

The Right to Privacy: Guarantees and Controls



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The Forum for Development and Human Rights Dialogue Report

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Introduction:

The concept of the inviolability of private life is the belief that all human beings at any stage of life have the right to have privacy in various matters of their lives. Each individual has the right to maintain the confidentiality of his private life and not to

make it vulnerable to any form of violation. It is a fundamental right inherent to man, and by it we set limits to the access of places and things, as well as communications and information.

It is all about the identity of the person and their right not to disclose their personal information and to keep everything related to his private life, and its scope extends to everything related to his family, professional and health life, religious, political and intellectual beliefs, correspondence and conversations and all non-public manifestations in the working life of the individual.

The right to the inviolability of private life is one of the most violated rights after the rapid development and spread of the Internet, as a result of the increase in daily electronic transactions and the sharing of personal information by individuals, whether with public or private entities.

The development and progress of society in various fields, especially in the technological field and modern means of communication, through which the process of communication between individuals, whether at home or abroad, has become easy. Despite the tremendous technological progress and development that the world is currently witnessing, these modern technological means have become a threat to the individual and society because of its exploitation by some people who target the sanctity of the private life of people, whether through espionage, infiltration of the devices used in the process of Communication between individuals and infringing on the sanctity of the lives of individuals unjustly, extortion, theft of data and personal information contained in the devices, or recording and leaking personal calls and videos on the Internet. There are many crimes that have occurred during the past period and have been broadcasted by the media and social media platforms that have caused uproar among citizens

In our report, we review one of the forms of the attack on the right to privacy, which is secret photography. **Secretly photographing victims by any person is a crime that must be punished, and is not permissible legally, or morally. It is considered part of the collapse of morality in Egyptian society. It is one of the crimes emerging on society, especially after the spread of mobiles and some modern technologies.**

There is no doubt that secretly photographing a person is a totally rejected social act, because it is clear evidence of a violation of privacy and the inviolability of the person. Taking/publishing any photo or video of a person without their knowledge is an actual offense to them, and can constitute harm to them.

The topic is addressed through several axes, namely the definition of personal privacy - methods of intrusion into personal privacy - the impact of publication of people's lives - the inviolability of private life in Egyptian laws and international conventions on human rights - monitoring of a number of cases - conclusion and recommendations.

Definition of Personal Privacy

Although there are definitions of privacy that vary from country to country, it can be said that privacy is the demarcation of boundaries that regulate a society's ability to interfere in an individual's life, and it has four facets:

- **Information Privacy**, which is concerned with setting rules governing the collection and circulation of personal information such as financial or health data of a person.
- **Body privacy**, which means protecting people from physical interference such as forcing them to take certain medications or undergo tooth decay tests, for example, without their consent, as well as secretly photographing people inside the dressing rooms without their knowledge.
- **Privacy of communications**, which includes the privacy and security of correspondence such as email, telephone communications and other forms of communication
- **Spatial privacy**, which refers to the interference in the space occupied by the human being as his home or place of work.

Violation of the right to privacy

To find out whether the act is a violation of the right to privacy or freedom of expression, the following must be answered:

- Does the material (information, images...) intended to be published relate to the public interest or the public domain?
- Is the victim a public figure?
- Did the incident happen in a public place?
- Did the victim agree to publish?
- Was it necessary to reveal the identity of the victim?
- What is the motivation behind the publication of that material?

And when answering these questions, we can clearly distinguish what material is used.

Forms of violation of the privacy of individuals are many and varied depending on the diversity of the rights to private life, such as the following:

First: Dissemination and publicity of the items protected by the right to the private life of the individual in various media and communication without their express or implied consent, as well as the manipulation or erasure of personal data by unauthorized persons.

Second: Violation of the privacy of individuals by modern means of eavesdropping, recording, electronic surveillance by satellites and digital cameras transferred by mobile phones.

Examples of ways and methods of violating personal privacy are many, including the following:

Impersonation and unauthorized use

Impersonation is a type of violation of personal privacy, where some rely on the unauthorized use of the image of others, or the use of their numbers, identity, or any document that does not belong to the impersonator. Example: A stranger takes a picture of a person walking on the street, and then uses the images of that person in his personal advertisements for a particular product. These ads may not be offensive, and do not cause embarrassment to the person; but they are really considered a violation of privacy; as they use the image without prior permission

Individuals have a reasonable basis for assuming that their privacy is protected in certain places and situations. For example, you might expect your home to be a private place; no one can watch you without your knowledge as it is not a public or open place. You also expect privacy in the public bathroom, or changing room. Thus, being in a place where they reasonably expect privacy makes intentional and unreasonable intrusion a violation of privacy.

Example: When you use a bathroom in the gym, the door is closed and there are no windows for it, you assume that nobody can see you using the facilities. If there are hidden cameras installed in the ceiling, this is a deliberate and unreasonable interference and is considered a violation of privacy.

Releasing misleading information about others

Publishing misleading information about others is a violation of privacy. For example, it may be a violation of privacy if the comment on the post with a photo from a news article is about a protest describing a person as a participant, when in fact the person was only watching the protest.

Disclosure of private information

The process of publicly disclosing facts and information about a particular person, is considered a form of privacy violation, in which case private information becomes public information. For example: it is possible that publishing facts about a person's health or financial problems is a violation of privacy. Moreover, publishing details of a person's private relationship with a person is considered public disclosure of private information and an invasion of privacy.

The impact of breaking into personal privacy

- It has negative repercussions on those whose personal privacy is infringed. It negatively affects many aspects, including bullying and imposing dominance over the privacy of others through the publication of information, photos or some of the secrets of his personal life, which may make it a way to control him, and make his decisions and behaviors hostage to others, and may go beyond it to distort his image, and control him by the wrong people.

- Hacking privacy is a crime that causes families to break up because of the impact on social ties, many of which amount to extortion and threats. This may destroy the life of the human being who is subjected to this violation.
- Many times, people are exposed to violent psychological trauma as a result of infringement upon their privacy, which includes loss of self-confidence and isolation from others.

The sanctity of private life in Egyptian law and international treaties

There are three articles relating to the inviolability of private life in Egyptian law, namely article 309 bis of the Penal Code, (punishable by imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year for anyone who attacks the inviolability of the private life of a citizen by committing one of the following acts in circumstances other than those authorized by law or without the consent of the victim:

- a) Eavesdrop, record or transmit by means of a device of any kind conversations held in a private place or by telephone;
- b) Take or transmit with a device of any kind a photograph of a person in a private place;

Similarly, article 309 bis (a) punishes anyone who broadcasts, facilitates the broadcasting or uses, even in public, a recording or document obtained unlawfully, by eavesdropping or filming if it is without the consent of the person concerned.

Article 25 of the Information Technology Law states that it shall be punishable by imprisonment for a period of not less than six months, and a fine of not less than fifty thousand pounds and not exceeding one hundred thousand pounds, or by either of these two penalties, anyone who violates the sanctity of private life, or publishes through the information network or by one of the means of information technology information or images or the like, which violates the privacy of any person without his consent, whether the information published is true or incorrect.

Article 76, paragraph 2, of the Telecommunications Regulatory Law 10 of 2003 stipulates that, without prejudice to the right to adequate compensation, anyone who intentionally disturbs or harasses others by misusing telecommunications

devices shall be punished by imprisonment and a fine of not less than EGP 500,000 and not exceeding EGP 20,000, or by either of these penalties.

Article 57 of the 2014 Constitution states: "Private life is inviolable, safeguarded and may not be infringed upon. Telegraph, postal, and electronic correspondence, telephone calls, and other forms of communication are inviolable, their confidentiality is guaranteed and they may only be confiscated, examined or monitored by causal judicial order, for a limited period of time, and in cases specified by the law. The state shall protect the rights of citizens to use all forms of public means of communication, which may not be arbitrarily disrupted, stopped or withheld from citizens, as regulated by the law."

Article [59] states: "Every person has the right to a secure life. The state shall provide security and reassurance for citizens, and all those residing within its territory."

Article 99 also stipulates that: "Any assault on the personal freedoms or sanctity of the life of citizens, along with other general rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution and the law, is a crime with no statute of limitations for both civil and criminal proceedings. The injured party may file a criminal suit directly. The state guarantees just compensation for those who have been assaulted. The National Council for Human Rights shall inform the prosecutor's office of any violation of these rights, and also possesses the right to enter into an ancillary civil lawsuit on the side of the injured party at its request. This is as specified within the law."

As for the international conventions, we find

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations:

Article [12] of the Act stipulates that: No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Article (17) “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation.”

General comment No. 16 of the United Nations Committee on Civil and Political Rights, commenting on this article on the protection of private life, states that “Article 17 provides for the right of every person to be protected against arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence as well as against unlawful attacks on his honour and reputation. In the view of the Committee this right is required to be guaranteed against all such interferences and attacks whether they emanate from State authorities or from natural or legal persons. The obligations imposed by this article require the State to adopt legislative and other measures to give effect to the prohibition against such interferences and attacks as well as to the protection of this right.”

Article (2)

1. Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

2. Where not already provided for by existing legislative or other measures, each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to take the necessary steps, in accordance with its constitutional processes and with the provisions of the present Covenant, to adopt such laws or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the rights recognized in the present Covenant.

3. Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes:

(a) To ensure that any person whose rights or freedoms as herein recognized are violated shall have an effective remedy, notwithstanding that the violation has been committed by persons acting in an official capacity; (b) To ensure that any person claiming such a remedy shall have his right thereto determined by competent judicial, administrative or legislative authorities, or by any other

competent authority provided for by the legal system of the State, and to develop the possibilities of judicial remedy; (c) To ensure that the competent authorities shall enforce such remedies when granted.

Article 2 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights requires each State party to respect and guarantee the recognized rights of all persons within its territory and within its jurisdiction, without discrimination. This means that the State must respect and guarantee the rights set forth in the Covenant. It is understood that digital surveillance can require a State to fulfil its human rights obligations if such surveillance involves the exercise by the State of authority or effective control over digital communications infrastructure, for example through direct eavesdropping or penetration of such infrastructure. Similarly, when a state exercises regulatory jurisdiction over a third party that physically controls the data, that state also has obligations under the Covenant. If a country seeks to assert its jurisdiction over the data of private companies as a result of the incorporation of such companies in that country, human rights protection measures must be extended to those whose privacy is interfered with, both in the country of incorporation and abroad.

Regional Charters and National Legislation

European Convention on Human Rights

Convention for the Protection of Human Rights within the Council of Europe Rome of November 4, 1950 Article 8. "1. Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence. 2. There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others."

African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights

It was signed by the Council of African Presidents at its 18th ordinary session in Nairobi (Kenya) June 1981, Article 4 "Human beings are inviolable. Every human

being shall be entitled to respect for his life and the integrity of his person. No one may be arbitrarily deprived of this right.”

American Convention on Human Rights

San José on 22/11/1969

Prepared within the framework of the Organization of American States (OAS) (11 | Hardo | Center for the Support of Digital Expression)

Article 11 Right to Privacy

1. Everyone has the right to have his honor respected and his dignity recognized.
2. No one may be the object of arbitrary or abusive interference with his private life, his family, his home, or his correspondence, or of unlawful attacks on his honor or reputation.
3. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks

Cases monitored

1- Secretly filming a woman inside a taxi in Giza

One person was arrested for posting a video on TikTok of a woman secretly filmed while riding a taxi in Giza.

One of the women, a resident of Imbaba, filed a report that she had been harmed by a user of a (specific) page via the social networking application «TikTok» for posting a video of her that he secretly filmed "while riding in a taxi accompanied by audio clips. It turned out that he is (resident of Imbaba)

He was arrested in possession of a mobile phone containing the photos of the victim, where he confessed to committing the crime of using his mobile phone to photograph the women without their knowledge in the means of transportation. He published several clips similar to what the victim submitted for the purpose of collecting views to make profits from them.

2- Harasser of Nozha Mall: "He used to secretly photograph girls from behind "

The security of a famous mall in Nozha received a distress call from one of the women, who reported that a young man filmed her from behind while she was walking with her husband to shop inside the mall, and was arrested. By searching his mobile phone, they found a number of photos of women and girls and referred him to the Public Prosecution.

Investigations confirmed the validity of the accusation against the young man of molesting a number of women in a famous mall in the Nozha area. It revealed that the accused used to photograph girls and women from their backs secretly. A number of photos of women while they were in an amusement park inside the mall were found on his phone.

The Nozha prosecutor ordered the young man to be referred for trial before the Misdemeanours Court, on charges of molesting women and secretly photographing them from their backs.

3- Clothing store owner accused of spying on girls and secretly photographing them

Two students reported in that while they were inside a famous clothing store on Fatima Rushdi Street in Omraniya, they were surprised that the owner of the shop spied on them and secretly filmed them from a secret opening in the place designated for trying clothes.

Immediately a security force moved to the place of the report and examined the phone of the owner of the shop and found that it contained a large number of pictures of girls and women while they were in the changing rooms. He was then taken to the police station. A report of the incident was drawn up and forwarded to the Public Prosecution for investigation.

The Public Prosecution in southern Giza has begun its investigations into the accusation of the owner of a famous clothing store of spying on girls and women and secretly filming them while they are inside the place designated for measuring clothes through a secret opening, on Fatima Rushdi Street in the Omraniya Police Station Department.

The prosecution demanded that the security services investigate the incident to uncover its circumstances, and also seized the defendant's phone and ordered to examine it and empty the photos and data on it, and also summoned the reporter and her friends to ask them about the incident.

4- Seizure of a plane to spy on ladies «at night»

In 2019, a person was arrested in Qalyubia using a drone with a small camera, to see the women enter their homes in the city of Banha.

One of the citizens in the Kafr al-Saraya area of Banha filed a report that he found a spy plane with a camera at the door of the balcony of his apartment, while he was sleeping with his wife, which he grabbed. It turned out that the accused, a lawyer, uses it to spy on women while they are sleeping at night.

He was detained, and it turned out that he was using it remotely to photograph women while they slept in their homes through "balconies and windows", and the plane was seized.

5- Filming ladies secretly inside the bathroom of a famous North Coast restaurant.

The incident dates back to Monday, June 6, 2022, when a video circulated on the social networking site "Facebook" in which one of the women was damaged by the discovery of a mobile phone running on video mode inside the toilet of the McDonald's restaurant in the North Coast region.

It turned out that the mobile phone belonged to one of the employees of the restaurant in question, named Abdel Hafez, 25, and he was arrested. On examination of his phone, more than 75 videos were found to depict sensitive areas in the women while they were frequenting the toilets. The assistant manager of the branch was also arrested for his responsibility towards the staff of the branch, and legal action was taken.

The investigating authorities in Borg El Arab have referred the accused for felonies.

6- Filming women secretly inside the bathroom of a famous restaurant in Cairo

An Egyptian woman warned social media users of the presence of a hidden camera in a famous restaurant.

The woman, named Mona, appeared in a video in which she said: "We went to a famous restaurant Makram Obaid branch in Nasr City and we are having lunch. After eating I went into the bathroom and was surprised by a mobile camera in the ceiling of the bathroom."

The lady continued: "I got nervous and called my husband to come and confirm my words. He called on the branch manager who went up to bring the phone as shown in the video."

A restaurant worker named "Ramadan.M.", admitted to committing the crime of secretly filming women inside the restaurant's bathroom with a mobile phone and that he had been accustomed to this shameful act for a while. Found with him

inside his phone were 4 videos, including an hour-and-a-half clip showing a number of women and customers inside the bathroom.

A security force soon moved to the scene of the incident, and surveillance cameras were seized and the victim's statements and witnesses were heard. Incident report No. 26757 of 2021 were issued for the misdemeanours of Nasr City I, and the prosecution took over the investigations.

7- A phone in the ceiling in the changing room of one of the companies in Heliopolis

While an employee at the company's branch in the changing room discovered the presence of a mobile phone installed in the ceiling of the room in video mode where the branch manager submitted a report

Police moved to the place of the report and found that the mobile phone referred to belonged to (a cleaner in the branch in question who confessed to the crime as indicated, with the intention of photographing the ladies in the room).

He was referred to prosecutors, who ordered the worker to be referred for trial on charges of secretly photographing the women inside the changing room via his mobile phone.

8- Famous clothing store owner blackmails girls

The owner of the "Atelier" clothing store was arrested on charges of spying on the girls and filming them secretly through a hole he prepared in the dressing room of his shop in Zeitoun.

As one of the women entered to change her clothes, she was surprised that the shopkeeper filmed her while she was changing clothes.

The investigations of the Cairo Mabahith revealed that the owner of the shop "60 years old" placed a hidden camera in a room adjacent to the changing rooms to photograph the girls and spy on them. By examining his phone, they found a number of photos of some of the women who he extorted, and the accused was arrested.

9- Camera inside the changing room in Giza

On 14/11/2018, a girl went to buy new clothes from one of the shops in Giza. She said that she wanted help from one of the girls working in the shop to close her dress and when she turned her back and looked at the mirror she was surprised by the presence of a camera. When she asked the worker about it, she denounced and claimed that it does not work. From here a verbal altercation began between them. The girl then immediately called her husband and brother to see what was in the shop and what the camera filmed.

10- The owner of a shop in Kattameya photographs the ladies in the changing rooms

On 3 November 2018, the owner of a women's clothing store was imprisoned inside a famous mall in Katameya on charges of snooping on women and filming obscene content, using a phone that a woman noticed and quickly reported to the police.

The investigations showed that the accused suffers from sexual diseases and that he is addicted to watching sexual clips, and that his passion for practicing these facts prompted him to install his own phone camera on top of the changing room and record women. After each woman came out of the room, he would go in to save the recording.

11- Photographing girls inside the bathroom of one of the restaurants in Heliopolis

On September 19, 2021, a girl named Basma Magi said through a video that was published through social media that “my friend and I were in a famous store, the branch of the Girls’ College, and there was a mobile attached to the wooden ceiling above the toilet that showed the girls while they were in the bathroom, I have never seen such illness in my life. The mobile turned out to belong to one of the staff, and it had a lot of videos. We called the police to take the boy and the mobile to take care and wipe everything that belongs to the girls and the report was waived. The boy behind all this turned out to be 17 years old.”

12- Photographing girls inside Qena Mall

The beginning was when two people reported the student Mina M., a student, resident of Bandar Qena, who works in the Jewelry shop in a famous mall in Qena, for filming the girls inside the shops. Security forces were able to arrest him and examine his phone, where they found filled with pictures of the girls without their knowledge. The perpetrator did not use the images to blackmail girls but simply because of the recklessness of young men or obsession. The court confirmed in the reasons for its ruling, dated October 20, 2020 to one year in prison, that what the accused did was the misuse of the mobile phone and it constitutes a criminal offense that requires punishment and what this person did is an infringement of family principles and values and a violation of the freedom of private life and is a violation of the inviolability of the private life of people even if they are in a public place and even if they are anonymous as long as that act is out of stalking.

13- An airport worker stealthily photographs girls from behind

A girl broadcast a video of herself sharing what happened to her at the airport as she returned from Beirut. Someone secretly filmed her while checking in with her friends. After confronting him, he denied that he had filmed, and refused to open his phone to make sure there were no pictures of them.

According to the girl's account in the video, she summoned the security men, and they were all taken to an office to investigate the incident.

The official page of the Cairo Airport Company published a notice stating that the worker was stopped and his customs permit was withdrawn until the completion of the necessary investigations by the concerned authorities.

14- Photographing girls being harassed to blackmail them

"Medhat M.M.," 18, confessed to the prosecution of helping "Mohammed.S.," 45, blind, to secretly photograph a number of girls while harassing them inside

his house, to blackmail them into returning again, stressing that his role was limited to photographing girls only due to his tight financial condition.

The Prosecution ordered their detention pending investigations, on charges of raping and photographing minors.

15- Photographing the body of the student Naira Ashraf

In 2022, 3 nurses and a young man were prosecuted for filming and publishing a video of the body of victim Naira Ashraf following her murder by the hands of her colleague in front of the gate of Mansoura University on Monday, June 20. The clip was broadcast on social media.

"The clips were presented to the competent prosecutor, who at the same time received a petition from the father of the victim complaining about the director of the hospital and the medical staff who accompanied the deceased for photographing the body, leaking and publishing the photograph, which violates its sanctity."

16- Suicide of a girl who was blackmailed after her mobile phone files were stolen

On January 3, 2022, 16-year-old student Basant Khaled ended her life after being blackmailed by one of the young people in the village where she lives, who wanted to pursue a relationship with her. When she refused, the young man called her and sent a link that she opened through which he was able to hack her phone and steal personal photos and fabricate them on other photos. The young man then sent this clip and the photo that he had to all her classmates inside the village and in the school she attends. The pictures spread so quickly that the victim saw them on the phone of a teacher giving her a private lesson and the phones of her colleagues, so the girl immediately went to her house and collapsed from tears until the family learned of the truth of what had happened.

17- Photography of the teacher on a trip

On January 18, 2022, the incident sparked the filming of teacher "A. Youssef" without her knowledge dancing with a number of her fellow teachers in a boat during a trip organized by the Teachers' Syndicate. A great stir on social media sites led to her divorce from her husband and her referral to investigation by her educational department as well as being bullied and called profanity. Society launched a fierce onslaught that turned her life from day to night into hell.

18- She photographs a foreign lady standing on the balcony of her house

On December 10, 2021, a video was published of a Ukrainian woman without her knowledge, while standing on the balcony of her house, who went out in her underwear on the balcony of her house. It turned out that she did not know the Egyptian laws and was not aware that her exit in this way is punishable by Egyptian law, especially that she goes out in Ukraine in clothes like that and walks in the street."

19- Airport girl case

On June 17, 2021, the Public Prosecution decided to refer an employee at Cairo International Airport to an urgent criminal trial on charges of harassing a girl in the case known as "Airport Girl." Investigations conducted by the Public Prosecution Office proved the conviction of the accused of committing the incident, and photographing sensitive areas of the victim's body as "the home of chastity." With the intent of obtaining it for sexual use, as it was proven to the prosecution through investigations that the accused secretly photographed the girl for this purpose. It was found by examining his mobile phone with the knowledge of security men at Cairo Airport, that there were pictures of other women, the accused also photographed them stealthily. He photographed the sensitive areas of their chastity, taking advantage of his presence in a place not covered by the port's monitoring machines, and that his work tasks do not permit him to photograph inside the port.

20- Mobile camera in the dressing room in a mall on October 6th

On July 16, 2020, a woman named Noha, entered a sportswear shop in a mall in Cairo's 6th of October district, and discovered a smartphone with his camera pointed at her inside the changing room to film her.

Shocked by this, Noha screamed until the security men arrived at the shop and checked the phone, arrested the owner, and wrote a police report.

21- Damietta shop owner secretly arrested

In 2019, security forces arrested the owner of a clothing store in Damietta governorate, after he used shop workers to photograph women in the changing room.

The defendant used to blackmail women in exchange for a sexual relationship or money, and prosecutors charged him with forming an immoral network after finding a number of videos and photos of his victims on his phone and computer.

22- A surveillance camera inside the place dedicated to trying clothes in one of the shops in Faisal Street

In 2019, one of the ladies revealed the presence of a surveillance camera inside changing rooms in one of the shops on Faisal Street in Cairo.

After discovering it filming, her friends called the police, who arrested the shopkeeper and seized the cameras, where they found a number of photos and videos of many of the women.

23- Assaulting his child and filming her to blackmail her

On July 6, 2021, an employee who filmed and blackmailed a girl, was arrested. The 18-year-old girl "M" working for the perpetrator in a company selling mobile phones. He took advantage of his seclusion with the victim child in the company and assaulted her and photographed her without her knowledge to blackmail her with these pictures.

Recommendations:

- The state must address the regulation of communications of all kinds in accordance with laws that guarantee respect for privacy for all citizens and not enable others, directly or indirectly, breaching the privacy of others or accessing their private data. The legal regulation needs to be based on objective and professional foundations and the regulation of the right to Privacy, by criminalizing attacks on other's privacy.
- It is of great importance that all companies' employees, official bodies and Internet users be aware of the limits to freedom of opinion and right to privacy, and that any behaviour or action that does breaches them should be avoided.
- The penalty of the crime of violating the sanctity of the private life of citizens must be strict.
- Although the Egyptian Penal Code contains texts that protect the private life of individuals, the nature of the attack on the sanctity of private life requires texts that govern their criminal behaviour without resorting to analogy or broad interpretation and without controversy or difference of opinions.
- There must be more social awareness of the risks of violating privacy on social networking sites through organizing workshops, seminars and meetings. This should be in parallel with a media policy that seeks to alert the public and raise their awareness of their rights, and how to deal with companies and entities that collect information about them. There is also a need to constantly review privacy policies with the massing of public opinion behind this issue, and putting constant pressure on the administrations of social networking sites, to force them to respect the right in privacy.
- The educational curriculum has to include digital media education in schools and universities to teach youth and children how to deal with the new digital media in a safe manner.
- Tightening control in the areas of listening devices and the use of surveillance cameras is necessary. Their use in private places and in cases other than necessary use must be prevented. There needs to be specific controls, licenses and permissions for them. They are considered tools that easily to

pose a threat to the privacy of individuals if they are not used in accordance with the legal framework.