

# FORMER LOCAL SUPPLY TEACHER ADMITS TO CHILD PORN, LURING CHARGES

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An occasional teacher who created alter egos on the Snapchat messaging app and convinced multiple young girls to send him nude photos and videos should spend nine years in prison, a Crown prosecutor says.

Victor Ly's crimes, which began in November 2016 and continued for more than a year, were not impulsive.

"This was a continuous and calculated approach," prosecutor Dominique Kennedy said.

Ly, 33, of Kitchener, recently pleaded guilty to 20 charges - including making child pornography, invitation to sexual touching, extortion and luring.

At the time of the crimes,

he worked as a supply teacher with the Halton District School Board and had previously taught at private schools in the Kitchener area; Ly is no longer a teacher.

Police identified 171 girls that he had contact with through Snapchat, many of whom sent him sexual pictures or videos of themselves. Ly often told girls the sexual act that they should film - creating "made-to-order child pornography," Kennedy said.

Ly often pretended he was a teen boy on Snapchat - he "groomed" and manipulated girls, pretending that he cared about them and developing "fictional relationships," Kennedy said.

Later he would convince them - sometimes by threats - to send sexual photos or videos. He often sent them videos of him ejaculating.

The girls ranged in age from seven to 15. Victims were in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom.

"This was a large number of people," Kennedy said. "This was geographically expansive, this was totally unrelenting."

Ly spoke to one girl about meeting at a mall, but the meeting never took place.

Victims said that his crimes stole their innocence and left them feeling violated, isolated, ashamed and sad; some spoke of loss of confidence and loss of trust.

Ly told Justice Wayne Rabley that he understands some of the victims are blaming themselves. He said he is the only one to blame.

"I'm so ashamed of what I've done," Ly said.

Kennedy said that deterrence and denunciation must take centre stage in the sentencing.

Ly, who was accompanied in court by his wife, has no prior record - he will be sentenced on March 1. His defence lawyer is seeking three years in prison.

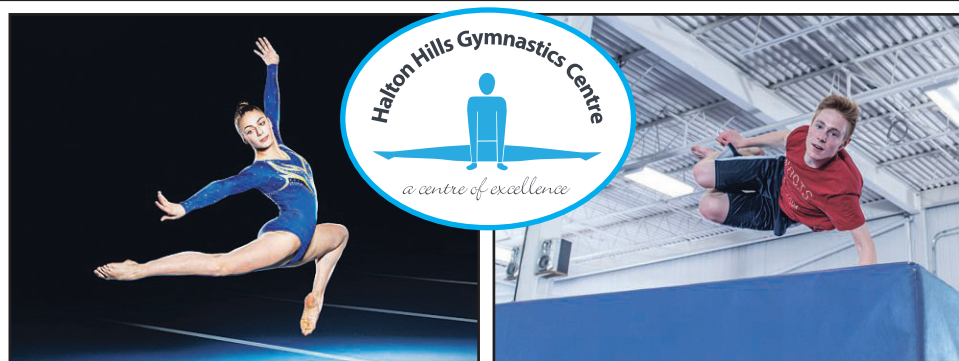


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