

## YOUR PASSPORT TO STAYING FREE IN A DIGITAL WORLD













#### Hello.

This passport is not for relocation, aka 'japa', it is for navigating the digital world safely. Think of it this way; your phone, laptop, and online accounts are your digital borders. Just like at any border crossing, there are rules: some protect you, some restrict you. Knowing them will keep you from being arrested, detained, or harassed unnecessarily.

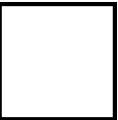
#### This Digital Rights Passport is your guide to:

- Your rights under Nigerian law
- Your obligations so you don't harm others online
- What to do if arrested, detained, or harassed online
- · Where to find help

Carry it, use it and share it



# Your Identity Page



1	Name:	

- 🞓 University: \_\_\_\_\_







#### Your Digital Rights Visa-Free Zones

These are the rights you carry anywhere you go in Nigeria:

- The Right to Freedom of Expression <sup>1</sup>
- Right to Privacy<sup>2</sup>
- Protection from Cybercrimes<sup>3</sup>
- Protection from Online Harassment & Revenge Porn <sup>4</sup>
- Protection from Unlawful Detention (Right to personal liberty)
- Right to Fair Hearing <sup>6</sup>

Stamp Box: Draw a V each time you use one of these rights responsibly.

#### **Restricted Zones (Avoid Arrest)**

Here are the Top 10 ways your device can get you arrested (And What the Law Actually Savs)

#### Cyberstalking & Offensive Posts

Law: Cybercrimes Act, 2015; Section 24

Risk: Tweets, WhatsApp messages, or TikTok posts that someone calls "annoying," "false," or "insulting" can trigger arrest.

**Shield:** Section 39 of the Constitution protects freedom of expression, and demands legal counsel.

#### Fraud Allegations ("Yahoo Yahoo" Profiling)

Laws: Cybercrimes Act (sections 32-34)

Risk: Simply owning a laptop, multiple SIMs, or foreign contacts can lead to profiling.

**Shield:** Possession ≠ crime. Only evidence of fraud counts. Insist on due process.

<sup>1</sup>Section 39 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria <sup>2</sup>Data Protection Act 2023

3Cybercrimes Act, 2015 (as amended 2024), Section 24

<sup>4</sup>Sections 14 & 24, Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act, 2015 <sup>5</sup>Section 35 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 Section 36 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999







#### Online Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

Law: VAPP Act, 2015

Risk: Cyber-harassment, revenge porn, threats to share nudes,

or sending obscene materials.

Shield: Consent matters. Victims have a right to report; accused

have rights to fair trial.

#### Spreading Fake News or Misinformation

Laws: Administration of criminal Justice Act,2019, cybercrimes

Act 2015

**Risk:** Sharing unverified news about government, elections, or public figures can lead to arrest.

**Shield:** Verify before posting. Remember: intention matters under the law

#### Hate Speech & Incitement Online

Laws: Cybercrimes Act (s25), Terrorism Prevention Act

**Risk:** Posts or memes that encourage violence against ethnic/religious groups may be charged as incitement or terrorism.

**Shield:** Peaceful speech is protected, but avoid content that promotes hatred or violence.

#### Child Exploitation or Harmful Content

Laws: Child Rights Act, Cybercrimes Act

**Risk:** Possessing, sharing, or forwarding child sexual content or exploitative images is a serious offence.

Shield: Never store or share harmful material. Report

suspicious content.







#### Data Privacy Breaches

Law: Nigeria Data Protection Act, 2023

Risk: Sharing someone's personal details, hacking into devices,

or leaking private data without consent.

Shield: Always respect privacy. Know you have a right to control

your own data too.

#### Using Devices for Financial Crimes

Laws: Money Laundering Act, Advance Fee Fraud Act

Risk: Using devices for crypto scams, online banking fraud, or

unexplained transfers.

Shield: Keep clear records of financial transactions.

#### Unlawful Device Searches & Seizures

**Laws:** Constitution (S.35–37), Cybercrimes Act (search provisions)

**Risk:** Phones/laptops are often taken by police without a warrant.

**Shield:** Ask: "Do you have a warrant?" Demand a lawyer. Privacy is protected under the Constitution.

#### Defamation & Online Insults

Laws: Criminal Code (defamation), Cybercrimes Act S 24

**Risk:** Calling out individuals or businesses online could bring civil suits or criminal complaints.

**Shield:** Truth and public interest are defences. But tread carefully with personal attacks.









#### **Technology-Facilitated Gender Based Violence**

#### Did you know?

According to a report titled "Countering Misogyny and Tech-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence in Nigeria" presented at the 69th United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York, USA, it was revealed that most girls & young women in Nigeria are targets of Technology Facilitated Violence including:

- Cyberstalking (45.5%),
- Doxxing (10.6%),
- Deepfakes (6.1%),
- · Sexting (3%), and
- Revenge porn (1.5%)

#### If any of these happens to you, Here's what to do:

- Keep evidence (screenshots).
- Report via HBBA hotline or local law clinic. [080000704222]
- Block and report the accounts of perpetrators

Sharing intimate images without consent is a CRIME. Victims are protected under the VAPP Act. Respect others online. *Everyone has the right to feel safe*.







#### What To Do If Stopped by Police

Think of this as your border control guide:

- 1. Stay calm, don't argue.
- 2. Ask calmly: "Why am I being stopped?"
- 3. If a device is seized, request a warrant
- 4. Do not fight or struggle with the law enforcement agents
- 5. Call a lawyer or HBBA toll free hotline. [080000704222]
- 6. Do NOT sign anything without legal help.

Remember: Arrest ≠ guilt. You have the right to defend yourself.









### **HOPE BEHIND BARS AFRICA**

**TOLL-FREE HOTLINE:** 

080000704222

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