



NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

EndSexualExploitation.org

PRESS KIT

NCOSE Vision

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) exists because people should be free to live and love without sexual abuse and exploitation. We believe in a world free from sexual abuse and exploitation. We believe every human being deserves the opportunity to live life to its fullest potential; to pursue dreams and ambitions; express creativity and hone talents; seek beauty, truth, and faith; experience hope, joy, and love with family and friends—to thrive. Such a vision requires not only individuals and institutions that work towards its realization but also a culture that embraces its responsibility to preserve and protect human flourishing. We aspire to create that culture.

NCOSE Mission

NCOSE is dedicated to the eradication of sexual abuse and exploitation in all their forms.

NCOSE Approach

NCOSE works to end sexual abuse and exploitation entirely—rather than manage their impact—via a strong multidisciplinary team. Accordingly, NCOSE has brought together many of the world's top experts on these issues into one team to holistically address systems of sexual abuse and exploitation from all angles. As a result of our multidisciplinary approach—which includes unifying the movement, research, training, litigation, corporate and legislative advocacy—NCOSE is highly efficient at implementing effective solutions that maximize its resources.

NCOSE Work

NCOSE is the leading 501c(3) non-profit organization exposing the links between all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation. Taking down the multi-billion-dollar sexual exploitation industry is no easy feat. NCOSE has built the infrastructure that is equipped to stand toe-to-toe against the world's pornographers, pimps/sex traffickers, sex buyers, and exploitation profiteers. With an expansive grassroots network, Research Institute, embedded litigation law firm, training team, and global coalition—paired with our cutting-edge public policy and corporate advocacy tactics—NCOSE is realizing major progress every day. Victories that used to take years are now happening within weeks!

NCOSE Distinctives

With over six decades of experience to its credit, NCOSE brings a unique historical perspective to combating modern manifestations of sexual abuse and exploitation. Our rich history of experience provides us with longitudinal knowledge that others may lack.

NCOSE is steadfastly committed to addressing the web of sexual abuse and exploitation in its entirety. Forms of sexual harm intersect, overlap, reinforce, and fuel each other. This reality creates pernicious sectors of sexual exploitation and injustice which destroy lives and devour hope. We leverage this understanding to develop projects which strike deep at the roots of the systems which support and sustain sexual abuse and exploitation.

Key Projects

[The Law Center](#)
[Pornography: A Public Health Crisis](#)
[The Truth about Prostitution](#)
[Sex Trafficking](#)

[The Dirty Dozen List](#)
[Protecting Children Online](#)
[Research Center](#)
[Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation](#)



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Projects



Annual list of 12 companies and organizations that contribute to and profit from sexual exploitation. We demand policy changes.



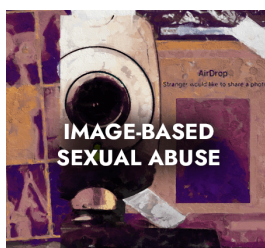
The NCOSE Law Center is an advocate to intervene in key, precedent-setting cases and speaks up in state and federal legislatures to impact policy for those who have no voice.



This growing coalition unites a diverse spectrum of 280+ national, state and local groups to solve and end the complex social issue of sexual exploitation.



A public and policy education campaign addressing prostitution as sexual exploitation, not a job.



Addressing the weaponization of sexually explicit or sexualized images.



Pornography use, even among children, is more prevalent and normalized than at any time in human history.



Building a safe internet so young people can connect, learn, love, and thrive.



Serving those who have been impacted by sexual exploitation



A hub to take action against sexual exploitation through contact campaigns, petitions, and more!



Frequently Asked Questions

What does NCOSE do?

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation is dedicated to changing policies that facilitate sexual exploitation, to educating and engaging the public, and to leading the greater movement to address the public health crisis of pornography and the seamless connections between all forms of sexual exploitation.

What are examples of sexual exploitation?

Pornography; sex trafficking of adults and children; sexualization of children; sexual assault, violence, and coercion; rape; child sexual abuse images (child pornography); child sexual abuse; commercial sexual exploitation (prostitution, strip clubs, etc.); violence against women; sexual addictions and compulsivity; and sexually oriented businesses.

If individuals are consenting, can it still be exploitation?

Consent occurs on a spectrum, and most consent gained from victims of sexual exploitation is done

through force, fraud, deception and/or coercion. Rarely do those being exploited truly give informed consent where the person consenting has a full understanding of what they are agreeing to, the consequences, and the potential risks. Abuse of power or taking advantage of someone's vulnerability, whether or not they said "yes," is exploitation. One may "consent" and still be sexually exploited, as in the case of a pornography performer. The motives of, as well as the age and power differentials between, the exploiter and the individual being sexually used must also be considered.

How is pornography a form of sexual exploitation?

Pornography exploits both the performers and viewers. The performers give dubious amounts of consent, where their bodies are commoditized and abused for another's sexual pleasure. Such an act is inherently exploitive in its utilitarian use of another human being for their own sexual purposes. Additionally, many of those used in pornography are particularly vulnerable to exploitation due to their immaturity (i.e. "barely legal"), manipulation by others (e.g. boyfriends, parents, and so-called managers), prior histories of sexual abuse, and/or promises of fame and fortune. Pornography performers also frequently experience deceptive and high pressure tactics to induce them to perform sex acts that they do not wish to—to such extent that they qualify as sex trafficking victims. Research shows that pornography has led to a shift in neurological and



Patrick Trueman, NCOSE President, addressing the media at the U.S. Supreme Court



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psychological development of viewers. Most people are first exposed to porn as children, and are unable to naturally form their own sexual template outside of porn's influence.

What is the legal definition of sex trafficking?

The United States Trafficking Victims Project Act defined sex trafficking as:

“...the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act”.

Are you a religious organization or ministry?

NCOSE is not a religious organization, though it unites both religious and secular individuals to address the harms of sexual exploitation through its Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation.

Are you advocating for new legislation?

To see NCOSE's current policy recommendations visit endsexualexploitation.org/legislation for more information.

One major focus at NCOSE, are getting federal and state obscenity laws enforced. Federal obscenity laws, which are not being enforced, already prohibit distribution of hardcore, obscene pornography on the Internet, on cable/satellite or hotel/motel TV and in sexually oriented businesses and other retail shops. Our goal is get these existing laws enforced. Learn more at endsexualexploitation.org/doj.



Dawn Hawkins, NCOSE Executive Director, presenting pornography as a public health crisis at a press conference.



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NCOSE **Spokespersons**

Patrick A. Trueman, Esq. *President*



Patrick Trueman serves as president of the National Center on Sexual Exploitation. He spearheads efforts to address the intersectionality between all forms of sexual exploitation, including the public health crisis of pornography, the demand for commercial sexual exploitation, the abuse of children, and more. Under his leadership, NCOSE has produced policy improvements at a wide range of notable institutions, including Google, Wal-Mart, the Department of Justice, Verizon, the Federal Communications Commission, and more.

In 2015, Mr. Trueman, a lawyer for more than 40 years, established the organization's Law Center, to influence the law and our courts to ensure the values of human dignity are represented.

Patrick Trueman is a former Chief of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Criminal Division at the U. S. Department of Justice from 1988 to 1993. While there, he supervised the prosecution of child sex crimes, child pornography, and obscenity, managing an office of prosecutors and working with the nation's ninety-three United States Attorneys to initiate and coordinate federal prosecutions.

Dawn E. Hawkins *Chief Executive Officer*



Dawn Hawkins is CEO of the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, the leading organization exposing the connections between all forms of sexual exploitation, including sex trafficking, prostitution, pornography, and child sexual abuse. Dawn's energy, creativity and mobilization skills are deployed to build a world free from sexual violence, with freedom and human dignity for all.

Dawn is deeply committed to bipartisan public policy solutions at the federal and state level. Her issue expertise, visionary initiatives, and innovative strategy have led to groundbreaking change in the legislative arena and in multimillion-dollar corporate policies. She has also envisioned and created a Law Center to challenge sexual exploitation profiteers in the courts.

Dawn has been instrumental in re-imaging the National Center on Sexual Exploitation. She has centered the need to address sex buyer demand for commercial sex, has severely weakened the mainstream pornography industry, and is leading efforts to bring more accountability to technology platforms for child safety.



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Lisa L. Thompson ***Vice President of Research***



As Vice President of Research for the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, Lisa conducts policy analysis and advocacy, advances understanding of pornography's public health harms, and liaises with public officials, advocates, and academics to advance strategies combating the web of sexual exploitation, including pornography, stripping, prostitution, sexual trafficking, sexual assault, and more.

Lisa joined NCOSE following two years with World Hope International where, as Director of Anti-Trafficking, Lisa oversaw sex trafficking recovery programs in Cambodia, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Lisa is a contributing author to *Hands that Heal: International Curriculum for Caregivers of Trafficking Survivors*, as well as the book *Global Perspectives on Prostitution and Sex Trafficking: Europe Latin America, North America, and Global*. Lisa also routinely speaks and trains on sexual exploitation topics for a diverse range of audiences. Lisa served for more than 12 years as the Liaison for the Abolition of Sexual Trafficking for The Salvation Army USA National Headquarters.

Benjamin W. Bull, Esq. ***Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Director of the NCOSE Law Center***



A noted constitutional lawyer and former prosecutor, Benjamin Bull has had great success preventing the spread of illegal pornography, winning more than 14 jury trials against pornographers without a loss. He has also won numerous obscenity and child pornography appellate cases, including at the Supreme Court.

Mr. Bull has trained prosecutors at the U.S. Department of Justice, and numerous state attorneys general and prosecutorial organizations. He has lectured to over two dozen state bar associations, and also testified before Congress as well as many state legislatures. He is widely published and has co-authored two books that serve as teaching manuals on winning obscenity cases and stopping the urban blight of sexually oriented businesses.

Mr. Bull also served as founding Executive Director of the European Center for Law and Justice in Strasbourg, France, where he practiced human rights law, and has held leadership positions at several other well-respected legal organizations.



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Haley McNamara

Vice President and Director of International Centre on Sexual Exploitation



Haley leads international efforts and joint campaigns to improve policies and education among global governing bodies, citizenry, and corporations regarding the full web of sexual exploitation issues. Her advocacy work has contributed to policy improvements in social media, online advertising, retail, and hotel industries. She has advocated at the United Nations, led international coalition campaigns, presented to Danish, Croatian, Colombian and Rwandan government officials, and more.

She is a former member of the Washington DC Mayor's Advisory Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect. This Committee advises DC Mayor Muriel Bowser on the multi-faceted continuum of the District of Columbia's child welfare services, including prevention, early intervention, treatment, and sources of permanency.

Eleanor Gaetan, Ph.D.

Vice President and Director of Public Policy



Eleanor works closely with the NCOSE Law Center where she leads strategic efforts at the federal, state, and local government levels encouraging them to develop policies for a world free from sexual exploitation. A very accomplished writer, Eleanor also provides key analysis of research helping to connect the dots between all forms of sexual exploitation.

For the ten years prior to joining NCOSE, Eleanor served as senior legislative advisor for the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women International (CATW), founded in 1988. She was instrumental in passing major U.S. legislation including the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (JVTA) in 2015; the SESTA-FOSTA law criminalizing Internet service providers that engage in human trafficking; and the Trafficking Victims Protection Re-authorization Act of 2018. Working in alliance with many organizations, including NCOSE, she aimed to help build the movement against sexual exploitation through these efforts.



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Stephany Powell, Ed.D.

Vice President and Director of Law Enforcement Training and Survivor Services



Dr. Stephany Powell's unique insight into the world of sexual exploitation and trafficking gained through her thirty years with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), coupled with her passion for education and her heart for community, make Dr. Powell an incredible leader in the movement to end sexual exploitation and as the Vice President And Director of Law Enforcement Training And Survivor Services at the National Center on Sexual Exploitation.

Dr. Powell retired from the LAPD as Vice Sergeant and accepted a leadership role at Journey Out in October 2013. In addition to her LAPD tenure, Dr. Powell is a Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership and utilizes that singular combination in several ways. She created and facilitated Team Building and Executive Leadership workshops based on positive change dynamics for the Fire and Police departments. Additionally, she is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Behavioral Science at Los Angeles Trade Technical College. Dr. Powell uses her considerable skills and insight to educate the community about the complex and often misunderstood world of sex trafficking and to create positive change for its victims. Dr. Powell is a powerful speaker, a tenacious educator and advocate for change, and one of the premiere experts in this field. Dr. Powell has been featured on CNN/HLN as well as local media in the Los Angeles area. She has published a human trafficking youth prevention workbook and her workbook has been utilized on a national and international level.

Lina Nealon

Vice President and Director of Corporate Advocacy



Lina spearheads NCOSE's campaigns to hold corporations accountable for profiting from sexual exploitation. As Founding Director of Demand Abolition, Lina designed and led the first national program combatting the demand for paid sex that drives the global sex industry. Under her leadership, Demand Abolition coalesced a vastly diverse network of survivors, movement leaders, and allies across sectors and disciplines to implement tactics to stop sex buyers, disrupt commercial sex markets, and transform cultural norms around buying sex. Lina was the leading architect of the *Cities Empowered Against Sexual Exploitation* (CEASE), a collaboration between twelve major US cities measurably decreasing demand in their communities and a founder co-chair of the World Without Exploitation coalition.



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