



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

May 20, 2025

MR. JOHN R GREENEWALD
THE BLACK VAULT
SUITE 1203
27305 WEST LIVE OAK ROAD
CASTAIC, CA 91384

FOIPA Request No.: 1667840-000
Subject: Incel/Involuntary Celibate Culture

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

The FBI has completed its search for records subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) that are responsive to your request. The enclosed 22 pages of records were determined to be responsive to your subject and were previously processed and released. Please see the selected paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

- In an effort to provide you with responsive records as expeditiously as possible, we are releasing documents from previous requests regarding your subject. We consider your request fulfilled. Since we relied on previous results, additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail to **Initial Processing Operations Unit; Record/Information Dissemination Section; Information Management Division; Federal Bureau of Investigation; 200 Constitution Drive; Winchester, VA 22602. You may also email your response to foipaquestions@fbi.gov.** Please include the FOIPA Request Number listed above in your correspondence.
- Please be advised that additional records responsive to your subject exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you must advise us that you want the additional records processed. Please submit your response within thirty (30) days to **Initial Processing Operations Unit; Record/Information Dissemination Section; Information Management Division; Federal Bureau of Investigation; 200 Constitution Drive; Winchester, VA 22602. You may also email your response to foipaquestions@fbi.gov.** Please include the FOIPA Request Number listed above in your correspondence. **If we do not receive your decision within thirty (30) days of the date of this notification, your request will be closed.**
- One or more of the enclosed records were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Although we retained a version of the records previously processed pursuant to the FOIA, the original records are no longer in our possession.

If this release of the previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you may file a FOIPA request with NARA at the following address:

National Archives and Records Administration
Special Access and FOIA
8601 Adelphi Road, Room 5500
College Park, MD 20740-6001

- Records potentially responsive to your request were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and they were not previously processed pursuant to the FOIA. You may file a request with NARA using the address above.
- One or more of the enclosed records were destroyed. Although we retained a version of the records previously processed pursuant to the FOIA, the original records are no longer in our possession. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Title 44, United States Code, Section 3301 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1228; Title 44, United States Code, Section 3310 as implemented by Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 1229.10.
- Records potentially responsive to your request were destroyed. Since this material could not be reviewed, it is not known if it was responsive to your request. Record retention and disposal is carried out under supervision of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) according to Title 44 United States Code Section 3301, Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Chapter 12 Sub-chapter B Part 1228, and 36 CFR 1229.10.
- Documents or information referred to other Government agencies were not included in this release.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. **“Part 1”** of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. **“Part 2”** includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third-party individuals. **“Part 3”** includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

Additional information about the FOIPA can be found at www.fbi.gov/foia. Should you have questions regarding your request, please feel free to contact foipaquestions@fbi.gov. Please reference the FOIPA Request number listed above in all correspondence concerning your request.

Please be advised that if you are seeking a new search for records, you may wish to narrow the scope of your request based on material that you have already received, e.g., timeframe or locality. Additionally, be advised that “unusual circumstances” may apply. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(B)(iii). These “unusual circumstances” will delay our ability to make a determination on your request within 20 days. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(6)(B). Additionally, the payment of pertinent fees may apply to your request. See 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(4)(A)(viii). The application of “unusual circumstances” is not a determination of how the FBI will respond to your substantive request.

If you are not satisfied with the FBI’s determination in response to this request, you may proceed under any or all of the following options:

- You may seek dispute resolution services through the FBI directly by emailing our FOIA Public Liaison at foipaquestions@fbi.gov. The subject heading should clearly state “Dispute Resolution Services.” Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.
- You may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), who serves as the federal FOIA Ombudsman. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

- You may file an administrative appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. **Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 16.8(a), your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of this response to your request.** If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please reference the FOIPA Request Number listed above in your correspondence so it may be easily identified. If possible, please provide a copy of your original request and this response letter with your appeal.

Note: Utilizing the FBI's dispute resolution services or requesting mediation through OGIS does not toll the ninety (90) day limit to file a timely appeal with OIP.

Sincerely,

Record/Information Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosures

FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the www.fbi.gov/foia website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Confidential Informant Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of confidential informant records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552 (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F)] and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552a (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records would reveal confidential informant identities and information, expose law enforcement techniques, and endanger the life or physical safety of individuals. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include a search for reference entity records or administrative records of previous FOIPA requests.
 - a. *Main Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
 - b. *Reference Entity Records*- created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Foreseeable Harm Standard.** As amended in 2016, the Freedom of Information Act provides that a federal agency may withhold responsive records only if: (1) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by one of the nine exemptions that FOIA enumerates, or (2) disclosure is prohibited by law (5 United States Code, Section 552(a)(8)(A)(i)). The FBI considers this foreseeable harm standard in the processing of its requests.
- (iv) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at www.edo.cjis.gov. For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: <http://www.theblackvault.com>

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Import Form

Form Type: OTHER - Other

Date: 02/25/2021

Title:

[Redacted]

Approved By:

[Redacted]

Drafted By:

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Case ID #:

[Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Electronic Communication

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Date: 10/25/2019

CC: CV-I-1
CV-I-2
CV-I-3
CV-I-4

[Redacted]

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From: CLEVELAND
CV-I-2

Contact: [Redacted]

Approved By: SIA [Redacted]

Drafted By: [Redacted]

Case ID #: [Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Synopsis: (U//~~FOUO~~) [Redacted]

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Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Re: [Redacted]

Administrative Notes: (U) It should be noted that some of this information describes First Amendment protected activities. The FBI recognizes that Americans have constitutionally protected rights to assemble, speak, and petition the government. The FBI safeguards these rights and only reports on First Amendment protected activities for operational planning in the interest of assuring the safety and security of the public including demonstrators and public safety personnel. The FBI will continue to communicate these events with other law enforcement partners in an effort to facilitate the mission of protecting the lives, property and rights of all people, to maintain order, and enforce the law impartially

Details:

(U//~~FOUO~~) [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

(U//~~LES~~) [Redacted]

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(U) [Redacted]

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Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Re: [Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) A file review will be conducted 90 days from the commencement

[Redacted]

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Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Re: [Redacted]

(U) [Redacted]
(U) [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

(U) [Redacted]
(U) [Redacted]
(U) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

(U) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

(U) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) In accordance with the DIOG, released released 23 July 2018, updated 28 December 2018, the author certifies that:

(U//~~FOUO~~) This assessment is not based solely on the exercise of First Amendment activities or on the race, ethnicity, national origin or religion of the subject, or a combination of only such factors;

(U//~~FOUO~~) This assessment is an appropriate use of personnel and financial resources;

(U//~~FOUO~~) The collection of positive foreign intelligence is not the sole purpose of this assessment; and,

(U//~~FOUO~~) If this assessment begins to focus on a particular individual or entity, that a separate substantive or predicated investigation will be opened under a more appropriate program classification pursuant to DIOG.

(U//~~LES~~)

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UNCLASSIFIED//~~LES~~

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Re: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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(U//~~FOUO~~) Incel is an abbreviation of the term "involuntary celibate," and was a word originally coined some 20 years ago to describe an online support forum for lonely singles. More recently, the word Incel has been co-opted, and now represents a sub-set of young, misogynistic men whose lives are devoid of sexual activity.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Incels principally blame women for the sexual rejection they experience and direct their hostility towards them. To a lesser extent, Incels also blame attractive men, reasoning these men lessen the pool of available attractive women. Moreover, some Incels believe society in general contributes to their predicament. Incels hold the notion that a hierarchical system based on wealth and power, two things Incels typically lack, is what prevents Incels from attracting the interest of certain women. The Internet and the emergence of social media, to include chat rooms and anonymous forums, have also enabled individuals to engage the Incel movement without joining organized groups.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Incels having failed to find women either willing to have or to be coerced into sex, turn their anger into calls of violence, which has ranged from the more common online harassment and threats to instances of mass casualty incidents. Some highly praised members of the Incel movement have stated harassment and violent rhetoric were strategically necessary.

(U//~~FOUO~~) FBI Cleveland will obtain intelligence through the use of:

(U) [Redacted]

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FOI/PA# 1507821-000

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Page 3 ~ b7D; b7E;

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Electronic Communication

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Date: 02/18/2019

CC:

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From: BALTIMORE

BA-DI-4

Contact:

[Redacted]

Approved By:

[Redacted]

SSA

[Redacted]

Drafted By:

[Redacted]

Case ID #:

[Redacted]

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Synopsis: (U//~~FOUO~~)

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Details:

(U) Overview

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Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Re: [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) Incel is an abbreviation of the term “involuntarily celibate,” and was a word originally coined some 20 years ago to describe an online support forum for lonely singles. More recently, the word Incel has been co-opted, and now represents a sub-set of young, misogynistic men whose lives are devoid of sexual activity.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Incels principally blame women for the sexual rejection they experience and direct their hostility towards them. To a lesser extent, Incels also blame attractive men, reasoning these men lessen the pool of available attractive women. Moreover, some Incels believe society in general contributes to their predicament. Incels hold the notion that a hierarchical system based on wealth and power, two things Incels typically lack, is what prevents Incels from attracting the interest of certain women. The Internet and the emergence of social media, to include chat rooms and anonymous forums, have also enabled individuals to engage the Incel movement without joining organized groups.

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[Redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED//~~LES~~

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Re: [Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) This assessment is not based solely on the exercise of First Amendment activities or on the race, ethnicity, national origin or religion of the subject, or a combination of only such factors;

(U//~~FOUO~~) This assessment is an appropriate use of personnel and financial resources;

(U//~~FOUO~~) The collection of positive foreign intelligence is not the sole purpose of this assessment; and,

(U//~~FOUO~~) If this assessment begins to focus on a particular individual or entity, that a separate substantive or predicated investigation will be opened under a more appropriate program classification pursuant to DIOG.

(U//~~LES~~) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

(U) Review

(U//~~FOUO~~) A file review will be conducted 90 days from the commencement of [Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Re: [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Elliot Rodger, widely revered in Incel circles, killed six and wounded 13 in a shooting spree in Isla Vista, California, in 2014. In the days leading up to the attack, Rodger compiled a manifesto and in his final entry he wrote, "Tomorrow is the day of retribution. The day I will have my retribution against humanity. Against all of you. For the last eight years of my life... I've been forced to endure an existence of loneliness, rejection and unfulfilled desires. Girls gave their affection and sex and love to other men but never to me." An identified US-based non-governmental organization identified Roger as "the first alt-right terrorist.")

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[Redacted]

(U) Strategic Overview

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Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC

Re: [Redacted]

(U//~~LES~~) [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) FBI Baltimore will obtain intelligence through the use of:

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(U)
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(U)
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(U//~~FOUO~~) In accordance with the DIOG, released 15 October 2011, updated 3 March 2016, the author certifies that:

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[Redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED//~~LES~~

Title: (U//~~FOUO~~) Opening EC
Re: [Redacted]

(U//~~FOUO~~) Incels having failed to find women either willing to have or to be coerced into sex, turn their anger into calls of violence, which has ranged from the more common online harassment and threats to rare mass casualty incidents. Some highly praised members of the Incel movement have stated harassment and violent rhetoric were strategically necessary.

(U//~~FOUO~~) Potential threats from Incels or individuals with Incel like characteristics within the Domain

(U//~~FOUO~~) Analysis of [Redacted] and or cases of individuals displaying traits and/or characteristics associated to, or in line with the Incel ideology potentially shows individuals with Baltimore's AOR.

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(U//~~FOUO~~) [Redacted]

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(U) [Redacted]

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~~SECRET//NOFORN//LES~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Import Form

Form Type: IntelProd-CPM - Collection Priorities
Message

Date: 09/11/2019

Title: (U//~~LES~~) FY19 SE External Collection Priorities Message Regarding
Involuntary Celibate Adherents

Approved By: A/SIA [redacted]
CDC [redacted]
A/SSIA [redacted]
A/ASAC [redacted]

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b7C

Drafted By: [redacted]

Case ID #:

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Synopsis: (U//~~LES~~) FY19 External Collection Priorities Message Regarding
Involuntary Celibate Adherents active in Washington State. Potential
recipients of this External Collection Priorities Message include the
Washington State Fusion Center Partners, Inland Northwest Intelligence
Officers (INWIO) members, and Seattle JTF meeting partners.

~~Reason: 1.4 (c)
Derived From: Multiple
Sources
Declassify On: 20441231~~



~~SECRET//NOFORN//LES~~

~~UNCLASSIFIED//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE~~

EXTERNAL COLLECTION PRIORITIES MESSAGE

FBI Seattle

4 September 2019

(U) This Collection Priorities Message (CPM) is for informational purposes only. Receiving entities may determine logical sources with the capability to provide information in response to the collection gaps listed in this CPM.

(U) This product expresses the judgments and perspective of this office and may not be reflective of the national perspective of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Information herein may not be uploaded to any databases, used for any purposes, or disseminated to any other recipient without advance authorization.

(U) Disclaimer: Domestic extremists employ a number of indicators, some of which may be criminal and other which may constitute the exercise of rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. The FBI is prohibited from engaging in investigative activity for the sole purpose of monitoring the exercise of constitutional rights.

(U//~~LES~~) The FBI has prepared this External Collection Priorities Message (CPM) to assist FBI partner agencies with focused information sharing. Recipients may come across responsive information consistent with their agency mission, jurisdiction, and existing legal authorities. This CPM is not a tasking document and does not confer FBI authorities for any recipient. Please address any comments or questions regarding these priorities to Seattle Field Office Intelligence Program at 1-206-622-0460.

(U//~~LES~~) Identification of Involuntary Celibate ‘Incel’ Adherents in Washington State

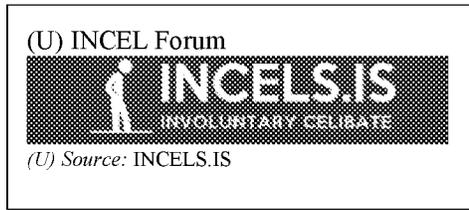
(U//~~LES~~) A subset of individuals who subscribe to Involuntary Celibate (Incel)^a ideology, Involuntary Celibate Violent Extremists (IVEs)^b, have been responsible for at least 27 fatalities in the United States and in Canada since 2014. Violent idolization of past acts of violence, embedded within Incel ideology, may encourage future acts of violence. Unidentified Incel adherents are likely present within Washington State and may remain anonymous presenting Law Enforcement challenges in the identification of potential Incel-related threats. Law enforcement may not recognize Incel ideology during encounters due to a lack of familiarity of Incel terminology and the potential threat posed by IVEs.

^a (U) Incel ideology is a misogynistic online anonymous movement of individuals, who idolize IVEs such as Elliot Rodger and advocate violence as a suitable response to perceived sexual and social rejection. Incels blame society, women and attractive men for their perceived inability to find a romantic partner and promote violence as a solution.

^b (U) IVEs are a subset of Incels who commit violence in furtherance of their ideology.

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(U//~~LES~~) Incels are largely active on anonymous online forums, message boards, and social media platforms. Examples include: Incels.is, games and gaming-related platforms (Discord, Steam), Reddit, Telegram, 4 Chan/8 Chan, and various sites found on the dark web, many of which overlap with platforms also utilized by criminals and extremists affiliated with Foreign Terrorist Organizations, Homegrown Violent Extremists, and Domestic Violent Extremists. Incels use Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and other “open” social media platforms as well. The largely online and anonymous nature of the Incel community of lone individuals creates Law Enforcement challenges in the identification of Incel adherents in Washington State, and specifically IVEs.



(U//~~LES~~) Incel terms^c often include references to Elliott Rodger and other perceived Incel “icons”, “saints” and “heroes” [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Incels will often use a shorthand to reference the above attacks such as “going ER” or “hERo” or “Saint Elliott”; references also include the location “Isla Vista” and dates of these attacks “5/23”. Incels have a robust terminology they use to communicate with each other online. Common terms include “Chad” to denote a good-looking man, i.e. non-Incel, while “Stacy” is commonly used to denote despised good-looking females. Other terms include “AMOG” (Alpha Male of the Group), “AWALT” (All Women Are Like That), or “MGTOW” (Men Going Their Own Way). Some terms overlap with other extremist ideologies to include Racially Motivated Violent Extremists (or commonly known as White Supremacists) nomenclature, including “Goy”, “Normie”, “Cuck”, “KEK”, and “Blackpill” (used similarly and in addition to “Redpill”) although they may have slight variations of meaning.

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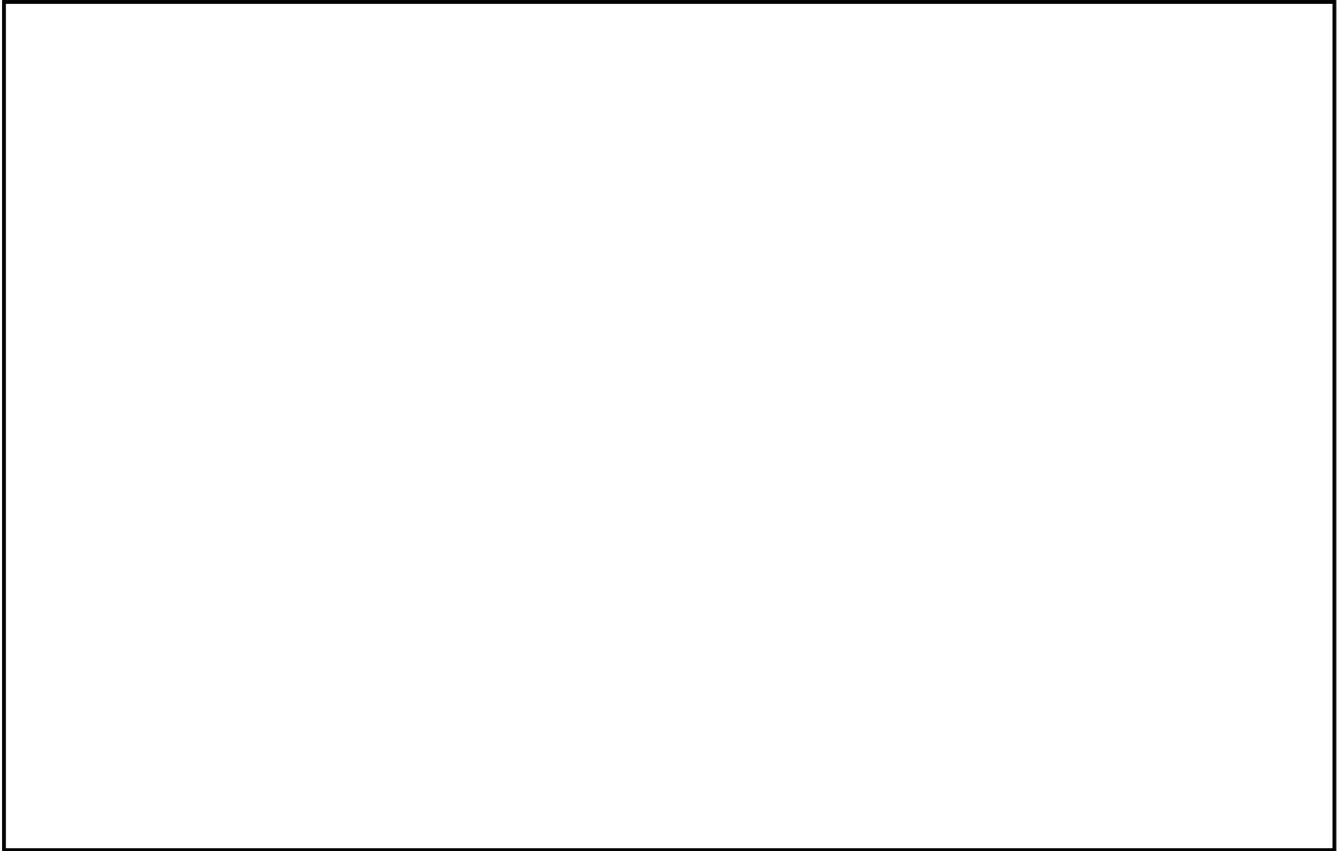
(U) Elliot Rodger

(U) On 23 May, 2014, Elliot Rodger killed six and wounding 14 individuals in an attack in Isla Vista, California. Incels often praise Rodger and have developed their own terminology and frequently reference Rodger in their discussions.

(U) Source: Website | Wikipedia | Elliot Rodger | en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2014_Isla_Vista_killings | accessed on 25 August 2019

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^c (U) Appendix A: Incel Terminology found in Open Source



(U) Volcel: A Voluntary Celibate

(U) Wall: An Incel belief women “hit the wall” around 25 and stop riding the “cock carousel” and settle down as their “Sexual Market Value” decreases.

(U) White Knights: A reference to normies who come to the aid of females.

(U) Wizard: A male virgin until the age of 30.

- (U) Ricecel: Incel because of Asian descent.
- (U) Wristcel: Incel due to small wrist size.
- (U) Microcel: Incel as a result of having a “micropenis.”

(U) Chad: A man who is charismatic, tall, good-looking, confident and muscular; the archetypal alpha male. Chads are considered the opposite of Incels.

(U) Cock Carousel: Belief by Incels on what females do before they settle down.

(U) Cope: Belief in the Blackpill mentality and they cannot change their fate.

(U) Cuck: A weak man dominated by their unfaithful female partner.

(U) Fakecel: Not a “real” Incel and may have sex (volcel).

(U) Failo effect: Opposite the halo effect. Belief an unattractive person would assumingly have unattractive non-physical features based on their physical features.

(U) Femoids/Foids: Used for women, often along with “it’ pronouns to dehumanize females.

(U) Fuel: Content which provokes emotions and is used as “fuel”.

(U) Greensboro Jock: Image shared on Incel forums showing a male wearing a Greensboro Football shirt and was considered the epitome of what a “Chad” looks like.

(U) Gymcel: Incel who coped by exercising in gyms; however, “Gymming” cannot change the fundamental nature of Incels.

(U) Halo effect: Belief attractive people are assumed to have a good personality which reflects their good looks and may have little to no actual personality.

(U) Hikikomori: Japanese term defined by the Japanese government as people who have not left their homes or interacted with others for at least six months. Incels made reference to hikikomoris in relation to the Just Be White theory, as Asian females were having sex with white Chads rather than Asian men.

(U) Hypergamous/Hypergamy: The perceived tendency of females to date, have sex with, and/or marry someone of a higher socioeconomic class than themselves.

(U) Incel: The term Involuntarily celibate was originally coined by a psychologist and utilized for women and men; however, current use of the term Incel is used primarily by men who self-identify as Incels – as a man who wants to have sex but cannot, due to reasons beyond their control. Incels identify with the aforementioned Blackpill mentality, and claim no amount of effort put into self-improvement can alter one’s fate as society is flawed and the system is against them.

(U) r/IncelTears (IS): Subreddit forum dedicated to calling out Incels. Users of r/IncelTears took screenshots and posted content from Incel communities. They were partly responsible for a large number of online Incel forums being closed down. "Cucktears" was used as a variant.

(U) "It's over": Blackpill mentality summarized in a single sentence. Often followed by "it never began." The phrase communicated the idea that if you are unattractive, of short stature, have small wrists, are not white, etc., you have absolutely no chance of ever achieving happiness or sexual satisfaction.

(U) JBW: Just Be White, a reflection of the belief that females will primarily choose white males. There was a strong tendency within the Incel community to claim females are "more racist" than males in the partners they choose, based on the notion that females desire power and status, which is categorically owned by white males.

(U) JFL (just fucking lol): Used to indicate incredulity such as at "normies" beliefs of Incels.

(U) Juggernaut Law: Incel belief the most unattractive females receive as much attention from males as attractive females receive, due to an increasing number of men who perceive they are not worthy of any female, because females are superficial. Thus, average looking males felt they have a better shot with unattractive females.

(U) Jumping bananas: A reference to having sex with barely pubescent females, a practice seen by some in the Incel movement as the only females worth having sex with, before they become spoiled by promiscuity ("riding the cock carousel").

(U) KEK: Reference to the video game World of Warcraft, in which using the acronym LOL in text appeared to be KEK for some players, due to different game language translations. The term was also a joking reference to the cult of Kek, the ancient Egyptian god of darkness, which took the shape of a frog.

(U) KTHHFV: "Kissless, Touchless, Hugless, Handholdless, Friendless, Virgin." Each of these is a status marker in the Incel community and variants included any combination of letters.

(U) Landwhale: Obese female. Incels considered landwhales the only potential female candidates for sexual intercourse, but would never lower their standards to that level.

(U) LDAR: Acronym for "Lie down and rot." Typically used to describe frustration with a situation.

(U) Looksmatch: A person who is one's own "physical attractiveness equivalent." Incels (and sometimes MRAs and redpillers) claim they could objectively rate a person's appearance. Incel ideology believes the optimal relationship was one in which partners were each other's looksmatch.

(U) Mandibular determinism: The belief that mandibular bone structure determines a male's life outcomes.

(U) Mangina: To denote a pro-feminist male.

(U) Max or Maxx: Maxx is short for maximizing; typically used in reference to maximizing a specific trait, e.g. looksmaxx indicates one would maximize their physical appearance in some way, such as exercising to build muscle or buying nicer clothes. An Incel may improve his sexual chances by “Looksmaxx” (improving one’s looks), “statusmaxx” (increasing one’s social status), and “wristmaxx” (making one’s wrists appear fuller).



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(U) Mewing: Considered a part of “looksmaxxing”, an exercise of the tongue. Some Incel’s believe by practicing proper tongue posture in conjunction with developing strong mandibular musculature, they could change the structure of the jaw to make it appear more attractive.

(U) MGTOW: Men Going Their Own Way.

(U) Mog: To be dominated by another male’s looks. Mog was often prefixed (e.g. "heightmogged," "lifemogged") and applied to aspects unrelated to physical appearance.

(U) MRA: Men’s Rights Activist.

(U) NEET: Not in Education, Employment, or Training. How an Incel may refer to their status.

(U) Noodlewhore: Incel belief that relocating to South East Asia as a white male may increase probability for sexual opportunity amongst non-white females.

(U) Normie: An individual who is not an Incel, i.e. normal men/women.

(U) Norwood/Norwood Reaper: The Hamilton-Norwood Scale, a classification system used to measure the extent of male pattern baldness, and its derivative “baldcel” term.

(U) NPC: Non-Player Character, a reference to computer generated characters who have scripted responses in video games. Used as an insult to someone accused of responding to others with mindless responses and a failure to think critically.

(U) NT: Abbreviation for “neurotypical.” Incels who considered themselves to have autistic tendencies often used it as an insult, as they felt those on the spectrum were highly intelligent compared to people who did not have the mental condition.

(U) Numale: Emasculated males who lack self-respect and defend females online, for credibility within feminist circles.

(U) Omega: A male who lacks the ability to interact with women; an omega ranks below a beta.

(U) Oneitis: Reference to someone's one true love (unrequited for Incels). An Incel who spoke of a oneitis were often ridiculed by others as being "orbiters" or "cucks."

(U) Orbiter: Reference to a male who maintains a platonic relationship with a female, with hopes of eventual sex with her, even though the female desires to exclusively have sex with Chad.

(U) Philtrum length: The distance between a person's nose and the top of their upper lip. The belief a longer philtrum is considered extremely unattractive to women, particularly if the person also had a small or weak chin.

(U) Pump and dump: Reference to casual sex without any commitment. In Incel ideology, females don't deserve a relationship just because they are willing to have sex.

(U) Pussypasser: Male who is content with females benefitting from greater social advantages than men by virtue of being female (e.g. lighter prison sentences, child custody, alimony, etc.).

(U) Redpill: The mentality that asserted males recognize the world is unfair and stacked against them in favor of females. With this understanding, males could exploit the system by becoming an "alpha male," exercise at a gym, treat females poorly, etc.

(U) Reece: Reference to an "autistic screeching meme," an expression of rage associated with the Pepe the Frog character. The term was used by those who refer to themselves as "autistcels."

(U) Roastie: Female whose labia have become stretched and misshapen as a result of having frequent sex with multiple males, causing the labia to resemble roast beef.

(U) Rope: Reference to suicide, e.g. "going to rope."

(U) Soy Boy: A weak or effeminate male, low testosterone, often used interchangeably with the term cuck.

(U) Stacy: A woman who is beautiful, unintelligent, and promiscuous.

(U) Sub-8 male: Male who is not attractive.

(U) Sui/Sui-Fuel: Content/pictures that are fuel for suicide, e.g. a male and female holding hands.

(U) Supreme Gentleman: Reference to Elliot Rodger who referred to himself online in his videos as a "supreme gentleman."

(U) Truecels: True Incel.

(U) Tyrone: A black Chad.

(U) Appendix A: Incel Terminology found in Open Source

(U) Alpha: A man who is able to get all the sex he desires due to his controlling and socially-dominant personality. Alphas are attractive, muscular, and tall. Alpha is sometimes used interchangeably with Chad.

(U) AMOG: Alpha Male of the Group, “Mogging” was a reference to being outclassed by someone else’s looks.

(U) AWALT: “All Women Are Like That” general derogatory reference for women. Also used is EWALT or “Enough Women Are Like That”.

(U) Based: Positive comment on an act taken by a man against a women.

(U) Becky: A “normal” looking woman. According to Incel forums, Becky and Stacy both compete for Chad; a Becky typically settles down and marries a Beta, while continuing to seek a Chad.

(U) Beta: A man who is no “Alpha”, i.e. Incels. Some Incels use the term “Omega” males denoting they are lower than Beta in the hierarchy and thus do not get “enough” sex.

(U) Betabuxx: When an Incel finds a female partner. Often referenced along with other terms. The female has “hit the wall” and lost “sexual market value” (SMV). She may let the Incel support her financially and satisfy herself sexually with a “Chad” thereby “cucking” the Incel.

(U) Beta Uprising/Incel Rebellion: Predicted by Incels to happen when betas and omegas realize the only way to end their “suffering” is to collectively commit acts of violence, thereby intimidating women into being less hypergamous and giving betas and omegas a chance.

(U) Blackops2cel/St.BlackOps2Cel: A man whose photo the Incels have taken as an icon of their community.

(U) Blackpill: Belief in the Incel ideology, society is against them and there is no solution for males who are inferior.

(U) Cel: Cel is short for celibacy. Incels will assign a term ending in –cel to identify a reason for their involuntary celibacy.

- (U) Baldcel: Incel because of baldness
- (U) Currycel: Incel because of Indian or similar descent.
- (U) Ethnicel: Incel because he is not white
- (U) Heightcel: Incels who believe their height is to blame; i.e. they are too short.
- (U) Truecel: Incels who have not had any romantic interactions with a woman. (Note: Many Incels believe that the only real Incels are truecels.)
- (U) Mentalcel: A male who was celibate due to his mental status (mental health condition, Autism, or low intelligence).