



# 2021 MID-YEAR REPORT



NATIONAL  
CENTER ON  
SEXUAL  
EXPLOITATION

✉ [PUBLIC@NCOSE.COM](mailto:PUBLIC@NCOSE.COM)  
🏠 1201 F ST NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20004  
☎ (202) 393-7245





## TAKING DOWN GOLIATH

*NCOSE leads the battle to dismantle the Sexual Exploitation Industry*

In September 2020, NCOSE, on behalf of a victim, launched its first lawsuit against the trafficker, the pornography production company and the online websites hosting the videos of her abuse. The strategy was to bring to light the rampant and extensive abuse and exploitation of children and adults that is accelerating with the complicit participation of social media platforms and the sexual exploitation industry. In the same way that the deceit of the smoking industry was exposed by litigation, NCOSE is continuing to file cases and deliver legislation and policy to achieve justice for those harmed, and accountability for those responsible.

- **December 15, 2020** Lawsuit filed in the U.S. District court of Southern California against MindGeek, on behalf of 40 sex trafficked women.
- **January 20, 2021** Lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court of Northern California against Twitter, on behalf of a minor harmed by the distribution of material depicting his sexual abuse.
- **February 12, 2021** Class action lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court of Northern Alabama against MindGeek, on behalf of two trafficked and raped children.
- **February 19, 2021** Class action lawsuit filed in Montreal, Quebec against the MindGeek entities, including Pornhub, seeking damages on behalf of all persons who, since 2007, had videos or photos posted without their consent to a website owned or operated by one of the MindGeek entities.
- **February 22, 2021** Class action lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court of Central California against MindGeek on behalf of a single trafficked and raped child.
- **March 5, 2021.** Despite significant opposition from Big Tech, the Utah State Legislature passed a NCOSE-authored law that requires manufacturers of smartphones and tablets activated in the state for users under age 18 to, by default, turn on the existing, built-in parental controls that block out sexually explicit material. The bill was subsequently signed into law by Utah Governor Spencer Cox.
- **March 18, 2021** Class action lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court of Central California against XVideos and its parent group, WebGroup Czech Republic, for selling, publishing and distributing the video of a 14-year-old girl on its platforms. XVideos boasts that it has 200 million daily visitors (three billion visitors per month) and six billion daily impressions on its various websites, making it the most frequently visited pornography website in the world, higher than Netflix, Amazon, and Wikipedia.
- **April 8, 2021** NCOSE team members, along with allies and survivors, hosted a historic online briefing for Congress on how Pornhub and MindGeek facilitate and profit from sexual abuse and exploitation. We finally have Congress' attention, along with law enforcement! More than 700 survivors and advocates from 70 countries called upon Congress to open criminal investigations into the online pornography sites. Over 2.2 million people signed a petition calling for Pornhub to be shut down for engaging in sex trafficking.

NCOSE stands ready to help others who have experienced similar abuse at the hands of online platforms or websites. It is time to end these abuses and violations of the law, and we are confident with your partnership, that will happen.

# NCOSE IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

*Impacting corporate and community culture*

The annual NCOSE "Dirty Dozen" List has proven to be one of our most impactful tools to effect positive change with major corporate entities who either facilitate or actively promote and profit from sexual abuse and exploitation.



We've had some quick Corporate Advocacy wins already!

1. Discord, a popular communications service with over 100 million active monthly users, announced key changes to the way they handle explicit content on their platform, which had a distinct lack of safety features.
2. Amazon added the ability to set profiles restricting content for children and finally stopped the sale of full body sex dolls.
3. Instagram announced that adults will no longer be able to directly message teenagers unless they have been approved as a "follower" of the young person.
4. TikTok also announced several enhanced privacy and safety settings for minors, making it more difficult for children to be groomed, sexually exploited, or abused through this extremely popular platform.
5. Comcast removed all MindGeek pornographic content from its service!
6. Mastercard implemented new rules on processing payments to websites – requiring age, identity and consent verification and documentation.

## STANDING AGAINST DECRIMINALIZATION OF PIMPING & SEX BUYING

*Stopping the increase of trafficking*

Pro-exploitation forces are trying to normalize and grow the sex trade with lies and legislation. They want to legalize pimping, brothel-keeping, and sex-buying. As their efforts for "decriminalization of prostitution" pop up in the US and around the world, NCOSE leads the activities and campaigns needed to hold the line and to not allow the sexual exploitation industry to explode. Recently we've won in Oregon, Vermont and Louisiana! We support eliminating criminal charges and penalties for victims of this industry, but not for the perpetrators!







*It is a great honor and pleasure to share with you about how your partnership with the National Center on Sexual Exploitation is paying major dividends! The first six months of 2021 have been some of the busiest and most productive in NCOSE's nearly 60-year history and we expect the pace to continue. Thank you again for your support as we strive together to create a world free from sexual abuse and exploitation.*

Pat Trueman  
President

Dawn Hawkins  
Chief Executive Officer



## THANK YOU!

One way you can measure your effectiveness as an organization is by the actions of your opponents. You know you are making an impact if you come under attack as those who oppose you start to sense that you are winning. NCOSE is seeing this more and more as your support has increased our capacity to go on offense against those who exploit other human beings. Sometimes our opponents do not realize their attacks are actually endorsing our work! In February, the following comments were found on a Reddit thread by a pimp running an exploitation ring on the OnlyFans website:

*“The NCOSE organization continues to be determined to remove pornographic material off the face of the Internet . . . The actions of this organization will continue and with federal government support into the organization, it is best to stay educated about how it will impact your marketing and business . . . This organization has a lot of street credit . . . I would simply prepare for them winning”*

Thank you for standing with us to create a world free from sexual abuse and exploitation!  
Together, we can defend, preserve, and uphold human dignity for all!