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Date with danger online

NATALIE O'BRIEN

THOUSANDS of Aussie singles looking for love report being sexually harassed, stalked, sent lurid pictures, and even having secret pictures taken of themselves while having sex.

A landmark survey of almost 10,000 Australians aged 18 to 54 who have used online dating sites has unveiled its seedier and dangerous side.

Instead of finding the partner of their dreams, they reported becoming the victims of sexually-based crimes including having their drinks spiked, being abused and forced to perform sex acts.

The report by The Australian Institute of Criminology, the first of its kind to explore technology-facilitated sexual violence on a national scale, found three in four dating app users have been subjected to online sexual violence.

REPORT PAGE 12

EXCLUSIVE

Oh baby, now that's a bungle

ANNIE LEWIS & ANGIRA BHARADWAJ

A SHINY new maternity unit unveiled with much fanfare as part of a multimillion-dollar hospital redevelopment cannot be used by many expectant mums because of serious "safety concerns".

Just weeks after Campbelltown Hospital's brand new birthing unit was opened to the public, pregnant women were barred from using baths for water births and crucial pain relief because they were not designed properly. The blunder has now forced the hospital to order safety rails so women and their support people do not slip while using the baths.

Women in labour are now offered showers for pain relief in place of baths.

Labor health spokesman Ryan Park slammed the government for the error. **REPORT PAGE 2**





