

## **Viral Justice and e-shaming in social media disclosure of sexual victimization**

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The average reporting rate for sexual victimization is very low, estimations range from 50 up to 96% underreporting. The current movement under the #MeToo confirms this large percentage of underreporting, as most disclosures state that they never told anyone about the victimization. This raises the following questions: who are these victims that prefer online disclosure to the disclosure to formal agencies? What is their motivation to choose an online and public platform for the disclosure of their victimization? And what is the effect of online and publically sharing their story of abuse? These questions will be answered in a large study we conducted in the Netherlands and Israel on social media disclosure of sexual victimization. In this presentation I will focus on the results from interviews held with the Dutch victims of sexual violence who chose to disclose the victimization online. Seven different motivations for online disclosure were distinguished from the interviews. In the presentation I will elaborate on these seven motivations as well as the benefits and drawbacks mentioned by the respondents in regard to the usage of internet and the different social media platforms. Practical implications for victim aid will be given.