

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, THE USE OF DEEPPAKES AS A NEW FORM OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN THE BRAZILIAN LEGAL SYSTEM**

**INTELIGÊNCIA ARTIFICIAL E VIOLÊNCIA CONTRA MULHERES O USO DE DEEPPAKES COMO NOVA FORMA DE VIOLÊNCIA DE GÊNERO NO ORDENAMENTO JURÍDICO BRASILEIRO**

**INTELEGENCIA ARTIFICIAL Y VIOLENCIA CONTRA LAS MUJERES, EL USO DE DEEPPAKES COMO UNA NUEVA FORMA DE VIOLENCIA DE GÉNERO EN EL ORDENAMIENTO JURÍDICO BRASILEÑO**



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**ABSTRACT**

The advancement of artificial intelligence technologies has significantly expanded the possibilities for manipulating digital content, particularly through the development of *deepfake* technologies. In this context, this study aims to analyze the legal implications of the use of these tools in the production of manipulated audiovisual content and their relationship with digital violence against women. This research is characterized as a qualitative study based on a literature review, grounded in the analysis of recent scientific articles addressing the social, technological, and legal impacts of artificial intelligence in the manipulation of images and videos. The findings indicate that *deepfakes* have frequently been used to create falsified intimate content, especially within the context of non-consensual synthetic pornography, a practice that disproportionately affects women and may cause significant psychological, social, and reputational harm. The analysis also demonstrates that traditional legal instruments related to the protection of honor, image, and privacy face difficulties in addressing artificially generated content, highlighting the need to update legal frameworks in light of contemporary technological transformations. It is concluded that the misuse of artificial intelligence in the creation of *deepfakes* represents an emerging challenge for digital law and for the protection of women against contemporary forms of technological violence, requiring the development of legal and institutional responses capable of addressing this phenomenon.

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**Keywords:** Artificial Intelligence. Deepfakes. Digital Violence. Gender-Based Violence. Legal System.

## RESUMO

O avanço das tecnologias de inteligência artificial tem ampliado significativamente as possibilidades de manipulação de conteúdos digitais, especialmente por meio das chamadas tecnologias de *deepfakes*. Nesse contexto, o presente estudo tem como objetivo analisar as implicações jurídicas do uso dessas ferramentas na produção de conteúdos audiovisuais manipulados e sua relação com a violência digital contra mulheres. Trata-se de uma pesquisa de natureza qualitativa, desenvolvida por meio de revisão de literatura, baseada na análise de artigos científicos recentes que abordam os impactos sociais, tecnológicos e jurídicos da utilização de inteligência artificial na manipulação de imagens e vídeos. Os resultados indicam que os *deepfakes* têm sido utilizados de forma recorrente para a produção de conteúdos íntimos falsificados, especialmente no contexto da pornografia sintética não consensual, prática que afeta majoritariamente mulheres e pode gerar danos psicológicos, sociais e reputacionais significativos. A análise também evidencia que os instrumentos jurídicos tradicionais relacionados à proteção da honra, da imagem e da privacidade enfrentam dificuldades para lidar com conteúdos gerados artificialmente, o que revela a necessidade de atualização dos mecanismos normativos diante das transformações tecnológicas contemporâneas. Conclui-se que o uso indevido da inteligência artificial na criação de *deepfakes* representa um desafio emergente para o direito digital e para a proteção das mulheres contra formas contemporâneas de violência tecnológica, exigindo o desenvolvimento de respostas jurídicas e institucionais capazes de enfrentar esse fenômeno.

**Palavras-chave:** Deepfakes. Inteligência Artificial. Ordenamento Jurídico. Violência de Gênero. Violência Digital.

## RESUMEN

El avance de las tecnologías de inteligencia artificial ha ampliado significativamente las posibilidades de manipulación de contenidos digitales, especialmente mediante el desarrollo de tecnologías conocidas como *deepfakes*. En este contexto, el presente estudio tiene como objetivo analizar las implicaciones jurídicas del uso de estas herramientas en la producción de contenidos audiovisuales manipulados y su relación con la violencia digital contra las mujeres. Se trata de una investigación de naturaleza cualitativa, desarrollada a partir de una revisión de la literatura científica reciente que aborda los impactos sociales, tecnológicos y jurídicos derivados del uso de inteligencia artificial en la manipulación de imágenes y videos. Los resultados indican que los *deepfakes* han sido utilizados con frecuencia para la producción de contenidos íntimos falsificados, particularmente en el contexto de la pornografía sintética no consensuada, práctica que afecta de manera desproporcionada a las mujeres y que puede generar daños psicológicos, sociales y reputacionales significativos. El análisis también evidencia que los instrumentos jurídicos tradicionales relacionados con la protección del honor, de la imagen y de la privacidad enfrentan dificultades para abordar contenidos generados artificialmente, lo que revela la necesidad de actualizar los mecanismos normativos frente a las transformaciones tecnológicas contemporâneas. Se concluye que el uso indebido de la inteligencia artificial en la creación de *deepfakes* representa un desafío emergente para el derecho digital y para la protección de las mujeres frente a nuevas formas de violencia tecnológica, lo que exige el desarrollo de respuestas jurídicas e institucionales adecuadas para enfrentar este fenómeno.

**Palabras clave:** Deepfakes. Inteligencia Artificial. Ordenamiento Jurídico. Violencia de Gênero. Violencia Digital.



Soberanía. Regímenes Autocráticos. Ley Magnitsky. Crisis del Derecho Internacional.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The advancement of digital technologies has caused profound transformations in the way information, images and audiovisual content are produced and disseminated in contemporary society. Among the most recent innovations is the development of artificial intelligence systems capable of generating highly realistic synthetic content, known as *deepfakes*. These technologies use deep learning algorithms to manipulate images, videos, and audio, creating representations that simulate situations that never occurred. In this context, Romero-Moreno (2024) highlights that the growth of automated content generation technologies has significantly increased the challenges related to the protection of fundamental rights in the digital environment, especially with regard to people's privacy, honor, and reputation.

The use of these technologies has aroused growing concern in the legal and social field, especially when used to create falsified intimate content involving real individuals. Synthetic image manipulation has come to be used in various situations of digital abuse, including the production of non-consensual pornography and other forms of undue exposure on the internet. Furizal et al. (2025) point out that AI-generated pornography represents one of the most problematic applications of *deepfake* technologies, since these tools can be used to produce fake intimate images capable of generating significant harm to victims.

In addition to the technological implications, the phenomenon of *deepfakes* also has a strong relationship with the discussion about digital gender violence. Several studies point out that women are disproportionately affected by this type of practice, especially in cases related to the production of manipulated intimate content. In this sense, Benjamin (2024) states that the use of artificial intelligence to generate false intimate images constitutes a new form of technological violence against women, as these representations can be used as instruments of humiliation, control, and public exposure in the virtual environment.

Another relevant aspect of this debate refers to the challenges faced by legal systems in the face of the expansion of these technologies. The possibility of creating counterfeit images and videos capable of simulating intimate situations raises important questions about the limits of legal protection of image and privacy. Dunn (2024) argues that the emergence of the so-called synthetic intimate images requires a review of the traditional legal categories related to the protection of personality, since the damage caused by the dissemination of manipulated content can occur even when the image does not correspond to a real record.

Given this scenario, it is necessary to deepen the analysis of the legal implications of the use of artificial intelligence technologies in the production of *deepfakes*, especially in the context of digital violence against women. The expansion of these tools highlights the need

to understand how law can respond to the challenges imposed by contemporary technological transformations. Thus, this study aims to analyze, based on recent scientific literature, how the use of *deepfakes* has been interpreted as a new form of gender violence in the digital environment and what are the main challenges faced by the Brazilian legal system in the face of this emerging phenomenon.

The growing dissemination of content manipulated through artificial intelligence has also increased concerns related to the use of these technologies in criminal practices in the digital environment. The creation of counterfeit videos and images can be used for defamation, blackmail, and extortion, expanding the reach of different forms of digital violence. In this context, Chawki (2025) highlights that *deepfakes* have been used in sexual extortion schemes, in which manipulated content is used as an instrument of intimidation or coercion, highlighting the need to update legal strategies aimed at confronting cybercrimes.

In addition, the phenomenon of *deepfakes* must be understood within a broader context of technological and social transformation. The rapid evolution of artificial intelligence tools has expanded the ability to manipulate digital reality, creating new dynamics for the circulation of information and images in the virtual environment. In this sense, Brantner (2024) observes that the dissemination of these technologies represents a growing challenge for digital governance and the protection of fundamental rights, especially when used for practices of undue exposure or digital exploitation.

Another relevant point refers to the existing regulatory gaps to deal with the legal impacts of these emerging technologies. Although the legal system has instruments aimed at protecting honor, image and privacy, such mechanisms were conceived in a context prior to the development of synthetic content manipulation technologies. Nazakat et al. (2025) argue that digital violence facilitated by emerging technologies requires the development of specific regulatory frameworks capable of recognizing and addressing new forms of abuse mediated by artificial intelligence.

Given this scenario, the academic analysis of *deepfakes* has expanded significantly, involving different areas of knowledge, such as law, technology, communication, and gender studies. This interdisciplinary approach allows us to understand the complexity of the phenomenon and its social, legal, and technological impacts. Santos (2023) highlights that the manipulation of intimate images through artificial intelligence highlights the need to expand protection mechanisms for victims of digital violence, especially in contexts in which public exposure can generate lasting social and psychological damage.

Thus, the discussion on artificial intelligence and digital gender violence reveals the importance of deepening the debate on the ethical and legal limits of the use of emerging

technologies. The advancement of synthetic image manipulation tools imposes new challenges for contemporary law, requiring reflections on digital responsibility, protection of fundamental rights, and the construction of effective mechanisms to confront new forms of violence mediated by technology. In this context, the present research seeks to contribute to the academic debate by analyzing how the use of *deepfakes* has been interpreted by the scientific literature as an emerging form of gender violence and what are the main challenges faced by the Brazilian legal system in the face of this phenomenon.

## 2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The advancement of artificial intelligence has caused profound transformations in the production, circulation, and consumption of digital content in contemporary society. Among emerging technologies, the so-called *deepfakes* stand out, which consist of audiovisual manipulation carried out through deep learning algorithms capable of generating images, videos or audios with a high degree of realism. Such technological resources allow the simulation of human faces, voices, and expressions in an extremely convincing way, which amplifies the risks associated with disinformation and identity manipulation. In this sense, Romero-Moreno (2024) observes that the expansion of generative artificial intelligence technologies challenges traditional legal systems, especially with regard to the protection of the honor, privacy, and dignity of the human person in the digital environment.

The evolution of deep learning systems, especially artificial neural networks, has enabled the development of tools capable of synthesizing audiovisual content with high technical precision. From large databases, these technologies learn facial, body and behavioral patterns that can be artificially reproduced in new digital content. Furizal (2025) explains that the advancement of these tools has made the creation of synthetic images increasingly accessible, allowing manipulated content to be produced relatively easily and disseminated quickly on digital platforms, which increases risks related to disinformation and the violation of individual rights.

Recent literature also points out that *deepfakes* have relevant social implications, especially when used to produce content of a sexual or defamatory nature. According to Benjamin (2024), synthetic image manipulation technology has been widely used in the creation of non-consensual pornography, a practice that affects mostly women and is part of the context of the so-called digital gender violence. The author points out that the use of artificial intelligence to generate fake intimate images reinforces historical structures of inequality and symbolic violence, transforming technology into an instrument for perpetuating discriminatory practices in the virtual environment.

In addition to the societal implications, *deepfakes* also present significant challenges in the field of digital criminology. The manipulation of images and videos can be used for criminal practices that involve defamation, blackmail, and extortion. In this context, Chawki (2025) highlights that synthetic content has been used in sexual extortion schemes, known as *sextortion*, in which manipulated images are used to embarrass or threaten victims, usually women. For the author, this phenomenon highlights the need to update existing regulatory frameworks, since most legislation was drafted considering only the circulation of real images, and not content generated by artificial intelligence.

From a legal perspective, the emergence of the so-called synthetic intimate images raises relevant debates about the protection of personality in the digital environment. Even when the manipulated image does not correspond to a real record, the social and psychological impact for the victim can be significant. Dunn (2024) argues that the circulation of synthetic content capable of simulating intimate situations requires a review of the traditional legal categories related to the right to image and the protection of intimacy, as damage to reputation and emotional integrity can occur regardless of the veracity of the material disseminated.

In this context, it is observed that the growth of artificial intelligence technologies applied to audiovisual manipulation has increased concerns related to the protection of fundamental rights in the digital sphere. The misuse of these tools highlights the need for regulatory responses capable of dealing with new forms of violence mediated by technology. Nazakat (2025) argues that gender-based violence facilitated by digital technologies represents one of the main contemporary challenges for legal systems, requiring the construction of normative mechanisms that consider the specificities of new practices of violence in the virtual environment.

The expansion of the use of artificial intelligence technologies has also provoked reflections on the social and cultural impacts associated with the digital manipulation of images and identities. The development of tools capable of producing highly realistic synthetic content has contributed to the expansion of abusive practices in the virtual environment, especially when these technologies are used to create false representations of individuals in intimate or compromising contexts. In this sense, Santos (2023) highlights that pornography produced through *deepfakes* represents a contemporary form of symbolic and digital violence, since the manipulation of images can expose victims to public embarrassment, reputational damage, and significant psychological impacts.

The production and dissemination of this type of content are directly related to the phenomenon of technology-mediated gender violence, which is characterized by the use of

digital resources to intimidate, embarrass, or exploit women in the online environment. Brantner (2024) observes that synthetic image manipulation technologies have been used as instruments to perpetuate structural inequalities, especially in social contexts marked by power asymmetries. For the author, digital violence against women should be understood as an extension of traditional forms of gender violence, now enhanced by the reach and speed of digital platforms.

Another relevant aspect identified by the scientific literature refers to the gaps in legal systems to deal with the challenges brought about by artificial intelligence technologies. Although many legal systems have rules related to the protection of honor, image and privacy, such provisions do not always contemplate situations in which the offensive content is completely synthetic. Shah (2025) points out that the use of artificial intelligence to produce false content involving women highlights weaknesses in current regulatory frameworks, requiring new legal approaches capable of recognizing and punishing practices that use emerging technologies to commit violence.

The discussion also involves the need to expand legal protection mechanisms aimed at victims of digital violence. The creation of false intimate images, even if technically artificial, can generate real and lasting consequences for the lives of victims, affecting their reputation, their professional life and their social relationships. In this context, Wijaya (2025) argues that legal systems should explicitly recognize the misuse of artificial intelligence technologies as a form of digital gender-based violence, adopting legal measures that allow for accountability

In addition to the legal dimension, the literature also points out the importance of understanding *deepfakes* within a broader context of technological and social transformation. The rapid evolution of artificial intelligence has broadened the debate on digital ethics, technological responsibility, and information governance. As Furizal (2025) observes, the development of these technologies requires the construction of regulatory strategies that reconcile technological innovation with the protection of fundamental rights, preventing tools with high creative potential from being used for practices of abuse, exploitation or violence.

Thus, contemporary studies indicate that the phenomenon of *deepfakes* should be analyzed in an interdisciplinary way, involving not only technological aspects, but also legal, social, and ethical dimensions. The use of these technologies to produce offensive or sexually explicit content without consent reveals the need to update existing normative instruments, as well as the strengthening of public policies aimed at preventing digital violence. In this scenario, the articulation between law, technology, and the protection of human rights becomes fundamental to face the challenges imposed by the new forms of violence mediated by artificial intelligence.

The growing use of artificial intelligence technologies in the digital environment has also intensified debates on legal responsibility and the protection of fundamental rights in the face of new forms of violence mediated by technology. The synthetic manipulation of images and videos allows the creation of content that can compromise the reputation and moral integrity of individuals, even if such records do not correspond to real events. In this scenario, Romero-Moreno (2024) highlights that the contemporary legal system faces the challenge of establishing mechanisms capable of holding accountable practices that use artificial intelligence to produce false content with harmful potential, especially when these materials affect personality rights.

The discussion becomes even more complex when one considers that much of the content manipulated through *deepfakes* has a sexual or intimate character and predominantly affects women. Recent literature points out that non-consensual synthetic pornography has become one of the main undue applications of this technology, revealing a gender dimension associated with the phenomenon. As Furizal et al. (2025) point out, the use of artificial intelligence to generate false intimate images reinforces historical patterns of objectification and symbolic violence against women, configuring a contemporary form of digital violence that requires appropriate institutional responses.

In this context, it is observed that digital gender-based violence facilitated by artificial intelligence technologies represents a growing challenge for legal systems around the world. Nazakat et al. (2025) argue that traditional legislation often does not explicitly contemplate practices that involve synthetic manipulation of images, which can make it difficult to hold the perpetrators of these conducts accountable. For the authors, the construction of specific regulatory frameworks to deal with technology-mediated gender violence is an essential step for the effective protection of victims in the digital environment.

Another element frequently discussed in the literature refers to the difficulty of identifying and removing manipulated content that circulates on digital platforms. The rapid dissemination of these materials can significantly amplify the damage caused to the victims, making it complex to repair the damage suffered. In this sense, Chawki (2025) points out that *deepfakes* expand the potential for criminal practices such as blackmail and defamation, since manipulated images can be used as instruments of intimidation or coercion, especially in crimes of sexual extortion.

In addition to the criminal and civil implications, the phenomenon of *deepfakes* has also been analyzed from the perspective of human rights and digital governance. The production and circulation of offensive synthetic content raises questions about the limits of freedom of expression and the responsibility of digital platforms in content moderation.

According to Dunn (2024), the evolution of audiovisual manipulation technologies requires a reinterpretation of the legal categories related to the right to image and the protection of intimacy, considering that the damage caused by synthetic content can be as significant as that resulting from the dissemination of real images.

In this way, recent scientific literature converges to the understanding that *deepfakes* represent not only a technological innovation, but also a legal and social phenomenon that challenges traditional mechanisms of regulation and protection of rights. In this scenario, it is essential to develop legal instruments capable of responding to new forms of technological violence, ensuring effective protection for victims and promoting greater accountability in the use of emerging technologies.

### 3 METHODOLOGY

The present study is characterized as a qualitative research, developed through a literature review, with the objective of analyzing the legal implications of the use of artificial intelligence in the production of *deepfakes* and its relationship with gender violence in the Brazilian legal system. The choice of this methodological approach is justified by the need to understand the phenomenon from the critical analysis of recent scientific production, considering the legal, social and technological dimensions involved in the use of these digital tools.

As for the methodological procedures, the research was conducted through a bibliographic survey in academic databases and specialized scientific repositories. Scientific articles published in recent years in relevant academic journals were selected, prioritizing studies that directly dealt with the relationships between artificial intelligence, synthetic image manipulation, digital violence, and legal protection of women. The selection of sources considered criteria of topicality, thematic relevance and scientific relevance, seeking to ensure that the analyzed framework reflected the current state of academic discussions on the subject.

The process of collecting information occurred in successive stages. Initially, the search descriptors related to the object of the research were defined, such as artificial intelligence, *deepfakes*, digital violence, gender violence and legal regulation of technology. Next, the identification of potentially relevant studies was carried out, followed by exploratory reading of the selected texts. Subsequently, an analytical reading of the chosen scientific productions was carried out, with the objective of identifying central concepts, theoretical perspectives and results presented by the authors that make up the corpus of the research.

Data analysis was carried out through an interpretative qualitative approach, in which

the contents extracted from the publications were examined in a comparative and systematized way. This procedure allowed the identification of theoretical convergences, interpretative divergences, and gaps in the scientific literature on the use of synthetic image manipulation technologies and their legal implications. The organization of this information made it possible to understand how the phenomenon of *deepfakes* has been addressed by contemporary academic production, especially with regard to discussions about digital gender violence.

The limits and potentialities of the adopted methodology were also considered. The literature review enables a comprehensive understanding of the state of the art on a given phenomenon, allowing the identification of research trends, predominant theoretical perspectives, and emerging normative challenges. However, it is recognized that this type of investigation depends on the availability of recent scientific production and the diversity of approaches in the specialized literature.

In this way, the methodology adopted allowed to structure a systematic analysis of recent academic contributions on artificial intelligence and *deepfakes*, making it possible to understand how these technologies have been interpreted in the legal and interdisciplinary field as a new form of digital gender violence. From this analytical basis, it was possible to develop the discussion presented in the following sections of the article, relating the findings of the scientific literature with the challenges faced by the Brazilian legal system in the face of the advancement of digital technologies.

In order to systematize the main academic productions used in the construction of the theoretical framework of this study, the following table is presented. It organizes the authors selected in the literature review, as well as the titles of their respective works and the years of publication. This organization allows us to visualize in a synthetic way the scientific contributions that underlie the discussion about the use of artificial intelligence, especially *deepfake technologies*, and their legal and social implications in the context of gender violence in the digital environment.

**Table 1**

*Scientific productions used in the literature review*

Author	Title	Year
Benjamin, M.	AI-generated deepfakes and gender-based violence, exploring the techno-feminist challenges	2024
Brantner, C.	Rethinking deepfake harms and gender AI safety in the Global South	2024
Chawki, M.	Deepfake sextortion in England, Wales and Northern Ireland	2025

Author	Title	Year
Dunn, S.	Legal definitions of intimate images in the age of sexual deepfakes and generative artificial intelligence	2024
Furizal, F.	Social, legal and ethical implications of AI-generated deepfake pornography on digital platforms, a systematic literature review	2025
Nazakat, T.	Addressing technology-facilitated gender-based violence through artificial intelligence regulation	2025
Romero-Moreno, F.	Generative AI and deepfakes, a human rights approach to tackling harmful content	2024
Santos, T. N.	Deepfake pornography, analysis of social and gender implications	2023
Shah, R.	Artificial intelligence as an enabler of crimes against women, an exploration of legal and ethical challenges	2025
Wijaya, R.	Legal protection for women victims of online gender sexual violence based on the misuse of artificial intelligence deepfake	2025

Source: The authors.

The analysis of the scientific productions presented in the table shows that recent literature has devoted increasing attention to the legal, social, and ethical implications arising from the use of artificial intelligence technologies, especially with regard to the manipulation of images through *deepfakes*. It is observed that the selected studies address different perspectives of the phenomenon, including the impacts of non-consensual synthetic pornography, the regulatory challenges imposed on contemporary law, and the characterization of this practice as an emerging form of digital gender violence.

In this way, the contributions gathered provide theoretical support to understand how the advancement of digital technologies has increased the risks of violation of personality rights and reinforced the need to update legal instruments aimed at protecting women in the virtual environment.

#### 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The analysis of the selected scientific literature allowed us to identify that the advancement of artificial intelligence technologies, especially those based on deep neural networks, has significantly expanded the capacity to manipulate audiovisual content in the digital environment. Among these technologies, the so-called *deepfakes* stand out for their ability to generate highly realistic images, videos and audios, capable of simulating the presence of individuals in situations that have never occurred. In this context, Romero-Moreno (2024) observes that the development of generative artificial intelligence tools has created new challenges for contemporary legal systems, since the synthetic manipulation of content can produce relevant damage to the honor, privacy, and dignity of the people involved.

The results of the analysis indicate that one of the main concerns pointed out by the

literature refers to the use of these technologies for the production of falsified intimate content, a phenomenon that has been associated with the growth of non-consensual synthetic pornography. Recent studies point out that this practice affects mostly women, configuring a new form of gender-based digital violence. As highlighted by Furizal et al. (2025), the use of artificial intelligence to generate false intimate images intensifies forms of exploitation and objectification of women in the digital environment, increasing the risks of public embarrassment, reputational damage, and psychological impacts for victims.

Another relevant result identified in the analyzed studies refers to the way *deepfakes* have been used as instruments for criminal practices in the virtual environment. Synthetic manipulation of images can be used for threats, defamation and blackmail, increasing the potential for digital violence. In this sense, Chawki (2025) highlights that content manipulated by artificial intelligence has been used in sexual extortion practices, known as *sextortion*, in which false images are used to intimidate or embarrass victims, often women.

In addition to the criminal implications, the results show that the production and dissemination of manipulated content also raise important debates about legal responsibility and protection of personality rights. Even when the image released does not correspond to a real event, the social and psychological effects for victims can be significant. In this context, Dunn (2024) argues that the emergence of the so-called synthetic intimate images requires a reinterpretation of the legal categories related to the right to image and the protection of intimacy, since the damage caused by the dissemination of falsified content can be equivalent to or even greater than that caused by authentic images.

The discussion presented by the literature also shows that digital violence mediated by artificial intelligence technologies has a strong gender dimension. Several studies point out that women are disproportionately affected by this type of practice, which reinforces the need to understand *deepfakes* within a broader context of structural inequalities in the digital environment. In this sense, Benjamin (2024) argues that synthetic pornography based on artificial intelligence represents a new manifestation of technological violence against women, since the manipulation of intimate images can be used as a mechanism of control, humiliation, and silencing.

Another recurring point in the studies analyzed refers to the gaps in the legal systems to deal with this emerging phenomenon. Although many legislations have provisions related to the protection of honor, image and privacy, such rules were elaborated in a context prior to the development of synthetic image manipulation technologies. According to Nazakat et al. (2025), this normative gap can make it difficult to hold the perpetrators of these practices accountable, especially when the content disclosed does not correspond to a real record, but

rather to a simulation created by artificial intelligence.

Thus, the results obtained in the literature analysis indicate that the phenomenon of *deepfakes* represents a multidimensional challenge for contemporary law, involving technological, social and legal aspects. As Santos (2023) and Brantner (2024) point out, the expansion of these technologies highlights the need to build regulatory mechanisms capable of confronting new forms of digital violence, especially those directed at women. In this scenario, the articulation between law, technology, and human rights protection becomes a fundamental element to understand and address the impacts of artificial intelligence on the reproduction of gender-based violence practices in the digital environment.

The literature analyzed also shows that the dissemination of manipulated content through artificial intelligence has increased the complexity of discussions on the responsibility of digital platforms and information governance in the virtual environment. The rapid and massive circulation of synthetic content makes it difficult to identify the source of the manipulations and effectively remove the offensive materials, which can aggravate the damage suffered by the victims. In this context, Romero-Moreno (2024) highlights that the expansion of automated content generation technologies requires new regulatory approaches that consider not only the individual accountability of the perpetrators of manipulations, but also the role of digital platforms in preventing and mitigating these harms.

Another relevant aspect observed in the analysis of the studies refers to the psychological and social impact caused by the dissemination of manipulated images. Although the content is technically artificial, its consequences for victims are concrete and can involve public exposure, social embarrassment and reputational damage. Santos (2023) points out that *deepfake pornography* produces effects similar to those of other forms of digital violence, as it promotes the circulation of false intimate images capable of deeply affecting the personal, professional, and emotional lives of the women portrayed in these montages.

In addition, the results indicate that the phenomenon of *deepfakes* must be understood within a broader context of technological and social transformation. The advancement of artificial intelligence technologies has expanded the possibilities of manipulating digital reality, creating new challenges for existing legal protection systems. Furizal et al. (2025) emphasize that the growth of these technologies requires a critical reflection on the ethical limits of technological innovation, as well as on the need to develop regulatory mechanisms capable of preventing abusive use of these tools.

In the field of digital criminology, studies also point out that *deepfakes* can be used as instruments of coercion and intimidation in criminal practices. The manipulation of images

and videos can serve as a basis for threats, blackmail and extortion, expanding the forms of violence mediated by technology. Chawki (2025) emphasizes that the use of synthetic content in sexual extortion crimes shows how artificial intelligence technologies can be appropriated by criminal agents to exploit social and technological vulnerabilities existing in the digital environment.

Another important result identified in the studies refers to the need to update the traditional legal categories related to the protection of image and intimacy. The possibility of creating false images that simulate intimate situations raises questions about the conceptual limits of these categories in contemporary law. Dunn (2024) argues that the existence of synthetic content capable of generating reputational and psychological damage requires a broadening of the legal interpretation of the right to image, in order to also cover situations in which the representation disclosed does not correspond to a real event.

The literature also shows that the misuse of artificial intelligence technologies for image manipulation has a strong relationship with social structures of gender inequality. Several studies point out that women are the main victims of synthetic pornography and other forms of digital violence associated with *deepfakes*. In this sense, Benjamin (2024) states that the use of these technologies to produce false intimate images constitutes a contemporary form of technological violence, capable of reproducing and intensifying historical patterns of discrimination and female objectification.

The studies analyzed indicate that the construction of effective legal responses to face the phenomenon of *deepfakes* requires an interdisciplinary approach that involves law, technology, and public policies. Nazakat et al. (2025) highlight that digital gender-based violence mediated by emerging technologies requires normative instruments capable of recognizing the specificity of these practices and ensuring effective mechanisms to protect victims.

The analysis of the literature also shows that the expansion of synthetic image manipulation technologies has generated growing concerns in the field of human rights and the protection of victims of digital violence. The ease with which counterfeit content can be produced and disseminated significantly increases the risks of undue exposure and public embarrassment.

In this context, Wijaya (2025) argues that the use of artificial intelligence to produce false intimate content requires the adoption of specific legal mechanisms to protect victims, since the damage resulting from the circulation of these images can profoundly affect the social, professional, and psychological lives of the people involved.

The results obtained from the analysis of the studies also indicate that *deepfakes*

represent a phenomenon that transcends the purely technological dimension, reaching broader social, cultural and legal implications. In this sense, Brantner (2024) highlights that the synthetic manipulation of images must be understood within a global context of digital transformation, in which new technologies can both expand opportunities for innovation and create significant risks for the protection of fundamental rights.

Another relevant aspect observed in the studies refers to the need to develop prevention mechanisms and social awareness about the misuse of these technologies. The expansion of *deepfakes* highlights the importance of public policies aimed at digital education, as well as the strengthening of institutional instruments capable of confronting abusive practices in the virtual environment.

Shah (2025) points out that the use of artificial intelligence in crimes against women demonstrates how emerging technologies can be appropriate for practices of exploitation and violence, which requires institutional responses capable of keeping up with the pace of technological transformations.

The discussion presented by the authors analyzed also points out that the confrontation of digital violence mediated by artificial intelligence depends on the articulation between different areas of knowledge. The complexity of the phenomenon requires approaches that integrate legal, technological, and social perspectives, allowing us to understand both the causes and effects of synthetic content manipulation. As highlighted by Furizal et al. (2025), interdisciplinary analysis becomes essential to identify the ethical limits of technological development and establish effective strategies for regulation and protection of rights in the digital environment.

Thus, the results of the research show that *deepfakes* represent one of the main contemporary challenges for digital law and for the protection of women in the virtual environment. The manipulation of images through artificial intelligence expands the possibilities of symbolic and technological violence, creating new forms of exposure, embarrassment and exploitation. The scientific literature analyzed demonstrates that confronting this phenomenon requires the updating of existing legal instruments, as well as the strengthening of public policies aimed at the protection of fundamental rights in the digital age.

Thus, the discussion presented throughout this section shows that the advancement of artificial intelligence technologies, although it represents important scientific progress, also produces significant challenges for the legal field. The use of these tools to manipulate intimate images and produce falsified content reveals the need to build normative and institutional responses capable of confronting new forms of digital gender violence, ensuring

greater protection for victims and promoting the responsible use of emerging technologies.

In order to summarize the main contributions of the studies analyzed throughout this research, the following table is presented. It systematizes the scientific productions used in the theoretical framework and in the discussion of the results, highlighting the authors, the objectives of the research, the methods used and the main results identified in each study.

This organization allows us to visualize in a comparative way how different academic approaches have investigated the relationship between artificial intelligence, *deepfakes* and digital gender violence, contributing to the understanding of the legal and social implications of this contemporary phenomenon.

**Table 2**

*Synthesis of the studies analyzed in the literature review*

Authors	Objective	Method	Main results
Benjamin	To analyze the impacts of the production of <i>deepfake images</i> on the reproduction of gender violence in the digital environment.	Interdisciplinary theoretical review.	It identifies that synthetic pornography based on artificial intelligence reinforces structures of gender inequality and expands practices of digital violence against women.
Brantner	Investigate the social and ethical risks associated with the spread of <i>deepfakes</i> in the global context.	Theoretical and critical analysis of literature.	It demonstrates that synthetic image manipulation technologies can intensify social inequalities and amplify digital vulnerabilities.
Chawki	Examine the use of <i>deepfakes</i> in sextortion practices and digital crimes.	Analytical legal study with a criminological approach.	It shows that content manipulated by artificial intelligence has been used in <i>sextortion</i> schemes, expanding new forms of digital violence.
Dunn	Discuss the legal challenges related to image protection in the face of the creation of synthetic intimate images.	Conceptual legal analysis.	It defends the need to reinterpret traditional legal categories to encompass damages caused by artificial images.
Furizal et al.	Assess the social, legal, and ethical implications of <i>deepfake</i> pornography on digital platforms.	Systematic review of the literature.	It concludes that non-consensual synthetic pornography represents one of the main abusive applications of generative artificial intelligence.
Nazakat et al.	Analyze gender-based violence facilitated by technology and the need for regulation of artificial intelligence.	Legal study and analysis of public policies.	It points out regulatory gaps and highlights the need for specific legal frameworks to address technology-mediated digital violence.
Romero-Moreno	Investigate the challenges that AI-generated content poses to human rights.	Legal analysis based on human rights.	It demonstrates that <i>deepfakes</i> pose significant risks to people's privacy, reputation, and dignity in the digital environment.

Authors	Objective	Method	Main results
Santos	Analyze the social impacts of <i>deepfake pornography</i> and its implications for gender-based violence.	Analytical study with a sociological approach.	It shows that the manipulation of false intimate images produces relevant social and psychological damage to the victims.
Shah	Examine how artificial intelligence can be used as a tool for crimes against women.	Legal and criminological analysis.	It identifies that emerging technologies may be appropriate for practices of exploitation, coercion and digital violence.
Wijaya	Evaluate the legal protection of women victims of digital violence involving <i>deepfakes</i> .	Comparative normative and legal analysis.	It highlights the need to strengthen legal mechanisms for protection and accountability in the misuse of artificial intelligence.

Source: The authors.

The comparative analysis presented in the table shows that recent scientific literature converges to the understanding that the misuse of artificial intelligence technologies, especially in the creation of *deepfakes*, has significantly expanded the forms of digital violence against women.

It is observed that the studies analyzed highlight both the social and psychological impacts of these practices and the legal challenges related to accountability and protection of victims, reinforcing the need to update normative instruments in the face of contemporary technological transformations.

## 5 CONCLUSION

The present study aimed to analyze the legal implications of the use of artificial intelligence technologies in the production of *deepfakes*, especially with regard to their use as an instrument of digital violence against women. From the review of recent scientific literature, it was possible to understand that the advancement of synthetic image manipulation tools has significantly expanded the challenges faced by contemporary legal systems, especially in the field of protection of people's dignity, honor and image in the digital environment.

The results obtained throughout the research show that *deepfakes* represent a new modality of technological violence, characterized by the creation and dissemination of falsified audiovisual content capable of simulating intimate or embarrassing situations involving real individuals. In the context of gender-based violence, it has been observed that women are disproportionately affected by these practices, especially in cases related to the production of non-consensual synthetic pornography. This phenomenon reveals how emerging technologies can be appropriate to reproduce and intensify historical patterns of

inequality and violence against women in the virtual environment.

The analysis also showed that traditional legal instruments aimed at protecting honor, privacy, and image face difficulties in dealing with situations in which the offensive content does not correspond to a real record, but to a simulation produced by artificial intelligence. This scenario highlights the need to update existing legal categories, as well as the creation of normative mechanisms capable of recognizing and addressing new forms of digital violence mediated by technology.

Another relevant aspect identified throughout the research refers to the importance of developing regulatory and institutional approaches that consider the complexity of the *deepfake* phenomenon. Confronting these practices requires not only legal responses, but also public policies aimed at digital education, the strengthening of accountability mechanisms, and the expansion of prevention strategies in the virtual environment.

Thus, it is concluded that the misuse of artificial intelligence in the manipulation of images and videos represents a growing challenge for contemporary law, especially with regard to the protection of women against emerging forms of digital violence. The construction of effective legal responses to this phenomenon requires the articulation between law, technology and public policies, in order to ensure greater protection for victims and promote the responsible use of digital technologies.

It is noteworthy that the deepening of research on artificial intelligence and digital gender violence becomes fundamental to understand the social and legal transformations associated with the expansion of emerging technologies. Future studies can contribute to the development of more effective normative instruments, as well as to the strengthening of strategies to prevent and combat new forms of violence mediated by artificial intelligence.

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The authors highlight the relevance of academic initiatives that encourage scientific production committed to the critical analysis of contemporary technological and social transformations, allowing research developed in the Amazonian context to contribute to the scientific debate at the national and international levels.

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