

What is a Behavior Blackmail Scam?

This is when a person is extorted in return for maintaining their reputation.

They may receive a text message, email or instant message through Facebook messenger that say they have embarrassing or compromising photos, videos, or personal information about you. The scammer then threatens to make a public announcement unless you pay them. They may say something like, “I have photos of you and if you don’t sent me (insert \$\$\$ amount) I’ll release the photos.

This is blackmail and a criminal extortion attempt.

This type of Scam likes to target teens and young adults.

Nowadays, everyone has a phone in his or her hand and a multitude of social media apps making posting pictures on the internet easy with the click of a button. Therefore, this type of Scam may be believable.

Students should be aware that every action they make could make its way to the internet with the click of a button.

Prevention Tips

- Keep apps and privacy settings set to the strictest levels possible
- Do not share compromising photos even with people you are in a relationship with—not all relationships last forever on amicable terms
- Be mindful of others who may be impaired and act inappropriately.-be respectful and do not take or post pictures of them online

The internet is forever and your lapse in judgment today can come back to haunt you in the future.