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Up-skirt Miley Cyrus Photo Child Porn?

Perez Hilton Answers Critics Who Say That's What His Posting Was, Since She's Only 17; She Calls Him "Idiot"

(CBS) Celebrity gossip blogger Perez Hilton is in the middle of his own scandal.

Hilton posted a photo of Miley Cyrus on his Twitter page that appeared to show the 17 year old stepping out of a car without underwear - though, it turns out, she may have had underwear on, after all.

Some say the posting could be child pornography.

But Hilton is fighting back.

He removed the controversial photo from his Twitter page after a national outcry.

And he insists the tweet was meant to teach Cyrus a lesson. "The reason I linked to that photo is 'cause I think she was exiting this car in a very un-ladylike fashion. And you know, I like to encourage Miley to be ladylike."

Hilton, who calls himself "The Queen of Mean," has a well-known history of pushing boundaries.

Last September, he posted a photo of Demi Moore's daughter, Tallulah Willis, saying the 15 year old was "dressing like a slut!"

But, says CBS News Correspondent Bill Whitaker, he may have crossed a legal line with his Cyrus posting.

"There are laws against putting that kind of stuff on the Internet, and he could be prosecuted," observes defense attorney Steve Cron.

Psychologist David Swanson calls the post "deeply disturbing. ... It's child pornography, and it's normalizing the idea of sexualizing young adolescent girls."

Hilton's response to his critics? "Sure, I like to be controversial, but I don't want to go to jail. People -- snap out of it!"

In recent months, the underage pop star has been projecting a more adult image, promoting her new album, "Can't Be Tamed."

In an interview with radio host Ryan Seacrest, Cyrus dismissed Hilton's actions, saying, "That's like some idiot being an idiot. That's not me."

Hilton posted the Cyrus picture with the caption, "If you're easily offended, do not click here."

One fellow blogger says that's not a warning -- it's an invitation. "Of course," says Sharon Waxman of TheWrap.com, "when you put out a tweet that says, 'Don't look at this if you're sensitive at all,' that's pretty much an invitation for everybody to click."

Authorities haven't commented on whether Hilton will be charged with a crime.