

My data subject access request to Clearview AI

#PrivacyCamp21

January 26, 2021

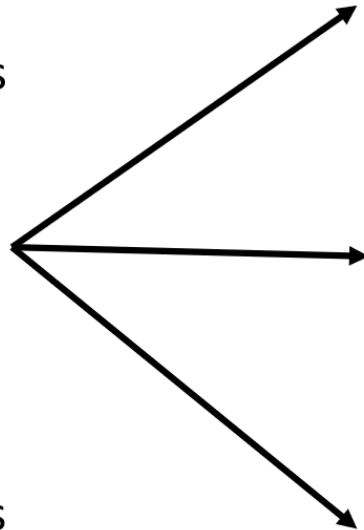
Matthias Marx

What is Clearview AI?

A search engine for faces

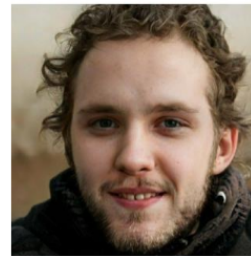


with a database of more
than three billion images



<https://social-network.url/profilepage>

- Name
- Political opinion
- ...



<https://dating-platform.url/I-like-BDSM>

- Sexual orientation



<https://company.url/team>

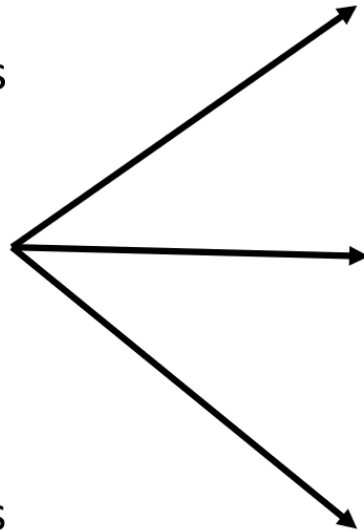
- Name
- Employer

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My request

2020-01-18 The New York Times:
"The Secretive Company That Might End Privacy as We Know It"

2020-01-20 **Data access request**, including a photo of mine
*"Please provide access to my personal data,
and the following information: ..."*



2020-01-29 Clearview AI requested a clear photo and a government issued ID
"we need to confirm your identity to guard against fraudulent access requests"
... I did not respond

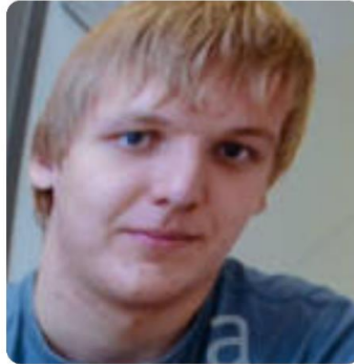
Clearview AI's answer(s)

2020-02-18 Data access request is complete

"The images you shared to facilitate this request have been deleted."



Original Search Image



1



2

Image Index

1. Students Henning Stock Photos & Students Henning Stock Images - Alamy. <https://www.alamy.com/stock-photo/students>
2. (FILE) An archive photo dated 28 November 2012 shows students Henning Stock Photo: 52583329 - Alamy. <https://www.alamy.com/stock-photo-filean-archive-photo-dated-28-november-2012-shows-students>

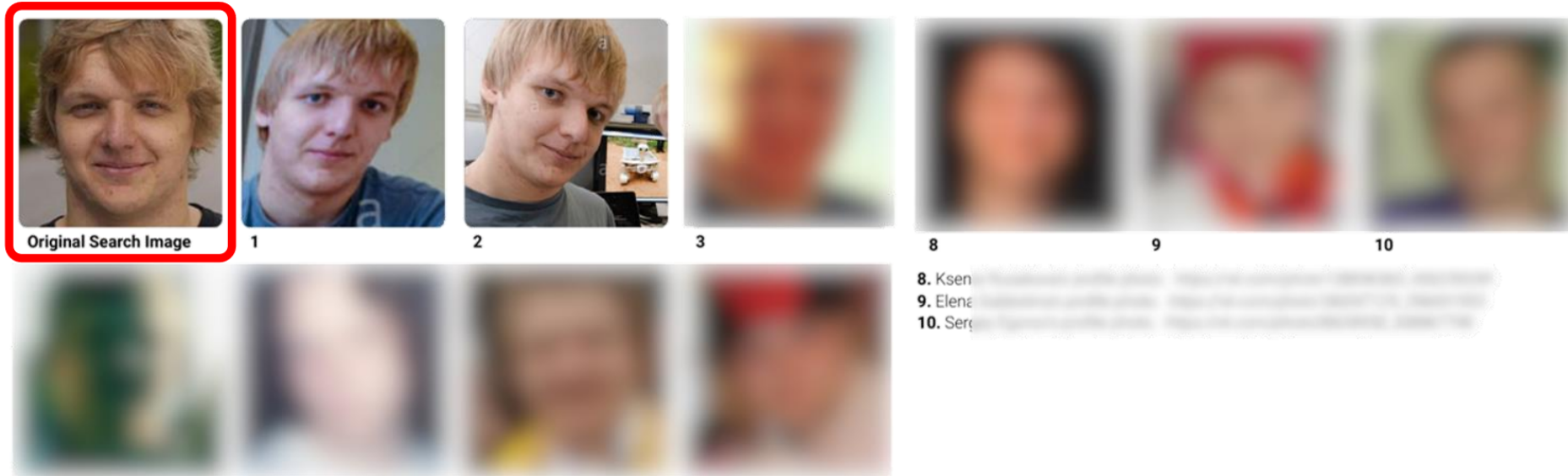
Clearview AI's answer(s)

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Report prepared May 18, 2020

Disclaimer: In order to complete your request, we have generated this report containing Clearview search results for the image that you shared with us, which is labelled "Original Search Image" below. Search result images are enumerated with corresponding public web page titles and URLs below.



My complaint

2020-02-18 **Electronic complaint** to Hamburg data protection authority

2020-03 Hamburg DPA: **GDPR is not applicable**
Response: Please check applicability again

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Hamburg DPA launched **preliminary investigation**,
sent questionnaires to Clearview AI



2020-08 **Order to answer** under threat of penalties

2021 ?

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Lessons Learned

1. Collect evidence

Data subject access requests

Freedom of information requests

Parliamentary questions

2. Keep asking for updates, set reminders

3. Seek allies, get publicity

“GDPR is not applicable”

“In addition to yours, there is only one other complaint about X ... we have more urgent candidates.”