

NCOSE ANNUAL GRATITUDE REPORT

Together, We Are The Wave



400+ rape and incest
games deleted... 5



Congress passes Epstein
Files Transparency Act... 7



Groundbreaking victory in
X (formerly Twitter) lawsuit... 10



NATIONAL
CENTER ON
SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION

Dear Friends,

2025 has shown what happens when passionate and dedicated individuals come together to make a difference. Each phone call, letter, testimony, donation, and advocacy action you took **created ripples that became waves of change.**

Every victory in this report belongs to you. None of them would have been possible without your faithful partnership with NCOSE. From historic policy wins to survivor support and global awareness, your voice, your action, and your commitment made these moments happen. NCOSE is proud to stand beside you, connecting your efforts to create maximum impact. Looking ahead to 2026, we are excited to see how the waves of change you set in motion will continue to rise against the forces of sexual abuse and exploitation.

Thank you!



Marcel van der Watt,
President and CEO

A stylized handwritten signature of Marcel van der Watt in black ink.



Dani Pinter,
Chief Legal Officer and Director of
the NCOSE Law Center

A handwritten signature of Dani Pinter in black ink.



Haley McNamara,
Executive Director and Chief
Strategy Officer

A handwritten signature of Haley McNamara in black ink.

**"Your voice moved
Congress, corporations,
and communities. Every
victory belongs to you."**



Corporate Advocacy



**Jordan. Gavin. Zach. Mason.
Walker. Carson.**

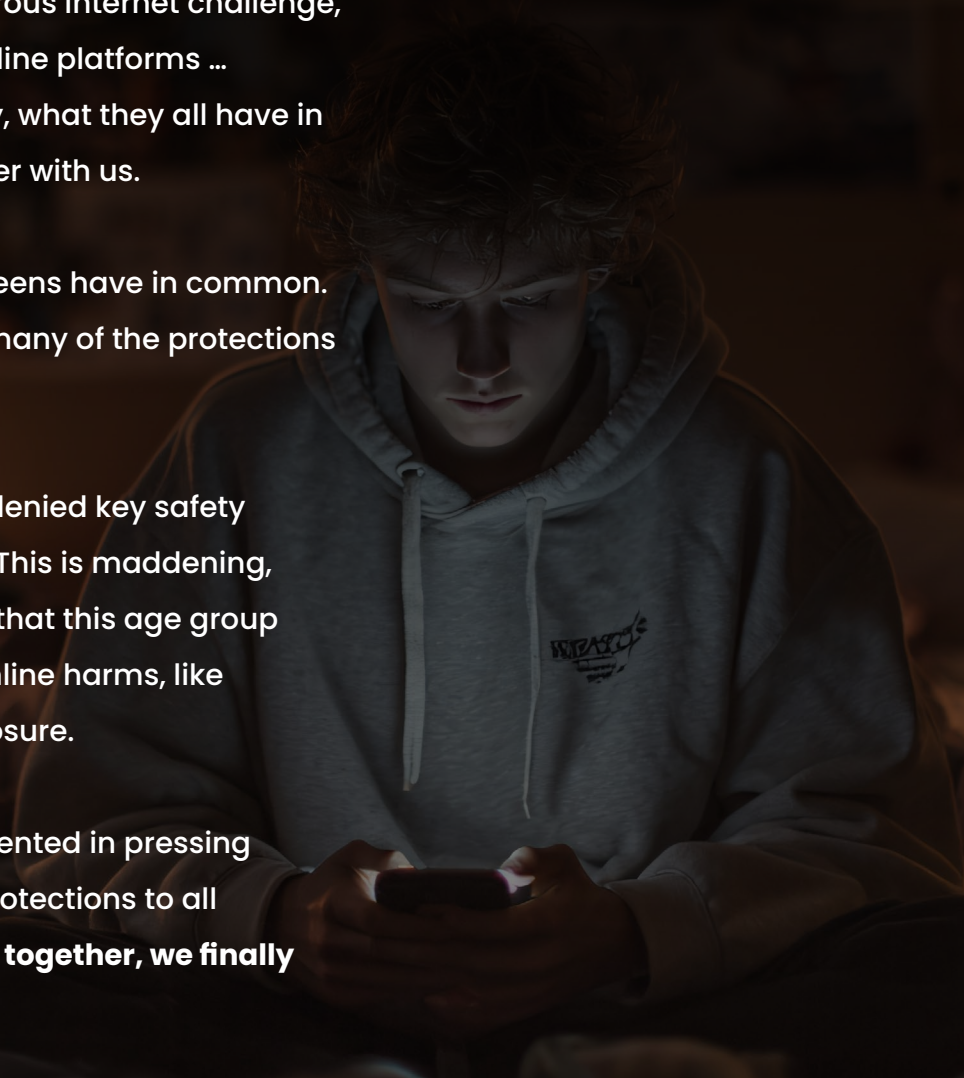
These are names of teens who have died because of harms they encountered online. And there are many, many more.

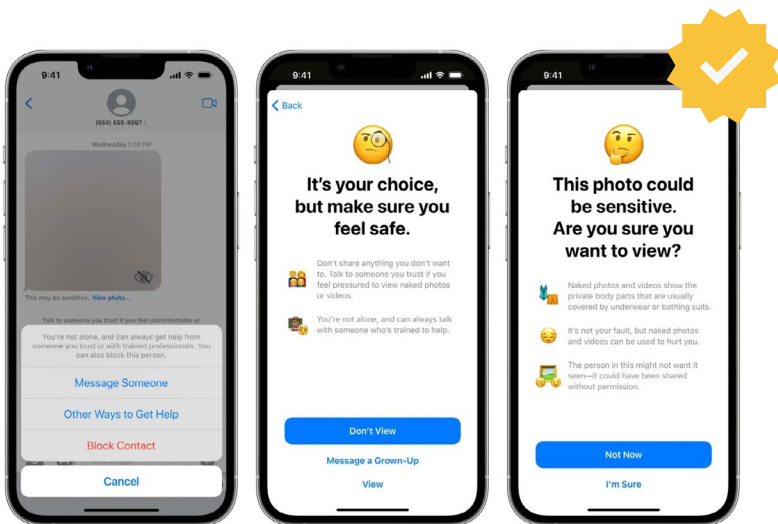
Whether it be dying by suicide after experiencing sextortion, not surviving a dangerous Internet challenge, or being sold deadly drugs on online platforms ... whatever the details of their story, what they all have in common is that they are no longer with us.

But there is another thing these teens have in common. They were deemed “too old” for many of the protections Big Tech offers children.

For years, companies like Apple denied key safety changes to minors aged 13 to 17. This is maddening, especially when research shows that this age group is often most at risk for certain online harms, like sextortion and pornography exposure.

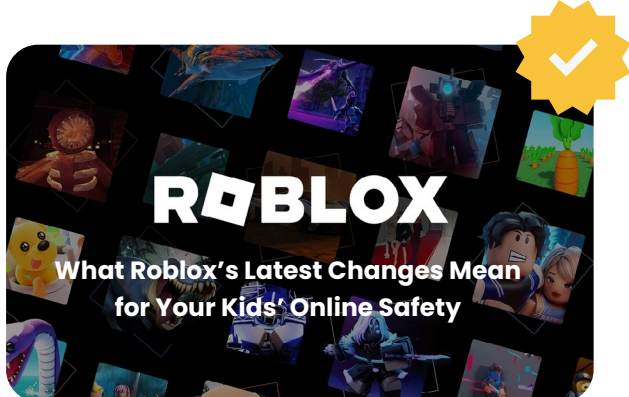
With you at our side, we never relented in pressing on Apple to extend their safety protections to all minors, including teenagers. **And together, we finally succeeded!**





Apple Safety Features

Because of the pressure created by thousands of supporters like you, Apple announced that all minors ages 0–17 will have default safety protections, including nude image blurring and web content filters. Previously, this was only offered to minors 12 and under.



Roblox Safety Protection Progress

Your advocacy led Roblox to block users under 17 from private Social Hangout spaces, reducing risks of sexual exploitation on one of the world's largest gaming platforms which has been a virtual playground for sexual predators. Roblox is still a very dangerous platform that we do not recommend for children, but this is a great step in the right direction.



Sexual Abuse Video Games Deleted

Your impact was felt globally, as NCOSE in a joint campaign with Collective Shout and other allies led to the removal of nearly 500 rape and incest games from the video game platforms Steam and Itch.io. These games once allowed the player to act out explicit acts of violence, rape, and incest, but are now no longer promoted on these mainstream gamer sites.



**Your action
made Roblox
safer for
kids everywhere.**



Policy Wins

Sabrina (pseudonym) opened her phone one day to discover something that would change her life forever: Images of her body, taken from her social media accounts, had been uploaded to a pornography website where users edited them to create degrading and violent pornography.

These photos, which captured some of Sabrina's fondest memories—from holidays with her family to photos documenting her pregnancy— would now, forever, be tainted.

Worse: Police told her nothing could be done.

Sabrina, like thousands of others, was victimized by the abhorrent crime of image-based sexual abuse (IBSA). Image-based sexual abuse includes the non-consensual creation or distribution of sexually explicit images. At the time, there were no legal repercussions for the individuals responsible for Sabrina's abuse in her state—but because courageous supporters like you raised your voice, this is now a federal crime!

Take It Down Act



Because advocates like you shared survivor stories, wrote letters, and met with legislators, the First Lady and President became involved, leading to the signing of the Take It Down Act at a ceremony attended by NCOSE leadership and board members. This law criminalizes sharing nonconsensual explicit images, including AI-generated images, and requires platforms to remove them within 48 hours.



Your Voice Made This Happen!

Congress Passes 'Epstein Files Transparency Act'



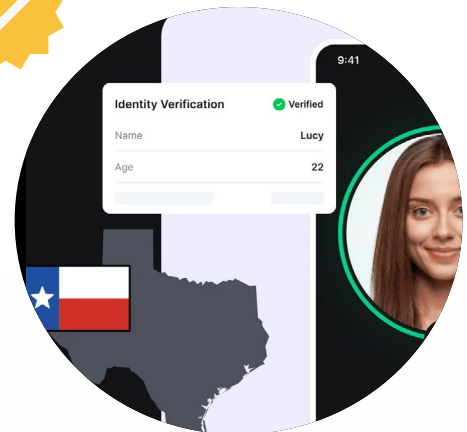
Spurred by survivor voices, including Teresa J. Helm (NCOSE Survivor Services Coordinator, and survivor of Epstein/Maxwell), Congress passed a bill requiring full release of government files related to the Epstein/Maxwell sex trafficking ring. Teresa shared, "It's widely and undeniably clear that our current political climate is quite rigid and seemingly at war with one another. This sets a stage for voices – survivor voices – to get spoken over and drowned out by the political darts whizzing by. Not today though. Today our truth and our power have steadily risen up ... Our voices prevail today."



Supreme Court Age Verification



Your calls and emails supported Texas's age verification law, upheld by the Supreme Court. This was a massive victory in the fight to protect children from online pornography and paves the way for other states to pass similar legislation. The Court ruled that requiring age verification to protect children from explicit content does not violate free speech, as opponents argued.



App Store Accountability Act



Thanks to your efforts, Texas and Utah passed laws requiring **parental permission and age verification for app downloads**. Your advocacy created the momentum for survivor leaders to testify on behalf of these important bills.



Your calls and messages helped protect millions of children online.

Shaping AI Legislation



You helped stop an attempt to impose a **10-year AI moratorium that would have prevented states from passing any legislation to regulate AI**. Congress heard your calls, and the once hotly debated proposal was shut down nearly unanimously, with a 99-1 vote. The momentum created by your voice also paved the way for two new bills addressing the harms of AI: the AI LEAD Act and the GUARD Act.

White House Sextortion Briefing



We briefed the **National Security Council, Homeland Security Council, and other senior White House officials on sextortion—one of the fastest-growing threats to Americans**. Drawing on insights from multinational investigators, we emphasized the crisis's pervasive reach through both domestic predators and transnational criminal organizations. We urged immediate and bipartisan collaboration among government agencies, technology companies, and financial institutions to dismantle these operations.





Continues to Gather Momentum

The Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA) has collected 68 Senate sponsors, demonstrating the overwhelming bipartisan support for the bill. KOSA is the most comprehensive bill for online child protection currently pending before Congress.

California Anti-Sex Buying Bill

Your advocacy strengthened protections against sex trafficking for 16- and 17-year-olds in California. SB379 makes it a felony to pay to sexually abuse 16- and 17-year-olds and repeals parts of last year's bill which sought to fully decriminalize prostitution.



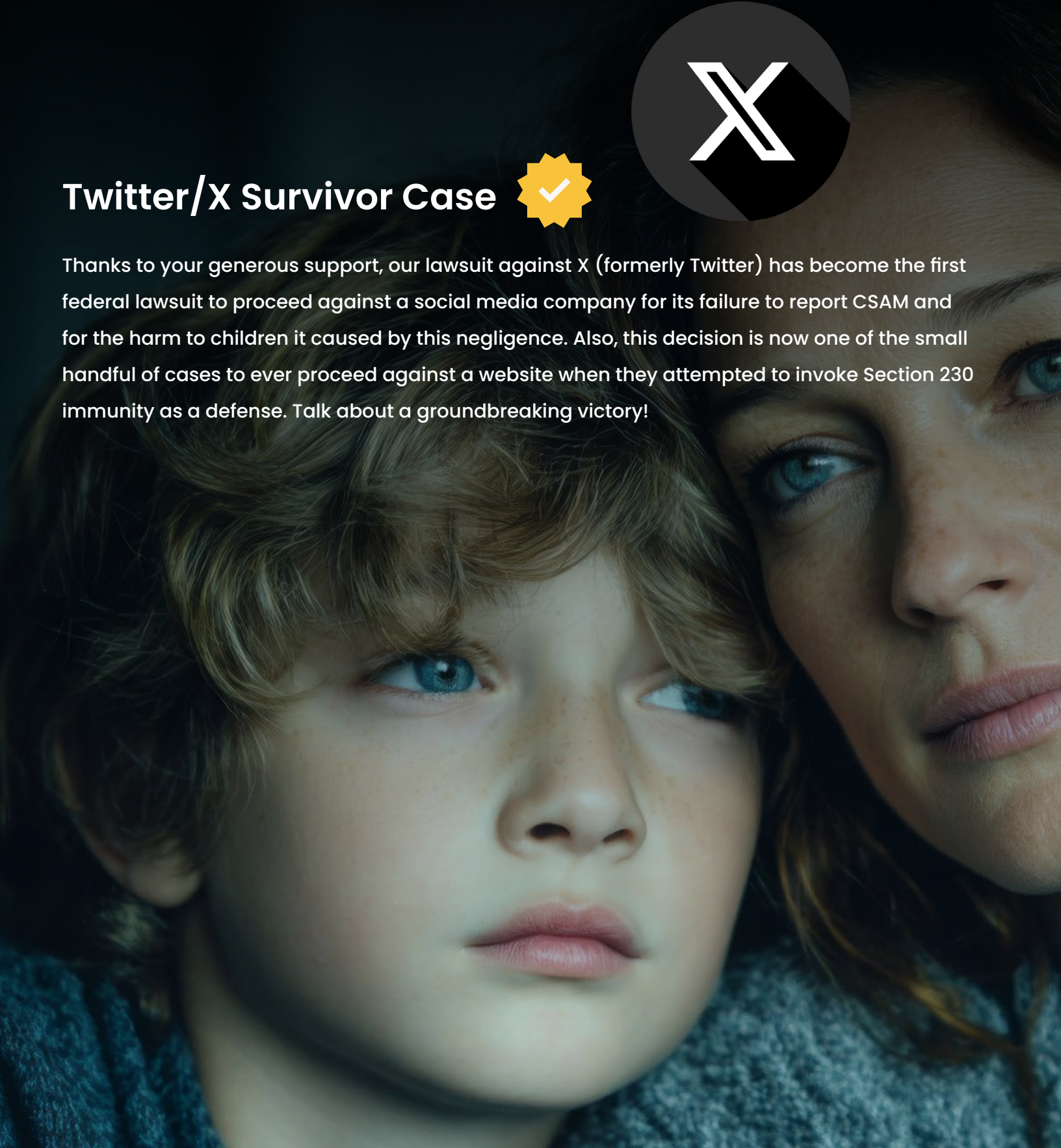
Every letter, phone call, and social share you made created this wave of change.

Law Center Achievements

Twitter/X Survivor Case



Thanks to your generous support, our lawsuit against X (formerly Twitter) has become the first federal lawsuit to proceed against a social media company for its failure to report CSAM and for the harm to children it caused by this negligence. Also, this decision is now one of the small handful of cases to ever proceed against a website when they attempted to invoke Section 230 immunity as a defense. Talk about a groundbreaking victory!



Kansas Pornography Case



Your support enabled legal action protecting a 14-year-old boy. NCOSE Law Center sued multiple pornography companies for violating the state's age verification laws and allowing this boy access to their harmful material. These are the first lawsuits of their kind in the United States!

Making big waves in your state is possible!

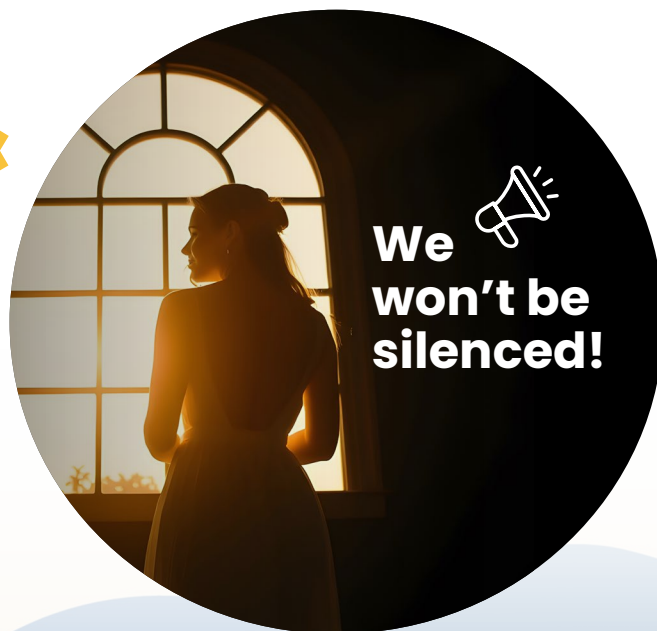


Nevada Brothels Case



We represent a courageous survivor suing Nevada's legal brothels for sex trafficking her—including one run by a pimp who was also a government official. A federal court refused to let her proceed as Jane Doe, despite clear safety risks, and dismissed the case when she would not reveal her name publicly.

This sets a dangerous precedent for trafficking survivors, especially since the defendants had already threatened to use the media to harass her. No one should have to choose between personal safety and seeking justice. With your support, we are appealing this ruling and working to overturn it.





International Impact ▼

Thanks to supporters like you, NCOSE has been able to provide expertise in global thought leadership and in criminal and civil cases, amplifying survivor voices worldwide:

NCOSE President and CEO, Dr. Marcel van der Watt was requested by the prosecution to provide expert testimony on human trafficking in the high-profile case of six-year-old Joshlin Smith in South Africa. His remote testimony, watched by over 30,000 during live streams, contributed to life sentences for all three convicted traffickers, who sold the six-year-old for approximately \$1,200. Joshlin was never found. Marcel noted that “this was not a spontaneous but a calculated crime,” warning of “countless other Joshlins out there.” The case, which exposed vulnerabilities rooted in social and structural inequalities, drew global coverage from outlets like The New York Times, CNN, Fox News, Reuters, and CBS News. The case highlights NCOSE’s expertise in combating trafficking in persons across regions. Marcel is also one of four international experts who have submitted affidavits as part of ‘The Coalition’s’ case—South Africa’s Embrace Dignity, and the United States’ Sanctuary for Families, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, and Equality Now—opposing a legal attempt to fully decriminalize the system of prostitution in South Africa (in a case that is garnering international attention). Your support makes this impact possible!



Six-Year-Old Joshlin Smith: Mother and Co-Accused Sentenced to Life Imprisonment

Research Institute

Eyes Wide Shut Webinar



Thanks to you, the *Eyes Wide Shut webinar* had 2,700 registrants, 1,100 live attendees, and national attention – all because you helped spread the word and encouraged participation. This webinar focused on exposing the realities of the commercial sex trade, in particular its impact on Black communities. It featured a surprise appearance from Congressman Jonathan Jackson, and mobilized a large national audience around this issue.



Not a Fantasy Report



Because of your support, our report, *“Not a Fantasy: How the Pornography Industry Exploits Image-based Sexual Abuse in Real Life”*, reached policymakers and stakeholders nationwide.

This report examines sexual exploitation within the pornography industry and outlines actionable policy recommendations. This impactful report has already been cited, recommended and garnered almost 500 reads on ResearchGate, a leading academic social network and research-sharing platform.



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

Special Rapporteur Submission



Your support helped bring attention to AI-generated IBSA and CSAM at the United Nations. The NCOSE Research Institute authored a submission in response to a call for input from Reem Alsalem, the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and Children. This submission, which focused on AI-generated IBSA and CSAM, was for a report the Special Rapporteur submitted to the UN Human Rights Council in June, titled, Sex-based Violence against Women and Girls: New Frontiers and Emerging Issues.

Courage is contagious

We see this play out every day as people raise their voices and inspire others.

This year, a survivor shared with us how she was emboldened to break her thirty years of silence, after watching a news clip of Teresa J. Helm, NCOSE's Survivor Services Coordinator:

"This morning, I was inspired by a clip of Teresa Helm on MSNBC discussing the ways the Epstein coverup is impacting all survivors and I felt seen and I felt the burden of my untold story," the survivor said.

And so, drawing courage from Teresa and the brave Epstein survivors, she told her story.

She explained how she was groomed and sexually exploited by her 40-year-old boss at age 19, while working in a pizza shop in Ohio. She shared details of their abusive relationship— how he would brag to her about his abuse of other girls and women, how he would make her feel guilty about going to class or studying, how he would throw out her birth control pills, and more.

Because your support enabled us to get our message onto mainstream news, a survivor broke free from decades of silence.

And this is just the tip of the iceberg. Just as this survivor was inspired by Teresa, she hopes to inspire others:

"My hope is: more stories, more voices, less violence."



"She (Maxwell) came at me with friendliness. Her intention was all to fool me when she was setting me up to go into tragedy."

***Teresa Helm | Epstein
Survivor & Survivor Services
Coordinator at NCOSE***



**Every article, every news segment,
every share was made possible by you.**

Our Reach



NCOSE was mentioned in over 2,650 print/online news stories. For print/online media coverage, there was a potential audience reach of over 21 billion people. That represents an advertising value equivalency of over \$158 million dollars.

NCOSE participated in 44 interviews on national, local/regional, and international TV outlets. The potential TV reach is between 50–70 million U.S. viewers, with 400+ million viewers internationally. NCOS staff were guests on 29 radio programs and 37 podcasts. The potential audience reach for radio programs and podcasts is between 1.9–3.5 million listeners weekly.

NCOSE staff were interviewed by 73 journalists for print/online news stories.

U.S. Woman Sues Tate Brothers, Saying They Lured Her to Romania for Sex Work



Tech Brief
A deepfakes bill is flying through Congress. Critics say it's flawed.

Minor's lawsuits against adult sites show new state law is working as intended to protect kids: state AG



Survivor Services & Stories

Direct Support to Survivors

Because of your support, NCOSE served 100+ survivors and families with legal aid, mentorship, mental health services, and human rights guidance.

Notable Survivor Stories

A young woman left her trafficker and started an IT Certification Program

Another completed Nursing School

One woman began college courses

Another engaged with a local anti-trafficking organization



Teresa J. Helm and Survivor Advocacy



Your support amplified her voice. NCOSE's colleague and survivor-advocate, Teresa J. Helm, sat down with multiple news outlets to share the truth about Ghislaine Maxwell's role in Jeffrey Epstein's abuse – and stood with fellow survivors at a rally on Capitol Hill demanding justice. We're proud to stand beside her as she speaks out for change.

She spoke at Capitol Hill rallies and appeared in 135+ news stories, including national TV coverage. Your engagement turned her story into a nationwide movement.

SUSTAIN THE WAVE

Help Hope Flow — Become One of 2,000 Defenders



When one person takes a stand against sexual exploitation, it creates a ripple of hope.

When hundreds join together, those ripples become a powerful current for change.

— Your monthly gift helps hope flow:



Protecting children and families online



Challenging exploitative systems and industries



Affirming dignity to those who've been harmed

Every drop matters — and together, we can turn the tide.



**Keep turning your drops
into waves of change.**



Scan to Become a Defender

Thanks to supporters like you, the current of change is rising. For too long, children have faced easy exposure to pornography, and victims have seen their abuse spread without accountability. That world is finally starting to shift.

The foundation of the porn industry, built on exploitation and harm, is cracking.

Lawmakers are pushing back, courts are holding companies accountable, and states are passing laws that require age verification, remove image-based sexual abuse, and force platforms to clean up the abuse they once ignored. Regulators around the world are turning the tide against sites that allowed minors to be harmed. The system that once protected exploitation is crumbling, and the swell of justice is growing stronger every day.

But weakening the system is not enough. We must build a wave of human dignity – a rising current that carries safety, respect, and protection to every home, school, workplace, and online space. This wave can prevent sexual exploitation before it reaches the shore, shielding children and families from harm, and sweeping away the structures that have allowed abuse to flourish.

Together, we are the wave. Your partnership drives this force. Every gift adds momentum, every action strengthens the swell, and every supporter pushes the current of change forward. With your help, we can prevent children from being exposed to abuse, stop victims from having their harm amplified online, and restore families to safety and calm.



**It's not over.
We need your
support more
than ever!**





Thank you for your steadfast support and your hope that change is possible! Your partnership fuels the fight for a world free from sexual abuse and exploitation, and the impact made is a testament to your commitment.

The journey is not without its challenges—the work addresses some of the toughest issues of our time, especially in the rapidly changing digital landscape. The rise of online sexual exploitation requires us to adapt, respond with urgency, and continue innovating in this new era.

The need for action is as urgent as ever. With your ongoing support, we continue to push forward, ensuring that every person can live and love free from harm. Will you share this with your friends and invite them to join this movement?!



We have the plan to make this wave rise, and your partnership will turn it into reality:

FISCAL YEAR	BUDGET
2025-2026	\$8,000,000
2026-2027	\$10,000,000
2027-2028	\$12,000,000
2028-2029	\$14,000,000
2029-2030	\$15,000.000

Together, we can wash away the roots of sexual exploitation, create a lasting culture of dignity, and bring hope and safety to millions of children and families. We are the wave – and together, we will carry human dignity forward for generations to come.

OUR PROMISE!

**NATIONAL
CENTER ON
SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION**

