

(Translation provided by the Task Force on Human Trafficking and Prostitution, a grant recipient of the Hadassah Foundation)

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'Human Rights Organizations to State Attorney: Take Action to Block OnlyFans - Ensure It Does Not Violate Israeli Law

State Attorney Isman rejected the organizations' request but stated he would consider intervening upon seeing concrete violations • The organizations responded, claiming the Prosecution's stance relied too heavily on OnlyFans' own self reported claims • "OnlyFans is a prostitution arena in every sense", said the CEO of the Task Force on Human Trafficking and Prostitution regarding the controversial platform.

Women's and human rights organizations fighting against prostitution have launched a coordinated campaign against OnlyFans, reaching out to the global platform for clarifications on its operations. They have also petitioned the State Attorney to examine whether OnlyFans is in violation of Israeli law. Furthermore, these organizations are promoting a bill that would explicitly define online prostitution as a criminal offense.

State Attorney Amit Isman rejected the organizations' initial petition to take action against OnlyFans but stated he is willing to consider future measures if concrete cases of legal violations are brought before him. This morning (Thursday), the Task Force on Human Trafficking and Prostitution and the **Jerusalem Institute for Justice** called on him to proactively contact the company for clarifications rather than sufficing with its public statements.

In their appeal, the organizations urged Isman to take steps to block OnlyFans to ensure it does not violate Israeli laws regarding human trafficking, particularly of minors, as well as sexual assault and exploitation. "Where there are cumulative, well founded, and consistent indications of patterns of harm, there is an obligation to examine the platform on a systemic level, not just an individual one", the organizations' CEOs and attorneys wrote. They detailed global cases involving suspicions of crimes committed on the platform and subsequent indictments.

The Prosecution: The Law Does Not Recognize "Online Prostitution"

Last month, an attorney from the Cyber Department of the State Attorney's Office responded to the organizations, stating it cannot be determined that OnlyFans, a platform offering sexual content from users for payment, is intended in its entirety

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for the advertisement of prostitution services. She explained that Israeli law has yet to explicitly recognize "online prostitution" as an act of prostitution under the law, which is one reason the Prosecution has not issued orders to block the site.

Additionally, the attorney explained that the Prosecution has not requested OnlyFans to remove illegal content due to the difficulty of locating such material, as illicit conduct often occurs in private chats. However, she emphasized that "should concrete, well founded, and relevant cases of legal violations be brought before the Cyber Department", appropriate measures would be considered, including voluntary appeals to the platform.

The Task Force and the Jerusalem Institute for Justice criticized the Prosecution's response for relying heavily on OnlyFans' self reported claims regarding its own monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. The organizations emphasized that numerous indicators show the platform is used for sexual exploitation, serves as a hub for prostitution, and "promotes the abuse and prostitution of minors and human trafficking".

"Modern Pimping Under a Glamorous Wrapper of 'Sexual Content'"

In their response to the Prosecution, the organizations presented findings from a large scale Reuters investigation published two years ago. The investigation pointed to over 120 complaints filed with U.S. authorities regarding sexual content posted without consent, including one case of rape. The organizations also detailed a growing practice in Israel and abroad involving "agents" who, for a fee, promote users creating sexual content to expose them to more followers.

The organizations clarified that as civil society groups, they lack the state's tools to audit the platform's enforcement mechanisms, and it is the authorities' duty to investigate these claims. They also contacted OnlyFans Global this morning, requesting data on enforcement in Israel over the past five years, specifically regarding deleted accounts of minors, accounts managed by agencies, and whether the company has ever contacted Israeli authorities regarding suspicions of human trafficking on the platform.

"OnlyFans is a prostitution arena in every sense of the word", says **Moria Rodel Silfen**, CEO of Task Force on Human Trafficking and Prostitution. "The platform is an unregulated space for modern day online pimping and the unhindered exploitation of

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minors, hidden behind the glamorous label of 'sexual content.'" She added that no tailored enforcement mechanism currently exists in Israel against OnlyFans, leaving young Israeli women and minors unprotected while platform owners and "agents" amass enormous fortunes.

Attorney Rotem Ben Simhon, Head of the Legal Department at the Jerusalem Institute for Justice, added: "Regulation is lagging behind reality, and platforms are exploiting this vacuum to operate almost entirely without supervision. This isn't just a question of freedom of speech, but of responsibility toward those on the vulnerable side of the system. Israel has already recognized the harms of prostitution; there is no reason to turn a blind eye when it moves online".

Toward Legislative Change?

The struggle continues: **MK Pnina Tamano Shata** recently introduced a bill to the Knesset against online prostitution, which would clarify that paying for a recorded or live streamed sexual act is prohibited by law. The bill was drafted with the assistance of **Atty. Eden Farber** from the Task Force.

OnlyFans responded to an inquiry stating: "We have just received the letter. We have received zero requests from Israeli authorities to provide information regarding user verification, content disclosure, transaction data, or emergency response".

MK Tamano Shata, who submitted the bill, stated: "As the solicitation of prostitution evolves globally and in Israel, it is our duty to adapt our tools to fight pimps, especially those exploiting minors. I have taken it upon myself to lead an amendment to the Prostitution Consumption Prohibition Law so that it applies to the digital space as well. I will continue to fight the phenomenon where young men and women become victims of disgraceful sexual exploitation under the guise of internet legitimacy".