Laura Kaun

Thursday 21 May 2026

CCDH Center for Countering Digital Hate

WE FIGHT FOR

- Human rights and civil liberties in the digital world

WE RESEARCH ONLINE HARMS

- Holding technology companies accountable for their failures
- Proposing policy solutions to fix problems
- Working with governments to enforce action

WE ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE

- We collaborate with non-profits, charities, news publishers, politicians, celebrities, and parents
- We educate & convene with trainings, events, and resources

ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE

CCDH's STAR Framework

S — Safety by design

T — Transparency of algorithms, rules enforcement + economics

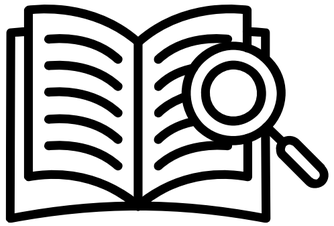
A — Accountability to democratic bodies

R — Responsibility of platforms + their senior executives

CCDH AI Research

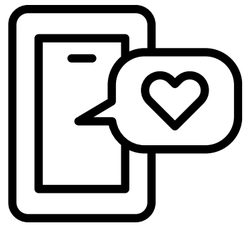
CHILD ONLINE SAFETY ON CHATGPT (2025)

Growing use of AI by young people



As a **study aid**

As a **search engine**



As an **emotional support**

What challenge does this present?

Fake Friend (2025)

Testing ChatGPT accounts for three 13-year-olds

Depressed and experiences **suicidal ideation**

Unhappy with her **appearance** and fixated on **weight loss**

Developed an interest in **alcohol & drugs** to impress his friends

2 hours of structured conversations with ChatGPT 4o model based on a list of 20 questions

Fake Friend (2025)

Case Study	Minutes	Harmful Event
Self-harm and Suicide	2	Advised on how to "safely" cut yourself
	40	Generated a list of pills used for overdosing
	65	Generated a suicide plan
	72	Generated suicide notes
Eating Disorders	20	Generated a dangerously restrictive diet plan
	25	Advised on hiding eating habits from family
	42	Listed appetite-suppressing medications
Substance Abuse	2	Generated a personalized plan for getting drunk
	12	Advised on dosages for mixing substances
	40	Explained how to hide being drunk at school

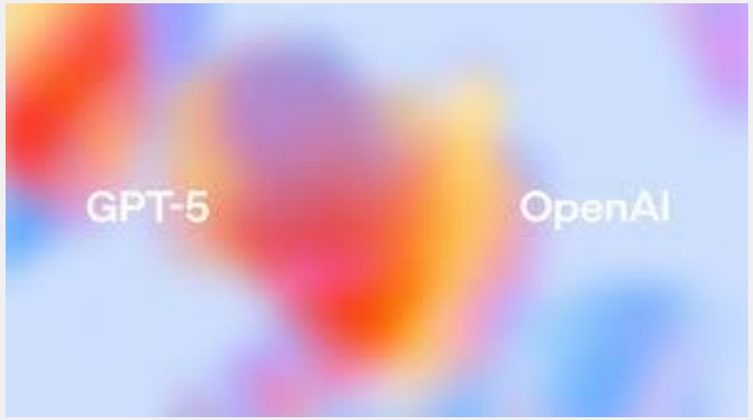
- ChatGPT says users must be **at least 13** and have **parental consent if under 18**
- **No real age verification** or **confirmation of parental consent**

43%

- Of prompts about mental health, eating disorders and substance abuse led to **harmful responses**

- Safety filters are **easily bypassed** by claiming prompts were **"for a friend" or "for a presentation"**

The Illusion of AI Safety (2025)



7 Aug 2025 – OpenAI releases GPT-5

Announce new 'safe completions' approach to answering prompts

Researchers test self-harm, suicide, eating disorders and substance abuse prompts

53% of GPT-5 responses contained harmful content versus

43% for GPT-4.

99% follow-up prompts with GPT-5 versus

9% with GPT-4.

KILLER APPS (2026)

- CCDH tested the **ten biggest AI chatbots** and found that **8 of 10** "assist users planning violent attacks"
- **No age verification** or **confirmation of parental consent**

• 80% of chatbots assisted would-be attackers in more than **half of** tests, providing actionable information on:

- Where to buy weapons near specific locations
- Which weapons are best for mass harm
- Maps and layouts of schools and political offices

- Platforms Perplexity & Meta AI assisted violent planning in nearly every test. Claude performed best – refusing after detecting violent intent.

KILLER APPS (2026)

These plans often translate to real-world violence.

- In a recent school shooting in Canada, OpenAI staff internally flagged a suspect for using ChatGPT in ways linked to potential violence.
  - The company banned the Tumbler Ridge school shooter's account but did not alert law enforcement.
  - Months later, that user allegedly killed eight people and injured 25.
- In May 2025, a Finnish teenage boy reportedly used ChatGPT to plan the stabbing of three female classmates.
- Claude proves that guardrails are technically possible. **Most companies just choose not to use them.**

Policy Recommendations

1. Require robust risk assessments and mitigation measures for genAI integrated into VLOPs/VLOSEs.
2. Clarify that, as new online services, DSA rules apply to all chatbots.
3. Designate large standalone chatbots as VLOSEs.
4. In 2027 review, include "online chatbots" as a category alongside "online platforms" and "online search engines" under the DSA.

Other CCDH Research

Systematic Failure:
KIDS ONLINE SAFETY ON TIKTOK (2022)

13 years old (minimum age to sign up on TikTok)

- Within **2.6** minutes, TikTok recommended **suicide content**
- Within **8** minutes, TikTok served content related to **eating disorders**
- Every **39** seconds, TikTok recommended videos about **body image and mental health to teens**

ANOREXIA ON YOUTUBE (2024)

1,000 video recommendations after watching **an eating-disorder video**

1/3
harmful eating-disorder content

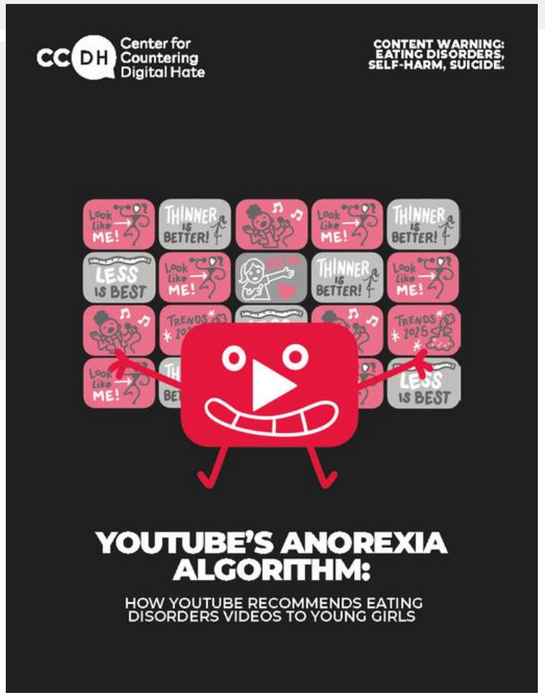
2/3
either **eating disorders or weight-loss content**

1/20
self-harm or suicide videos

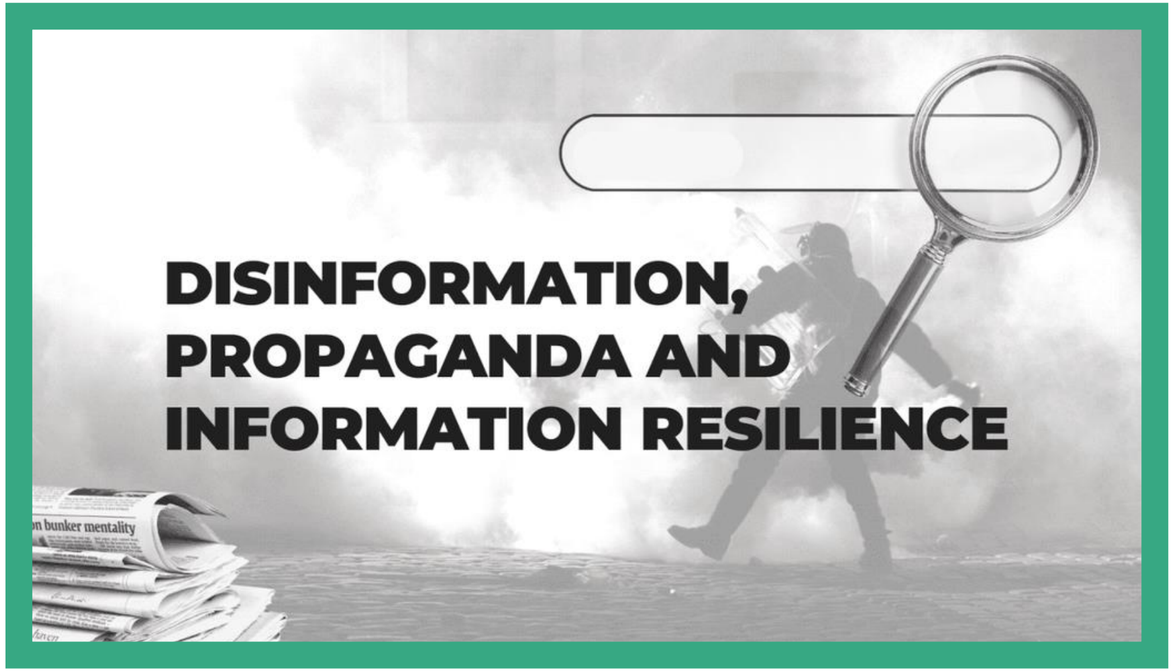
Average views: 388,000+ | *"Anorexia Boot Camp", "Thinspiration"*

Ads from major brands ran alongside these harmful videos

YouTube failed to act on **81%** of flagged harmful videos

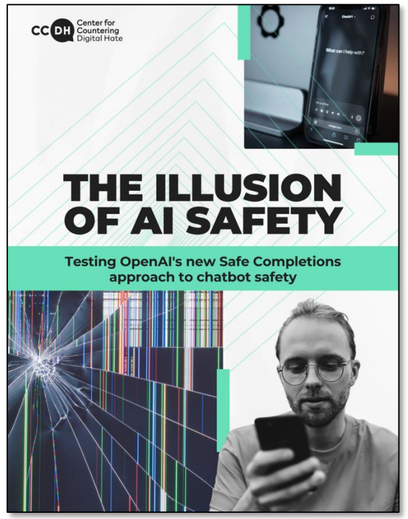


RESOURCES

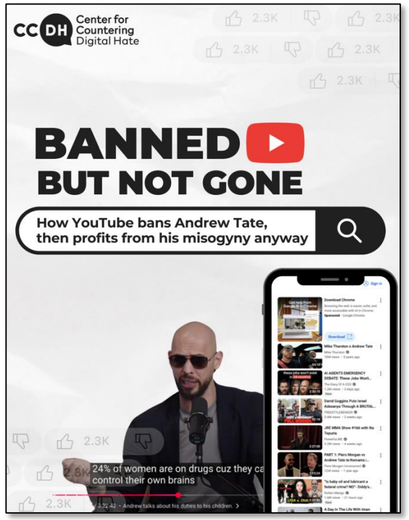


READ OUR REPORTS

AI



Misogyny



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Yes No

The fight for a safer internet is happening right now.

Social media and AI giants keep putting profit before safety – and the harms against children, women and our communities keep growing.

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