

CYBERBULLYING OF PERSONS FORCED TO REGISTER THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA



James Fairbanks

Dear Media,

I am writing this email to let you know that I killed Matteo Condoluci Thursday May 14th around 9:45 pm. While out apartment searching and checking the neighborhoods I wanted to live in i stumbled across his Sex offender registry info. I read where he had molested (raped) two children and been convicted twice yet only served two years in prison. For RAPING CHILDREN! I see his address was right around the



Thank you, whoever u are, that killed this man. Pedos deserve nothing but death.

1d Like Reply Message



James Fairbanks
You're welcome

1h Like Reply Message



Reply as Omaha Scanner



Laura End Fentanyl Smith changed the name of the group "Matt Condoluci (preditor)" to "Free James Fairbanks".
22 hrs



APRIL 2022

DEREK W. LOGUE OF ONCEFALLEN.COM

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cyberbullying, targeted harassment, threats, and physical violence is often aimed at Persons Forced to Register (PFRs, i.e., those listed on the public “sex offense registry”), their loved ones, and others engaged in efforts to reform or abolish the public sex offense registry is a common occurrence. Some social media websites exclude PFRs from their websites and/or allow hate speech and violent threats against PFRs. In 2020, a Facebook vigilante group played a role in the murder of Matteo Condoluci in Omaha.

In a March 2022 survey of 403 PFRs, loved ones of PFRs, and other anti-registry activists, 62.8% reported some form of harassment on social media. The social media platform most often reported as abusive to PFRs and anti-registry activists is Facebook, which currently excludes “those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes or sexual offenses” from protections against cyber-harassment and hate speech.

The OnceFallen.com “Cyberbullying of PFRson Social Media” Survey found the following:

- Respondents most commonly used Facebook (81.4%), YouTube (75%), and LinkedIn (55.1%); however, Facebook (69.1%), Twitter (21.2%) and YouTube (19.3%) were reported as having the highest levels of online harassment, with Facebook having more than three times the reported rate of any social media platform. But when dividing the number of users on each platform by the numbers reporting harassment on the same platform, Facebook (54.9%) still outpaced Twitter (28.5%) and Instagram (20.9%). LinkedIn users (5.8%) reported the least amount of harassment on the same platform.
- The most common form of cyberbullying was the posting of hateful memes and messages, reported by nearly half (48.4%) of respondents. About one out of four respondents had witnessed or experienced “doxing” (i.e., online posting of someone’s personal information) or direct threats. Roughly one in five Respondents were encouraged to commit suicide or targeted by organized online vigilante groups, and one in nine saw statements encouraging offline or “real world” harassment.
- Over one in four (28.7%) respondents reported harassment away from social media. The number is lower for loved ones of PFRs (14.7%). About a third of respondents chose to do nothing (36.3%) or use the social media site’s “block” or “flag” feature. Roughly one in five respondents tried to debate or reason with the trolls (20.6%) or gathered intel on the trolls, while one in nine (11.8%) notified law enforcement.
- About 43% of respondents traced the source of the harassment from a single online post made by an individual, 27% came from news media reports, 23.2% from non-organized groups, 20.6% from Law Enforcement posts, and 17.5% came from organized vigilante groups such as “Anonymous” groups or established “anti-pedo” groups.
- Overall, 27.1% of respondents had a social media accounts deactivated or permanently suspended as the result of being personally listed or having a loved on the sex offense registry (40.5% among those currently listed publicly), with another 1.7% due to anti-registry activism.
- When asked if social media helps, harms, or has no impact on anti-registry activism, the results were evenly split with “helps” having a small edge (35.5%), though those who experienced “real world”

harassment (41.5%) and loved ones of PFRs (37.6%) are more likely to say social media harms anti-registry efforts.

- Facebook is singled out as the largest purveyor of online hatred directed at PFRs; Facebook was reported as a source for hatred (80.4%) more than twice as often as Twitter (37%) and YouTube (30.3%). While Respondents felt all social media outlets could improve measures against cyberbullying (57.75%), Facebook was singled out as most in need in improvement (48.75%), over twice as much as Twitter (24%) or YouTube (20.75%).
- About one out of eight respondents (13.2%) Respondents were aware that a law enforcement agency posted information about them or a loved one on social media, and seven out of ten among those who were posted (69.9%) experienced harassment as the result of the posting by social media.

Facebook (which owns Instagram) and NextDoor have policies that exclude PFRs, but Facebook has policies that allow for hate speech and violent threats against PFRs. Many of these Facebook policies have existed in some form since 2008. Furthermore, because these platforms exclude PFRs from participation, the harassment reported in this survey may be underreported.

A majority of respondents to this survey, a 2020 Anti-Defamation League/YouGov survey, and a 2021 Pew Research survey have concluded that most people find social media allows too much hate speech and cyberbullying. However, PFRs and their loved ones often find little to no relief from social media websites as they are not considered protected classes.

Based on the responses to this survey, OnceFallen.com's position on the use of social media are as follows:

1. Social media websites should completely eliminate any prohibitions on use of their website by PFRs.
2. Social Media should treat PFRs as a protected class. PFRs and their loved ones are harassed at higher levels than any other class of individuals.
3. Everyone and every organization, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), vigilante or so-called "anti-pedo" groups, and private individuals, should be completely barred from using social media outlets to disseminate information about PFRs.
4. All social media websites, particularly Facebook, should remove groups that promote violence against PFRs, including self-professed "anti-pedo" groups and groups that conduct online entrapment or "sting" operations.
5. Social media websites should ban memes and slogans that promote harassment and violence against PFRs and their loved ones.
6. Businesses should be required to prohibit the sale of items promoting harassment and violence of PFRs (such as "Shoot your local sex offender" shirts).

DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

“Social media”: The term “social media” is broadly defined. If a website allows the creation of a “profile,” i.e., a way to make an online persona with varying degrees of identifying information, and you are then allowed to make visible comments and share pictures, videos, and personal thoughts under this persona, then the website is considered a “social media” website. Local news websites, dating sites, and even the private forums at SOSEN.org can be considered “social media” by this definition. However, the focus of this report is limited to popular websites most commonly associated with the term “social media” such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, SnapChat, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

Facebook vs. Meta: In October 2021, The parent company of Facebook (which was also known for years as “Facebook”) rebranded itself as “Meta,” a term meaning “extremely self-aware, self-reflective, or self-referential– as in the internet slang phrase, “that's so meta.” The company claimed it changed the name because it offers other services besides Facebook. (Facebook also owns another popular social media website, Instagram.) However, the Facebook website is still called Facebook. Since the name change was recent, some references to “Facebook” in cited media reports may be referring to the parent company rather than to the website. Whenever possible, the company name “Meta” will be used to differentiate between the parent company of Facebook and the social media website. Facebook is sometimes shortened into “FB.”

“Person Forced to Register” (PFR): Members of the Anti-Registry Movement (ARM) believe labels such as “sex offender” have lasting and damaging effects, including the erroneous belief that every Person Forced to Register (PFR) on the public “sex offender” registry is doomed to reoffend. For purposes of this report, the phrase “Person Forced to Register,” or simply “PFR”, is used to denote those listed publicly on the American sex offense registry throughout this report. Similar terms include “Registered Person” (RC), Registered Person (RP), or simple “Registrant.” “Loved ones” include lovers, family members, and friends or other acquaintances of someone on the registry.

INTRODUCTION

“First, They Came for the Sex Offenders... Next, they will come for suspected terrorists... And when the proposal comes, the first thing they’ll say is that this is how we already deal with sex offenders.” -- David Rittgers, former legal policy analyst, Cato Institute

PFRs have fought for decades for the right to be recognized as persons with equal rights. All citizens have the right to free and anonymous speech on the Internet, which has become the primary form of expressing ideas for the average citizen. Unlike traditional media, social media (ideally) allows everyone the opportunity to express their interests, desires, and thoughts on a public platform and connect directly with those who share similar interests, desires, and thoughts or to reach out to others with different viewpoints for debate or for understanding the viewpoints of others.

Many states had tried to ban PFRs from utilizing social media based on the erroneous assumption that all Registrants will use social media for a single, nefarious purpose—to find new victims. However, people not listed on any criminal registry could be using social media to find victims. Also, PFRs also have the same legitimate reasons for accessing social media—to communicate with friends, start/promote a business, keep up with local news, share common interests with others, grumble and complain about everything under the sun from politics and religion to the color of a dress, advance a personal belief or cause, engage in contests, or perhaps become the next “viral sensation.” Laws restricting social media use were created due to animus and stereotypes about PFRs.

In 2017, The United States Supreme Court upheld the right to social media for PFRs in the landmark decision, *Packingham v. North Carolina*.¹ As noted by Justice Kennedy, writing the court’s opinion:

“While in the past there may have been difficulty in identifying the most important places (in a spatial sense) for the exchange of views, today the answer is clear. It is cyberspace—the ‘vast democratic forums of the Internet’ in general... and social media in particular. Seven in ten American adults use at least one Internet social networking service... In sum, to foreclose access to social media altogether is to prevent the user from engaging in the legitimate exercise of First Amendment rights. It is unsettling to suggest that only a limited set of websites can be used even by persons who have completed their sentences. Even convicted criminals—and in some instances especially convicted criminals—might receive legitimate benefits from these means for access to the world of ideas, in particular if they seek to reform and to pursue lawful and rewarding lives.”

The *Packingham* decision left open the possibility of allowing social media bans to be applied to persons on supervised release, which, at the time of this writing, is still being debated in court. However, social media websites, generally viewed as important avenues to exercise our First Amendment right to free and anonymous speech, are still private businesses, not government entities. Social media websites can decide who can use their platforms except if it violates laws created to protect certain classes of individuals. PFRs are not a protected class of people, so social media websites can exclude PFRs if they so choose. Some, like Facebook (which owns Instagram) and Nextdoor, ban PFRs from using their websites.

¹ *Packingham v. North Carolina*, 582 U.S. ____, 137 S. Ct. 1730; 198 L. Ed. 2d 273 (2017)

Social media is utilized for a myriad of reasons, including exercising the right to redress our grievances over the abuse of the law by government agencies. Politicians and law enforcement agencies are using social media for official business. Sometimes, statements made by government agents are exclusively posted on social media, such as police announcements of a Person Forced to Register moving into a new location or a community meeting. So far, courts have ruled the general public should be allowed to access and comment on the official social media accounts of government agencies.² It seems sensible that anti-registry activists join social media websites as part of the overall strategy to educate the public, counter misinformation, or simply promote personal political and social views.

PFRs who engage in anti-registry activism espouse an unpopular viewpoint (specifically, reforming or abolishing bad sex offense legislation) which makes them prime targets for cyberbullies and those who engage in targeted harassment.

Since this survey was open only to those who are both Registrants/loved ones/anti-registry activists AND have used or currently using social media accounts, I do not know how many persons within this category use social media. However, over the years, numerous advocates utilize social media, and most anti-registry individuals and groups including OnceFallen.com have social media accounts. Leaving out those anti-registry activists that do not use social media, however, was by design because this survey was intended to address cyberbullying as the direct result of social media.

Cyberbullying and Online Harassment on social media is a common issue for everyone

According to the Pew Research Center, 72% of Americans have utilized at least one social media platform as of February 2021. The most popular social media websites as of February 2021 were YouTube (81%), Facebook (69%), Instagram (40%), Pinterest (31%), LinkedIn (28%), SnapChat (25%), Twitter (23%), What's App (23%), TikTok (21%), Reddit (18%), and NextDoor (13%). Women are more likely than men to utilize social media except for LinkedIn or Reddit, and the younger people are more likely to use social media than older people. And over half of those who use the most popular social media platforms check in daily.³

“Cyberbullying” or online harassment is quite common, and while most of the awareness of online harassment is directed at children, adults face similar rates of online harassment.

Out of 2,251 adult Respondents to a Pew Research Center survey published January 2021:

- 41% reported some form of online harassment

² Houston Davidson. “Can Government Officials Block You on Social Media? A New Decision Makes the Law Murkier, But Users Still Have Substantial Rights.” Electronic Frontier Foundation. 2 Feb 2021. Accessed 15 March 2022 at <https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2021/02/can-government-officials-block-you-social-media-new-decision-makes-law-murkier>

³ “Social Media Fact Sheet.” Pew Research Center. 7 April 2021. Accessed 11 March 2022 at <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/fact-sheet/social-media/?menuitem=4abfc543-4bd1-4b1f-bd4a-e7c67728ab76>

- 35% experienced “offensive name-calling”
- 28% experienced “multiple forms of harassment”
- 27% experienced “Any form of severe harassment” (physical threats, sexual harassment, stalking and sustained harassment)
- 26% experienced “purposeful embarrassment”
- 18% received “physical threats”
- 13% experienced “stalking”
- 12% experienced “sexual harassment”
- 12% experienced “sustained harassment”⁴

According to Pew, “Fully 91% of Americans say people being harassed or bullied online is a problem, including 55% who describe this as a major problem...⁵ When asked to evaluate how well these platforms address online harassment or bullying on their platforms, just 18% feel social media companies are doing an excellent or good job. Much larger shares – roughly eight-in-ten – say these companies are doing a fair to poor job.”⁶

“When asked where their most recent experience with online harassment occurred, 75% of the targets of this type of abuse say it happened on social media. By comparison, much smaller shares of this group mention online forums or discussion sites (25%) or texting or messaging apps (24%) as the location where their most recent experience occurred, while about one-in-ten or more cite online gaming, their personal email account or a dating site or app. In total, 41% of targets of online harassment say their most recent experience of harassment spanned more than one venue.”⁷

In addition, 50% of respondents who had reported enduring online harassment say they have been harassed online because of their political views, 33% based on their gender, 29% based on race or ethnicity, and 16% based on sexual orientation.⁸

Similar results were found by the ADL/YouGov survey published in June 2021, with 44% Respondents reporting some type of online harassment, 28% experiencing “severe” harassment, 15% receiving physical threats, and 11% experiencing sustained harassment.⁹ Facebook has been singled out as a primary source of online harassment. In the ADL/YouGov survey, 77% of those who reported online harassment experienced at least some of the harassment on Facebook, compared to 27% for Twitter, 18% for YouTube, 17% for Instagram, and less than 10% on each of the other online platforms.¹⁰

In addition, the ADL/YouGov survey reports that, “Over one-third (35%) of Americans who had been harassed reported they felt the harassment was a result of their sexual orientation, religion, race or ethnicity, gender identity, or disability. Around one-in-five Respondents who had experienced online

⁴ “The State of Online Harassment.” Pew Research Center. January 2021.

⁵ Pew, p. 31

⁶ Pew, p. 33

⁷ Pew., p. 11

⁸ Pew, p.9

⁹ “Online Hate and Harassment: The American Experience 2020” Anti-Defamation League. June 2021. Figure 1.

¹⁰ ADL/YouGov, Figure 6

harassment believed it was because of their religion (21%), which is nearly twice the amount reported last year (11%). One-in-four (25%) Respondents felt the focus of their online harassment experience was their gender and some 25% because of their race or ethnicity, up significantly from the 15% reported in last year's report. Around one-in-ten had been targeted as a result of their sexual orientation (9%), occupation (12%), or disability (11%). One consequence of widespread online hate and harassment is that it leaves people worried about being targeted in the future: 26% of those who had previously experienced harassment and 11% of Americans who had not experienced harassment reported worrying about future harassment."¹¹

The Southern Poverty Law Center reported that many of the 838 identified online hate groups the organization has documented have shifted operations to social media platforms.¹²

Those targeted by cyberbullying reported negative consequences. As noted in the ADL/YouGov June 2021 survey:

- 36% stopped, reduced or changed their activities online, such as posting less often, avoiding certain sites, changing privacy settings, deleting apps, or increasing filtering of content or users,
- 25% of Respondents had trouble sleeping, concentrating, or felt anxious,
- 11% had depressive or suicidal thoughts as a result of their experience with online hate, and
- 8% reported to have experienced adverse economic impact as a result of online harassment.¹³

Imran Ahmed, CEO of the Centre for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH), categorizes internet trolls into two main categories. "The first type of troll targets public figures with large social media followings in the hope that they respond. The trolls then have their hateful messages re-broadcast to a wider audience when the target of their trolling, or their followers, respond. The other type of trolls are people who exhibit a psychological trait known as 'negative social potency' - this means they enjoy causing harm to others: 'These trolls get pleasure from upsetting those they target with abuse, so if their victim responds it only encourages them to continue,' said Imran." There are many reasons why people might troll online, and it's different from one troll to the next. Dr. Mark Griffiths, Professor of Behavioural Addiction at Nottingham Trent University said: "Most people troll others for either revenge, for attention seeking, for boredom, and for personal amusement."¹⁴

Simply put, many decide to harass any online person (including PFRs, their loved ones, and anti-registry activists) for the "lulz," an internet expression denoting entertainment and laughs at the expense of another. The loose collective of internet trolls known as "Anonymous" often use the term in addition to specific memes such as "troll face" and Guy Fawkes masks. One of the subgroups, known as "Secs," is even known as LulzSec. (While officially disbanded due to arrests, members of Anonymous currently

¹¹ ADL/YouGov, p.11

¹² AP. "Report: Hate groups in decline, migrate to online networks." NBC News. 1 Feb. 2021. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/report-hate-groups-decline-migrate-online-networks-n1256356>

¹³ ADL/YouGov, Figure 8

¹⁴ "Why do people troll and what can you do about it?" BBC Bitesize. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zfmkrj6>

claim to be members of “LulzSec” and use a logo depicting a stick figure in stereotypical “rich aristocrat” complete with Top Hat, monocle, handlebar mustache, and drink in hand.)

No person is safe from trolling, cyberbullying, and cyber-harassment. However, PFRs are often ignored if not treated with outright disdain from social media outlets when trying to report individuals and groups for online harassment. While few Registered Persons, loved ones of Registrants, and anti-registry activists would agree that social media outlet is a friendly place for them to express their First Amendment rights, Facebook has shown a long history of animus towards them.

Facebook’s history of discrimination against Registered Persons

Facebook’s long history of animus towards people accused of convicted of sexual offenses is a microcosm of the overall problem with hatemongering that infests the social media platform.

Facebook has been accused of promoting hatred for profit more than any social media platform. The Wall Street Journal¹⁵ published a series of leaked documents by Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen in 2021. Haugen once worked as a product manager for Facebook’s now-dissolved “Civic Integrity” group. In an interview with 60 Minutes, Haugen stated, “The thing I saw at Facebook over and over again was there were conflicts of interest between what was good for the public and what was good for Facebook. And Facebook, over and over again, chose to optimize for its own interests, like making more money... I’ve seen a bunch of social networks and it was substantially worse at Facebook than anything I’d seen before.” As the 60 Minutes show added, “She secretly copied tens of thousands of pages of Facebook internal research. She says evidence shows that the company is lying to the public about making significant progress against hate, violence and misinformation. One study she found, from this year (2021), says, ‘we estimate that we may action as little as 3-5% of hate and about 6-tenths of 1% of V & I [violence and incitement] on Facebook despite being the best in the world at it.’”¹⁶

PFRs have been specifically targeted by Facebook executives since the early days of the company.

In 2008, Attorneys General in 49 states worked with Facebook to implement a policy prohibiting PFRs from creating a Facebook profile.¹⁷ Facebook chief privacy officer Chris Kelly supported the “Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act (KIDS),” a law requiring Registrants to register their Internet identities. In a company post later reported by CNet, Kelly stated, “The penalties and consequences for registrants violating KIDS’ provisions are so severe, we hope they’ll deter potential predators from coming online altogether. This is a vital step in protecting children online, and it is by no means the end of our efforts... At Facebook, we’ve long barred registered sex offenders from our service. Currently, we work cooperatively with individual states’ attorneys general to check users against state-registered sex offender

¹⁵ See <https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-facebook-files-11631713039>

¹⁶ Scott Pelley. “Whistleblower: Facebook is misleading the public on progress against hate speech, violence, misinformation.” 60 Minutes / CBS. 4 Oct. 2021. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/facebook-whistleblower-frances-haugen-misinformation-public-60-minutes-2021-10-03/>

¹⁷ Erick Schonfield. “Scoop: Facebook To Announce Safety And Privacy Deal With 49 States.” Tech Crunch. 8 May 2008. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://techcrunch.com/2008/05/08/breaking-facebook-to-announce-safety-and-privacy-deal-with-49-states/>

lists.” Facebook and legal authorities "consistently find that these (state) registries lack the essential e-mail and IM data for comprehensive and rapid screening. The process is also less efficient and less effective than anyone, especially concerned parents, would like, which is why we're such ardent supporters of the KIDS Act Registry."¹⁸

Chris Kelly would later run for California Attorney General, losing in the Democratic Primary to Kamala Harris.¹⁹

Facebook has gone beyond merely prohibiting banning PFRs to allowing hate speech. A 2017 article by The Guardian contains training slides from “Facebook's manual on credible threats of violence”; one training slide stated “advocating for cruel and unusual punishment for crimes FB recognizes” is not considered a credible threat. Another training slide included acceptable “non-threats” like “hang child molesters” and “pedophiles are going to experience the electric chair anyways. They Deserve it!”²⁰

In 2019, the Washington Examiner reported that in the “Do not post” section on its website, Facebook changed its standards in a July 2019 update to allow an exception to its "Violence and Incitement" standard for individuals "described as having carried out violent crimes or sexual offenses, wherein criminal/predator status has been established by media reports, market knowledge of news event, etc.” Facebook eventually responded to the Washington Examiner, stating, “We don’t allow credible threats of violence against anyone. We do allow some speech that calls for certain forms of violence, such as calls for the death penalty for criminals or support for military action against terrorists. We have updated our Community Standards to be more clear about this.”²¹

Facebook said in an update to their “Violence and Incitement” community standards, “The language we previously used to describe our policies against violence and incitement was imprecise. We have since replaced it to more clearly explain the policy and underlying rationale... In some cases, we see aspirational or conditional threats directed at terrorists and other violent actors (e.g. Terrorists deserve to be killed), and we deem those non credible absent specific evidence to the contrary,” the company said.²²

As of March 2022, that policy has not truly changed. On the Facebook/Meta “Transparency Center,” exclusions against hate speech are made “those who are considered non-protected groups described as

¹⁸ Caroline McCarthy. “Facebook's safety chief responds to KIDS act.” CNet. 14 Oct. 2008. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.cnet.com/culture/facebooks-safety-chief-responds-to-kids-act/>

¹⁹ “Chris Kelly (entrepreneur).” Ballotopedia. Accessed 12 March 2022 at [https://ballotopedia.org/Chris_Kelly_\(entrepreneur\)](https://ballotopedia.org/Chris_Kelly_(entrepreneur))

²⁰ “Facebook's manual on credible threats of violence.” The Guardian. 21 May 2017. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.theguardian.com/news/gallery/2017/may/21/facebooks-manual-on-credible-threats-of-violence>

²¹ Ibid.

²² John Gage. “Facebook updates standards to allow death threats against alleged sexual offenders.” The Washington Examiner. 9 July 2019. Accessed 22 March 2022 at <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/facebook-updates-standards-to-allow-death-threats-against-alleged-sexual-offenders>

having carried out violent crimes or sexual offenses or representing less than half of a group.” (This same page also states referring to certain protected groups as sexual deviants IS a violation of hate speech.)²³

As a result of Facebook’s policies, hate groups targeting PFRs have proliferated on social media platforms but it is particularly noticeable on Facebook. For example, one hate group called “No Peace For Predators” (NPF1) was formed on Facebook in August 2010 (but claims it was established in 2009) and works exclusively through Facebook. The stated “GOAL” of this group is, “That the Sexual Predator becomes Exposed, Exiled, and ultimately, Extinct.”²⁴ The group uses a brass knuckle as a symbol for the group (which has recently been modified to include a pair of assault rifles forming an X). Most posts are memes calling for the deaths of PFRs, referring to all PFRs as “pedophiles.” This group has also led harassment campaigns against anti-registry groups in the past. They have been reported multiple times over the years to no avail.

Another group called “Bikers Against Child Predators” uses a similar threatening slogan—“Hey All! This group to to stop/warn others about near by child predators. Post who ya got and let the bikers do there job!!”²⁵ (Quote not edited for typos.)

In addition, vigilante “anti-predator” citizen sting groups like “Truckers Against Predators”²⁶ post videos on people they accuse of being “pedophiles.” These groups may post a “call to action” to harass or otherwise disrupt the lives of the accused in some way. These groups may post a comment on the official business page they do not condone violence, but members of such groups will made comments calling for violence using their personal social media accounts. There are multiple Facebook groups using “Mothers Against Predator/ Pedophiles, or some variant of this phrase.

There are many individuals who engage in threatening behaviors on Facebook. Pastor Greg Locke of the “Global Vision Bible Church” in Juliet, TN, whose person Facebook page contains the slogan “BIBLICAL PREACHING EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY, RADICAL COMPASSION,” shows no compassion in a Facebook video posted on July 30, 2018. He begins the video with a warning the video will likely be removed (a clear sign that he should never have made the video) before going on a tirade claiming America is protecting “pedophiles” while bragging he would gladly “exercise my Second Amendment right to put a hole in you that big (holding hand in a C shape as large as he can) and I would not even think a second about it.” The pastor blamed homosexuality for what he believes is the movement to “protect pedophilia, because the LBGTQ whatever they are has opened a floodgate of perversity.”²⁷

At least one online Facebook group was involved in a murder of a Person Forced to Register. On May 16th, 2020, James Fairbanks, armed with information from the public sex offense registry and a small

²³ “Hate Speech.” Meta Transparency Center. Facebook/Meta. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

²⁴ See <https://www.facebook.com/NPF1>

²⁵ See <https://www.facebook.com/groups/244752793703333/>

²⁶ See <https://www.facebook.com/TAPExposures>

²⁷ Pastor Greg Locke. “WHAT?!!! PROTECTION FOR PEDOPHILES? YA’LL ARE SICK IN THE HEAD. #PleaseShareThis.” Facebook Video. 30 July 2018. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1899191796791362>

Facebook vigilante group targeting a single Registrant²⁸, committed the premeditated murder of Matteo Condoluci. Fairbanks later confessed to the crime on Facebook.²⁹

James Fairbanks found encouragement and assistance through a small group on Facebook called “Matt Condoluci (Preditor).”³⁰ After the murder, Fairbanks attempted to contact Laura Smith, the administrator of the “Preditor” (sic) group³¹ to let her know the deed was done. After celebrating the murder, Smith changed the name of the vigilante group to “Free James Fairbanks” and created a GoFundMe page for Fairbanks. The group grew from a half-dozen members to over a thousand, and a few members began targeting individuals and groups who spoke out against the registry and condemned Fairbanks as a cold-blooded murderer.³²

This should be a matter of great concern to social media platforms, especially given the fact that people often do not review the accusations, simply relying on a headline, a short video, or a social media post alone as the basis for attacking someone. In 2013, for example, Chad Lesko of Toledo, Ohio was falsely accused of child rape. An angry ex-girlfriend made a fake Facebook page out of spite and falsely claimed Lesko raped three girls and his son. Lesko was accosted by people at a public park and a church, and was even tackled by a law enforcement agent who believed the false Facebook post. The Facebook post received 30,000 “likes” before it was finally taken down.³³

While PFRs are not alone in experiencing cyberbullying and harassment, Facebook’s hateful stance on PFRs seems like the premier destination for vigilante groups and cyberbullies who seek an unpopular (and thus easy) target.

²⁸ Nancy Gaarder , Kevin Cole , Alia Conley. “Authorities think man arrested in Omaha homicide wrote the email claiming responsibility.” Omaha World Herald. 19 May 2020. Accessed 12 March at https://omaha.com/news/crime/authorities-think-man-arrested-in-omaha-homicide-wrote-the-email-claiming-responsibility/article_d8f7b35e-3d1e-573e-b381-2414f2fd4c08.html

²⁹ Omaha Scanner. “Man Arrested After Confessing To Homicide On Omaha Scanner Facebook Page.” Noss Media. 11 Sept. 2020. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.nossmedia.com/post/man-on-omaha-scanner-facebook-page-claims-to-be-killer-in-north-omaha-homicide>

³⁰ Screenshots of activity from the Facebook group before the name change can be found at <http://absolutezerounites.blogspot.com/2020/05/did-online-facebook-group-stalking.html>

³¹ “Free James Fairbanks” vigilante group goes into hiding hours after admitting phone call with James Fairbanks. Absolute Zero Unites. 26 May 2020. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <http://absolutezerounites.blogspot.com/2020/05/free-james-fairbanks-vigilante-group.html>

³² “Facebook vigilante group used by murderer now stalking registered citizen activists.” Absolute Zero Unites. 22 May 2020. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <http://absolutezerounites.blogspot.com/2020/05/facebook-vigilante-group-used-by.html>

³³ Camille Dodero. “Viral Facebook Post Alleges Man Is a Wanted Rapist, But He’s Not.” Gawker. 24 May 2013. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.gawker.com/viral-facebook-post-alleges-man-is-a-wanted-rapist-but-509724902>

METHODOLOGY

From Wednesday, March 9, 2022, to Saturday, March 19th, 2022, the Cyberbullying of PFRs on Social Media survey was listed on the website SuperSurvey.com. The link to the survey was shared via email and posted on websites and social media accounts of prominent anti-registry activist sites, including the Alliance for Constitutional Sex Offense Laws (all4consolaws.org) and OnceFallen.com.

The survey consists of 14 multiple choice questions; questions 4-7 were skippable if question #3 did not apply to them. The final question, #15, was a comment section allowing respondents to leave any additional comments regarding the survey. 403 total responses were tallied. With the exception of questions 4-7, all questions were required for completion of the survey.

RESULTS AND COMMENTS

Each question will include a commentary and a comparison between the answers given on this survey and the answers offered by other comparable surveys. Totals are from 403 Respondents unless stated otherwise. Percentages are rounded by tenths.

QUESTION 1: I am a...

RESPONSE #1	TOTAL	%
Person Forced to Register, listed publicly	232	57.6%
Loved one of a Person Forced to Register	109	27.1%
Person Forced to Register, not listed publicly	29	7.2%
None of the above but involved in the Anti-Registry Movement	19	4.7%
Was once a registrant but no longer forced to register	14	3.5%

Comments: Not every Person Forced to Register (PFR) is publicly listed, and some can stay listed on private registry websites like Homefacts, Family Watchdog, or online mugshot websites even after they have timed out of the registry. Some people who are no longer required to register still engage in anti-registry activism. Many loved ones of PFRs, including significant others, family members, and friends are anti-registry activists. Some individuals, such as attorneys, researchers, or activists for criminal justice reform may advocate against the sex offense registry.

Because the survey was posted and shared exclusively on anti-registry websites, it is safe to assume that all respondents are active in efforts to reform or repeal controversial sex offense legislation.

Not everyone who uses social media websites utilizes those websites solely for personal edification; some users of social media use the service, if only begrudgingly. As stated by one Respondent (PFR listed publicly), "I don't like social media, didn't care for it before I became a registered person but as society uses them more and more for things like job searches, communication groups, etc., I feel as if it's become the free world's version of China's social credit score."

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
Facebook	328	81.4%
YouTube	302	75%
LinkedIn	222	55.1%
Instagram	187	46.4%
Twitter	184	45.7%
TikTok	92	22.8%
SnapChat	79	19.6%
Other	75	18.6%

Comments: There are countless websites that can be considered “social media.” This survey focused primarily on the most popular social media websites. As previously noted by the Pew Research Center, the most popular social media websites as of February 2021 for Americans were YouTube (81%), Facebook (69%), Instagram (40%), Pinterest (31%), LinkedIn (28%), SnapChat (25%), Twitter (23%), What’s App (23%), TikTok (21%), Reddit (18%), and NextDoor (13%).

PFRs, their loved ones, and other anti-registry activists are also heavy users of Facebook and YouTube. Compared to the general public, PFRs are far more likely to use LinkedIn (a career-focused social media platform) and Twitter than the average person.

Respondents do feel social media is important. As one Respondent (PFR listed publicly) noted, “Social media is the very fabric of today’s society. Not being able to actively participate, whether it is from fear or force, is a crime against humanity. Full stop.” A second Respondent (PFR listed publicly) added, “There are a lot of registered people that truly use social media to stay in touch with family and friends, and as a form of entertainment only. Not for mischievous reasons.”

At the least, social media is seen as a necessary evil, as noted one Respondent (PFR not listed publicly) noted, “We need to empower ourselves by getting our word out through social media just like our adversaries use these platforms.”

NextDoor was excluded as a primary social media outlet in the survey because NextDoor not only excludes PFRs from having an account, those signing up much provide proof of residence, such as a utility bill, making signing up for NextDoor a near impossibility for PFRs AND anyone living in the household. The “other” category could have included a varying array of websites that could be considered “social media” including dating websites, personal blogs, or news websites with comment boards, or may have included NextDoor.

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	195	48.4%
NONE of the above	150	37.2%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	132	32.8%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	107	26.6%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	107	26.6%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	86	21.3%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	78	19.4%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	47	11.7%

Comments: Based on the results, roughly two out of three respondents (62.8%) reported some form of online harassment. Nearly half (48.4%) have witnessed statements encouraging violence against PFRs. Roughly one out of three respondents (32.8%) had seen efforts to remove them from social media. About one out four respondents (26.6%) experienced doxing (the posting of one's address or other personal identifying information, including registry data), with an equal number receiving direct threats of violence. Just over one in five respondents (21.3%) received messages encouraging suicide, with a similar but slightly smaller number (19.4%) reported being targeted by an organized online vigilante group. Finally, one in nine (11.7%) respondents witnessed statements by online trolls encouraging people to contact them "offline" (i.e., in real life or by other forms of communication.)

There does not seem to be any significant differences when limiting the results to PFRs currently listed publicly when looking solely at those not experiencing harassment; 88 of 232 or 37.9% reported experiencing no online harassment. A slightly lower number of loved ones of PFRs (37 of 109, or 34%) also reported no harassment.

PFRs reported similar levels of direct threats (63 of 232 or 27.2%) and doxing (66 of 232 or 28.5%). Loved ones of PFRs reported similar levels of direct threats (26 of 109 or 23.9%) and doxing (27 of 109 or 24.8%).

Underreporting is possible in this survey question merely because certain statements in this question require an understanding of current internet parlance and euphemisms. One respondent who contacted me reported she did not realize the phrase "an hero" is internet slang for suicide.³⁴ Another did not know the

³⁴ "An hero is used by the dark parts of the internet as a mocking synonym for the act of suicide or for someone who has died by suicide." An Hero. Dictionary.com. 6 Sept. 2018. Accessed 12 March 2022 at <https://www.dictionary.com/e/slang/an-hero/>

term “doxing,”³⁵ the act of publishing personal information for the purposes of harassing. Also, this survey did not ask about personal stalking, reported by a roughly a tenth of respondents in the aforementioned ADL/YouGov study.

Many memes, GIFs, and slogans are often used to spread further hatred. Some common memes include:

- Pictures of a woodchipper, often with comments like, “woodchipper go brrrr” and “Feet first, mother**ker”
- Pictures of a menacing person pointing a gun at the camera accompanied by “the last thing a child molester should see”
- Picture of a smiling man pointing to his head or at the camera, denoting a “smart thought,” followed by the phrase “For extra cash, consider robbing sex offenders. Their address is easy to find, and they can’t own guns.”
- Pictures of various methods of torture and/or murder with the caption “cure for pedophiles”

Memes and slogans can whip people into a frenzy which may lead to harassment. As noted by one Respondent (PFR listed publicly), “What I have experienced is the flagrant uses of media to allow for hate speech go unchallenged. A random meme or self-righteous Reddit post that sort of thing. It's all scary and unnecessary.” These memes and slogans often reused by others to invoke further hatred.

Not every respondent personally experienced cyberbullying; as noted by one respondent (loved one of a PFR), “Though I have not been aware of social media harassment directed at me personally, I have witnessed too many advocates experiencing such AND HORRIBLE, ATROCIOUS comments by the public concerning and directed at persons convicted of a sex offense. The general public was and is far too uneducated and misinformed to have been able to accept a public registry without negative consequences impacting registrants and their families.”

Online harassment extends to anyone connected to PFRs. As one respondent (Anti-Registry activist unrelated to PFR) explains, “My husband and I invited a registrant to stay in our guest room for a few months after his release from jail until he able to get approval to live at home with his wife and children. Within 2 days, my neighbors were automatically notified via an APP that a sex offender was living in my home. Neighbors black-balled me, came over to my home to confront me, and chewed me out until they were red in the face for allowing a sex offender in the neighborhood.” Another Respondent (loved one of PFR) did not report any personal harassment, but added, “But, another person I know lost a job because someone at his work recognized him and complained, and the employer buckled and terminated his employment. His FB account was removed and he was blocked.”

³⁵ “noun Slang. a person’s identifying information, as address, phone number, name, or alias, when maliciously posted online to target that person for pranks, fraud, or other harassment. verb (used with or without object), doxed, dox-ing.Slang. to publish the private personal information of (another person) or reveal the identity of (an online poster) without the consent of that individual.” Dictionary.com. Accessed 12 march 2022 at <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/dox>

Despite a few differences between this survey and the Pew (41%) and ADL/YouGov (44%) studies, these results still show that PFRs, their loved ones, and other anti-registry activists experience higher levels of harassment (62%), including targeted harassment, than the general population.

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 303)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	175	57.8%
Yes	87	28.7%
Unsure	41	13.6%

Comments: Over one in four (28.7%) respondents who had reported some form of harassment also reported harassment off social media, including harassing phone calls and emails or someone showing up at their houses. The number is similar for PFRs (56 of 232 or 24.1%) and all Facebook users (76 of 328 or 23.2%) and Twitter users (42 of 184 or 22.8%) but lower for loved ones of PFRs (16 of 109 or 14.7%). Respondents who have no loved ones on the registry reported similar but slightly higher rates (6 of 19 or 31.6%), but because of the low number of respondents of this type, caution must be used here. However, in November 2021, a professor at Old Dominion University received threats and calls to resign for writing a research-oriented book on persons who identify themselves as Minor-Attracted Persons.³⁶

Real world harassment often extends to loved ones on the registry. One respondent (loved one of PFR) noted, "One person posted my husband's Megan profile which friends saw and our kids were harassed at school and called 'sex offender kid.'"

³⁶ Nicole Asbury. "ODU professor steps down after firestorm over research into 'minor-attracted people'." Washington Post. 24 Nov 2021. Accessed at 19 March 2022 at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2021/11/24/allyn-walker-odu-professor-resigns/>

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 269)	%
Facebook	186	69.1%
Other	72	26.8%
Twitter	57	21.2%
YouTube	52	19.3%
Instagram	43	16%
TikTok	24	9%
LinkedIn	15	5.6%
Snapchat	11	4.1%

Comments: According to the ADL/YouGov survey, Facebook is the primary starting point for cyberbullying and online harassment among members of the general public. “Of those Respondents who were harassed online, more than three-quarters (77%) reported that at least some of their harassment occurred on Facebook. Smaller shares experienced harassment or hate on Twitter (27%), YouTube (18%), Instagram (17%), WhatsApp (6%), Reddit (8%), Snapchat (8%), Twitch (4%) and Discord (4%).”³⁷

Results were similar among respondents to this survey, with over two out of every three (69.1%) reported harassment through Facebook, with significantly less reporting harassment on Twitter (21.2%), YouTube (19.3%), Instagram (16%), TikTok (9%), LinkedIn (5.6%), and SnapChat (4.1%). About one in four (26.8%) experienced harassment through other forms of social media.

Based on the results of this survey and the previous Pew and ADL/YouGov surveys, Facebook is a major platform for online harassment no matter the background.

Social media users reporting harassment on the same platform as they reported using:

RESPONSE #5 (Adjusted)	# USERS	# HARASSED	%
Facebook	328	180	54.9%
Other	75	27	36%
Twitter	184	52	28.3%
Instagram	187	39	20.9%
TikTok	92	18	19.6%
YouTube	302	48	15.9%
SnapChat	79	9	11.4%
LinkedIn	222	13	5.8%

When comparing the number of users of a particular social media website to the number reporting harassment from the same social media website, Facebook still comes out on top (54.9%) , followed by Twitter (28.3%) and Instagram (20.9%). LinkedIn users reported the lowest rate of harassment or cyberbullying on the LinkedIn website (5.8%).

³⁷ Supra., ADL/YouGov, Figure 6

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 263)	%
Individual post or video	113	43%
Unsure/I don't know	100	38%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	71	27%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	61	23.2%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	54	20.6%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	46	17.5%

Comments: Of the 263 respondents to the question of the origin or the online harassment, just over two out of five respondents (43%) traced the origin to a single post or individual. Just over one in four (27%) traced the origin of harassment to an offline news or website post, followed by a non-organized group of trolls (23.2%), an online announcement by a laws enforcement agency (20.6%) and organized troll or vigilante groups (17.5%).

A hundred of the 263 respondents (38%) could not determine the point of origin for their attacks. It is not always easy to determine the point of origin for harassment. In February 2022, a prominent anti-registry group began receiving a flood of negative reviews at Facebook along with dozens of trolls spamming the page with memes and comments mostly related to the high-profile "Brock Turner" case. The point of origin appeared to be a TikTok video by a woman in New York, who in turn was influenced by a small subgroup in Anonymous calling themselves "CrayolaSec." In turn, these people could have been influenced by earlier misinformation posts by troll websites or earlier "Ops" by other Anonymous subgroups, which in themselves were influenced by other troll groups as the defunct Absolute Zero United or Encyclopedia Dramatica websites). It was, however, the TikTok video that moved more people to post negative reviews and comments compared to previous negative posts made by online trolls. Unless someone is familiar with existing trolling groups and websites, the victim may never know from where the post is originating.

While the most common point of origin for harassment is an individual post (whether a direct attack or the posting of memes and slogans), news media articles and Facebook pages run by social media outlets are also primary sources for online harassment. An exposé on "sex offenders in your area" may cause a spike in harassment. As noted by one respondent (PFR listed publicly) "Unfortunately, my case was made public via newspaper and television. When people find out they post the news articles in Facebook. This results in people expressing hatred and insults. These actions worsen my anxiety and depression. I believe this should not be allowed."

Since Facebook (which also owns Instagram) and Nextdoor bans PFRs from the platform, many victims of harassment cannot see posts made on Facebook, since investigating claims would require a Facebook account in order to see the offending posts and who sent them. This is a similar problem for those trying to investigate claims of abuse on most other platforms. Thus, if a social media platform's terms of service

(TOS) excludes a PFR from using the platform, the PFR must violate the TOS to simply collect evidence of harassment.

No matter the origin of the post, the piling on of hateful comments and vindictive actions from others using social media lead to real-life consequences. As noted by one respondent (PFR posted publicly), “We lost our business (which advertised on Facebook) because someone found out about my past and posted it to Facebook. The existence of the registry is the issue to me, not the rules on social media. However, since we can’t get rid of the registry, it would be helpful to stop some of the attacks on social media.”

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 262)	%
Nothing	95	36.3%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	90	34.4%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	90	34.4%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	54	20.6%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	48	18.3%
Other actions not specified above	46	17.6%
Notified law enforcement	31	11.8%

In the ADL/YouGov poll, 36% of the general population stopped, reduced or changed their activities online, such as posting less often, avoiding certain sites, changing privacy settings, deleting apps, or increasing the filtering of content or users; 18% contacted the platform, 5% contacted the police to ask for help or report online hate or harassment, and only 2% contacted an attorney or filed a lawsuit.³⁸

PFRs and their supporters have unique needs differentiating respondents to this survey and respondents to the ADL/YouGov poll. Many respondents to this survey are also engaged in anti-registry activism. As a result, some Respondents may have tried engaging the harassers in an attempt to come to a peaceful resolution, which did not seem to be an option for those taking the ADL/YouGov survey. About one in five (20.6%) respondents to this survey tried debating or engaging with their harassers.

In this survey, just over one in three respondents (36.3%) did nothing in response to online harassment. A similar number of respondents utilized specific functions provided by the platform, including “blocking” or similar censorship features (34.4%) and “flagging” or similar feature that allows the reporting of offensive accounts (also 34.4%). The similar numbers for these two options suggest these functions are often done simultaneously. (Facebook allows users to report without blocking, and Twitter allows users to continue to see posts by blocked accounts if they choose that option.)

Just under one in five respondents saved screenshots and gathers evidence (18.3%), presumably to contact an authority. One in nine (11.8%) had at least attempted to file a police report. PFRs notified law

³⁸ Supra., ADL/YouGov, Figure 8.

enforcement at similar but slightly higher rates; of the 144 PFRs who reported some form of harassment, 24 (16.7%) notified law enforcement of the harassment.

Although not specifically listed here, some respondents reported imposing personal limits on social media. As one respondent (loved one of PFR) noted, “Although I see a great deal of hateful content against registrants, I now actually avoid social media due to the pervasive hate speech; ridicule and dehumanizing posts I have encountered. It has caused a great deal of damage to our lives.” Another respondent (PFR listed publicly) explained, “I only use Twitter now and I rarely if ever post on it. I additionally make very careful decisions of who I respond too because of comments left on my inactive Facebook and occasion slurs when commenting on news articles.” A third respondent (PFR listed publicly) added, “Most of the harassment I have seen has been directed against visible anti-registry activists, not against me. However, this is perhaps in part because I keep a relatively low profile and mostly use social media to interact with friends or for industry/business reasons, and some of the sites with worse anti-registrant behavior I no longer use for reasons unrelated to the registry.”

Others take less orthodox methods for dealing with the online attacks. As one respondent (loved one of PFR) explains, “The best/easiest way to engage and oppose hate speech is with memes, such as the ones I collect and post on Twitter.”

Although one out of five harassed PFRs and about one out of 20 loved ones of PFRs report harassment to law enforcement, those who do contact law enforcement are often ignored. One respondent (PFR listed publicly) noted, “Law enforcement does NOT care about harassment against registered persons. I reported it several times, and they looked at me and said, ‘well what do you expect people to do?’ And I am on the registry for nude beach photos, no physical crimes.” A second respondent (PFR listed publicly) added, “As a result I have had physical threats to me and my family, including two actual physical attacks. I’ve been followed in my car and attacked and I have had death threats. All incidents reported to law enforcement and requests to press charges- nothing happened. Law enforcement literally ignored me.”

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	277	68.7%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	109	27.1%
YES, due to other reasons	10	2.5%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	7	1.7%

Facebook (which owns Instagram) and Nextdoor ban PFRs from their websites, and Facebook even has a “Report an SO” page. Thus, the permanent suspension of Facebook accounts seems inevitable for some anti-registry activists. About one of every four Respondents (27.1%) was locked out of an account as the result of the sex offense registry. Seven Respondents (1.7%) were locked out of an account due to their anti-registry activism efforts. Of the 232 Respondents who are currently listed on the public registry, the

number reporting a suspended/deleted account was higher (94, or 40.5%). Only 5 of 109 respondents who were loved ones of PFRs (4.6%) reported a suspended/deleted account due to registry status (presumably for defending loved ones) or due to anti-registry activism. None of the Respondents who reported being only an Anti-Registry activist without having a direct connection to anyone on the Registry reported a suspended/deleted account due to online activism.

One respondent (PFR listed publicly) noted, “I was teaching a group of seniors at Church how to use Facebook when, after a couple of lessons, as I demonstrated, I got notice that my account was discontinued! I had to get an assistant to display their account to continue the class.”

Loved ones of PFRs have to use caution with their own social media accounts, as noted by one Respondent, noting that “I’ve been very careful not to disclose that my husband is on the registry on Facebook because it could shut down my business. (I live in a) small Town (and it would) affect my family.”

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	143	35.5%
Hurts	131	32.5%
Neither helps or hurts	129	32%

Comment: Responses were pretty evenly split, with only a slightly higher percentage of respondents believing that social media ‘helps’ online anti-registry activism (35.5%) compared to those who believed that social media “hurts” the cause (32.5%) or has no positive or negative impact (32%). Those who experienced “real world” harassment (36 of 87 or 41.5%), those who reported Law Enforcement posted registry information on social media (28 of 53 or 52.8%) and loved ones of PFRs (41 of 109 or 37.6%) are more likely to believe social media hurts anti-registry activism.

One respondent (loved one of PFR) sees both positive and negative aspects of social media: “I like the social media platforms together activists and advocates together and also to see what kind of trolling we're up against. For all the negative, there is still a lot of positive. However, I think the statement you posted about Facebook or whoever not considering them a protected class could be a court case because everyone has a right to be protected.”

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"³⁹

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	329	81.6%
I was already aware of this	74	18.4%

Comment: In all honesty, virtually no one reads a Terms of Service before signing up for a social media account. In 2020, ProPrivacy.com succeeded in persuading 99 percent of survey Respondents to surrender ridiculous things like the naming rights to their firstborn child, access to the airspace above their property for purposes of drone traffic, permission to give their mom full access to their browsing history, the ability to “invite” a personal FBI agent to Christmas dinner for the next 10 years, and the opportunity to use their streaming platforms and litter the suggestions with terrible stand-up specials.” Furthermore, the survey showed that 70 percent of those surveyed lied, claiming they “read the agreement” with 33 percent claiming to have “read it thoroughly” but were disproven through the use of monitoring the length of time the TOS was read.⁴⁰

Given this fact, it is not surprising to find few PFRs and anti-registry activists are aware of Facebook’s long-standing policy of allowing hateful and violent speech on Facebook. Some of the information written in this report regarding Facebook’s policies date back to 2008 or earlier, making it difficult to pinpoint the origins of specific Facebook policy. One respondent (PFR listed publicly) stated, “Most registrants probably don't even know if they are allowed on social media or not. The last Terms Of Service email I received from Instagram stated registrants aren't allowed on the platform and I panicked and deleted my account. I lost all of my old pictures.”

Another respondent (loved one of PRF) stated, “I was surprised that Facebook allows discrimination against a group of people. People forced to register must have equal access to social media as it is how many people stay in contact with others and also a way to stay updated on news and current events. Just like anyone else, you control who you add and talk to. Hate speech is unnecessary.”

One respondent (PFR listed publicly) expressed frustration at a system that simultaneously bans PFRs from social media and allows harassment of PFRs, stating, “It sucks to be banned from using social media but at the same time people are using social media to target you or others like you and you have no recourse or no way to address the harassment or RAMPANT MISINFORMATION.”

³⁹ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

⁴⁰ Dr. Tim Sandle. “Report finds only 1 percent reads ‘Terms & Conditions’.” Digital Journal. 29 Jan. 2020. Accessed 19 March 2020 at <https://www.digitaljournal.com/business/report-finds-only-1-percent-reads-terms-conditions/article/566127>

*QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons?
Check ALL that apply—*

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	324	80.4%
Twitter	149	37%
YouTube	122	30.3%
Instagram	115	28.5%
TikTok	109	27.1%
Other	60	14.9%
NONE of the above	42	10.4%
LinkedIn	40	10%

Comment: The Pew Research, Anti-Defamation League, and this current study singles out Facebook as an epicenter for online hate speech. Facebook is also singled out as the social media platform most likely to encourage hate, with 324 of 403 respondents (80.4%) believing Facebook encourages hate speech against PFRs. This is over twice the number of the next highest platform, Twitter (149 of 403, or 37%). LinkedIn had the lowest negative score, with only 40 of 403 respondents (10%) believing LinkedIn encourages hate, a lower score than even “none of the above” (42 of 403, or 10.4%).

One respondent (loved one of PFR) explained, “I believe that social media sites, especially Facebook, encourage violent vigilante action; this results in causing registered persons and their loved ones to live in constant fear of injury or death. This also incites and encourages bullying of children, it has been said bullying can lead to lifelong problems for some.” A second Respondent (PFR posted publicly) also singled out Facebook, stating, “I have seen posts (Facebook) telling people to go to the Megan's Law's website which is essentially fear mongering/spreading misinformation. And comments/posts about advocating violence against those listed.”

A third respondent (PFR listed publicly) also singled out Facebook, adding, “I believe Facebook to be operated by bigots and that they provide the platform as a means to fan the flames of vigilante hate against people who have already served their debt to society The platform constantly shows in the news section more than anything else stories about sex offenses And repeat offenders as often as they can to keep the public of the idea that the predators lurking in the bushes and just outside peoples windows...it is exploiting fear and ignorance and hurting people.”

Vigilante and hate groups have proliferated on Facebook, and some have even sold merchandise that promotes hatred and violence against PFRs, as noted by one Respondent (loved one of PFR):

“I am the mother of an individual sentenced to 18 years for a non-violent sex offense in Oregon. He is a low risk AIC (Adult In Custody) serving in a maximum security prison. Thankfully, his sentence was reduced through post-conviction relief and he will be released in less than two years (he has already served four). I also volunteer for a criminal justice advocacy group and was researching FB's online storefronts selling anti-sex offender products. I was harassed via email by one shop owner/employee who I contacted to express concern about specific products in the store which encouraged the killing of sex

offenders. She sent me harassing emails and also posted on her FB page that she was being bothered by ‘yet another pedo-lover.’ I reported this issue to FB but never received a response. I find it astounding that FB still allows user business pages that encourage hate. I know that other social media platforms have rules that prohibit hate speech or products encouraging hate of any kind.”

Facebook is not alone; all social media shoulders some of the blame. One respondent (loved one of PFR) expressed concern with social media’s hateful policies, adding, “Social media’s actions to promote comments and posts about people who are forced to register promotes violence and does not give anyone a second chance in life. People constantly say: ‘Everyone deserves a second chance,’ unfortunately our laws and the way it has become acceptable to treat people who are forced to register regardless of what they actually did, did not do, had a victim or not, do not give people a second chance in life, and social media promotes violence against them.”

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL (of 400)	%
ALL of the above	231	57.75%
Facebook	195	48.75%
Twitter	96	24%
YouTube	83	20.75%
Instagram	73	18.25%
TikTok	67	16.75%
Snapchat	44	11%
Other	33	8.25%
LinkedIn	27	6.75%
NONE of the above	12	3%

(*Note: Three votes were not counted by the program for reasons unknown.)

Comment: According to the 2021 Pew Internet survey, “When asked to rate how well these companies are addressing online harassment or bullying on their platforms, just 18% say social media companies are doing an excellent or good job. Much larger shares – roughly eight-in-ten – say these companies are doing an only fair or poor job.”

The ADL/YouGov survey also found most respondents “want to see private technology companies take action to counter or mitigate online hate and harassment, with 79% of Respondents saying they strongly agree or somewhat agree with the statement that platforms should do more to counter online hate. They want platforms to make it easier for users to report (77%) hateful and harassing content. In addition, 80% of Americans want companies to label comments and posts that appear to come from automated “bots” rather than people. An overwhelming majority of Respondents (78%) also want platforms to give users more control over their online space by providing more sophisticated blocking features such as IP blocking. Finally, a large percentage of Respondents (73%) were in favor of platforms removing

problematic users as well as having outside experts independently assessing the amount of hate on a platform.”⁴¹

Respondents largely agree, with 57.75% saying more should be done to combat hate speech and online harassment. As noted by one Respondent (loved one of PFR), “Social Media gives a platform for prejudice to flourish. What was meant to draw us closer to each other has in fact isolated us from each other. Not only is prejudice more prevalent since the invention of social media platforms, it has provided a loud microphone for the haters of the world.”

In recent years, some social media websites countered rampant misinformation by posting facts. One respondent (loved one of PFR) felt social media should post the same facts about sex offenses: “Research based findings and data about persons on the Registry should be posted on social media to combat the myths, opinions and lies that fuel public fear, which in turn, legislators capitalize on to pass more crushing laws!”

A second respondent (a PFR listed publicly) stated, “An effort must be made by social media and law enforcement to start showing the negative sides of the registry. Statistics and cost waste should be accurately used to help support the effort to end the registry, and every state needs to shorten the registry period drastically. Show that it has little or NO benefit, and there are strong laws and efforts made to protect children and victims. Finally, make the small percentage of real sex offenders, the Predators, be the focus. Use tiers to separate each case and punishment issued according to the true details. Have the US and State constitutions adhered to by law enforcement, media and the Justice System.”

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	187	46.4%
I don't know/unsure	163	40.6%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	37	9.2%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	16	4%

Comment: About one out of eight respondents (53 of 403, or 13.2%) reported being posted on social media by a Law Enforcement Agent (or having a loved one posted by LEAs). Of the 53 respondents who were personally listed or saw a loved one listed on an LEA social media page, 37 (69.8%) reported facing harassment after the social media post was made.

Some Respondents expressed a deep distrust for Law Enforcement and believe LEAs use social media for nefarious purposes. One respondent (PFR listed publicly) stated, “In my honest opinion, it's the law enforcement personnel that alerts these ‘trollers.’ I mean how would they know my name in order to look me up?” Another respondent (Person no longer required to register) noted, “California state law prevents

⁴¹ Supra., ADL/YouGov, p.18

registry information from being used in decision making; however, Facebook/Instagram uses registry information to ban sex offenders from using their platform. Law enforcement also use the platforms to track and ban sex offenders from use.”

One respondent (PFR listed publicly) told his own story of harassment due to a social media post by LEAs: “My hometown sheriff posted information on the sheriff’s Facebook page accusing me of taking pictures of children, which was absolutely not true. (I was never charged with this, either) This ended up making it into the local newspaper and I began receiving extreme harassment. I have been forced to move several times because of it.” A second Respondent added, “My son of 21 years’ pic and pic of our house was posted on Fox 8 and on the Norton Ohio police Facebook site. I (his mother) received death threats and much more. So disgusting!”

In 2013, Sheriff Gordon Smith of the Bradford County (FL) Sheriff’s Office posing in front of red signs he posted in front of the houses of Registered Persons on Facebook, along with the physical address of the registrant.⁴² Responses include, “This guy’s life is going to get real interesting,” “Dexter (fictional serial killer) lives in Florida, right?” “Hang them all!” “Why not just go ahead and kill him,” and “they cannot deal with him, so read between the lines, it is up to us to KILL him.”

This number may be grossly underreported, since 40.6% of total Respondents did not know if they or someone they love on the public registry was listed on social media by law enforcement.

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	249	61.8%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more “gusto”)	148	36.8%
Yes	6	1.5%

Comment: While the answer, “Aw Hell Naw!” was intended to be somewhat tongue-in-cheek as just another way of responding no, it could also be viewed as a very strongly worded no. Either way, 397 of 403 Respondents (98.5%) agree that, as noted by one respondent (loved one of PFR), “Law enforcement should not be allowed to post anything about anyone on social media.”

Six respondents stated Law Enforcement Agents should be allowed to use social media – two PFRs listed publicly, and one each among the other categories listed in Question 1 (PFR not publicly listed, Person no longer required to register, loved one of PFR, and other anti-registry activist.)

One “Yes” respondent (the one no longer required to register) wrote the following response: “I believe in the registry. That said, I also believe in reform. I believe that those who have offended, as I did, are a risk to society. Until the person has been reformed, I believe that society should be aware of the person and the offense. That said, I believe that society on a whole should also be educated and that laws should be

⁴² See <https://www.facebook.com/111199465577156/photos/a.562131950483903/562132050483893/>

implemented to prevent harassment and hate speech against anyone. What is our goal here? It is to protect people from harm, to educate and to heal. We can't hide what we have done and not talk about it. Rather, it needs to be talked about so that we can heal. Not just the victims and perpetrators, but all of society. We need a true correctional rehabilitation program and not just a justice through punishment program. We need to know that this is widespread and stems directly from our entire history of how men and women have been through all of human history. The judgement, shaming and vengeful attitudes aren't unique to registrants, but are common throughout all aspects of life. This one may be the most charged, but for good reason. The only thing that is going to change this is dialogue though. We need to be able to admit that the behavior (sex offenses) is unacceptable, but so is the response if the only motivation is to punish!" Interestingly, this respondent reported facing "real world harassment and had reported losing a social media account due to his status.

A second "Yes" respondent (PFR listed publicly) reported no harassment tied to social media but added in the comments: "While posting on a web site not mentioned where my name was shown a subsequent comment noted my registrant status. This category was not mentioned. I chose to do nothing at the time."

COMPARISONS BETWEEN PFRs & LOVED ONES OF PFRs

There are not enough responses from PFRs not listed publicly, Persons no longer required to register, and non-registrants involved in the Anti-Registry Movement. Thus, only a comparison between PFRs and their loved ones are made below:

Category	PFR Listed Publicly	Loved One of PFR
Uses Facebook	78.5%	93.6%
Harassed online	62%	66.1%
Was threatened	27.2%	23.9%
Was doxed	28.5%	24.8%
Harassed outside social media	32.4%	18%
Harassment on FB	53.8%	75.3%
Notified Police	13.9%	5.9%
Targeted by online group	15%	12.9%
Account Disabled (status)	40.5%	2.6%
Account Disabled (activism)	1.7%	1.8%
Social media "helps activism"	33.6%	31.2%
Social media "hurts activism"	32.3%	37.6%
Facebook encourages hate	81%	84.4%
Facebook needs to improve	49.6%	45%
Twitter encourages hate	38.4%	36.7%
Twitter needs to improve	27.2%	18.4%

PFRs and their loved ones both reported similar responses to many questions. However, PFRs are almost twice as likely (32.4% vs 18% to report harassment outside of social media, about two and a half times more likely to report harassment to police (13.9% vs 5.9%), about 50% more likely to report Twitter needs to improve anti-bullying measures, and about 15½ times more likely to lose a social media account due to status (40.5% vs 2.6%) compared to as loved ones of PFRs.

Loved ones of PFRs are more likely to use Facebook (93.6% vs 78.5%), report harassment on Facebook (75.3% vs 53.8%), and conclude that social media harms anti-registry activist efforts (37.6% to 32.3%) than PFRs. Since loved ones of PFRs are both more likely to use Facebook and more likely to report harassment on Facebook, it is likely that higher rates of harassment are the result of higher Facebook usage among loved ones of PFRs.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Social media has, for better or for worse, become an important part of American society, particularly in hiring practices. As noted by one respondent (PFR not listed publicly), “Social media is now a critical part of operating most types of businesses. Many RSOs (‘Registered Sex Offenders’) are self-employed due to the stigma and discrimination in hiring practices. The instability in employment caused by the registry leave only self-employment as a way to guarantee you cannot be harassed or ‘let go’ at work. Without being able to market on social media there is a competitive disadvantage for RSOs, often making doing business impossible. There is also stability in staying connected with family and friends that is taken away. In order to function in the modern world socially and in business, social media is a must.”

While it is widely known that PFRs face discrimination, social ostracism, cyberbullying, harassment, and offline threats, this survey was limited specifically to social media in order to highlight the role social media plays in promoting hate speech and harassment of PFRs and anyone associated with them. Many Respondents brought up other discrimination issues including registry scam calls, dating websites, and other instances of discrimination. This survey is merely a microcosm of the overall culture of animus PFRs face on a regular basis. However, social media is playing a critical role in fueling campaigns of misinformation and hatred towards those listed on public sex offense registries

Just over three out of five PFRs, their loved ones, and others who identify as Anti-Registry Movement activists (62.8%) had witnessed or personally experienced targeted online harassment or cyberbullying. This result is 46% more likely than all respondents to the ADL/YouGov survey (44%), and 14.2% higher than those who reported being targeted due to political views (55%). In most places in this survey, results rarely differed whether respondents identified as a PFR, a loved one of a PFR, or one who simply advocates for the Anti-Registry Movement. About one out of four respondents experienced serious harassment (doxing, direct online threats), and just over one in four (28.7%) experienced harassment away from social media.

Facebook is simultaneously the most utilized and the most despised social media website according to the respondents to this survey. While four out of five respondents (81.4%) use Facebook, nearly an equal amount (80.4%) chose Facebook as a purveyor of hate speech and online harassment, over twice that of Twitter (37%) and YouTube (30.3%). Nearly half of respondents (48.45%) pointed to Facebook as being most in need of improved efforts to combat hate speech and online harassment, more than twice the rate for Twitter (24%) and YouTube (20.75%). Of those who faced online harassment, roughly seven in ten (69.1%) found the attacks on Facebook, more than three times the amount found on Twitter (21.2%) and YouTube (19.3%). Loved ones of PFRs are harassed at a higher rate, which can be contributed to higher Facebook usage than PFRs. These results are not surprising when considering Facebook’s unique history of explicit animus towards PFRs.

The most common form of online harassment is the use of popular “memes” and slogans. One Respondent (loved one of PFR) noted, “Most negative issues on social media derive from memes against PFRs and resulting derogatory and inciting comments. When info is false, I post the facts. That often results in harassing comments, but I block or ignore.” This statement succinctly describes the typical online experiences of online advocates.

While most harassment seems rather disorganized, one out of five respondents (20.6%) reported harassment stemming from a post by a law enforcement agency, while about one in six (17.5%) were targeted by an online vigilante or troll group. About a third of PFRs, and about one in six loved ones of PFRs (18%) also witnessed or experienced harassment away from social media.

Over the past decade, a number of sex offense panics have proliferated throughout our society, including scares of campus rapes, the #MeToo Movement, and especially human trafficking. The “PizzaGate” and “QAnon” conspiracies have revived many previously debunked conspiracies of satanic ritual abuse at the highest levels of government. Many of these movements rely on social media through the use of “hashtag campaigns” including “#believewomen” or “#savethechildren.” Concerted efforts to silence PFRs and anti-registry activism have become common practices, including banishment from social media.

The end result is a marginalized group living in fear. As one respondent (loved one of PFR) noted, “It terrifies me reading all the hate speech aimed at sex offenders. Horrible things can happen to my son and anyone who may be in his company, like me. I've been living this nightmare alongside with my son for 6 year. Living in fear that he will be murdered because his crime is there for the whole world to see. Something has to change!!!” Others believe reform is a lost cause, as one respondent (PFR listed publicly) commented, “Sir, in my opinion, there is nothing anyone can do to change the negative perception of the general public about SOs: It is seared into their brain.”

Hateful banishment policies impact registrants in ways most people could not imagine. One respondent (PFR listed publicly) lost access to virtual reality gaming software as a result of losing his account. “My Facebook account of over a decade, with not a single problem to date, was deactivated today because someone reported that I was listed on the national registry,” he stated. “Because of this, I was also locked out of my paid Oculus Quest software and my Oculus Quest 2 device was remotely deactivated by Meta. Again, I never had a single issue with Facebook, nor were my charges related to social media. My I made a request to Facebook for them to provide me with the data they have collected on me, for which I am entitled under California law, and they refused my request.”

Solutions may be difficult to come by, but any such effort should start by looking at how society as a whole addresses other marginalized groups. While current social policies have not eliminated hatred of marginalized groups, social policies that address myths about PFRs would be a good start. As explained by one respondent (PFR listed publicly):

“Educating the public, including debunking myths and employing fact-checkers, may help. As one “I think [PFRs] are the only group of US citizens that can be openly targeted and discriminated against. The registration has to end It has been proven time and time again that it does nothing to ensure the safety of anybody. It only causes more harm and punishment to the [PFR]. That has also been proven. I believe [we

need] commercials campaigning on social media and public television that show the (devastation) the registry causes for the family and friends of [PFR]. Many people I've talked to had no clue the range of so called 'crimes' like peeing outside can put someone on the public registry. If there is going to be a registration then let it be for the worst sexual assault crimes committed against adults or children and it should never be public at all. Who gave social media the ok to harass this group of citizens? This has to come to an end. Thank you."

A second respondent (loved one of PFR) stated, "I feel that society is uneducated about who is exactly on the registry and for what. Society in general does not believe or cannot comprehend that even minors are listed on the registry. Society in general believed that Megan's Law, Adam Walsh Act and everything that follows those years as it relates to the registry is only for those that would physically harm by kidnapping, rape, torture or murder a minor in a sex act. Society doesn't understand that there were already laws in place for those crimes and the today expands to include non-violent and non-contact offenses like sexting, viewing and sharing illegal images, which very much involves teens and young people these days who find themselves listed on our registry."

Of course, social media is not the only way to connect to people, and with social media attracting hatred, some people find losing social media accounts to be a blessing in disguise. One Respondent (PFR listed publicly) stated, "Being told by the DA to delete my Facebook page was actually therapeutic."

Based on the responses to this survey, OnceFallen.com's position on the use of social media are as follows:

1. Social media websites should completely eliminate any prohibitions on use of their website by PFRs.

While harassment has been reported on all social media websites, Facebook's long history of banishing PFRs from social media helped foster a higher level of extreme hatred among those who use Facebook's services. Facebook's own Terms of Service has allowed exceptions to rules against hate speech and cyberbullying when the targets are accused or convicted of sexual offenses. Vigilantes and trolls have attacked PFRs and their loved ones with impunity, and both have abused the "Report a Sex Offender" page to eliminate the profiles of PFRs.

2. Social Media should treat PFRs as a protected class.

PFRs and their loved ones are harassed at higher levels than any other class of individuals. A critical step social media outlets should take involves treating PFRs in the same category as any other protected class. Personal protection measures against cyberbullies are not always enough. As noted by one respondent (loved one of PFR), "I don't see much of this on these social media platforms but I carefully curate by following people who wouldn't share dehumanizing thoughts about others online, and generally have an open mind about incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people. But it comes up in comments on Twitter and FB now and then. I do think these comments should be removed, especially if it's a comment that wouldn't be allowed based on race, sexuality, gender, etc. I don't want to see anti-registrant ideas normalized through social media."

3. Everyone and every organization, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), vigilante or so-called “anti-pedo” groups, and private individuals, should be completely barred from using social media outlets to disseminate information about PFRs.

Nearly seven out of ten PFR who were subsequently featured on a Law Enforcement Agency’s social media posts faced harassment, and when a PFR is harassed, they are ignored. Law enforcement should not be allowed to stoke online harassment by posting information already posted on the public registry website because it implies that individual is engaging in further criminal activity.

4. All social media, particularly Facebook, should remove groups that promote violence against PFRs, including self-professed “anti-pedo” groups and groups that conduct online entrapment or “sting” operations and ban memes and slogans that promote harassment and violence against PFRs and their loved ones.

Over the years, numerous organized vigilante groups have operated on social media, but Facebook seems to be the preferred website for cyberbullies. Thanks in large part to Facebook’s hostile policies toward PFRs, cyberbullies can act with impunity. When cyberbullying and hate speech are reported, such offensive posts are also ignored, while anti-registry activists are often censored. Other social media outlets report far less instances of cyberbullying, and while all could use improvement, no other outlet has allowed as much explicit hatred as Facebook.

5. Businesses should be required to prohibit sale of items that promote harassment and violence (such as “Shoot your local sex offender” shirts).

Facebook’s marketplace (and other social media outlets allowing the selling of merchandise) allows the selling of merchandise containing the slogan “shoot your local pedophile,” a slogan associated with the extremist group “Proud Boys.” (Presumably, the shirts are a reference to the murder of two protesters by Kyle Rittenhouse, one of whom was a Person Forced to Register.) Typically, hate groups are not allowed to sell propaganda merchandise on social websites but exceptions have been made for shirts, hats, and stickers with some variation of the offensive slogan online.

After completing this survey, more work must be done. Because this survey was limited to those already using social media, there is currently no study that tells us how many PFRs, their loved ones, and anti-registry activists actually utilize social media and for what purpose. Future surveys could align some questions in this survey with existing online harassment surveys for easier comparison. Suggested future questions should include the reasons why PFRs and other anti-registry activists utilize social media and why those who do not choose to avoid it.

While this survey collected 403 total responses, there were too few PFRs not listed publicly, those no longer required to register, and anti-registry activists without loved ones on the registry to make confident assumptions about their experiences compared to PFRs and loved ones. In addition, as this survey specifically addresses social media use by anti-registry activists or at least those who read anti-registry websites, future surveys could attempt to solicit all PFRs to take the survey.

It is accepted by most people that PFRs are among the most hated persons in America. Social media has played a key role in spreading hatred and misinformation. Social media websites should be held accountable for the crimes committed against PFRs and their loved ones and should make reasonable efforts to quell the hatred they helped spread. – Derek W. Logue

APPENDIX 1: ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM RESPONDENTS

The comments below are the comments left as responses to question #15 in the survey, which allowed for additional comments. Corrections have only been made to personal identifying info (such names and emails that could lead one to determine the Respondent's identity) and minor spelling and grammar mistakes. Comments already used in the report have been deleted from this section.

All comments are important, even those making general comments. Not every example could be added to the body of the study, however, so those not fully cited in the study are listed below. Statements criticized other social media and Internet websites, outed law enforcement harassment, or gave examples of personal or witnessed harassment.

QUESTION #15: Please add any additional comments you feel is important to share regarding social media and PFRs.

NEXTDOOR

While this survey left out NextDoor due to the policies of the site that excludes anyone living in a residence matching the address of a Registered Person, many respondents called out NextDoor by name.

1. I have been personally banned from joining NextDoor because of my husband's status
2. If there is a person living in your home who is forced to register, you will not be allowed to remain a member of NextDoor.com. They will remove you and will tell you why. This should be considered discrimination. I'm not even the person who has to register but they blocked me from being a member.
3. NextDoor posts information about registrants.
4. Etsy was selling bumper stickers: "Kill A Pedophile", which I objected to by calling them. People have thrown rocks at my family's house. I have been pointed out by people on the streets, and in my local store someone yelled out "sex offender in the house". I was refused access to "Nextdoor Neighbor" twice. I read: <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/> and I was shocked! Thanks for letting me know. Abolish the Public Registry!!
5. The only thing I have experienced as a loved one of a person forced to register is I was declined to be added to a neighborhood website. (Next Door). It was because of my address being on the registry.
6. You forgot NextDoor, a neighborly social media harassing and intimidating registrants.
7. I was kicked off the "NextDoor" app when my cousin (a registrant) lived with me. Although he did not have access to the account.
8. I went on Nextdoor with my nick name and have no problem thus far. I was invited to sign on by my HOA. Facebook and LinkedIn have thus far not been a problem. I look forward to harassment as I know how to deal with it. I make it a fun game of it.
9. Being removed from the NextDoor website because my husband is on the registry was ridiculous. I had an account and then I got a letter saying I was no longer able to be on their platform because a registered "sex offender" lived at my address.
10. NextDoor social media platform kicked me off for being on registry.
11. Many neighborhood apps like My Neighbor are worse than anything you listed.

GENERAL CRITIQUES OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Some comments were general statements regarding social media, many of which were critical of social media.

1. Social media is just an outlet. It seems particularly unconstitutional to make inaccessible or unapproachable the most major form of communication available today, if people have done their time and have not been deemed social media predators and/or are first time offenders not deemed high risk.
2. Public Media posting is another form of punishment and promotes hate
3. If Facebook allowed anti-Jewish posts, what would people say? What would people say if SO's created their own social media and did NOT allow non-SOs to join... what would people say? I am tired of the world thinking I am a bad person because of what I saw. Murder is a terrible crime, yet anyone can get on YouTube and watch actual murders OR simulated murders. Yet, I see one pic that is illegal and my whole life is ruined. When will this end?
4. There is so much hate in this world. Posting things like this encourages hate on a particular group. Whether or not that group falls into the "sex, gender, etc.", it is STILL a HATE crime! It amazes me that is allowed in this FREE country. It should not be tolerated!
5. Social media should not be able to put PFRs background record on line at all.
6. Postings and the end user rules on these websites are all contributors of inflaming bias and discrimination against those being legally forced to register. These websites promote paranoia and fear as well as misunderstanding of sex offenders and over exaggeration of the purpose of the registry. If only truly violent, repeat offenders were on the registry - and not first time offenders - the registry would have a valuable meaning to the public. Including all sexual related crimes simply dilutes the effectiveness of the registry and fosters public paranoia against those who have been accused for a one time/one victim offense.
7. I was not sure how to answer some of the questions regarding hate speech. There's a difference between promoting "safe online communities" and allowing users on platforms to target specific groups of people to make those people "pay" for their actions. Any service prohibiting registrants or felons from maintaining an account as part of their user agreements probably is aligned with some form of advocacy sounding alarms about protecting everyone else from dangerous individuals as a blanket position. Such thinking does not help anyone and most people who are up to no good are smart enough to limit advertising their actions on social media or other sites such as dating sites, forums, and so on.
8. Packingham v. North Carolina is useless for fucktards like Mark Z. Who owns Fuckbook and Instagram! I feel RAPED by these bastards!! They constantly allow people to post hate speech and bullying is allowed for everyone unless you have a Fuckbook Label... "SEX OFFENDER"
9. I maintain my innocence and as a currently Registered Person, I feel we all have a right to social media, as we are allowed to exercise our First Amendment right. If we are being shut out by social media, then they are violating my Constitutional Right to Free Speech.
10. Really I feel any type of discrimination should be punishable in court for damages including if one is required to comply with "Administrative Requests/ Actions".
11. These platforms are the new communication standards, preventing use could move into first amendment issues if the government attempts to prevent use. Hate speech is hate speech. "Fighting words" are not protected speech by the first amendment.

12. Social media in this age is vital to a work and family positive environment. No one should be targeted or sought after whatever their status is.
13. Whether innocent or guilty of the crime/s, no matter how small or big. No matter if facts are facts or some facts are true and some are not. We are all under the same umbrella. It is disgusting how society shows their hate towards Registrants and it will continue. Unless it happens to them or a loved one, they will never understand, unfortunately! Be safe and God bless!
14. While I haven't experienced any type of social media "attention", and I personally don't know anyone who has, I can easily see how this information could be detrimental to those of us who have to register. All steps should be taken to stop this "attention" to those who have fallen as well as those who are family and friends of us.
15. I don't disclose my accounts on other social media to anyone except my closest friends who I regularly associate with in-person. A number of reasons for that.

MANY FORMS OF HARASSMENT

While this survey was limited to social media, many PFRs, their loved ones, and other anti-registry activists express concerns and shared stories about harassment both on and away from social media:

1. The real snakes in the grass are the so-called "Neighborhood Watch" groups that cruise the state registries looking for someone to harass.
2. I don't use social media I just do research on the web I'm still afraid to use it while I'm on parole. I have had some weird texts none threatening I don't answer then or go to any of the sites they direct me to.
3. A mother's group has a member who is on the lookout for local offenders. They spread the word to all members and their families and friends. They did this to my son who was caught in a police sting. He never even thought of engaging in illegal behavior especially with a child. This was 13 years ago. This has ruined many parts of his life, especially finding a job, and also relationships. He is in his 50's and dating a woman who has grandchildren. He can't accompany her when she plans activities with them. Obviously he has suffered also.
4. I was teaching a group of seniors at Church how to use Facebook when, after a couple of lessons, as I demonstrated, I got notice that my account was discontinued! I had to get an assistant to display their account to continue the class. Although not included in the survey, I have had two threatening phone calls posing as Sheriff's wanting me to meet them with money to avoid a warrant out for me. I reported these to our local Sheriff who thanked me but nothing they could do about them. They were so convincing that the first time, my wife and I got in the car to go meet them until they said to bring a gift card! I then called them a scam and said I was reporting them to the local Sheriff - they hung up.
5. I was on a public registry for ten years. Because of it, I was evicted from my apartment after I was "outed" by someone who was looking for an apartment in my complex, notified the landlord and was forced to leave.
6. Prior to registration, as best I can tell from conversations with loved ones while incarcerated, Yahoo news found it necessary to share information regarding my arrest and was never proven (never happened) false information with most of my spouse's 2000 Facebook friends (her yahoo email

contacts were linked). Even though I'm on the west coast and had a relatively tame case, people on the east coast were reading about it. I was not, and was not found guilty of most of what was in the article.

7. This doesn't apply to social media, but I have lost jobs due to registry requirements. The company told me so and also let me know that it saddened them to have to let me go because I was doing exceptional work. As for social media, though the Supreme Court allows it, Facebook canceled the profile held in my real name. Facebook and Twitter are the two social media companies that contain the most negative content.
8. Experian App (Consumer Credit) sends alert notification via email if the person who is required to register has an address near the user of the app. Within the app, the user is able to see full information available on the registry, picture, name, address, date of birth, etc.
9. I am aware of just one time that the mother of my victim contacted/harassed two people, one of which is now my stepson, the other is his best friend. She never furthered her cause nor did she ever do anything else.
10. Displaying a "sex offender" does not deter or protect them community it never has its only crests vigilante judgement and harm... I've had my property vandalized, I reported it and nothing was ever done about it.
11. I am been doxed at least 10 times.
12. A paper with my Megan's List photo was posted in my neighborhood.
13. I've had three scam phone calls impersonating law enforcement telling me I missed a court date and there is a warrant out for my arrest and to bring \$1500.00 dollars and meet them in the parking lot of the sheriff station or they can come to my house to pick up the money. Hard to find housing.
14. Hi Derek, Thank you for your service. I've been on the registry for 20+ years and my life is horrible. When i was released from prison social media didn't exist. i live in Staten Island. The city sent a notice by mail to every parent of school age children with my flyer, picture etc... I had eggs thrown at my house and threatening letters placed in my mailbox. Daily (false) reports of me being seen hanging around schools began to come in. In like 2010 or so my Facebook was shut due to my status. I had registered the account with the email address I gave the registry. And there was no way for me to recover any of my content. It was all lost. In 2007 I tried to go to CUNY. I was able to attend classes for 1 day. The college sent emails to everyone and that was the end of my plans on getting an education after being in prison. The story was headlines in the Staten Island Advance, NY Post, and possibly NY News. "Perv kicked out of school" or some shit. Of course the news outlets had to put my photo too. I have terrible anxiety when taking public transportation because of it. I feel I have PTSD from the uncertainty in my life and constant feeling of heightened arousal. Hearing my doorbell ring makes me feel like I'm going to vomit and I begin to shake. I now have it disabled and get notifications to my phone instead. I have debilitating anxiety. When I go out, every car is a undercover police. I have NO reason to fear them. My life was so bad, I moved to Belize in 2013. That was after traveling there for almost 5 years. The IML put an end to that in 2018 when i came here to visit my mom for thanksgiving. I've been stuck here ever since. I put everything I had into restarting my life in Belize. I was successful. I had my own small business. I feel as though I have been re-sentenced. TBH, this has been worse for me than going to prison. Off parole in 2008 and in 2018 received my new punishment.

15. A Zoom meeting I attended was once "bombed" by someone who texted the entire group outing me as a convicted sex offender and inviting them to Google my name and the word "arrest". There were no repercussions, and the other attendees appeared to ignore the text notification.
16. I am a combat veteran with a disability and volunteer with veterans at my local university. The university had to remove my contributions from their media platforms because of it leading to harassment from a third party that got my info from the registry. The university, my wife, one year old son and I were all negatively affected and I contacted Janice B. She got it to stop, but both my family and the university is still afraid of posting anything with me in it on social media (Facebook).
17. I have been on registry for 26 years and the Judge won't let me off even though I never committed any more crimes other than failure to register once. I was vandalized 5 times and documented, quit drinking because of the crime, plus a Vietnam vet retired military. Think I could get a break when they publish your photo in the paper every time you register somewhere. Notify by flyer too. I am suicidal over it and going to VA shrink for it plus PTSD.
18. People will take your name and email address and add it to sex sites where you get tons of unwanted email even from anti-pedo sites. Very annoying.
19. Real estate agents post "pedophile" at address
20. My son's ex targeted him on Facebook when he was arrested she posted the newspaper articles & everything concerning his arrest. That's hateful but nothing I could do about it.
21. I wasn't harassed by LEA or vigilantes, but by my ex-wife, who posted on my Facebook account that I ended up having to close. I am on Facebook now, using an assumed name, different email, and completely different groups/friends. I use it for humor (memes) and general (non-registry) research.
22. The site admin is biased and retaliatory plus they have friends ... family...others attack in various ways such as blocking accts and following acct also they make up allegations or conclusions that make it very hard to have a stance or say in any platform, these admin or site controllers often do not understand or know laws like Quora site much more to add but not now!
23. I haven't personally ever had any problems but I keep a low profile and everything private specifically for friends and family
24. I never truly been harassed by social media but my family did. They thought it was a given right to tell everybody that I talk to or rented from or just to put it out.
25. Unfortunately, the person who harassed me online and contacted my friends with hate speech was my own family member, who has mental problems. He had used his Facebook connection to me to "friend" my friends, then contacted them with hate speech about me, including pointers to newspaper articles about me. Other than that, I have not had anyone harass me online.
26. All of my encounters have been phone calls to my house and cell phone. Don't know how my numbers are being posted.

DISCRIMINATION/DENIAL OF SERVICES

Some respondents shared their personal experiences with ostracism, discrimination, and denial of services from various companies:

1. Air BNB also searches names of registrants and deletes your account AND cancels the rental agreements with clients then deletes the Funds transferred into your bank account and returns the \$\$ to your former client THEN eliminates your rental from all Airbnb accounts. Airbnb also excludes your name, even that of anyone who lives at your same address from using any Airbnb facility.
2. The hate communication towards me was thru email, not social media. I have had my Facebook account removed and can only assume it due to Registry. I have had many persons ghost me (and I can only assume it is once they did background Google search) and on a couple of occasions have had people tell me they found out about my charge and no longer communicated afterwards.
3. For context, I also consider dating apps to be social media and these are the worst of all of them. Anyone can report you for simply having a criminal record and you are then permanently banned from them. I am currently banned from every one I have ever been on without any question or consideration for circumstances whatsoever.
4. Registrants are banned from dating sites such as Tinder, Match.com, e-harmony or even many marriage sites for foreign brides.
5. Stigma and bullying go way beyond social media. I am interested in workplace bullying and job discrimination against the partners of SOs. While workplaces and government institutions may not discriminate against someone for reasons of gender, age, race, nationality, sexual orientation, marriage status, caste etc., the partners of SOs are stigmatized and overlooked for promotion and jobs if this aspect of their private life is known. It is a silent and pernicious form of discrimination.
6. My original Facebook account was created in 2007 and never used for any illegal activity. Once I regained my rights to use social media post probation, I slowly inched my way back online...testing the waters. Most of my former friends and acquaintances were welcoming and accepting of me, though some wanted to talk in person about what actually happened. That said, there were some people who were extremely vile, posting newspaper articles about my legal issues on every post I made while calling me every name in the book. I blocked them from my posts, but they continued posting in groups I was affiliated with. They also turned me into Facebook and my account was removed as a violation of their "terms and agreements" which states nobody with a sex related offense is allowed on the platform. Murderers, arsonists, bank robbers, drug dealers, and terrorists are no problem...but get rid of those evil "sex offenders". SMH. What made this worse than just the loss of my entire support community was that I sell online as my full time job. Losing Facebook marketplace hit me hard in the wallet. It's disgraceful that Facebook targets us in such an egregious way. Side note that I just ran into this past Saturday. I was a regular customer of a restaurant across the street from my house for over two years. I knew all the staff and made friends with them and other regulars. Since I live and work alone, having a social outlet was really good for my mental health. I was a model customer and never caused any issues. On Saturday, when I walked in, the general manager asked to speak with me in private. Apparently one of the employees saw my picture on the Registry and brought it to the owner's attention saying they were uncomfortable having me around. (This after two years of not being uncomfortable around me!). The owner said that I was banned from the premises. They never wanted my side of the story; they just banned me for no reason other than

my registry status. This is wrong, and I'm currently searching for legal options. I won't take this laying down.

7. Because I cannot access Facebook, I miss many work opportunities because professional literature like webinars, instructional videos, and software policy and development groups are often only published on Facebook. It is always awkward to have to turn down an invitation by a professional colleague. I have to rely on a couple of trusted people (who know my status) to go on Facebook, get the information, and feed it to me. I don't do this often because they are so busy. I miss a lot. Large social media platforms must stop routinely excluding registrants, and they must stop fomenting hate.
8. I use an alias on FB. Though I have not been harassed, I know of another registrant that was forced off FB twice when his alias was revealed.
9. The whole damn public registry needs to go away. My loved one has been lucky; he's had no harassment of any kind due to his FB notification by Law enforcement during the pandemic when nothing was allowed in person. His neighbors would know, if they watched the notification, but one couple, (the closest neighbor) either didn't watch it, or don't care, and they are both teachers. They have been super nice to him, have offered to help him lift/move things; they love his puppy; they hired him to do some work for them. He's lived in the neighborhood for almost two years. But, another I know lost a job because someone at his work recognized him and complained, and the employer buckled and terminated his employment. His FB account was removed and he was blocked.
10. Am banned by Sheriff's office from using social media or having an email address. Off probation for about 9 years now.
11. I live in Louisiana and despite it being deemed unconstitutional, there's laws preventing RSOs from getting on social media. I'm fine with not being on stuff like Facebook, but I can't even apply for some jobs that in qualified for because they expect a LinkedIn profile.
12. I have had a lot of trouble obtaining state and federal agency help/assistance due to the broad scope of the registry. I am disabled and have gone through a lot medically.

LAW ENFORCEMENT HARASSMENT

Some respondents also shared statements of harassment influenced by or created by Law Enforcement Agencies:

1. Tampa Police Department loves to bring the media with them during Halloween notification. They have no problem displaying locations of as well as family members of Registered People on T.V. each year during a time when no sex offender has ever victimized a child.
2. Used Facebook for 5 years when I got out of prison under 4 different LE agencies. Came to Florida and Sgt. Bonnie Weaver of the Hendry County Sheriff's Office, said she was going to report me to Facebook, did report me and then lied about doing it.
3. My local SO (Sheriff's Office) maintains a "sex offender" page on their website listing all local RCs along with their photo, conviction info, address and phone number. My local city police chief had our local RC's pics posted in City Hall, like Wanted Posters. I contacted my city councilman about it and he agreed with me that they sent an unfair message (as if we were currently a public danger) and had them taken down... for now.

4. I've lost jobs and homes due to law enforcement "being the good guy" even living outside the country now they try to fuck me by keeping me on the NY registry even though my offense originally came from Michigan in 2007
5. I was blocked from Facebook after I registered and told LEA I was using Facebook. LEA then reported me to Facebook who removed me 1 day later. I have also been prevented from performing my job. I am basically told to stay home and don't be around the public. I am prevented from walking downtown and attending public events.
6. While there nothing wrong with law enforcement posting someone wanted for a crime, I feel it's wrong for them to post people obeying the law, just because they're on the registry.
7. I think we should be able to sue law enforcement if they posted any info, that could harm a registered S.O., and they should go to prison...
8. PFRs are already subjected to being posted on their State's registry website and Law Enforcement should be prohibited from taking any further actions in that regard. Social Media sites, whether private or not, should also be prohibited from discriminating against any individual, and should be held accountable for discrimination and for allowing hate speech towards ANY individual or group of individuals.
9. Registry needs gone! Social media only creates more problems. LEA should not be allowed to post anything in regards to a registrant! Creates more hate and social disturbance.

LIVING IN FEAR

Some respondents expressed reluctance to take part in some activities out of fear of being targeted due to the social stigma of being listed on the public registry:

1. I am afraid of people finding out and trying to hurt me my wife or just vandalizing our property because of it. I am also afraid that people who live near me will find out and publicly ostracize, shame, or make efforts to distance themselves from me. I'm afraid
2. My son has intellectual & mental disabilities. We live in FL. This has been a nightmare.
3. Posting registered persons incites fear, and can lead to harassment and/ or violence against that person. Not only that, but I fear the day my brother is the focus, and the possibility of retaliation on him, and harassment and judgement upon myself and my family as we all share the same uncommon last name. I mostly fear for my brother's safety above all!
4. I am fearful that my employer will see social media and I will lose my job.
5. As soon as you post that a person is a "Registered Sex Offender" you are already judged by your peers and convicted. Every circumstance is different. There are some terrible people that commit terrible crimes and they should be held accountable for what they have done. But, lesser crimes should be handled in a different manor then putting you on internet sites. Listing address and conviction only fuels the fire and hatred towards the person on registry. I live in a very upscale neighborhood and I know that being on the Megan's Law site has affected how my neighbors treat me and interact with me. My street is not easily accessible and a cul-de-sac we have a lot of drive traffic and I believe that it is related to me being on the site. Am I being paranoid? I think not.
6. The registry is a punishment beyond the actual sentence and threatens the lives of those on it and their families, friends, and employers.

7. A change need to come in all states especially Alabama. I can't work nor enjoy life
8. None of these laws make sense I wouldn't even know where to start.
9. Being the wife of my registered husband has ruined our social life outdoors - I am scared to have my children out in the neighborhood as my husband was publicly harassed by our HOA neighborhood page

CRITICISM OF THE REGISTRY AND RELATED LAWS

Some respondents chose to express disdain for registry laws and the other repressive laws the registry inspires:

1. I was the 2nd of 3 known targets of a sextortion ring while deployed in the global war on terror. A USG facilitated & rewarded life destroying scam.
2. We need to abolish the registry. Life on the registry is a hard life and sad for anyone one the registry or related to the person.
3. Public registry encourages vigilantism by bigots and often hypocrites. Public information from registries encourages discrimination in jobs, housing and employment.
4. I believe that those on the registry should have total use of social media.
5. I feel that the PFRs have already paid their debt. They should have a second chance in life to be good citizens and not have to register. I also think that individuals that did not have actual contact with a minor should not be included in the register.
6. Forced to register by the court system: The court did not convict me. I was not convicted of any crime, cleared to conceal carry a handgun by the FBI. Our court systems are biased, manipulative, etc. to in some way place you behind bars or condone restrictions on constitutional freedoms and rights as a US citizen.
7. I believe there is different tiers of sex offenders and only the worse of the worse should be required to do it
8. In my opinion, the general consensus is PFR's will always re-offend. Actual recidivism rates should be conveyed to the public. Also, PSA's pointing out detriments might help to deter future crimes.
9. Family does not deserve the punishment imposed on their name.
10. If or when a person goes to court for any type of violation & is set in front of the jury or needs to take the stand. having the district attorney or public defender actually speak & say his penal code & or say the person is a registered sex offender, right away the audience is now aware of that persons address. the audience that didn't know, now, automatically putting that person in future harm
11. It's not helpful when you look up a town to look into its quality of life and find XX "sex offenders" live here, with names and addresses. IMO it's as bad as what is on social media because it's local. This caused me some flak when I first moved here, but nothing at all in the past 10 years, since I got to know some tough hombres who had lived here their entire lives (hired them to do some physical labor and showed them respect, which they reciprocated by stepping on the flak). I don't see a way to eliminate that information, which sites troll from Megan's List state websites in states where they can be viewed publicly. Overall, what you are doing is needed. Best of luck with your efforts.
12. Public registration should not single out anyone. Either have a public registration for everyone or no one.

13. There should be no list what so ever it only promotes hate, violence, vigilantism, harassment, and bullying. It is a negative punishment. We need more positive energy directed toward better sex education and prevention programs.
14. In California it is against parole regulations to even have a social media account for any level of sex offense. Once parole is over the "state" requires you to have on your profile that you are an SO on any platform.
15. Let's stop the e-Scarlet Letter!
16. I don't think there should be a registry.
17. Stop the registry for all
18. The registry must be abolished
19. Public registry does more harm than good.
20. Would like to see sex offense registry abolished
21. Oregon has just made it illegal to release mugshots of newly arrested people. I feel this should extend to everyone whether or not convicted and that it should be illegal for private citizens as well.

OTHER COMMENTS

The remaining comments are listed below. Many are “thank you” messages while a few are general comments on human nature:

1. Hate, marginalizing, shaming, public lists, etc., of any human being, has led to atrocities against many innocent throughout history and is doing so again.
2. Hate speech against anyone should not be allowed. Hate speech is a "hate" crime in itself.
3. thanks for doing this
4. I have been using both FB and L/I for a while. I would like to share my story...one day.
5. I like everything you do and I hope you are successful. Be healthy and be safe. Best.
6. Thanks for your work on this. Very important!
7. Thank you
8. Hi there 😊
9. Thank You for your efforts. This is an important action!
10. Thank you for your efforts.
11. Thank you for this survey, I hope it informs you as to some of the experiences people have online.
12. Thank you
13. Thank you for the info on the Facebook allowing hate speech on these people. I had no idea.

APPENDIX 2: AUTHOR'S PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH ONLINE HARASSMENT

This survey was inspired by a recent social media attack against anti-registry activists on social media. While this was the first organized effort against one anti-registry activist group on social media, I have personally witness and experienced many organized attacks over the years. Even this survey was attacked by a troll who made derogatory comments in the “additional content” area, mocking either the survey itself or attacking me in some way.

While not every attack we experience is directly tied to “social media,” social may incite more people to engage in hate speech, cyberbullying, and online harassment thanks in part to the relative ease and anonymity provided by the social media platform.

To paraphrase an old joke, “My first online harassment experience is so old that the first social media website that featured attacks against me was MySpace.”

On December 1, 2007, I attended the first ever public rally against a sex offense law, a protest against the passage of the Adam Walsh Act (AWA) in Ohio (known then as SB10). About fifty Anti-Registry activists attended the event at the State Capitol grounds in Columbus, Ohio. An online vigilante group known as “Absolute Zero United (AZU)” formed a smaller counter-protest. AZU was a subgroup of Perverted Justice, the controversial vigilante group that worked with Dateline NBC’s equally controversial “To Catch A Predator” series. Members of AZU had invited a chapter of Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA) and another well-known vigilante from Florida named Judy Cornett.. After our event was over, some of us (including me) confronted the vigilante groups.

On December 5, 2007, I lunched, OnceFallen.com. The next day, AZU made a post on their blog about their presence at the rally against SB10 (or, to use their words, “hijacked SOClear's attempt at a rally in Columbus Ohio”). Included in that critique was a picture of me, which included various captions referring to me as a “convicted pedophile” and “quivering lips and crooked teeth,” along with my mugshot from the public registry and my listed address.

In the weeks that followed, members of this group would seek out comments that I would make on the Internet promoting my website and/or anti-registry activism. They would make a negative response about me, either under the name of one of their organization members, some parody of my screen name or the screen name of a fellow anti-registry activist. One poster even began referring to himself as “Logue Hater.” Comments would include slanderous statements and an invitation to look at AZU’s blog posts about me or about other anti-registry activists.

Their anger against me only intensified when they discovered that I had recorded my conversation with members of these counter protesters at the Columbus rally. In the brief exchange, I had gotten some of the people speaking to us to agree with my talking points. A member of “SO Clear Media” (an activist group with a focus on posting YouTube videos) posted the rally video including my confrontation with the counter protesters. They were beyond livid. A member of BACA sent me a certified letter claiming to be a cease-and-desist order to try to scare me to take down the video. I turned that letter over to an attorney,

who sent a response explaining Ohio's harassing communications law. I never heard from that member of BACA ever again.

A few weeks later, one of the numerous anonymous emails I received from the AZU group was a link to the Perverted Justice side project known as "Wikisposure." Members of AZU (again, using parody names of me or other anti-registry activists) posting links to that website in response to comments I would leave on news articles. Members of AZU were so fanatical, they even attacked well-known child victim advocate Patty Wetterling, claiming she was critical of the registry because she had a "sex offender son."

The three women representing AZU were also members of a group organized by Mark Lunsford, known as "Women Against Sexual Predators (WASP). Two Columbus residents frequently identified themselves as "WASP Ohio." While the intent was to make these groups nationwide, only two chapters were ever created, one in Columbus, OH and the other in Chicago, IL, and both folded by 2009. WASP and other AZU members fancied themselves as online heroes. As mentioned in the defunct WASP Ohio website:

"Fortunately for us, there is a vigilant group of extraordinary individuals who offer up an enormous amount of their time and resources to save children from the dark shadows of fear and pain before it ever happens to them. They are superheroes, flying through cyberspace, each with their own unique strength. They are not afraid of these pedophiles; in fact, they look them straight in the eye and say, 'Bring it on!'

They've been dubbed the 'Antis', as in anti-pedophilia/anti-pedophile. The cowardly online predators have perhaps finally met their match -- the Antis have law enforcement and a large host of volunteers on their side, as well as knowledge and resources. The Antis resolve is determined and unflinching. They work day and night to destroy the child molester's ability to prey on children and shut down their support networks, and they will not rest until every pedophile becomes the hunted instead of the hunter. So far, they have been wildly successful. The folks behind blogs and websites like ACME Cleaning Services (a group that hacked Google blogs of some individuals) and Absolute Zero have contributed to shutting down hundreds of pedophile blogs, websites, social groups and support forums."⁴³ AZU's claim of shutting down "hundreds" of advocacy blogs is a rather dubious claim. AZU did have some initial success in scaring a handful of individuals away from engaging in online activism but the Anti-Registry Movement continued to grow in spite of AZU's persistent harassment campaigns.

Over the years, AZU members, and the trolls that have followed in their virtual footsteps, have all followed similar patterns over the years. These tactics include:

1. Making parody screen names or accounts of their victims (mocking a personal/screen name or a name of someone the person knows) for the sake of leaving annoying or harassing comments. Over the years, trolls have used the actual names or parodies of me, various family members, or references to places I have been. Most are of a juvenile nature, such as "Ally Bammy" (as I once resided in Alabama) or "Burn Ye Bryant" (a parody of my mother's nickname).
2. Occasional impersonation in an attempt to gather info from loved ones or to damage the victim's information. Once, someone created a Facebook profile using my face but a different name and made

⁴³ See

http://web.archive.org/web/20090207091607/http://www.waspohio.org/pb/wp_03291a41/wp_03291a41.html

nasty comments to other anti-registry activists. While most immediately knew it was a troll, one activist did not and asked me why I was saying vile things.

3. Making videos and memes suggesting they are some kind of online hero or crusader and every target is a monster or villain. The passage from WASP Ohio began with the headline “Cyber Warriors: A new breed of superheroes battle online child predators,” accompanied by a picture of a jousting knight with a digital screen in the background.”
4. Use of propaganda videos, often accompanied by the use of anthems and “power ballads.” The members of AZU made a video declaring they “hijacked the rally” accompanied by a slideshow bashing attendees accompanied by the song “Stealing Fat” by the Dust Brothers.
5. Use of threatening or war-like language such as “taking over,” “hijacking” or “eliminating” their targets. The AZU propaganda video was entitled, “Pro-Sex Offender Rally - HIJACKED!”
6. Use of false light statements and outright fabrications. In the aforementioned video, AZU claimed that I referred to anyone who supports the registry as a Nazi or KKK member (which is ironic given the fact that they mocked an activist named Jan by photoshopping her face to a KKK member and calling her “Ku Klux Jan.”⁴⁴
7. Creation of websites devoted to slandering their targets: Over the years, a number of blogs and websites have been made not to debunk my claims, but to discredit me as a person. Even today, a simple web browser or “Google” search lists a number of attack posts and websites dedicated to Derek Logue.

Between 2008 and 2013, various members of AZU engaged in a series of personal attacks against me and against other anti-registry activists. These included various posts on Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, Google blogs, and various news media. Sometimes, the trolls would take to calling my phone and making threats. One of them told me back in 2009 that I’d never see him coming, which was true in a way, since he never arrived.

Lies spread about me were created and sometimes, the trolls were unable to keep the lies straight. One AZU member called me a “Gay-Bashing, Child Raping “Conservative Christian” for posting a rebuttal to a self-professed Christian conservative blogger (because writing a counter-piece to a bad report equates me to the person I am debunking. Another AZU member accused me being an extreme left-wing propagandist who was “justifying pedophilia” (*sic*), and claimed my “rhetoric is quite similar to the apologetic rhetoric coming from your today’s Leftist shills (*sic*) whom believe that Alger Hiss was an innocent man, that being a Communist is okay”; his article about me was filed under “Soviet Propaganda.”

Thankfully, division within the ranks of this vigilante group caused a rift behind the scenes. Perverted-Justice eliminated the “Wikisposure” project as the group wanted to be viewed as a legitimate law enforcement agency rather than just a troll group. Those who preferred trolling broke away, and took the Wikisposure site to create a new site called “Evil-Unveiled.” This site lasted two years before being shut down, but the information was subsequently posted on Encyclopedia Dramatica, a “troll archive” that admits nothing on the website is to be taken as truth.

⁴⁴ See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XCeEMVMtrL8&t>

Absolute Zero United's blog was abandoned in 2013 and all members seemingly tired of trolling. Presumably, it was likely due to a hilariously failed attempt to sabotage an anti-registry conference in 2012. Members of AZU and other trolls had contacted media and law enforcement in Albuquerque, pretending to be local "concerned citizens, while claiming a "pedophile convention" was coming to town. Law enforcement and the City Attorney bought into this misinformation campaign. Albuquerque police planned a public meeting for what they believed to be hundreds of angry residents. Only seven people attended the meeting.⁴⁵

Unfortunately, "When something goes out on the Internet, it's out there forever." Over time, the false light statements and lies about me have been recycled as groups like Absolute Zero United fold and are replaced with new groups. The posts created by AZU falsely claiming I was convicted of "child rape" have been recycled over the years and repeated by later trolls.

At the heart of this personal attack is animus at the "sex offender" label and a desire to cause harm to me. Trolls have devoted themselves to drudging up every aspect of my life, even going so far as attempting to out the "victim" in my case and stealing and doctoring photos of me (primarily registry mugshots) to use on social media, including on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and even TikTok. Trolls also attempt to appeal to ego by insulting my looks and/or intelligence, or pointing out any occasional typos while declaring me a dumb "Alabama educated redneck." Ironically, one particularly obsessed troll has been traced to the Lower Appalachian mountain region of Northern Georgia, which is in the same general region as Alabama. Some trolls even boasted they "inspired" this survey.

These trolls are encouraged by the fact that law enforcement virtually never takes online harassment seriously. I have tried multiple times to contact law enforcement in three areas I have resided since my release in 2003, and every time I made a report, I was ignored, and, no investigation has ever been conducted:

- In 2009, when I first made a police report following an explicit death threat made over the phone, the Cincinnati (OH) Police Department stated that it was "out of our jurisdiction."
- In 2010, after a Muscle Shoals (AL) area crime blogger posted a picture of me and my ex-wife with the suggestion I should have my label tattooed on my forehead, the Sheffield (AL) Police Department took a report but never followed up with any investigation.
- In 2021, after one troll made an explicit death threat over the phone warning me to "keep your head on a swivel" and "You'll never see me coming", an officer at the Saline County Sheriff's Office (NE) responded by telling me that I "brought it upon myself" because of my activism.

Despite disclaimers posted on sex offense registry websites that warns that misusing registry information is a crime, such laws are rarely, if ever, enforced.

Since 2008, I have assisted in a blog named absoltezerounites.blogspot.com. It was originally created by a victim of Absolute Zero United, but has evolved from a parody of the AZU website to a blog covering

⁴⁵ Patrick Lohmann. "Meeting Draws Negative Attention." Albuquerque Journal. 5 Sept. 2012. Accessed 24 March 2022 at <https://www.abqjournal.com/128240/meeting-draws-negative-attention.html>

online vigilante groups. As a result, I've become the occasional target of the online groups that I have featured on my blog.

This report does not cover every incident in which I have experienced harassment. However, it is important to share since I am certainly not alone in experiencing harmful incidents of targeted harassment. Virtually all anti-registry activist groups have experienced targeted harassment and have similar stories to mine. – Derek W. Logue

(NOTE: While I made many direct quotes from specific attacks directed at me, I have opted not to share the direct references to the offensive posts. Many were quotes from screenshots taken years ago, and some may still be online. I decided not to link to troll websites because doing so may resurrect some groups that deserve to remain defunct.)

APPENDIX 3: RESULTS BY GROUPS

(NOTE: For the first five groups, reposting Question 1 was redundant, since Question 1 separates respondents by status. Thus, Question 1 is not repeated in the first 5 groups listed in Appendix 3.

PERSONS FORCED TO REGISTER, LISTED PUBLICLY (232 RESPONDENTS)

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
Facebook	182	78.5%
YouTube	172	74.1%
LinkedIn	135	58.2%
Twitter	102	44%
Instagram	99	42.7%
TikTok	55	23.7%
Other	54	23.3%
SnapChat	39	16.8%

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	106	45.7%
NONE of the above	88	38%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	88	38%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	66	28.5%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	63	27.2%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS)	49	21.1%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	38	16.4%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	28	12.1%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 173)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	95	54.9%
Yes	56	32.4%
Unsure	22	12.7%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 173)	%
Facebook	93	53.8%
Other	52	30.1%
YouTube	32	18.5%
Twitter	30	17.3%
Instagram	29	16.8%
TikTok	12	6.9%
LinkedIn	10	5.8%
Snapchat	8	4.6%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 173)	%
Unsure/I don't know	70	40.5%
Individual post or video	54	31.2%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	36	20.8%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	30	17.3%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	30	17.3%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	26	15%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 173)	%
Nothing	54	31.2%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	49	28.3%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	47	27.2%
Other actions not specified above	38	22%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	30	17.3%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	24	13.9%
Notified law enforcement	24	13.9%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	129	55.6%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	94	40.5%
YES, due to other reasons	5	2.2%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	4	1.7%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Neither helps or hurts	79	34.1%
Helps	78	33.6%
Hurts	75	32.3%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁴⁶

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	192	82.8%
I was already aware of this	40	17.2%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	188	81%
Twitter	89	38.4%
Instagram	71	30.6%
YouTube	68	29.3%
TikTok	57	24.6%
SnapChat	41	17.7%
Other	39	16.8%
LinkedIn	28	12.1%
NONE of the above	24	10.3%

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
ALL of the above	134	57.8%
Facebook	115	49.6%
Twitter	63	27.2%
Instagram	51	22%
YouTube	48	20.7%
TikTok	46	19.8%
Snapchat	32	13.8%
Other	25	10.8%
LinkedIn	20	8.6%
NONE of the above	5	2.2%

⁴⁶ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
I don't know/unsure	103	44.4%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	101	43.5%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	23	9.9%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	5	2.2%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	144	62.1%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	86	37.1%
Yes	2	0.9%

PERSON FORCED TO REGISTER, NOT LISTED PUBLICLY (29 RESPONDENTS)

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
YouTube	21	72.4%
Facebook	18	62.1%
Instagram	15	51.7%
LinkedIn	14	48.3%
Twitter	13	44.9%
TikTok	6	20.7%
SnapChat	3	10.3%
Other	3	10.3%

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	14	48.3%
NONE of the above	14	48.3%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	7	24.1%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	6	20.7%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	5	17.2%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	5	17.2%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	2	6.9%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	0	0%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 20)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	11	55%
Unsure	6	30%
Yes	3	15%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 20)	%
Facebook	10	50%
YouTube	7	35%
Other	6	30%
Twitter	4	20%
TikTok	3	15%
Instagram	2	10%
LinkedIn	2	10%
Snapchat	0	0%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 20)	%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	8	40%
Individual post or video	7	35%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	4	20%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	3	15%
Unsure/I don't know	3	15%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	1	5%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 20)	%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	8	40%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	7	35%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	4	20%
Nothing	3	15%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	1	5%
Notified law enforcement	0	0%*
Other actions not specified above	0	0%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	23	79.3%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	4	13.8%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	1	3.5%
YES, due to other reasons	0	0%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	15	51.7%
Neither helps or hurts	10	34.4%
Hurts	4	13.8%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁴⁷

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	23	79.3%
I was already aware of this	6	20.7%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	19	65.5%
NONE of the above	8	27.6%
YouTube	7	24.1%
Twitter	6	20.7%
TikTok	5	17.2%
Instagram	5	17.2%
SnapChat	1	3.5%
LinkedIn	1	3.5%
Other	1	3.5%

⁴⁷ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
Facebook	15	51.7%
ALL of the above	13	44.8%
YouTube	7	24.1%
Twitter	5	17.2%
Instagram	4	13.8%
TikTok	3	10.3%
Snapchat	1	3.5%
Other	1	3.5%
NONE of the above	1	3.5%
LinkedIn	0	0%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	24	82.8%
I don't know/unsure	3	10.3%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	2	6.9%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	0	0%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	23	79.3%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	5	17.2%
Yes	1	3.5%

PERSONS NO LONGER REQUIRED TO REGISTER (14 RESPONDENTS)

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
YouTube	13	92.9%
Facebook	10	71.4%
LinkedIn	9	64.3%
Twitter	7	50%
Instagram	6	42.9%
Other	4	28.6%
TikTok	2	14.3%
SnapChat	1	7.1%

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	8	57.1%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	8	57.1%
NONE of the above	5	35.7%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	4	28.6%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	4	28.6%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS)	2	14.3%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	1	7.1%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	1	7.1%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 10)	% (rounded by tenths)
Yes	6	60%
No	4	40%
Unsure	0	0

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 10)	%
Facebook	7	70%
Twitter	3	30%
Other	2	20%
YouTube	1	10%
Instagram	1	10%
TikTok	1	10%
LinkedIn	0	0%
Snapchat	0	0%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 10)	%
Individual post or video	6	60%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	4	40%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	3	30%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	3	30%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	1	10%
Unsure/I don't know	0	0%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 10)	%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	5	50%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	3	30%
Nothing	2	20%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	1	10%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	0	0%
Notified law enforcement	0	0%
Other actions not specified above	0	0%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	8	57.1%
No	6	42.7%
YES, due to other reasons	0	0%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	0	0%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	6	42.7%
Hurts	4	28.6%
Neither helps or hurts	4	28.6%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁴⁸

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	10	71.4%
I was already aware of this	4	26.8%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	13	92.9%
Twitter	5	35.7%
Instagram	4	26.8%
YouTube	3	21.4%
TikTok	2	14.3%
Other	1	7.1%
SnapChat	1	7.1%
LinkedIn	0	0%
NONE of the above	0	0%

⁴⁸ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
Facebook	10	71.4%
Twitter	5	35.7%
ALL of the above	5	35.7%
YouTube	2	14.3%
Instagram	2	14.3%
TikTok	1	7.1%
Snapchat	1	7.1%
Other	1	7.1%
LinkedIn	1	7.1%
NONE of the above	0	0%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	10	71.4%
I don't know/unsure	4	25.8%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	0	0%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	0	0%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	7	50%
No	6	42.9%
Yes	1	7.1%

LOVED ONES OF PERSONS FORCED TO REGISTER (109 RESPONDENTS)

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
Facebook	102	93.6%
YouTube	81	74.3%
Instagram	61	56%
LinkedIn	56	51.4%
Twitter	52	47.7%
SnapChat	30	27.5%
TikTok	25	22.9%
Other	12	11%

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	57	52.3%
NONE of the above	37	33.9%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	27	24.8%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	26	23.9%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	26	23.9%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	22	20.2%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	21	19.3%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	12	11%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 85)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	56	65.9%
Yes	16	18.8%
Unsure	13	15.3%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 85)	%
Facebook	64	75.3%
Twitter	16	18.8%
Twitter	10	11.8%
YouTube	8	9.4%
Instagram	7	8.2%
TikTok	6	7.1%
LinkedIn	2	2.4%
Snapchat	2	2.4%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 85)	%
Individual post or video	37	43.5%
Unsure/I don't know	24	28.2%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	24	28.2%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	15	17.7%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	14	16.5%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	11	12.9%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 85)	%
Nothing	31	36.5%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	24	28.2%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	24	28.2%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	21	24.7%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	11	12.9%
Other actions not specified above	6	7.1%
Notified law enforcement	5	5.9%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	102	93.6%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	3	2.6%
YES, due to other reasons	2	1.8%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	2	1.8%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Hurts	41	37.6%
Helps	34	31.2%
Neither helps or hurts	34	31.2%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁴⁹

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	91	83.5%
I was already aware of this	18	16.5%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	92	84.4%
Twitter	40	36.7%
TikTok	39	35.8%
YouTube	33	30.3%
Instagram	31	28.4%
SnapChat	16	14.7%
LinkedIn	10	9.2%
NONE of the above	7	6.4%

⁴⁹ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
ALL of the above	67	61.5%
Facebook	49	45%
YouTube	22	20.2%
Twitter	20	18.4%
TikTok	17	15.6%
Instagram	13	11.9%
Snapchat	9	8.3%
Other	6	5.5%
LinkedIn	6	5.5%
NONE of the above	4	3.7%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
I don't know/unsure	48	44%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	45	41.3%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	10	9.2%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	6	5.5%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	65	59.6%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	43	39.5%
Yes	1	0.9%

**NON-PFR/LOVED ONE OF PFR BUT INVOLVED IN THE ANTI-REGISTRY MOVEMENT
(19 RESPONDENTS)**

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
Facebook	16	84.2%
YouTube	15	79%
Twitter	10	52.6%
LinkedIn	8	42.1%
Instagram	6	31.9%
SnapChat	6	31.9%
TikTok	4	21.1%
Other	2	10.5%

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	10	52.6%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	8	42.1%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	8	42.1%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	8	42.1%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	8	42.1%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	8	42.1%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	6	31.9%
NONE of the above	6	31.9%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 15)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	9	60%
Yes	6	40%
Unsure	0	0%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 15)	%
Facebook	12	80%
Instagram	4	26.7%
Twitter	4	26.7%
YouTube	4	26.7%
Other	2	13.3%
TikTok	2	13.3%
LinkedIn	1	6.7%
Snapchat	1	6.7%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 15)	%
Individual post or video	9	60%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	5	33.3%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	5	33.3%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	5	33.3%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	4	26.7%
Unsure/I don't know	3	20%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 15)	%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	7	46.7%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	6	40%
Nothing	5	33.3%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	5	33.3%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	5	33.3%
Other actions not specified above	2	13.3%
Notified law enforcement	2	13.3%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	17	89.5%
YES, due to other reasons	2	10.5%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	0	0%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	0	0%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	10	52.6%
Hurts	7	36.8%
Neither helps or hurts	2	10.5%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁵⁰

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	13	68.4%
I was already aware of this	6	31.9%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	12	63.2%
YouTube	11	57.9%
Twitter	9	47.4%
TikTok	6	31.9%
Instagram	4	21.1%
Other	3	15.8%
NONE of the above	3	15.8%
LinkedIn	1	5.3%

⁵⁰ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
ALL of the above	12	63.2%
Facebook	6	31.9%
YouTube	4	21.1%
Twitter	3	15.8%
Instagram	3	15.8%
NONE of the above	2	10.5%
Snapchat	1	5.3%
Other	0	0%
LinkedIn	0	0%
TikTok	0	0%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	7	36.8%
I don't know/unsure	5	26.3%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	4	21.1%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	3	15.8%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	11	57.9%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	7	36.8%
Yes	1	5.3%

ALL FACEBOOK USERS (Question 2—328 RESPONDENTS)*QUESTION 1: I am a...*

RESPONSE #1	TOTAL	%
Person Forced to Register, listed publicly	182	55.5%
Loved one of a Person Forced to Register	102	31.1%
Person Forced to Register, not listed publicly	18	5.5%
None of the above but involved in the Anti-Registry Movement	16	4.9%
Was once a registrant but no longer forced to register	10	3.1%

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
Facebook	328	100%*
YouTube	256	78.1%
LinkedIn	193	58.9%
Instagram	175	53.4%
Twitter	162	49.4%
TikTok	84	25.6%
SnapChat	78	23.8%
Other	57	17.4%

(*This category is for all Facebook users)

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	174	53.1%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	117	35.7%
NONE of the above	107	32.6%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	95	29%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	94	28.7%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	72	22%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	70	21.3%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	41	12.5%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 255)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	143	56.1%
Yes	76	29.8%
Unsure	36	14.1%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 255)	%
Facebook	180	70.6%
Other	51	20%
Twitter	46	18%
YouTube	42	16.5%
Instagram	37	14.5%
TikTok	20	7.8%
LinkedIn	13	5.1%
Snapchat	11	4.3%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 255)	%
Individual post or video	100	39.2%
Unsure/I don't know	79	31%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	64	25.1%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	56	22%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	50	19.6%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	40	15.7%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 255)	%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	81	31.8%
Nothing	80	31.4%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	79	31%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	49	19.2%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	43	16.9%
Other actions not specified above	39	15.3%
Notified law enforcement	25	9.8%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	219	66.8%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	97	29.6%
YES, due to other reasons	8	2.4%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	4	1.2%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	115	35.1%
Neither helps or hurts	111	33.8%
Hurts	102	31.1%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁵¹

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	272	82.9%
I was already aware of this	56	17.1%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	269	82%
Twitter	120	36.6%
YouTube	103	31.4%
Instagram	94	28.7%
TikTok	89	27.1%
SnapChat	50	15.2%
Other	46	14%
NONE of the above	33	10.1%
LinkedIn	32	9.8%

⁵¹ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
ALL of the above	188	57.3%
Facebook	156	47.6%
Twitter	72	22%
YouTube	65	19.8%
Instagram	57	17.4%
TikTok	52	15.9%
Snapchat	31	9.5%
Other	22	6.7%
LinkedIn	19	5.8%
NONE of the above	10	3.1%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	150	45.7%
I don't know/unsure	133	40.6%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	32	9.8%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	13	4%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	196	59.8%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	126	38.4%
Yes	6	1.8%

ALL YOUTUBE USERS (QUESTION #2—308 RESPONDENTS)*QUESTION 1: I am a...*

RESPONSE #1	TOTAL	%
Person Forced to Register, listed publicly	172	55.8%
Loved one of a Person Forced to Register	81	26.3%
Person Forced to Register, not listed publicly	21	6.8%
None of the above but involved in the Anti-Registry Movement	15	4.9%
Was once a registrant but no longer forced to register	13	4.2%

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
YouTube	302	100%*
Facebook	256	83.1%
LinkedIn	180	58.4%
Twitter	156	50.6%
Instagram	155	50.3%
TikTok	86	27.9%
SnapChat	70	22.7%
Other	57	18.5%

(*This category is for all YouTube users)

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	147	47.7%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	114	37%
NONE of the above	109	35.4%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	86	27.9%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	81	26.3%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	65	21.1%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	62	20.1%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	36	11.7%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 227)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	134	59%
Yes	64	28.2%
Unsure	29	12.8%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 227)	%
Facebook	149	65.6%
Other	48	21.2%
YouTube	48	21.2%
Twitter	42	18.5%
Instagram	32	14.1%
TikTok	19	8.4%
LinkedIn	12	5.3%
Snapchat	10	4.4%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 227)	%
Individual post or video	89	39.2%
Unsure/I don't know	72	31.7%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	52	22.9%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	50	22%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	39	17.2%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	36	15.9%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 227)	%
Nothing	75	33%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	69	30.4%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	68	30%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	43	18.9%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	33	14.5%
Other actions not specified above	30	13.2%
Notified law enforcement	20	8.8%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	201	65.3%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	88	28.6%
YES, due to other reasons	8	2.6%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	5	1.6%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	111	36%
Neither helps or hurts	97	31.5%
Hurts	94	30.5%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁵²

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	248	80.5%
I was already aware of this	54	17.5%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	243	78.9%
Twitter	109	35.4%
YouTube	95	30.9%
Instagram	83	27%
TikTok	76	24.7%
SnapChat	45	14.6%
Other	41	13.3%
NONE of the Above	32	10.4%
LinkedIn	28	9.1%

⁵² See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
ALL of the above	173	56.2%
Facebook	143	46.4%
Twitter	72	23.4%
YouTube	66	21.4%
Instagram	51	16.6%
TikTok	42	13.6%
Snapchat	29	9.4%
Other	23	7.4%
LinkedIn	19	6.2%
NONE of the above	9	2.9%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	145	47.1%
I don't know/unsure	122	39.6%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	24	7.8%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	11	3.6%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	179	58.1%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	118	38.3%
Yes	5	1.6%

ALL TWITTER USERS (QUESTION 2—184 RESPONDENTS)*QUESTION 1: I am a...*

RESPONSE #1	TOTAL	%
Person Forced to Register, listed publicly	102	55.4%
Loved one of a Person Forced to Register	52	28.3%
Person Forced to Register, not listed publicly	13	7.1%
None of the above but involved in the Anti-Registry Movement	10	5.4%
Was once a registrant but no longer forced to register	7	3.8%

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
Twitter	184	100%*
FaceBook	162	88%
YouTube	156	84.8%
LinkedIn	135	73.4%
Instagram	122	66.3%
TikTok	64	34.8%
SnapChat	57	31%
Other	36	19.6%

(*This category is for all Twitter users)

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	117	53.6%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	85	46.2%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	61	33.2%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	60	32.6%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	51	27.7%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	48	26.1%
NONE of the above	43	23.4%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	31	16.9%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 155)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	89	57.4%
Yes	42	27.1%
Unsure	24	15.5%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 155)	%
Facebook	103	66.5%
Twitter	52	33.6%
YouTube	28	18.1%
Instagram	26	16.8%
Other	22	14.2%
TikTok	15	9.7%
LinkedIn	11	7.1%
Snapchat	7	4.5%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 155)	%
Individual post or video	66	42.6%
Unsure/I don't know	47	30.3%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	41	26.5%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	32	20.7%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	29	18.7%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	25	16.1%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 155)	%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	63	40.7%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	54	34.8%
Nothing	50	32.3%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	28	18.1%
Other actions not specified above	22	14.2%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	21	13.6%
Notified law enforcement	9	5.8%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	110	59.8%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	69	37.5%
YES, due to other reasons	5	2.7%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	0	0%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	73	39.7%
Neither helps or hurts	61	33.2%
Hurts	50	27.2%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁵³

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	137	74.5%
I was already aware of this	47	25.5%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	164	89.1%
Twitter	80	43.5%
YouTube	60	32.6%
Instagram	58	31.5%
TikTok	54	29.4%
SnapChat	29	15.8%
Other	25	13.6%
LinkedIn	20	10.9%
NONE of the above	11	6%

⁵³ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL (of)	%
Facebook	100	54.4%
ALL of the above	99	53.8%
Twitter	58	31.5%
Instagram	44	23.9%
YouTube	41	22.3%
TikTok	38	20.7%
Snapchat	24	13%
LinkedIn	16	8.7%
Other	11	6%
NONE of the above	5	2.7%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	92	50%
I don't know/unsure	66	35.9%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	20	10.9%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	6	2.3%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	115	62.5%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	67	36.4%
Yes	2	1.1%

ALL WHO USE LINKEDIN (QUESTION #2—222 RESPONDENTS)*QUESTION 1: I am a...*

RESPONSE #1	TOTAL	%
Person Forced to Register, listed publicly	135	60.8%
Loved one of a Person Forced to Register	56	25.2%
Person Forced to Register, not listed publicly	14	6.3%
Was once a registrant but no longer forced to register	9	4.1%
None of the above but involved in the Anti-Registry Movement	8	3.6%

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
LinkedIn	222	100%*
Facebook	193	86.9%
YouTube	180	81.1%
Twitter	135	60.8%
Instagram	126	56.8%
TikTok	64	28.8%
SnapChat	58	26.1%
Other	44	19.8%

(*This category is for all LinkedIn users)

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	115	51.8%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	91	41%
NONE of the above	71	32%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	70	31.5%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	66	29.7%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	48	21.6%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	45	20.2%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	33	14.9%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 174)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	100	57.5%
Yes	54	31%
Unsure	20	11.5%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 174)	%
Facebook	109	62.6%
Twitter	39	22.4%
Other	36	20.7%
YouTube	31	17.8%
Instagram	30	17.2%
TikTok	18	10.3%
LinkedIn	13	7.4%
Snapchat	8	4.6%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 174)	%
Individual post or video	62	35.6%
Unsure/I don't know	57	32.8%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	43	24.7%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	37	21.3%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	31	17.8%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	30	17.2%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of)	%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	61	35.1%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	59	33.9%
Nothing	57	32.8%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	30	17.2%
Other actions not specified above	28	16.1%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	25	14.4%
Notified law enforcement	14	8.1%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	134	60.4%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	80	36%
YES, due to other reasons	6	2.7%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	2	0.9%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	78	35.1%
Neither helps or hurts	75	33.8%
Hurts	69	31.1%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁵⁴

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	176	79.3%
I was already aware of this	46	20.7%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	193	86.9%
Twitter	85	28.3%
YouTube	66	29.7%
Instagram	66	29.7%
TikTok	60	27%
SnapChat	31	14%
Other	30	13.5%
LinkedIn	21	9.5%
NONE of the above	13	5.9%

⁵⁴ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
Facebook	120	54.1%
ALL of the above	116	52.3%
Twitter	65	29.3%
YouTube	50	22.5%
Instagram	48	21.6%
TikTok	42	18.9%
Snapchat	25	11.3%
LinkedIn	15	6.7%
Other	15	6.7%
NONE of the above	6	2.7%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	98	44.1%
I don't know/unsure	94	42.3%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	22	9.9%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	8	3.6%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	136	61.3%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	84	37.8%
Yes	2	0.9%

**ALL WHO REPORTED NOT EXPERIENCING ONLINE HARASSMENT
(NO TO QUESTION 3 – 150 RESPONDENTS)**

Note: Those who reported no personal harassment were supposed to skip Questions 4-7; however, some answered the questions anyways, perhaps through confusion on question in instructions or because they merely witnessed cyberbullying and online harassment of others.

QUESTION 1: I am a...

RESPONSE #1	TOTAL	%
Person Forced to Register, listed publicly	88	58.7%
Loved one of a Person Forced to Register	37	24.7%
Person Forced to Register, not listed publicly	14	9.3%
None of the above but involved in the Anti-Registry Movement	6	4%
Was once a registrant but no longer forced to register	5	3.3%

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
YouTube	109	72.7%
FaceBook	107	71.3%
LinkedIn	71	47.3%
Instagram	51	34%
Twitter	43	28.7%
TikTok	27	18%
Other	26	17.3%
SnapChat	19	12.7%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 54)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	44	81.5%
Yes	5	9.3%
Unsure	5	9.3%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 54)	%
Other	16	29.6%
Facebook	5	9.3%
Instagram	4	7.4%
YouTube	3	5.6%
TikTok	2	3.7%
LinkedIn	1	1.9%
Twitter	0	0%
Snapchat	0	0%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 54)	%
Unsure/I don't know	15	27.8%
Individual post or video	2	2.7%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	2	3.7%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	1	1.9%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	1	1.9%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	0	0%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 54)	%
Nothing	7	13%
Other actions not specified above	4	7.4%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	2	3.7%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	2	3.7%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	2	3.7%
Notified law enforcement	2	3.7%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	0	0%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	127	84.7%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	17	11.3%
YES, due to other reasons	5	3.3%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	1	0.7%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Hurts	54	36%
Neither helps or hurts	52	34.7%
Helps	44	29.3%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁵⁵

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	134	89.3%
I was already aware of this	16	10.7%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	95	63.3%
Twitter	44	29.3%
NONE of the above	35	23.3%
TikTok	29	19.3%
Instagram	29	19.3%
YouTube	24	16%
Other	17	11.3%
SnapChat	15	10%
LinkedIn	14	9.3%

⁵⁵ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
ALL of the above	93	62%
Facebook	53	35.3%
Twitter	24	16%
YouTube	15	10%
Instagram	14	9.3%
TikTok	14	9.3%
Snapchat	7	4.7%
Other	7	4.7%
NONE of the above	7	4.7%
LinkedIn	5	3.3%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	80	53.3%
I don't know/unsure	63	42%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	4	2.6%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	3	2%

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	99	66%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more "gusto")	49	32.7%
Yes	2	1.3%

**ALL WHO REPORTED BEING POSTED, OR SEEING A LOVED ONE POSTED, ON SOCIAL MEDIA BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (LEAs)
(QUESTION 13—53 Respondents)**

QUESTION 1: I am a...

RESPONSE #1	TOTAL	%
Person Forced to Register, listed publicly	28	52.8%
Loved one of a Person Forced to Register	16	30.2%
None of the above but involved in the Anti-Registry Movement	7	13.2%
Person Forced to Register, not listed publicly	2	3.8%
Was once a registrant but no longer forced to register	0	0%

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
Facebook	48	90.6%
YouTube	35	66.1%
LinkedIn	30	56.6%
Instagram	27	50.9%
Twitter	26	49.1%
SnapChat	17	32.1%
TikTok	15	28.3%
Other	15	28.3%

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	35	66.1%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	33	62.3%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	31	58.5%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS)	26	49.1%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	25	47.2%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	25	47.2%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	17	32.1%
NONE of the above	7	13.2%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 50)	% (rounded by tenths)
Yes	26	52%
No	21	42%
Unsure	3	6%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 50)	%
Facebook	35	70%
Other	15	30%
Instagram	14	28%
Twitter	13	26%
YouTube	13	26%
TikTok	7	14%
LinkedIn	6	12%
Snapchat	6	12%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 50)	%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	27	54%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	25	50%
Individual post or video	23	46%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	16	32%
Unsure/I don't know	12	24%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	10	20%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of)	%
Nothing	19	38%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	19	38%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	16	32%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	14	28%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	12	24%
Notified law enforcement	11	22%
Other actions not specified above	10	20%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	29	54.7%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	19	35.9%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	3	5.7%
YES, due to other reasons	2	3.8%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Hurts	28	52.8%
Helps	15	28.3%
Neither helps or hurts	10	18.9%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁵⁶

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	38	71.4%
I was already aware of this	15	28.3%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	50	94.3%
Twitter	28	52.8%
Instagram	25	47.2%
TikTok	25	47.2%
YouTube	23	43.4%
SnapChat	20	37.7%
Other	13	24.5%
LinkedIn	11	20.8%
NONE of the above	0	0%

⁵⁶ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
ALL of the above	34	64.2%
Facebook	28	52.8%
Instagram	16	30.2%
Twitter	15	28.3%
YouTube	14	26.4%
Snapchat	11	20.8%
TikTok	10	18.9%
Other	8	15.1%
LinkedIn	7	13.2%
NONE of the above	2	3.8%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	37*	69.8%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	16*	30.2%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	0	0%
I don't know/unsure	0	0%

(*Noting ONLY those responded as being posted by LEAs on social media were counted)

QUESTION #14: Do you believe Law Enforcement should be allowed to post registry information on social media outlets?

RESPONSE #14	TOTAL	%
No	36	67.9%
Aw, Hell Naw! (No but with more “gusto”)	17	32.1%
Yes	0	0%

RESPONSES FROM THOSE WHO BELIEVE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (LEAs) SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO POST REGISTRY INFO ON SOCIAL MEDIA (QUESTION #14—SIX RESPONDENTS)

QUESTION 1: I am a...

RESPONSE #1	TOTAL	%
Person Forced to Register, listed publicly	2	33.3%
Loved one of a Person Forced to Register	1	16.7%
None of the above but involved in the Anti-Registry Movement	1	16.7%
Person Forced to Register, not listed publicly	1	16.7%
Was once a registrant but no longer forced to register	1	16.7%

QUESTION 2: I currently use, or have used in the past, the following social media platforms. Click ALL that apply. This is ONLY referring to popular social media websites, not blogs or websites with forums (i.e., SOSEN)

RESPONSE #2	# of Users	%
Facebook	6	100%
YouTube	5	83.3%
LinkedIn	2	33.3%
Instagram	2	33.3%
Twitter	2	33.3%
SnapChat	1	16.7%
TikTok	1	16.7%
Other	0	0%

QUESTION 3: Have you ever experienced the following on social media, whether directed at you, a loved one, or a known anti-registry activist? Click ALL that apply.

RESPONSE #3	TOTAL	%
Memes, GIFs, or slogans promoting violence against "sex offenders", "chomos" or "pedifiles" (example "Woodchipper goes brr, feet first")	4	66.7%
Efforts to remove social media accounts or websites of Registered Persons or anti-registry activists	4	66.7%
NONE of the above	2	33.3%
Doxing (posting of personal info, like home address or #, or registry flier)	1	16.7%
Organized trolling by an vigilante group (Anonymous "Sec" groups, "anti-predator" and sting operation groups)	1	16.7%
Statements encouraging suicide ("An hero", KYS")	0	0%
Direct threats or harassing statements ("Keep your head on a swivel" "watch your back")	0	0%
Statements encouraging people to contact you, your loved ones, and/or anti-registry activists offline	0	0%

QUESTION 4: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): Did these threatening/harassing posts lead to "real world" harassment (phone calls, texts, emails, person showing up at your house, etc.)?(SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #4	TOTAL (out of 5)	% (rounded by tenths)
No	4	80%
Yes	1	20%
Unsure	0	0%

QUESTION 5: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): On which social media platform did you witness/experience the harassment? Click ALL that apply. (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #5	TOTAL (out of 5)	%
Facebook	3	60%
Twitter	1	20%
YouTube	1	20%
Other	0	0%
Instagram	0	0%
TikTok	0	0%
LinkedIn	0	0%
Snapchat	0	0%

QUESTION #6: (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): If harassed online, were you able to determine what led to the harassment? If so, what best describes this "point of origin" for harassment? Click ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #6	TOTAL (of 5)	%
Individual post or video	2	40%
Unsure/I don't know	2	40%
A group of people not part of an organized trolling group	1	20%
Announcement by law enforcement agency	0	0%
Offline news report/website post shared on social media	0	0%
Organized troll or vigilante group (Anonymous, any "anti-pedo" group)	0	0%

QUESTION #7 (SKIPPABLE QUESTION): What actions did you take when experiencing harassment? Check ALL that apply (SKIP if answered "NONE OF THE ABOVE" to Answer #3)

RESPONSE #7	TOTAL (of 3)	%
Used a "block" or "censorship" feature	3	100%
Nothing	0	0%
Hit "Flag" or "Report" feature on the platform	0	0%
Gathered Evidence (collecting screenshots, research harassers)	0	0%
Attempt to reason, argue, or debate the trolls	0	0%
Notified law enforcement	0	0%
Other actions not specified above	0	0%

QUESTION #8: Have you ever had your own social media account permanently suspended/disabled/deleted? If so, was it due to your status?

RESPONSE #8	TOTAL	%
No	4	66.7%
YES, due to the sex offense registry	2	33.3%
YES, due to my anti-registry activism	0	0%
YES, due to other reasons	0	0%

QUESTION #9: In general, do you feel the use of social media helps or hurts Anti-Registry efforts?

RESPONSE #9	TOTAL	%
Helps	3	50%
Neither helps or hurts	2	33.3%
Hurts	1	16.7%

QUESTION #10: Do you know Facebook in particular has a policy allowing hate speech against Registered Persons? As noted on Facebook's Transparency page on "Hate Speech": Tier 1 statements not allowed include "Content targeting a person or group of people (including all groups EXCEPT those who are considered non-protected groups described as having carried out violent crimes OR SEXUAL OFFENSES or representing less than half of a group)"⁵⁷

RESPONSE #10	TOTAL	%
I didn't know that until I read this question	4	66.7%
I was already aware of this	2	33.3%

QUESTION #11: Which social media platforms do you feel encourages hate against Registered Persons? Check ALL that apply—

RESPONSE #11	TOTAL	%
Facebook	3	50%
Twitter	2	33.3%
NONE of the above	2	33.3%
TikTok	1	16.7%
YouTube	1	16.7%
Instagram	0	0%
SnapChat	0	0%
Other	0	0%
LinkedIn	0	0%

⁵⁷ See <https://transparency.fb.com/policies/community-standards/hate-speech/>

QUESTION #12: Which Social Media platforms could improve efforts to combat hate speech, bullying, and cyber-harassment against Registered Persons?

RESPONSE #12	TOTAL	%
Facebook	3	50%
NONE of the above	2	33.3%
ALL of the above	1	16.7%
Twitter	1	16.7%
YouTube	1	16.7%
TikTok	1	16.7%
Snapchat	0	0%
Instagram	0	0%
Other	0	0%
LinkedIn	0	0%

QUESTION #13: Many Law enforcement Agencies (LEAs) use social media for community notification. Have you, your loved ones, or other Registrant you know ever been featured on a social media post by LEAs, and if so, did you experience harassment?

RESPONSE #13	TOTAL	%
NO, I was not posted on social media by an LEA	4	66.7%
I don't know/unsure	2	33.3%
YES, and I was harassed after the post was made	0	0%
YES, but I was NOT harassed by anyone	0	0%

(*Noting ONLY those responded as being posted by LEAs on social media were counted)

(Question #14 omitted here as this section covered all who responded “yes” to Question 14.)

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