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**@ BEYOND'26**

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DETECTING

# HARMFUL

LANGUAGE AND BEHAVIOUR

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# DETECTING BEHAVIOUR

- Generative AI allows us to move beyond surface cues like keywords to contextual interpretation
- We no longer have to learn from patterns in large labelled datasets
- We can now replicate tasks by deconstructing how they are performed and building out the components using dedicated agents
- Behavioural psychology becomes key for translating human skills and knowledge into automated systems


https://www.britannica.com/facts/Jane-Goodall

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We believe good data science and engineering principles are still key for AI work in sensitive domains.

## BREAK DOWN THE PROBLEM

While end-to-end and agentic AI has become more powerful, to get more replicable results we break down the problem the way an expert would. This can be innate beheaviour so we conduct interviews to elicit the knowledge.

## EVALUATION IS KEY

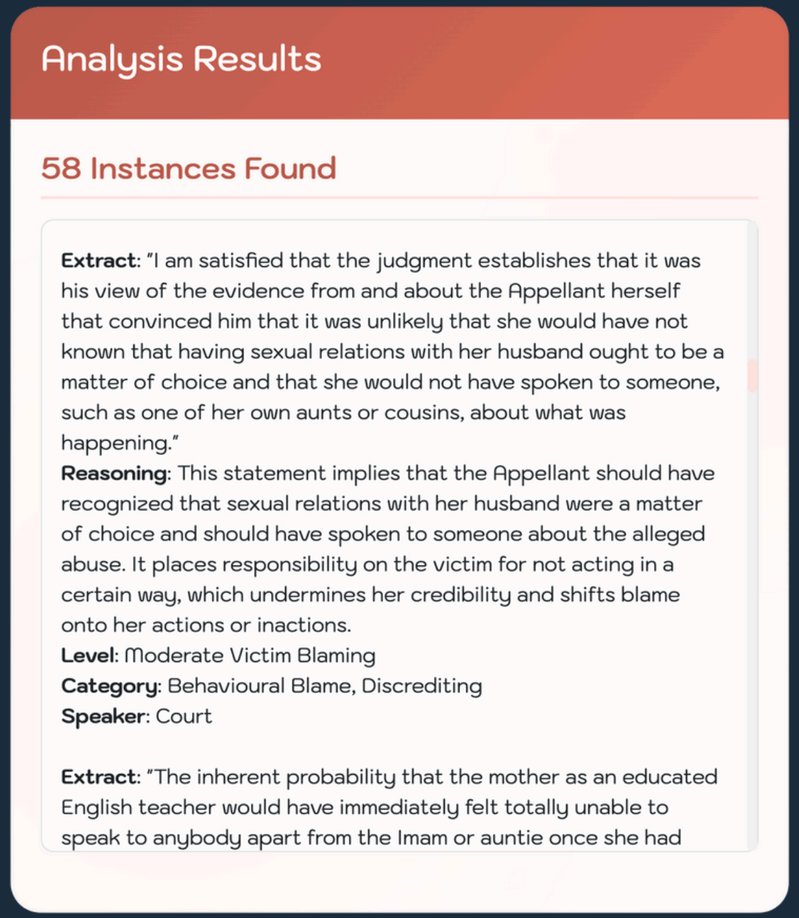
This also enables evaluation of key components so that errors do not propagate through the system.

## CHECKS AND BALANCES

We also introduce checks and balances so we can automatically flag areas that need human attention.

# VICTIM BLAMING DETECTION

- We used VB detection to learn the best ways to consistently detect and label subtle, contextual, harmful behaviour
- What we found:
  - It’s really hard for humans
    - keeping category definitions in mind
    - wanting to know if a victim is truly a victim
  - The algorithm is more internally consistent
  - The algorithm is as aligned with consensus labels as the average annotator




# VIDA

is now available online: **https://app.herethical.ai/**

We are looking for organisations who want to use it to improve victim services through internal monitoring and tracking of VB.

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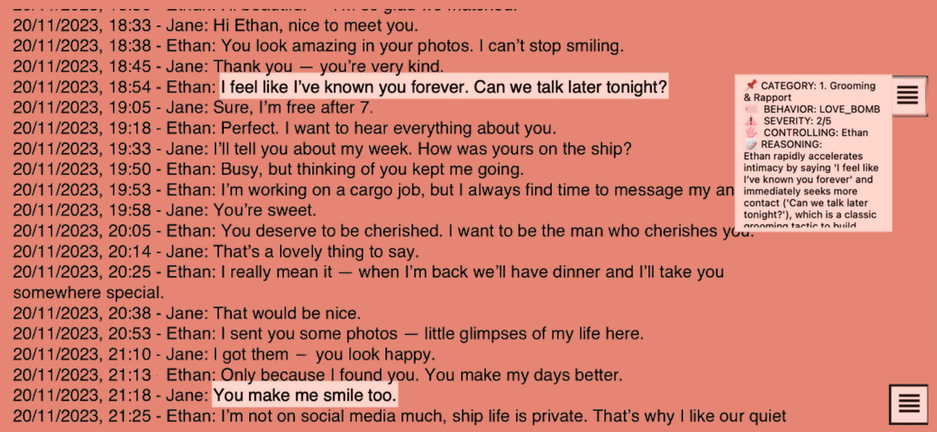
# INVESTIGATIONS

Extending the discovery to patterns of behaviour


20/11/2023, 18:33 - Jane: Hi Ethan, nice to meet you.
20/11/2023, 18:38 - Ethan: You look amazing in your photos. I can't stop smiling.
20/11/2023, 18:45 - Jane: Thank you — you're very kind.
20/11/2023, 18:54 - Ethan: I feel like I've known you forever. Can we talk later tonight?
20/11/2023, 19:05 - Jane: Sure, I'm free after 7.
20/11/2023, 19:18 - Ethan: Perfect. I want to hear everything about you.
20/11/2023, 19:33 - Jane: I'll tell you about my week. How was yours on the ship?
20/11/2023, 19:50 - Ethan: Busy, but thinking of you kept me going.
20/11/2023, 19:53 - Ethan: I'm working on a cargo job, but I always find time to message my an
20/11/2023, 19:58 - Jane: You're sweet.
20/11/2023, 20:05 - Ethan: You deserve to be cherished. I want to be the man who cherishes you.
20/11/2023, 20:14 - Jane: That's a lovely thing to say.
20/11/2023, 20:25 - Ethan: I really mean it — when I'm back we'll have dinner and I'll take you somewhere special.
20/11/2023, 20:38 - Jane: That would be nice.
20/11/2023, 20:53 - Ethan: I sent you some photos — little glimpses of my life here.
20/11/2023, 21:10 - Jane: I got them — you look happy.
20/11/2023, 21:13 Ethan: Only because I found you. You make my days better.
20/11/2023, 21:18 - Jane: You make me smile too.
20/11/2023, 21:25 - Ethan: I'm not on social media much, ship life is private. That's why I like our quiet



## FLAGGING BEHAVIOUR

- Encoding latest reasearch on coercive behaviour patterns.
- Discovering atomic behaviours and overarching patterns in text
- Organising into a timeline
- Explaining the behaviours

## LINKING

- Link events across different sources: emails, chats, witness statements, etc.
- Merge into a single timeline
- Manual verification of extraction and sources

## EXPORTING

- Summaries with explanations
- Extracts flagged in context in original documents

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CASE STUDY

# POST-SEPARATION ABUSE

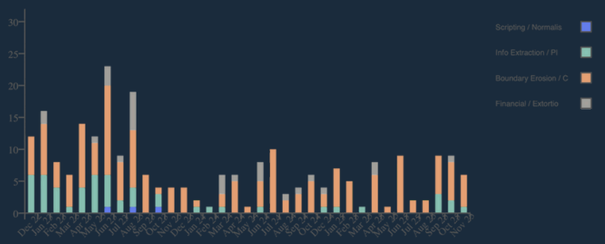
Uncovering patterns

## FLASH POINTS AND TRIGGERS

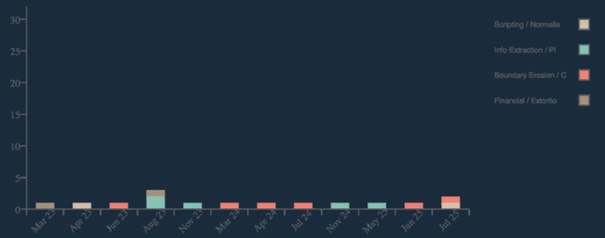
- The timeline exposes holiday arrangements as a particular trigger for control.
- Control also visible in the volume of messaging by the perpetrator (word count):
  - Perpetrator: 26.5k
  - Target: 1.8k

## ABUSE OVER TIME

Perpetrator graph (volume)




Target graph (dispel the myth of perfect victim)




## PATTERN ANALYSIS

• Unilateral rule-setting regarding property, child access, and communication
• Persistent technological surveillance (recording, CCTV, digital monitoring)
• Frequent threats of legal, police, and social services involvement
• Gaslighting, DARVO, and emotional blackmail to undermine target's reality and agency
• Financial control through withholding, demands for proof, and removal from shared resources
• Triangulation by involving third parties to escalate pressure

**BIAS DETECTION**

**COERCION DISCOVERY**

**EVIDENCE LINKING**

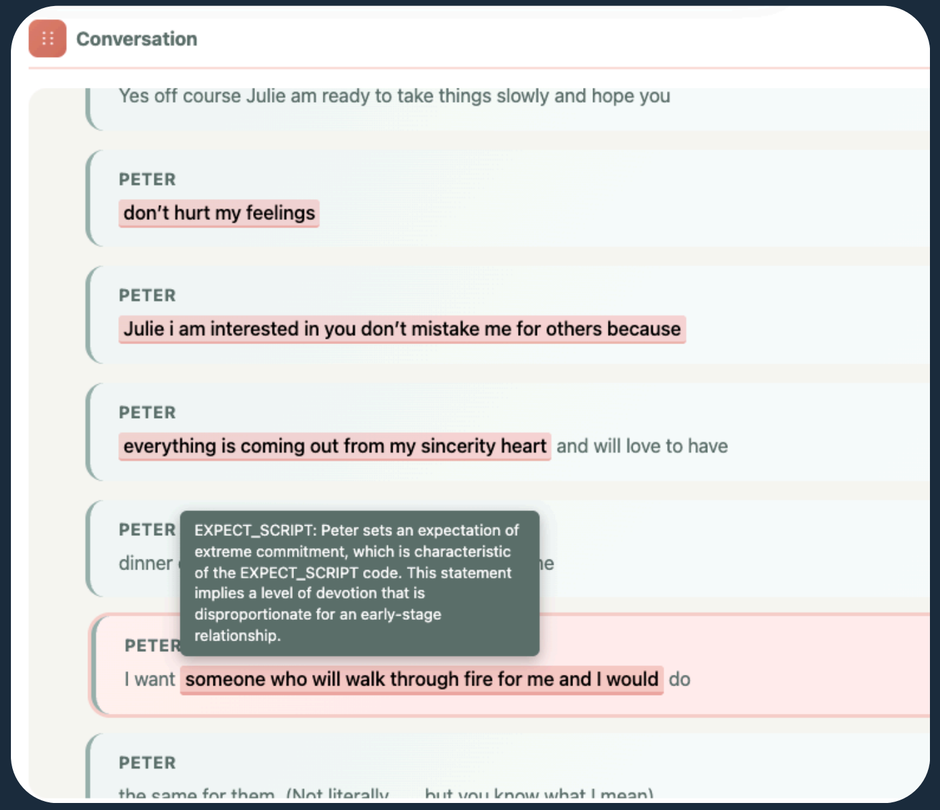
**QUALITY ASSURANCE**

# THE MULTI-AGENT APPROACH

We are building **a suite of agents** that:

- can be evaluated independently or as part of the system
- allow flexible extensions into different crime types
- can be inserted into the investigation tool
- **can be used as APIs in other implementations**

CASE STUDY




The Language of Romance Crimes

# APP FRAUD

The underlying AI agents:

- can be extended to cover different types of grooming behaviour
- used as an early warning system
- AND as part of the investigative tool that brings together different communication modes between the fraudster and victim, as well as the supporting witness statements, and evidence.

# THANK YOU

**PLEASE CONTACT US FOR:**

DEMOS

POCS

COLLABORATIONS

A FRIENDLY CHAT

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