PRESS KIT

Founded
1962

Headquarters
440 1st Street NW, Suite 840
Washington, DC 20001

Mission
Defend human dignity. Oppose sexual exploitation.

About
Founded in 1962, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) is the leading national organization exposing the links between all forms of sexual exploitation such as child sexual abuse, prostitution, sex trafficking and the public health crisis of pornography. As the thread of pornography in the web of sexual exploitation is systemically overlooked by society, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation has prominently advanced this issue as a central pillar of its projects in order to promote more holistic solutions.

NCOSE works to change public and corporate policies that foster sexual exploitation, to educate and engage the public, and to lead the movement through the Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation.

Areas of Concentration

Pornography
Sex Trafficking of Adults and Children
Child Sexual Abuse
Child-on-Child Abuse
Child Sexual Abuse Images (i.e., child pornography)
Sexual Objectification
Sexual Coercion

Sexual Assault and Violence
Military Sexual Harassment and Violence
Violence Against Women
Sexual Addictions and Compulsivity
Sexually Oriented Businesses
Safe Schools and Libraries

Leadership
Patrick A. Trueman, Esq. CEO & President
Dawn E. Hawkins Senior Vice President & Executive Director

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(202) 393-7245
endsexualexploitation.org
stoptraffickingdemand.com
Projects

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

Research and personal accounts highlighting the connections between pornography & trafficking, particularly porn’s role driving the demand for trafficking.

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.

Policy recommendations regarding sex trafficking, sexual violence, child exploitation & pornography.

A public and policy education campaign on the public health crisis of pornography.

A grassroots campaign to empower parents to protect children from pornography in schools and public libraries.

An online database of peer-reviewed research demonstrating the many harms of pornography.

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

What does NCASE 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 expose and address the links between all forms of sexual exploitation such as child sexual abuse, prostitution, sex trafficking and the public health crisis of pornography.

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
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?

In general, we do not advocate for new laws because most laws on the books are strong enough if vigorously enforced or implemented. To see NCOSE’s current policy recommendations visit endsexualexplotiation.org/freedomagenda 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 endsexualexplotiation.org/doj.
NCOSE Spokespersons

Patrick A. Trueman, Esq.
CEO & President

Patrick Trueman is a former Chief of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. from 1988 to 1993. While there, he supervised the prosecution of child sex crimes, child pornography, and obscenity, and worked with the nation's ninety-three United States Attorneys to initiate and coordinate federal prosecutions. Mr. Trueman also served as Executive Director and General Counsel to Americans United for Life, a national public interest law firm in Chicago, from 1976 to 1982.

During his 34 years as a lawyer, Mr. Trueman has litigated cases at all levels of the federal system, including in the United States Supreme Court. He has been an adviser to many municipalities on First Amendment law and has helped draft ordinances to end or curb the impact of sexually oriented businesses. A recognized international expert, Mr. Trueman has traveled all around the world to speak and train on the issue of human trafficking or deliver papers about the effects on families with obscenity in the home.

Dawn E. Hawkins
Senior Vice President & Executive Director

Dawn Hawkins is a passionate defender of human rights who has dedicated her life to fighting against societal harms that threaten the dignity of others. Her energy, creativity and mobilization skills have revived the anti-pornography movement.

As Executive Director of National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCSE), Mrs. Hawkins has developed a national strategy uniting conservative, women’s rights, child advocacy and religious groups, including a bipartisan political leadership, to work together raising awareness of the pandemic of harm from pornography. Her initiatives have lead to sweeping policy changes of policies that foster exploitation for targets such as Google, Verizon and the Department of Defense. Through her leadership, NCSE has grown a network reaching hundreds of thousands of people all over the world. Mrs. Hawkins has appeared on many local and national television programs, including Fox & Friends, CNN and Good Morning America. She regularly authors articles and speaks around the country addressing the harms of pornography and all forms of sexual exploitation and what can be done to curb the growing public health crisis resulting from pornography.
Lisa L. Thompson
Vice President and Director of Education and Research

Lisa Thompson serves as Vice President and Director of Education and Outreach for the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, overseeing strategic planning for increased public understanding of sexual exploitation. She conducts analysis, develops research initiatives, and liaises with public officials, non-profit organizations, institutions of higher learning, and academics to generate collaborative action to combat the full spectrum of sexual exploitation, especially pornography, stripping, prostitution, sexual trafficking, and sexual assault. Lisa joins NCOSE following nearly two years with World Hope International (WHI), as its Director of Anti-Trafficking, and more than 12 years as the Liaison for the Abolition of Sexual Trafficking for The Salvation Army USA National Headquarters.

Haley Halverson
Vice President of Advocacy and Outreach

Haley Halverson is the Vice President of Advocacy and Outreach at the National Center on Sexual Exploitation where she develops and executes national campaigns to change policies and raise awareness. Haley regularly speaks and writes on topics including child sexual abuse, sex trafficking, prostitution, sexual objectification, the exploitation of males, and more. She is the host of the “Sexploitation?” podcast and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts at Johns Hopkins University.

Katherine Blakeman
Director of Communications

Katherine Blakeman joined the National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) as Director of Communications in August of 2017. She works to foster a community of people who want to restore human dignity and end sexual exploitation through digital outreach and social media marketing. Katherine also develops digital, communications, and press strategies for the organization in an effort to engage with an increasingly broader audience.
In the News