

Perspective

Internet & Phone Evolution

vs. Slavery, Terrorism, War & Devolution

The evolution of internet and smartphone technology has created new pathways for coercion and exploitation, particularly through image-based abuse. While most intimate image sharing occurs within trust, breaches of that trust can lead to severe psychological harm, extortion, and, in some cases, conditions resembling coercive control frameworks seen in trafficking and exploitation systems.

Exploitation Then vs. Now

- 1. Legal control → Digital and legal complexity**
Dependency by law → Dependency through systems, data, and access
 - 2. Economic dependence → Financial and digital leverage**
Control of income → Control via accounts, credit, and platforms
 - 3. Forced marriage → Coercive relationships**
Arranged obligation → Manipulation, threats, and psychological pressure
 - 4. Physical trafficking → Hybrid trafficking**
Movement-based control → Online recruitment and remote coercion
 - 5. War violence → Scaled digital harm**
Localized brutality → Globalized exposure and targeting
 - 6. Workplace coercion → Platform-based exploitation**
Employer control → Gig, content, and online dependency systems
 - 7. Social shame → Viral public shaming**
Local reputation damage → Permanent, global digital records
 - 8. Isolation → Surveillance and connectivity control**
Physical confinement → Monitoring, tracking, and digital restriction
 - 9. Lack of legal recourse → Uneven enforcement**
No protection → Laws exist but are inconsistent or slow
 - 10. Structural power → Networked power**
Control through institutions → Control through information, images, and reach
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Timeline: Internet & Phone Evolution (1990s–2026)

Early Internet Foundations (Pre-1993)

- 1960s–70s: ARPANET developed
- 1983: TCP/IP standardizes network communication
- Late 1980s: World Wide Web is created

Web Goes Public (1993–1999)

- 1993: First widely used graphical web browser launches
- 1994: Commercial browsers expand access
- 1995: E-commerce begins and dial-up spreads
- 1998: Search engines transform navigation
- Late 1990s: Early mobile networks and flip phones emerge

Early Mobile and Broadband Era (2000–2006)

- Broadband replaces dial-up
- 3G introduces mobile internet
- Early smartphones enable portable communication
- Wi-Fi becomes widely adopted

Smartphone Revolution (2007–2012)

- Smartphones become mainstream
- Mobile operating systems expand ecosystems
- App-based functionality reshapes daily life
- Social media platforms rapidly grow

Mobile Internet and Social Expansion (2013–2019)

- 4G enables high-speed connectivity
- Messaging apps replace traditional SMS
- Cloud computing becomes standard
- Video and content platforms dominate

Smart, Connected, Integrated Era (2020–2026)

- 5G enables real-time, high-speed networks
 - Remote work and digital dependency accelerate
 - Artificial intelligence integrates into daily tools
 - Smartphones function as:
 - Financial tools
 - Health monitors
 - Work platforms
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Key Trends Today

- AI-driven communication and automation
 - Internet of Things and connected environments
 - Satellite-based global internet access
 - Convergence of phone, computer, and cloud systems
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Big Picture Evolution

- **1990s:** Access
- **2000s:** Speed
- **2010s:** Mobility
- **2020s:** Intelligence

40% Case Summary:

The evidence demonstrates that these harms have not diminished over time but have transformed and intensified. While historical systems relied on physical and structural control, modern technologies enable rapid amplification, broader dissemination, and prolonged impact. As a result, the scope and severity of harm are significantly greater in the digital era.

Union of Saints