

# NATIONAL CENTER *on* SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



FORMERLY MORALITY IN MEDIA, INC

**ESTABLISHED 1962**

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## MISSION

*Defending human dignity.  
Confronting sexual exploitation.*

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The Honorable Eric Holder  
Attorney General of the United States  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

Once again this year we are writing the Department of Justice to express our deep concern regarding its failure and apparent outright refusal to enforce federal laws against adult obscenity.

To our knowledge, not one new obscenity case has been initiated against commercial distributors of hardcore adult pornography in the last 6 years. Yet, federal law prohibits distribution of obscene adult pornography on the Internet, on cable/satellite TV, on hotel/motel TV, in retail shops, through the mail, and by common carrier. The U.S. Supreme Court has also repeatedly upheld obscenity laws against First Amendment challenges.

Shortly, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCSE) and Morality in Media (MIM) will publicly announce the annual "Dirty Dozen List," which contains the top promoters of sexual exploitation in America. You have rightfully held the top spot on our List for the past two years but we note that you are soon leaving the Department. After careful consideration, we have decided to put the U. S. Department of Justice on the List.

All children, women, and men have a natural human dignity and thus a right to live in a decent society. Pornography and all sexual exploitation are degrading, dehumanizing, exploitive, and a violation of this right.

NCSE and MIM exist to make society aware of the many harms of pornography and other forms of sexual exploitation; to equip individuals and families to overcome or protect against those harms, and to advocate that all laws defending the right to be free from pornography are vigorously enforced.

Not only does pornography exploit, degrade and dehumanize the people in the films and photos, but it exploits, degrades and dehumanizes the

people exposed to it, teaching them to view others as merely objects for selfish pleasure.

Our nation is now suffering an untreated pandemic of harm from the widespread distribution of pornography and the U. S. Department of Justice bears major responsibility for that harm.

Adults, and even children, are developing life-long addictions to pornography. Sexual violence against women, including rape, and sexual harassment of women are directly tied to the consumption of pornography. Pornography is a destructive force in marriage and research even demonstrates that it kills a desire to marry. There is increased demand for child pornography among many adult-porn users who find that they are no longer excited by adult images, and pornography is a contributing factor in the increased demand for sex-trafficked women and children in the U.S.



A wealth of peer-reviewed research demonstrates the many other harms of pornography. We maintain a database of such studies at [PornHarmsResearch.com](http://PornHarmsResearch.com).

We also have many testimonials from people formerly caught up in the pornography industry, of being exploited, given illicit drugs, coerced to perform objectionable acts, and therefore sexually trafficked in violation of the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

It may be easy to detach from the issue and consider pornography as a mere profitable part of modern life—but only by avoiding common sense. We at NCSE and MIM have dedicated countless hours to researching pornography and promoting awareness to its many devastating harms and thus we urge you to stop using pornography and sexual exploitation to sell products.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with your representatives to discuss this matter at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Patrick A. Trueman  
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Dawn Hawkins  
Executive Director