# Man Arrested for Creating Thousands of AI-Generated Child Sexual Abuse Images



The FBI has arrested Steven Anderegg, a 42-year-old man from Holmen, Wisconsin, for allegedly creating more than 13,000 AI-generated sexually explicit images of children. Using the Stable Diffusion AI model, Anderegg reportedly produced hyper-realistic images of nude and semi-clothed prepubescent children, some showing them engaged in sexual activities.

The case followed reports made to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) about Anderegg's Instagram account, leading to a search warrant and the discovery of the explicit material on his laptop. The charges against him include creating, distributing, and possessing child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and sending explicit content to a minor. If convicted, he could face up to 70 years in prison.

Stable Diffusion is an open-source AI tool known for creating synthetic images from text descriptions. Anderegg's arrest highlights growing concerns about the misuse of AI to produce and distribute CSAM. The Justice Department emphasized its intent to pursue such cases aggressively, irrespective of whether the images involve real children or are AI-generated. Stability AI, the company behind Stable Diffusion, stated it has implemented safeguards to prevent the misuse of its tools for illegal activities.