

9-A popular coloring app has become a popular place for some people to share obscene, pornographic and disturbing photos, artwork and texts. I tried to cut it as much as I could. It's a little longer than usual at 1:38

## **TEASE**

PARENTS, YOU KNOW MANY OF THE APPS YOUR KIDS SHOULDN'T BE USING...BUT THERE'S ONE APP THAT WILL COME AS A TOTAL SHOCK. I'M JAMEY TUCKER AND COMING UP, AN APP ALL ABOUT COLORING, WILL TURN YOU RED.

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SUPER

0-8 jamey tucker

## **ANCHOR INTRO**

PARENTS, WE ALL KNOW THERE ARE APPS AND WEBSITES THAT CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE USING OR VISITING. BUT SOMETIMES, AN APP THAT SEEMS HARMLESS, CAN BE JUST AS DANGEROUS AS ANY OTHER.

WE HAVE A WARNING TONIGHT ABOUT AN APP THAT IS BEING USED TO SHARE PORNOGRAPHIC PHOTOS AND MESSAGES WITH CHILDREN, AND AS OUR CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY REPORTER JAMEY TUCKER DISCOVERED, IT'S AN APP YOU WOULD NEVER SUSPECT.

## **PACKAGE**

This is really disturbing because this is an app for people who like to color for fun or as a way to relieve stress and anxiety...but what I found may color you red with anger or embarrassment.

The app is called "ReColor", it ranks 21st in Apple's App store entertainment category and has a four-star rating. Users can choose from hundreds of thousands of pictures, then color those by swiping their finger on the screen.

the vast majority of the people using the app are serious artists who enjoy collaborating and encouraging one another.

In the past few months though, some loyal Recolor users have been seeing disturbing photos and images. One of our viewers sent me a screen shot of a photo that popped up on her newsfeed, of two people having sex, When I checked the App Store reviews, I found comment after comment from users who report similar images popping up in their feed. This comment from a few weeks ago, noting of posts about cutting and suicides and alleging the app is being used by sex predators to send messages and photos to children.

I spoke with a Recolor spokesperson who said she is aware of these problems. she told me if a post is reported as being offensive, moderators will review it, and if it violates their standards, they'll remove it.

but Recolor is a social media app, so users can send messages and photos and artwork directly to other users without it being seen by the entire community.

This is why many parents are warning others about the app that, on the surface, appears harmless.

"Recolor" is not a bad app. Millions of people use it every day to create beautiful artwork, but the social aspect of it creates an opportunity for bad behavior. It's another cautionary tale for parents that any app with its own social network, should be used with caution.

That's what the tech? I'm Jamey Tucker

## **ANCHOR TAG**

THE RECOLOR APP IS FREE IN THE GOOGLE PLAY AND APPLE APP STORES BUT REQUIRES A SUBSCRIPTION TO IMPORT YOUR OWN PHOTOS INTO THE APP. THE SPOKESPERSON TOLD US THE COMPANY USES BOTH HUMAN MODERATORS AND ALGORITHMS TO REMOVE OFFENSIVE POSTS.