



# NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

*Established 1962*

**PATRICK A. TRUEMAN, Esq.**  
*President and CEO*

**DAWN E. HAWKINS**  
*Sr. Vice President &  
Executive Director*

**LISA L. THOMPSON**  
*Vice President & Director  
of Education and Outreach*

**ROBERT W. PETERS, Esq.**  
*President Emeritus*

#### BOARD MEMBERS

**ROBERT L. CAHILL, Jr.**  
*Chairman of the Board  
Former Managing Partner,  
Conklin Cahill & Co*

**RHONDA GRAFF**  
*Secretary  
Former Aerospace Program Manager  
Industrial Engineer*

**KEN SUKHIA, Esq.**  
*Treasurer Trial and Appellate Lawyer,  
Sukhia Law Group, PLLC*

**HADLEY ARKES, Ph.D.**  
*Ney Professor of Jurisprudence,  
Amherst College*

**TED BAEHR**  
*Chairman, Christian Film &  
Television Commission*

**RON DEHAAS**  
*Founder & CEO, Covenant Eyes*

**ROBERT GEORGE, Ph.D.**  
*McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence,  
Princeton University*

**DONALD L. HILTON, M.D.**  
*Neurosurgeon*

**MARY ANNE LAYDEN, Ph.D.**  
*Director, Sexual Trauma and  
Psychopathology Program,  
University of Pennsylvania*

**MOST REVEREND PAUL S. LOVERDE**  
*Bishop, Diocese of Arlington, VA, Retired*

**MARGARET RUCKS**  
*Managing Director,  
Rucks Family Foundation*

**HELENE SHEPHERD**  
*National Regent,  
Catholic Daughters of the Americas*

**MELEA STEPHENS, L.P.C., M.M.F.T.**  
*Marriage and Family Therapist*

**PATRICK A. TRUEMAN, Esq.**  
*Former Chief, Child Exploitation  
and Obscenity Section,  
U.S. Department of Justice*

**JOHN J. WALSH, Esq.**  
*Attorney at Law*

**ELIZABETH YORE**  
*Former General Counsel,  
National Center for Missing  
and Exploited Children*

August 7, 2017

Mr. Gabe Newell  
Valve Corporation  
10900 NE 4th St Suite 500  
Bellevue, WA 98004

Dear Mr. Newell:

We are extremely disappointed that you continue to make the rape game, *House Party*, available on the Steam® platform. Rape is not a game!

It makes no difference that an in-app censor has been applied to the animated pornographic nudity in this game. This game instructs users in the manipulation of women into sex through blackmail, intoxication, and deception. It is a virtual how-to manual of sex crimes and misogyny and the executives at Valve Corporation should be ashamed of themselves for profiting from such a “game.”

As we learned from the infamous case of Brock Turner, where alcohol was used to assist in the rape of a young woman, it is vitally necessary to combat the rape myths that such activities have no consequences or harms.

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation urges Steam® and its parent company Valve® to remove *House Party* immediately and to enforce a more robust policy against selling games that normalize or glamorize rape or any sexual exploitation.

We welcome a meeting, or conference call, to discuss how Steam, Valve, and the National Center on Sexual Exploitation can work together to ensure Steam’s platform a safe environment for users.

Respectfully,

Patrick Trueman, Esq.  
President & CEO  
National Center on Sexual Exploitation