




Online Romance Scams

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Anyone may be targeted by these scams, though seniors and 2SLGBTQIA+ people may be more vulnerable.



Some common scams include:

-  **The Gay Foreign Prince Scam** is an advance-fee scam where the scammer poses as a closeted member of a royal family to emotionally manipulate and financially exploit victims via dating apps or social media under false pretenses.
-  **Catfishing** refers to the act of creating a fake identity or persona on a dating platform, usually by using someone else’s photos, name, or fabricated personal information, in order to deceive someone for emotional or financial gain.
-  **Sextortion** is a form of blackmail where someone threatens to share explicit or sexual images or videos of the victim unless the victim gives in to specific demands, such as providing payment or additional sexual content.

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-  **Pig Butchering** is an investment scam that exploits victims, often through online dating platforms or social media, by developing a romantic or personal relationship with them. These scammers gain trust over several weeks or months before persuading the victim to invest in a fake investment scheme.
-  **Money Mule** is a type of online dating scam where an individual is manipulated into transferring or moving illicit money on behalf of the scammer. This scam often relies on building trust before asking for help with a crisis in which they cannot move the money themselves.

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