



## The law and Sexting:

When you're under 18 it's against the law for anyone to take or have a sexual photo of you – even if it's a selfie.

This means that if you pressure someone into taking a photo or you share a sexual photo with someone, you're breaking the law. The police have the power to decide whether it's for the best to record what's happened or to take things further. But the law is there to protect young people, not punish them.



## What is consent?

In law, **consent** means giving your agreement or 'saying yes' to something, in this case sex. The law says that consent is something active. It means **freely choosing to say 'yes'**.

If you don't agree, then you don't give your consent. If you are threatened, frightened, drugged, coerced or asleep then you can't give your consent freely.

In law, we all have a responsibility to make sure our sexual partners are agreeing to have sex.

It is important that all of us make sure our sexual partners are consenting to sex and that all of us are giving our consent freely.



Lincolnshire  
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Children Board



# ChildLine

0800 1111





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## WHO WE ARE

Childline is here to help anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they're going through. Whether it's something big or small, our trained counsellors are here to support you.

Childline is free, confidential and available any time, day or night. You can talk to us on the phone, by email or through [1-2-1 counsellor chat](#). Whatever feels best for you.

### 6 facts about Childline:

- we were started in 1986 by Esther Rantzen
- we help any young person in the UK
- you can talk to us in English or Welsh
- we can help with anything – from abuse and bullying to exam stress and relationships
- calling Childline is free and doesn't show up on the phone bill
- in 2006 we joined the NSPCC to help even more young people.



Social media apps like Instagram, Snapchat and Facebook have minimum age requirement of 13 due to US privacy laws:



**COPPA**  
**Children's Online**  
**Privacy Protection Act**

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act 2000

It's designed to protect the personal information of under 13's as they are used for advertising purposes.