**Draft Letter to Send to EBSCO**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ school in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ district in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ state to inform you that our school leadership has decided to turn off the EBSCO Information Services’ databases until your system has been cleared of sexually graphic and exploitive content.

EBSCO advertises that its products provide “fast access to curriculum-appropriate content.” However, several of EBSCO’s products provide easy access to hardcore pornography sites and extremely graphic sexual content.

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation has informed us of the significant steps you have already taken to address this problem, and we thank you for those efforts. However, we are still dismayed to know that children in our schools can be exposed to sexually explicit material when doing school assignments in these systems which come across as authoritative given the school setting.

Two continued problems we have identified:

* EBSCO still has sexually graphic content on databases specifically meant for K-12 users (called Mass Ultra, Middle Search Plus and Primary Search).  These are articles that glamorize pornography, prostitution, and risky sexual behaviors.  In the middle school databases, we found articles discussing how to convince a girl to engage in anal sex and others glamorizing sexual role play games exploring sexual torture, teacher/schoolgirl, public and incestual sex fantasies. These put especially young readers at great risk of being victims of sexual exploitation.
* EBSCO says it will not make any efforts to clean up their other educational products. Yet, EBSCO is recommending these other products to schools in their promotional materials, leading school administrators to believe they are safe for students. Every school’s EBSCO system we have checked (over 30) subscribe to a number of these other EBSCO products which are full of sexually explicit material. One article we found linked to recruiting websites where the readers were encouraged to sign up for prostitution and pornography; many articles recommended and gave the link to hardcore pornography websites.

What audience *does* EBSCO want to provide with pornographic and sexually graphic content? Why would college students, or law students, need to access pornographic content within the EBSCO research database? After all, if EBSCO is basing its value on providing academic, substantive curated content, why is it including sexually graphic content at all, for any age? The articles we are referencing and taking issue with are not academic discussions, but provocative depictions of these subjects.

Please take swift action to remove the remaining sexually graphic content on all of your databases, and to assist in our efforts to provide safe and educational environments for children.

Respectfully,