



## **About Brett Lee:**

Brett Lee, a former undercover internet detective and police office of 22 years, is passionate about keeping parents and guardians informed about the risks facing children in the online world.

Now the founder of the child safety organisation *Internet Safe Education*, Brett keeps his audiences informed of new technologies and trends to keep children out of the hands of predators.

Thank you for downloading this Handbook. Your active interest in the safety of the children in your care will go a long way in keeping them out of harm's way.

### In This Handbook

The Dark Web (or Dark Net) is the underbelly of the internet.

Unlike the 'surface web', users of the Dark Net operate completely anonymously. And, unfortunately, this makes it the perfect place for predators and criminals.

While researching this handbook, I accessed the Dark Web myself to show you first-hand some of the disturbing content and crime that is so readily available there. As you will see soon, what I found was deeply disturbing.

To help protect the children in your care from these threats, I will discuss how users gain access to the Dark Web, what risks are associated with accessing the Dark Web, and how to tell if someone is using this nefarious network.

From myself, and the rest of the *Internet Safe Education* team, thank you for downloading this handbook. It's fantastic to see so many parents, teachers and caretakers taking an active interest in online safety.

### What is the Dark Web

The Dark Web is the World Wide Web's evil twin.

The Internet is a much bigger place than you could possibly imagine. When we consider life online, we probably only think about the large, well-funded websites and apps from companies and organisations such as Facebook, YouTube, Google, and Wikipedia. It's hard to imagine that the public internet - and the billions of pages that are just a Google search away are just the tip of the iceberg.

These easily accessible websites are what many call the 'Surface web'. Despite the sheer number of publicly available surface websites, they still only make up for a tiny fraction of the total content and data of the internet. In fact, it's estimated the Surface Web only makes up for <u>4% of the internet</u>. The other 96% is hidden away in the form of dark data and Deep Web pages.

So how does it work? What makes a website 'Deep'? How can people access them when they're hidden away? And what's on the Dark Web that's so worth hiding?

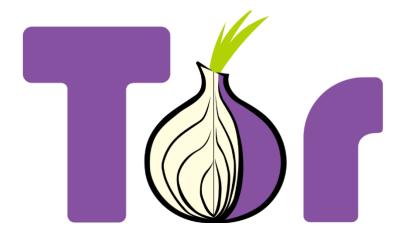
There are many questions surrounding the Dark Web and we're going to answer them all in this handbook. As the technical side of things can be extremely complicated, we'll leave the computer jargon out, and instead focus on practical, actionable information for parents, teachers and caretakers.

So to begin - let's have a quick look at how the Dark Web works.

# How does it work?

Websites on the Dark Web hide the identity of their owners and creators using free software called Tor.

Tor is a free, open-source encryption tool and internet browser.



'Tor' stands for 'The Onion Router'. It works by adding multiple layers of encryption onto your website traffic as it bounces around their network, then slowly peeling it off, layer by layer, so by the time your internet activity has reached the website you're looking up no one could have possibly known it was you along the way. Hence, the term 'onion' routing.

Anyone can download Tor and use it to hide their online identity and activity. It's <u>extremely easy to do so</u>. And websites can be run through Tor to the same effect. Once you're using Tor, you are completely anonymous. No one will be able to see who you are or what you do online.

Tor is what makes the Dark Web tick. Most people set up their encrypted websites using Tor encryption and to visit these websites you must use the Tor browser.

So how does it work? What makes a website 'Deep'? How can people access them when Tor is free to download from the surface web and easy to install. It's available for Windows, Mac, Linux and Android operating systems.

Anyone can use it - which makes it even more dangerous. Even more importantly, for such a high-tech service, it's very easy to use. Once you have it on your computer or other device, it works much like any other browser. To visit 'onion sites' (websites on the Dark Net), you just find a URL on a <u>.onion directory</u> a ready-made Dark Web search engines, and head straight there.

### What's on there?

Because of the way the Dark Web and Tor work, thousands of criminals and predators use it without fear of being caught. Thanks to the anonymity, people don't seem to hold back. They act without concern for the authorities or any shame. The result is a vast wasteland of crime, degeneracy and disturbing content.

Huge databases of illegal pornography can be found there. Child exploitative materials, in particular are popular. Some sources even claim that <u>80% of deep website traffic</u> is to pedophile websites.

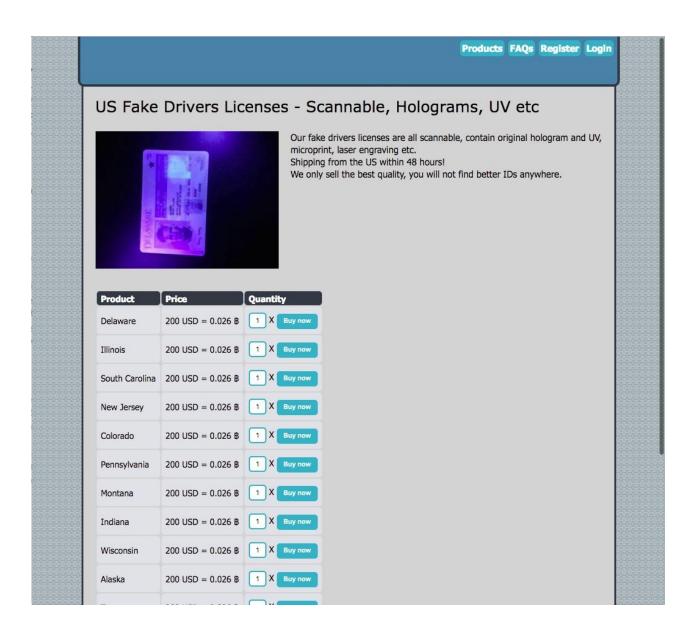
Likewise, thanks to anonymous cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, paid crime is also rife on the Dark Web. I used Tor myself to take a look at some of the shady black markets to see just what sort of services and products were available. Even after years as an online detective, the results shocked even me.

# **Drugs**



Buying drugs over the Dark Web is frighteningly popular and easy. As such, numerous online 'stores' accept Bitcoin in exchange for every drug you can imagine. Here we have 'The People's Drug Store' - who claim to 'pride themselves' on the 'customer satisfaction' their black market heroin apparently provides.

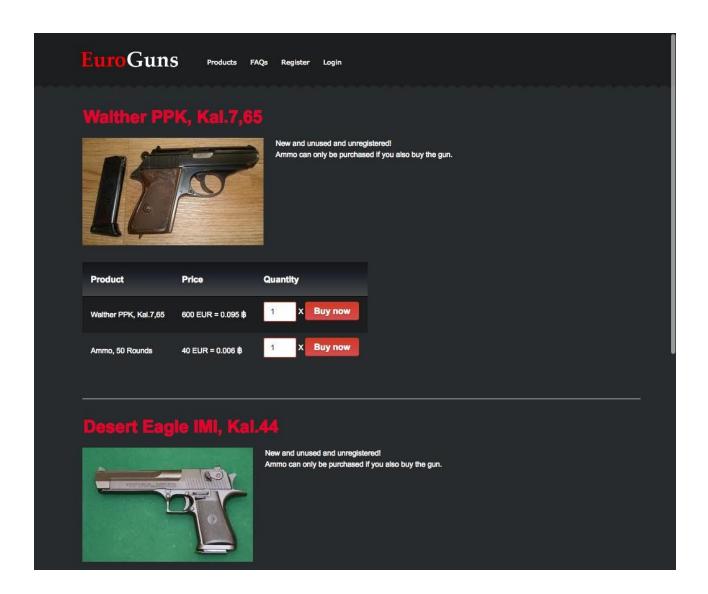
# Fake IDs





These websites offer to sell false identification in exchange for Bitcoin.

# Illegal weapons and hitmen



Here we can buy unused and unregistered weapons.

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Email: Cthulhu@tormail.net

Solutions to Common Problems! We are an organized criminal group, former soldiers and mercenaries from the FFL, highly-skilled, with military experience of more than five years. We can perform hits all around the world.

If you're asking yourself "Why someone would need to hire a killer online?", we'll tell you: simply because it is anonymous. You can always find examples of contractors who collaborated with cops (when they were facing 20 years of prison), and you (the buyer) could end up in the prison because of that. On the other hand, you can also find examples where police found who had the interest to put out a contract, and they can come to you and you can give your testimony (which would put the hitman in jail).



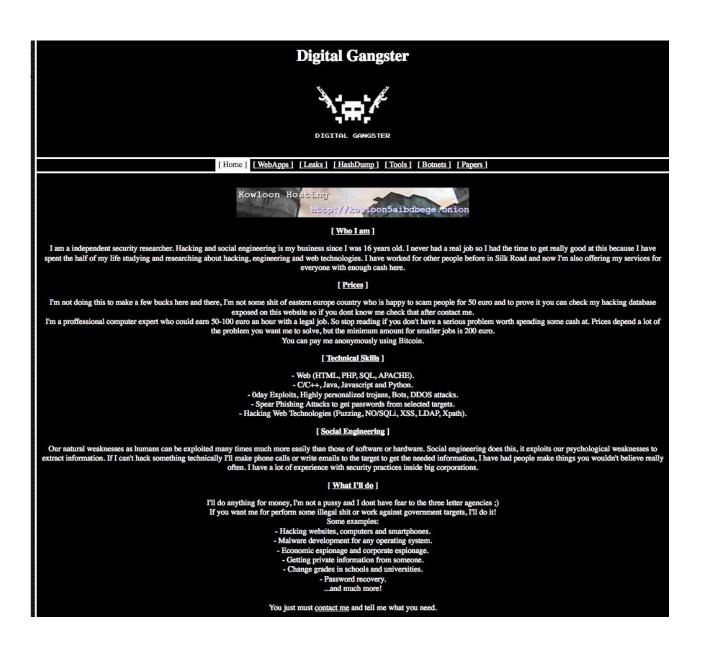
So, it is of mutual interest to make everything anonymous. This website is hosted on a series of anonymous servers, with access to the Internet through the Tor network. You can access this site anonymously only through the Tor network, and we upload files to the server through the Tor network. You can make payments with an anonymous digital currency, either Bitcoins (http://bitcoin.org/) or Liberty Reserve. It means we don't know you and you don't know we keen't send yo to prison. Of course you must take a risk when you pay in advance, but there is no interest. With risk comes reward. You take a risk, and someone can always cheat you. As we said, many criminals have the balls to do things to other people, but when they face 20 years of prison they begin to talk with the police. Risks about prison and money are always present. If you are not ready to take a risk, don't contact this kind of organizations. If Contract Killer © 2011.



Once we take your deposit your fish is as good as dead!

If you don't want to wield the gun yourself, you can simply hire someone else to do it for you.

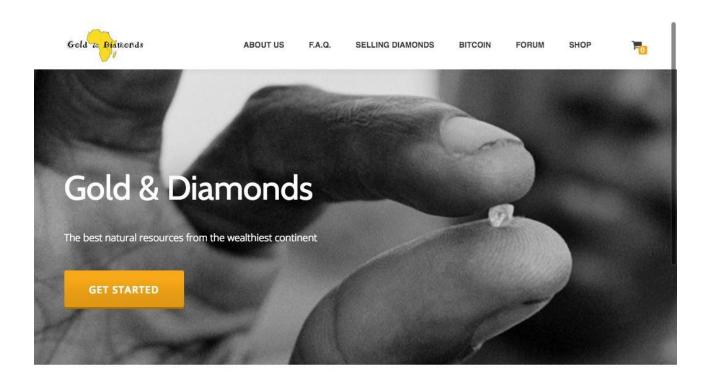
## Hackers for hire



This man, like many others, offers his hacking services for hire.

He claims he will do 'anything for money'.

# Blood Diamonds, Gold and Rhino Horn

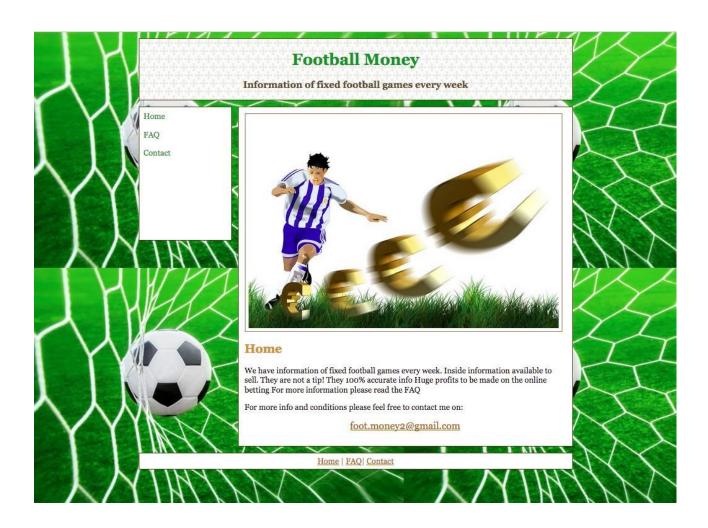


### Gold & Diamonds: Our Mission

- Products: We sell Diamonds, Gold and Rhino horn found and harvested in Africa.
- Low Costs: We are able to operate with very low costs because we use cheap/free labor on unregulated land.
- Reselling Issue: Because we do not follow international labor standards and operate in unregulated areas, we have trouble selling our products because they are viewed as "Unethical".
- Unethical Issue: Many companies have been found guilty of knowingly profiting from sweat shops, child labor, slavery, unsafe working conditions, unfair wages and violence. The companies include but are not limited to Pfizer, Walmart, Nestle, Coca-Cola, Nike, Adidas, H&M, Levi Strauss, C&A, Walt Disney and Otto-Verstand.

This business promises to give you the lowest costs on Diamonds, Gold and Rhino Horn as they 'use cheap/free labour on unregulated land'.

# **Corruption and Fixed Betting**



This website offers to sell information on fixed soccer matches.

# Protecting the children in your care from the Dark Web

So after taking a look into this dark, hidden world, you're no doubt going to want to make sure the children in your care aren't accessing these websites.

Luckily, it's quite easy to ensure they're not. The only real way to access the Dark Web is through Tor. And Tor has very little value other than acting as a Dark Web browser. If a child has this software installed, it's clear what they intend to do with it.

You can safely explain to the children in your care that if you find this software on their computers or other devices, you will remove it immediately.

As such, if you suspect the child in your care is using Tor, the first thing to do is to check all the devices they are using.

Keep an eye out for any of these common Tor icons, or anything similar. Onions, or green and purple globes or maps are trademark Tor symbols, and should be investigated immediately



To be absolutely certain though, you can't really rely on simply keeping an eye out for purple icons. We would recommend all legal guardians ensure they conduct a manual search for 'Tor' on any device the children in their care might be using. This will show you if they have the software installed, even if the child has renamed the program or changed the icon the software will appear in a device search.

If they do have it installed, remove it immediately, and ask the child why they had the program and what they were doing with it.

Unfortunately, unlike regular browsers, you will not be able to see a search history.

# Why do children access the Dark Web

It is important to remember that the Dark Web is an intrinsically mysterious and alluring place. Not all people who visit the Dark Web go there with any poor intentions. As more and more people learn about the Dark Web it's becoming a very popular topic of discussion. This may be driving more and more children to look up how to explore it.

Children love to learn and explore. So imagine a child's curiosity in a huge, secret internet. Of course children are going to want to investigate. But we need to apply the same logic to a dark, dark internet as we should to a deep, dark cave. While it might seem intriguing to children, there are enormous risks involved. No parent or carer in in their right mind should allow them to play in it.

It's important we take charge and set boundaries. You should always know where and when technology is being used. Most importantly, you need to be ready and able to communicate openly with the children in your care about these kinds of technologies to lessen the mystery behind them and educate the child on their inherent dangers.

# The Parent's Safe Browsing Checklist

Here are some strategies to implement in your home using the <u>Internet Safe Education's 5</u> <u>Principles</u> to Stay Safe Online.

#### 1 - Communicate

#### Conversation topics:

- 'I learned about this thing called 'Tor' and wanted to talk about it with you'.
- Do you know anyone who uses it? (Asking about someone else is an easy start point)
- Do you have the program installed?
- Have you used it? What didyou see or do? Is everything OK?
- Ask them what they know about the dark web and why it exists. Share your concerns.

#### 2 - Set Rules and Boundaries

Include Tor in your family's list of applications and tools not to be used.

### 3 - Stay Current

• If you are still concerned, search their devices for 'Tor'. This will show you if they have the software installed.

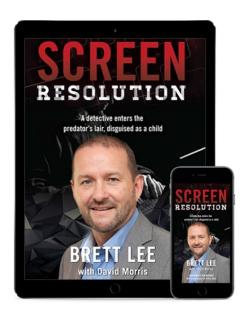
#### 4 - Parents Take Control

- If you suspect that a child in your care is involved whether through their behaviour, or if you hear or see something suspicious do something immediately.
- If they do have Tor installed, remove it immediately and explain to your child why you have done so. Ensure they understand the dangers of the Dark Web.

### 5 - Use Management Tools

- If you are concerned they will reinstall the program, services such as filtering and monitoring programs can prevent further downloading of Tor and help you monitor and manage other online behaviour.
- Use Parental Controls in devices to block Tor.

# Screen Resolution by Brett Lee





A must-read for parents and carers.

Brett Lee has spent thousands of hours as an Internet detective pretending to be a teenager online to hunt down and prosecute child sex offenders.

In Screen Resolution, Brett describes his experiences in real and powerful terms, profiling predator behaviours and exposing their sinister intentions.

Often confronting and at times disturbing, Brett's account will help you discern the truth behind the screen and what you can to do to protect your families online.

Through reading this book, every family can achieve a safe and productive online environment.



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