



Protecting Your Corporate Identity On-Line: It's More Than Just Infringement

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Rogue Websites





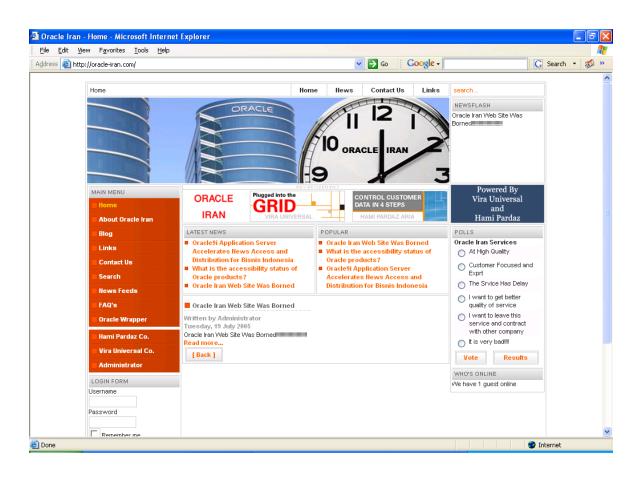
Rogue Websites

- Typically operated from a foreign jurisdiction
- May use a brand owner's trademark in the domain name
- Sometimes copies the brand owner's "official" website
- Usually operated by "ghosts" & difficult to stop
- A risk to brand owners & consumers: counterfeit, theft, malware, phishing, viruses, & scams
- May sell counterfeit products





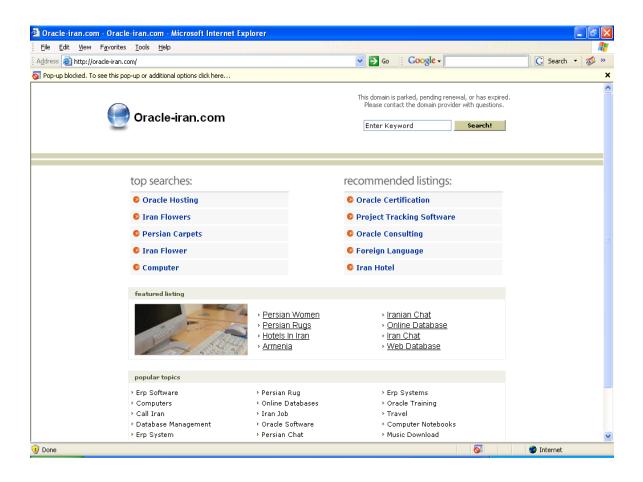
Oracle-iran.com







Oracle-iran.com







Enforcement Against Rogue Websites

UDRP Actions

- File UDRP Actions
- Trademark must be used in the domain name (i.e. <u>www.monsterheadphones.com</u>)
- Transfer of domain names, no damages
- Disruptive, but does not stop the operators from creating new sites

Civil Suits

- ACPA Anticybersquatting Consumer Protection Act
- In rem jurisdiction for domain names
- Statutory damages available





Enforcement Against Rogue Websites

Law Enforcement

- Work with law enforcement
- DOJ Recently seized 82 domain names
- Not always feasible (cost, timing, resources)

Consumer Awareness

- Inform your customers of the danger of "rogue" websites
- Utilize marketing campaigns to raise awareness





Counterfeit Sales through Rogue Websites - Remedies

- DMCA Notices
 - Technically only for copyright infringement
 - If there is a copyright hook, use it
 - But usually works for trademark counterfeiting
 - Send to ISP (not Registrar)
 - Opportunity for counternotice from infringer
 - ISP will disable access to site
 - Infringer will likely migrate to new ISP with same domain name





- DMCA Notices
 - Pros
 - Cost effective
 - Immediate removal of website
 - Increases counterfeiter's cost of doing business
 - Cons
 - Doesn't necessarily work for foreign ISPs
 - Website will likely reappear with new hosting service
 - Treats symptoms only



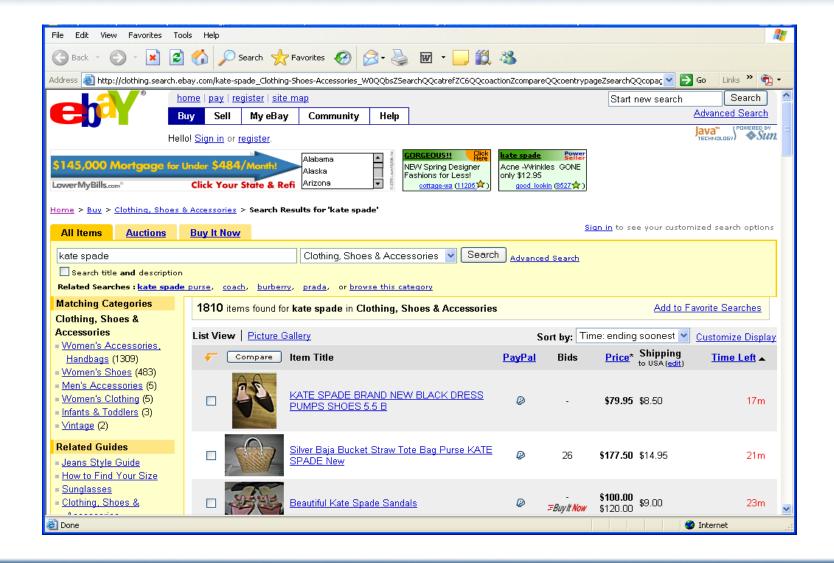


Counterfeit Sales – Online Marketplaces



Annual Meeting 2011 DENVER OCT 23-26 Where In-house Counsel Connect









Liability for Online Sales Venues?



Tiffany v. Ebay, 600 F.3d 93 (2d. Cir. 2010)





Liability for Online Sales Venues?



L'Oreal SA v. eBay International AG, EU Court of Justice Case C-324/09





Strategies

- Monitor auction sites and "trade" sites
 - Shut down auctions of fakes VeRO program
 - Collect data to trace fakes to source
 - Outside services are available











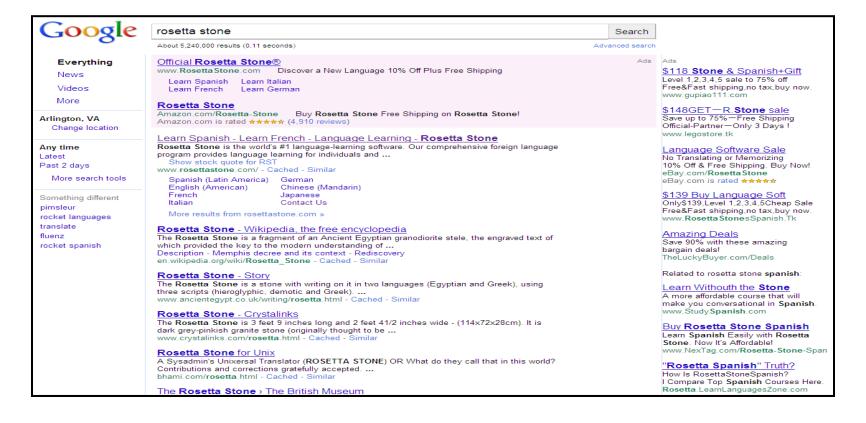


Keyword Advertising





Keyword Advertising – Search for "Rosetta Stone"







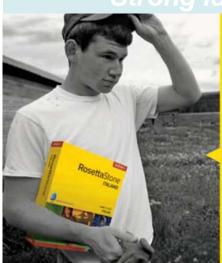
How does keyword advertising negatively impact brand owners?

- Brand owners invest heavily in their brands to foster consumer trust, affinity, reinforce promise of quality and increase brand recognition
- Trademark owners are forced to bid on their own trademarks and "bid up" for their own marks against third parties in keyword auction processes
- Trademark owners must proactively police search results of search engines
 - Policing very difficult: Search results are different based on location of search and time of day
 - Search engines conduct very little filtering up front to determine whether advertisers are violating search engine ad policies
 - Search engines conduct a manual review process upon trademark owner complaint of disparaging, competitive and counterfeit ads
 - The harm is already done: Ads selling counterfeit products and other third party competitive or disparaging brands and raising trademark owners cost per click for bidding on their own trademarks
 - Consumers are confused by counterfeiters and other third parties. Confusion can result in frustration and a loss of brand loyalty.





Real World Example: Rosetta Stone Heavy Investments Built Brand Awareness



He was a hardworking farm boy.

She was an Italian supermodel.

He knew he would have just one chance to impress her.

> Introducing Rosetta Stone® Version 3. The fastest and easiest way to learn ITALIAN

"I discovered a way to learn Chinese in record time!" "...Thanks to Rosetta Stone."



"Gold standard." "Next best thing to living in a country."

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

"A thousand times more engaging than audio tapes." BBC

"Unrivaled." **Tech**Crunch





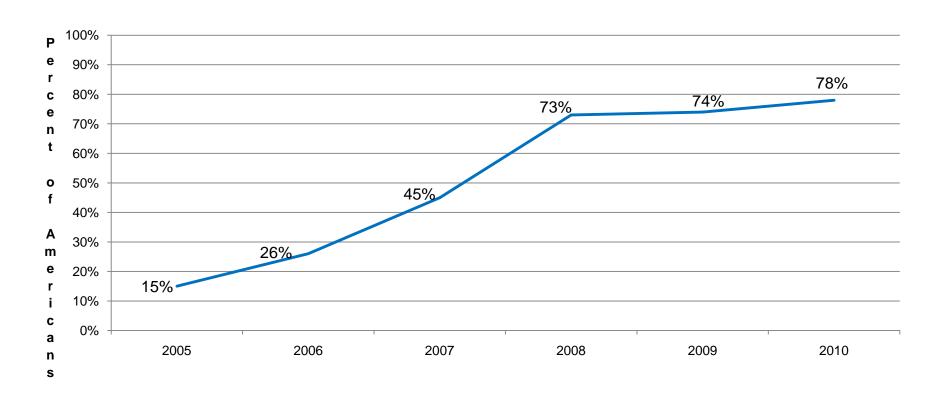








Rosetta Stone – Brand Recognition Surveys



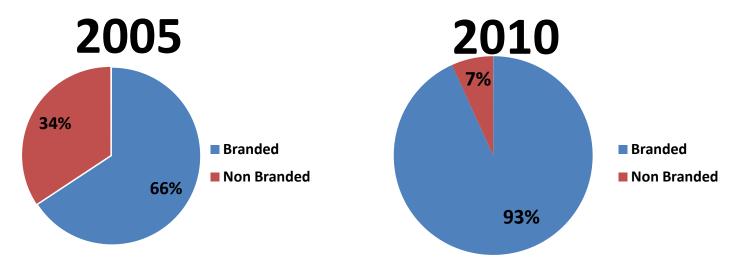




Rosetta Stone Keyword Advertising Spend

Estimated breakdown % of Rosetta Stone Keyword Advertising Spend Branded (purchasing Rosetta Stone trademarks) vs.

Non-Branded Keywords (e.g., language learning, Spanish, French, etc.)

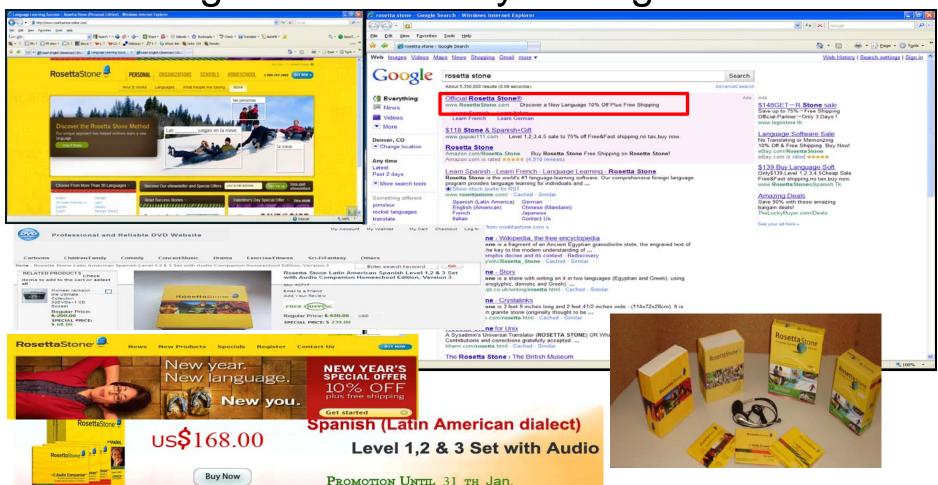


Cost per conversion increased between **Q4-2006 to Q4-2010** approximately 300%





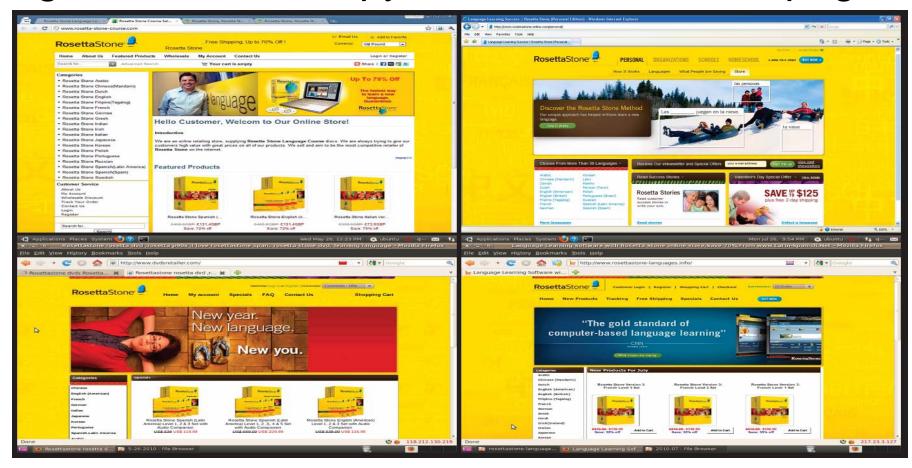
Search Engines – Gateway to Rogue Websites







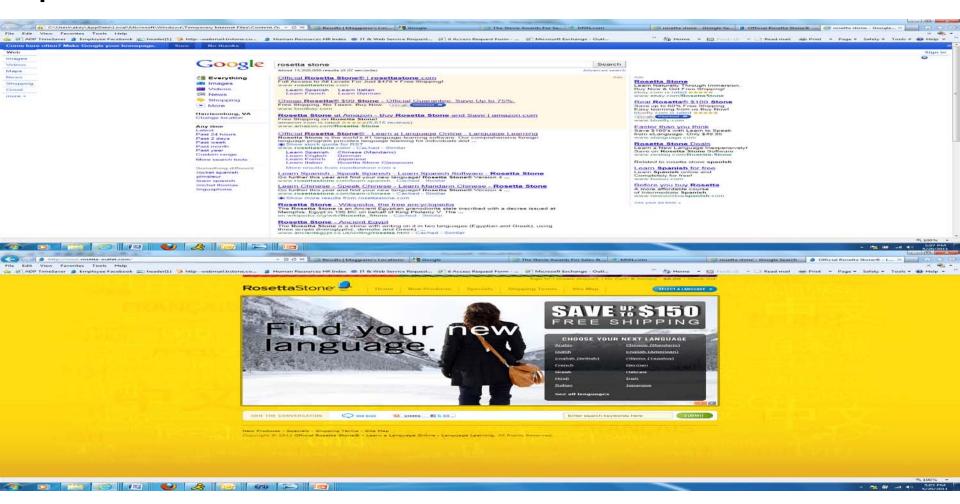
Rogue Websites Copy Rosetta Stone Webpages







Spoofs of Other Brands' sites







Keyword Advertising – How do you defend your marks online?



- Register trademarks with USPTO and overseas
- Register copyrightable works (some designs may be protected under copyright laws)
- Inventory and audit trademarks and brands
- Prioritize trademarks and brands
- Create a plan to defend trademarks and identify resources to execute plan
- Communicate plan to organization
- Review search engines' trademark policies and complaint processes and continue to monitor for changes
- Know your supply, distribution and retail channels
- Create standard provision in contract with partners and advertising affiliates that precludes them from bidding on your trademarks and negative matches





Keyword Advertising – How do you defend your marks online?



- Police brand uncover infringement
 - Conduct daily scans of search results using your own trademarks as keyword triggers through third party scanning tools (e.g., MarkMonitor, Cyveillance and MiMTiD) or build your own tools with IT department
 - Preserve/gather evidence e.g., screen shots, historical copies (archive.org)
 - Send cease and desist notices to third party
 - Send take down notices to ISPs hosting websites selling counterfeit products
 - Register complaints with search engines and registrars
- Be diligent with follow up
- Consider legal action (criminal or civil)
- Support needed legislation





.Brand - New gTLDs





Generic Top Level Domains

- ICANN, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, will soon allow corporations to register new generic top level domain names ("gTLDs")
- What is a generic top level domain?
 - The very last portion of an email address or web page: employee@hughes.com or www.hughes.com
 - Other examples include .edu, .gov, etc.





Brief Summary of New gTLD Process

- Applications January 12 April 12, 2012
 - \$185,000 application fee
 - Preparation of 100+ page application detailed technical/financial data
 - Letter of credit/escrow covering 3 years' operation costs
 - Possible objection proceedings
- Operation of registry
 - \$25,000 annual fee
 - Set up and ongoing management costs





Does Your Organization Need a gTLD?

- Forget about cybersquatting
 - Application barriers and cost are too high
 - Conflicts will be between entities using same name, or competing claims to generic words
- Type of organization
 - Community
 - Network of authorized affiliates/distributors
 - Cutting edge industry/image
 - Adequate resources
- Projected use
 - More than a redirect
 - Innovative business purpose





Pros and Cons of Operating a gTLD

Benefits

- Personal connection with customers customername.brand
- Indicator of authenticity distributor.brand
- Potential enhanced security
- Marketing consumer expectations

Risks

- Complex, untested application process
- Expenditure of resources on unproven asset
- Next application window may not be for years
- Unknown effect on search engine rankings
- Potential impact on stability of Internet
- New gTLDs could end up like .biz, .mobi, .asia, .tel, etc.





Internal Evaluation Process

- Identify the stakeholders
 - Marketing
 - IT/Network Infrastructure
 - Legal
- Figure out who pays
- Get executive-level final decision
- Legal and technical vendors for application
- Set up and maintenance of registry
 - In-house or vendor
 - Open or closed registry





Potential Hurdles

- Objections
 - Preference for communities (e.g. Apple Inc. v. Apple Growers)
 - Trademark owners agreement/auction (e.g. Ford Motor v. Ford Models)
 - Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
- Rejection of application
 - Loss of 20-80% of application fee and other costs
- Difficulty with community processes/governance
 - Defining user community e.g. .dog
 - Issues with business competitors e.g. .soda





Protecting Your Brand - Challenges

- Challenges to control branding at second level "X".gTLD
 - Your trademark may be registered wholesale in newly available domains: "Brand".gTLD
 - Very convincing fraudulent domain names may be registered from holders of innocuous gTLDs. Imagine receiving email from the following domains:
 - @Monster.Cable
 - @Nike.Sports
 - @American.Express





Protecting Your Brand - Strategies

- Attempt to register your brand as a gTLD
- Register your trademarks in the ICANN trademark clearinghouse
 - Receive notice of gTLD applications identical to the trademark
 - Clearinghouse has not yet been created
- Monitor gTLD applications and your brand's usage online





ICANN Dispute Resolution

- There is a process for objecting to gTLD applications before they are granted
 - For gTLDs that are identical or confusingly similar to an objector's trademark
- A mechanism will also be put in place to report gTLD operators who allow others to register infringing secondlevel domain names
- In each case, the burden is on the rights holder to object, making regular monitoring important





LET'S BE ADULT ABOUT IT







Launch Plan for .xxx domain names

Sunrise A

 Adult Sponsored Community with trademark rights
 September 7 – October 28, 2011

Sunrise B

- Blocking for non-adult IP trademark owners September 7 – October 28, 2011

Landrush

- November 8 25, 2011
- General Availability December 6, 2011





Sunrise B – Blocking for .xxx Domains

- Domain names that are identical to a federally registered trademark
 - not common law marks
 - not misspellings
 - no Supplemental Register marksAND
- Have not been registered by a member of the adult community during Sunrise A
- 10 year block



GROUPON



Social Media and Community Content Sites



















digg



















Social Media Brand Protection Strategies

- Proactive or Reactive?
- Coordinating with a company's different teams
- Selecting which sites to monitor, if any





Facebook

- Fake Fan Sites
 - 10,000 fans and FB will migrate
 - IP@facebook.com

Wall Attacks

- You can freeze your wall
- FB will block users from posting to your wall in some circumstances

Scraping Photos

- Online complaint form
- FB will remove user from platform in some circumstances

Misuse of Trademarks

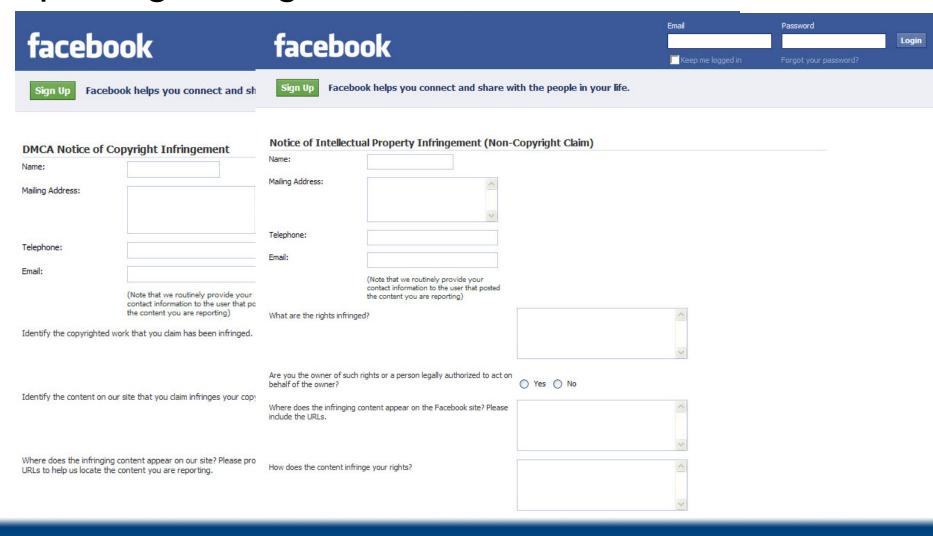
Online complaint form







Reporting Infringement to Facebook







Twitter

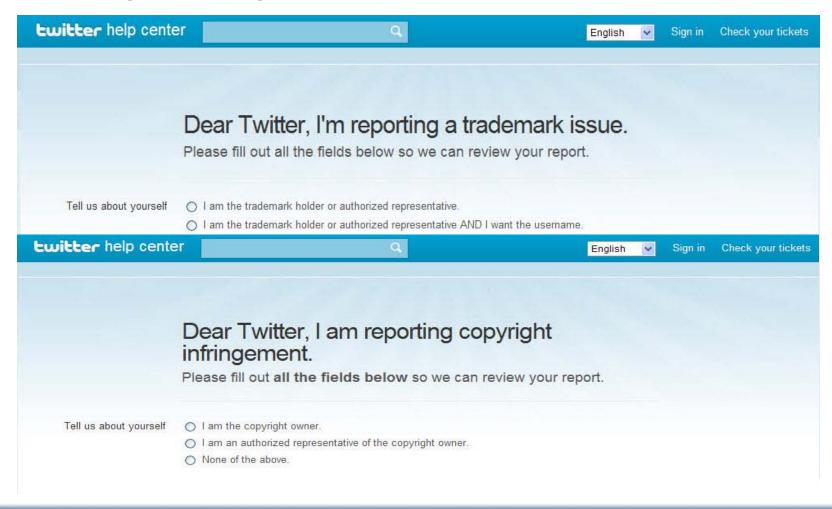
- Impersonation
 - Twitter will transfer the handle
- Trademark Misuse
 - Twitter won't transfer handle unless it's a commercial use







Reporting Infringement to Twitter







LinkedIn



- Impersonation
 - LinkedIn will disable account in response to complaint
 - LinkedIn may provide IP address of imposter in compelling cases





Blogs

- Impersonation
- Improper Trademark Use











Blogger Content Policy



Push-Button Publishing

Blogger Content Policy

Blogger is a free service for communication, self-expression and freedom of speech. We believe Blogger increases the availability of information, encourages healthy debate, and makes possible new connections between people.

We respect our users' ownership of and responsibility for the content they choose to share. It is our belief that censoring this content is contrary to a service that bases itself on freedom of expression.

In order to uphold these values, we need to curb abuses that threaten our ability to provide this service and the freedom of expression it encourages. As a result, there are some boundaries on the type of content that can be hosted with Blogger. The boundaries we've defined are those that both comply with legal requirements and that serve to enhance the service as a whole.

Content Boundaries

Our content policies play an important role in maintaining a positive experience for you, the users. Please respect these guidelines. From time to time, we may change our content policies so please check back here. Also, please note that when applying the policies below, we may make exceptions based on artistic, educational, documentary, or scientific considerations or where there are other substantial benefits to the public from not taking action on the content.

Adult Content: We do allow adult content on Blogger, including images or videos that contain nudity or sexual activity. But, please mark your blog as 'adult' in your Blogger settings. Otherwise, we may put it behind a 'mature content' interstitial.

There are some exceptions to our adult content policy:

- Do not use Blogger as a way to make money on adult content. For example, don't create blogs where a significant percentage of the content is ads or links to commercial porn sites.
- No incest or bestiality content: We do not allow image, video or text content that depicts or encourages incest
 or bestiality.

Child safety: We have a zero tolerance policy towards content that exploits children. Some examples of this





THANK YOU!