NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



FORMERLY MORALITY IN MEDIA, INC

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endsexualexploitation.org pornharms.com

MISSION

Defending human dignity. Confronting sexual exploitation. January 8, 2015

Susan Wojcicki, CEO YouTube, LLC 901 Cherry Ave. San Bruno, CA 94066

Dear Ms. Wojcicki:

PATRICK A. TRUEMAN, Esa. President and CEO

> DAWN E. HAWKINS Executive Director

J. ROBERT FLORES, Esq. General Counsel

ROBERT W. PETERS, Esq. President Emeritus

We are writing to express our great concern regarding the distribution of hardcore, possibly obscene pornography and child pornography on YouTube and ask you to take steps to stop distributing such material. We ask you to do this as a matter of conscience, to avoid sexual exploitation as a means of profit.

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Despite YouTube's Community Guidelines, which specifically prohibit nudity, pornography, and other sexually explicit content, the website has become a top place to distribute pornography.

In fact, pornography is so plentiful, that it appears you welcome such material despite the fact that children frequent the site. Porn is often promoted as recommended videos when first logging into YouTube, as well as when watching completely unrelated videos. One can hardly navigate the site without encountering pornography.

YouTube allows videos to remain and garner tens of thousands of views even though they are in direct violation of your stated policy. What's worse, YouTube makes it very difficult for users to report violations. One is forced to watch the porn if they want to report it.

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 and pornography in America. After careful consideration, we have decided to add YouTube to that 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

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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 YouTube bears great 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.

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.

Google has come a long way in improving their policies regarding sexually exploitive materials, such as through Google Play and Google AdWords. These updated business practices help to stop the facilitation of physical and sexual violence against women and children. We ask that YouTube, the most popular video-sharing site in the world, to do the same.

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

Sincerely

Patrick A. Trueman

President & CEO

Dawn Hawkins

Executive Director