduce those risks, always encrypt your device and use a strong password or passphrase. Encrypting your phone is easy, and you can find a simple way to do it via your settings. Remember that you should never share your password, passphrase or code with anyone and avoid letting people you don't trust handle your phone. A bad-belle person can turn our phones and information against us. Be careful when using WiFi in public spaces – the network providing companies can use them to access your information.

**If you must use a public WiFi, use apps that offer encrypted connections (with https in the address bar)**

Or download a VPN app like Bitmask (for Android), OpenVPN or **CyberGhost VPN** (for both Android and iOS) . Finally, never forget that every file sent through an app is also sent to a server that is owned by a company. A regular person like you and I may not have access to the data we send to such servers, but governments and the companies can access the files and information contained in them.

## Exposed?

Having your nudes published is not necessarily a bad thing, as long as it's your decision and on your own terms.

Our marvelous nudes can be used to incite positive discussions about our bodies, our desires and how we want to depict and use them. Turning the pornographic language into a tool for our own pleasure can be possible, if that is what you are aiming for. On the other hand, it is illegal for anyone to publish your nudes without your consent. Nigeria has laws that ensure rights to privacy, which comprise the right to protect your image, personal data and other private information.

**If you decide to publish your nudes because you want to, no one has the right to use it against you.**

There are also laws against blackmail, extortion and revenge porn. These laws can help you deter perpetrators from blackmail, extortion and harassment, or help with request so ISPs can take down unauthorized images. Besides having the content removed, you can also get legal assistance regarding potential civil claims or criminal consequences against the person who posted your images. See what the law has to say about this below; You can also get more information about collecting evidence and how to proceed in such cases at:

[withoutmyconsent.org/takebackthetech.net/know-more](http://withoutmyconsent.org/takebackthetech.net/know-more)

## The Laws

### 2015 Cyber Crime Prohibition, Prevention Act

**24 (1)** Any person who knowingly or intentionally sends a message or other matter by means of computer systems or network that

**(a)** is grossly offensive, pornographic or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character or causes any such message or matter to be so sent; or

**(b)** he knows to be false, for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience danger, obstruction, insult, injury, criminal intimidation, enmity, hatred, ill will or needless anxiety to another or causes such a message to be sent: commits an offence under this Act and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of not more than **N7,000,000.00** or imprisonment for a term of not more than **3 years** or to both such fine and imprisonment.

**24 (2)** Any person who knowingly or intentionally transmits or causes the transmission of any communication through a computer system or network

**(a)** to bully, threaten or harass another person, where such communication places another person in fear of death, violence or bodily harm or to another person;

**(b)** containing any threat to kidnap any person or any threat to harm the person of another, any demand or request for a ransom for the release of any kidnapped person, to extort from any person, firm, association or corporation, any money or other thing of value; or

**(c)** containing any threat to harm the property or reputation of the addressee or of another or the reputation of a deceased person or any threat to accuse the addressee or any other person of a crime, to extort from any person, firm, association, or corporation, any money or other thing of value: commits an offence under this Act and shall be liable on conviction.

### **Breach of right to privacy**

The right to privacy is guaranteed under **section 37** of the **Nigerian Constitution 1999**:

**“The privacy of citizens, their homes, correspondence, telephone conversations and telegraphic communications is hereby guaranteed and protected.”**

You can sue to enforce all fundamental human rights under **chapter 4 CFRN '99**.

### **Defamation**

#### **S 37.3 (1) Criminal Code**

Defamatory matter is matter likely to injure the reputation of any person by exposing him to hatred, contempt, or ridicule, or likely to damage any person in his profession or trade by an injury to his reputation. In other cases, the exhibiting it in public, or causing it to be read or seen, or showing or delivering it, or causing it to be shown or delivered, with intent that it may be read or seen by the person defamed or by any other person.

**(2)** Sounds where recorded shall, if defamatory, be deemed to be published if reproduced in any place to the hearing of persons other than the person causing it to be reproduced.

**(3)** In this section- **“recorded”** means sounds collected or stored by means of tape, disc, cylinder or other means whatsoever, where the sounds are capable of being reproduced or are intended for reproduction by electrical or mechanical means at any time or from time to time thereafter, and includes the matrix, and cognate expressions shall have the like meaning;

**37.6.** Any person who publishes, or threatens to publish, or offers to abstain from publishing, or offers to prevent the publication of defamatory matter, with intent to extort money or other property, or with intent to induce any person to give, confer, procure, or attempt to procure, to, upon, or for, any person, any property or benefit of any kind. is guilty of a felony and is liable to **imprisonment for seven years**.

### **Blackmail**

#### **Criminal Code of Lagos State**

**S.30.0.** Any person who, with intent to extort or gain anything from any person, and knowing the contents of the writing, causes any person to receive any writing demanding anything from any person without reasonable or probable cause, and containing threats of any injury or detriment of any kind to be caused to any person, either by the offender or any other person, if the demand is not complied with, is guilty of a felony, and is liable to **imprisonment for fourteen years**.

**30.1. (1)** Any person who, with intent to extort or gain anything from any person, accuses or threatens to accuse any person of committing any felony or misdemeanor is guilty of a felony, and liable to **imprisonment for three years**.

For the purpose of this section, it is immaterial whether the person accused or threatened to be accused has or has not committed the offence or act of which he is accused or threatened to be accused.

### **Nigerian Organisations that can help**

- **Women’s Health and Equal Rights (WHER):**  
[whernigeria.org](http://whernigeria.org) 08186457675
- **The Initiative for Equal Rights (TIERS):**  
[theinitiativeforequalrights.org](http://theinitiativeforequalrights.org) (Toll Free 0800225584377) 07011472241, 08125549015, 08099111134
- **International Center for Access to Rights and Health (ICARH):** [icarh.org](http://icarh.org) 07083694605
- **Access:** [help@accessnow.org](mailto:help@accessnow.org) [accessnow.org](http://accessnow.org)
- **AHRDI:** [ahrinitiative.com](http://ahrinitiative.com) 08089808483
- **INCRESE:** [increse.org](http://increse.org) 08065488417 08034500714
- **Total Health Empowerment and Development Initiative (THEDI):** [thedinigeria.org](http://thedinigeria.org) 08036069402, 09065509238
- **Whereloveisacrime.org**