# Meta revokes job offer to cyber-intelligence analyst criticising Instagram's child protection efforts



On April 24, 2024, Meta rescinded a job offer to Paul Raffile, a cyber-intelligence analyst, following his public criticism of Instagram's handling of child protection against sextortion. Raffile had been set to join Meta as a human exploitation investigator but had participated in a webinar earlier that day where he criticized Instagram’s efforts in safeguarding children from scammers. The webinar, attended by various stakeholders including Meta staff, focused on preventing financial sextortion schemes.

Raffile had co-organized the webinar that featured testimonies from parents of children scammed on Instagram. Hours after the webinar, where Raffile criticized Instagram and suggested improvements, he received a call informing him that his job offer had been revoked. The reason for this decision was not explicitly shared, with Meta citing it as an "individual personnel matter."

Raffile’s remarks during the webinar included a critique of Instagram's design features that facilitate these crimes, such as the planned encryption of direct messages and lack of privacy settings for follower lists. Financial sextortion, the fastest-growing cybercrime according to the FBI, mainly targets teenage boys through platforms like Instagram and Snapchat, often leading to tragic outcomes, including suicides.

Meta, in its defense, stated that it has strict policies against non-consensual sharing of intimate imagery and has taken steps to balance protection and user education. However, Raffile argued that these measures are insufficient and that more aggressive action is needed to combat the issue effectively.