



Creating #PornFree Schools & Libraries

GETTING STARTED: 7 Steps to Investigate & Improve the Filtering Policies at Your School or Library



Compiled By:
NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
— EndSexualExploitation.org —



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SafeSchoolsSafeLibraries.com





Dear Concerned Friend,

With the growing knowledge of the public health and social impacts of pornography on young people, it is especially alarming to see constant news reports of children regularly gaining access to pornography and sexually explicit content in schools and public libraries. These are spaces meant for learning that are being co-opted by sexual exploitation.

The impact of exposure to hardcore, typically violent and degrading, pornography is especially harmful to young children whose brains are more susceptible to addictions and to forming sexual templates that are aroused by violence, risky behaviors, and lack of consent. It is no surprise then that pornography turns once-safe schools and community libraries into a XXX space that fosters child sexual abuse, sexual assault, exhibitionism, stalking, bullying, and lewd behavior.

A surprising number of schools and public libraries do not have pornography filtering software and a much larger number employ ineffective filtering software that children are bypassing (often accidentally) to gain access to pornography. Schools K-12 are touting the merits of giving all students Internet-connected devices to use in the classroom, at home, and wherever they want, but reports show that almost always, these devices are given without any filters which work outside of the school,

without any training to the students, and without warning of the potential dangers to parents. Many times, parents don't even know that their child has been given a device. Most online library databases that K-12 schools assign kids to use for homework have even been piping pornography into children's lives intermixed with educational resources. This is a national outrage.

Our Safe Schools, Safe Libraries Project is a grassroots campaign designed to empower parents throughout the country with the tools needed to identify the local schools and public libraries where children are at risk. This packet provides insider tips to get started improving school and library filters.

We are here to provide you with the tools you need to make a difference, to protect children in your area, and to take a stand for human dignity. Please read through this introduction packet and then contact us if you have further questions. If we can assist you further along the way, please let us know.

Additional helpful resources on these topics include safelibraries.blogspot.com, and ProtectYoungMinds.org.

Share your victories and progress with us, so that others may be encouraged by your example! Thank you for taking a stand against pornography and other forms of sexual exploitation in your community.

Sincerely,

Dawn Hawkins

National Center on Sexual Exploitation

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STEP 1) EDUCATE YOURSELF ON THE IMPACT OF PORNOGRAPHY

The pornography of today has created an unprecedented epidemic of sexual harm. Children and young people are being exposed to violent and degrading content, which by default has served as their sex education.

Quick Facts About the Harms of Pornography

- It is beyond an individual or a family's capacity to protect against pornography alone. It is a public health crisis.
- A 2014 study found that increased pornography-use is linked to decreased brain matter in the areas of motivation and decision-making, impaired impulse control, and desensitization to sexual reward.*
- Analysis of the 50 most popular pornographic videos (those bought and rented most often) found that 88% of scenes contained physical violence, and 49% contained verbal aggression. Eighty-seven percent of aggressive acts were perpetrated against women, and 95% of their responses were either neutral or expressions of pleasure.**
- A 2015 meta-analysis of 22 studies from seven countries found that internationally the consumption of pornography was significantly associated with increases in verbal and physical aggression, among males and females alike.***

For more research and talking points, visit endsexualexploitation.org/publichealth.

- * Simone Kühn and Jürgen Gallinat, "Brain Structure and Functional Connectivity Associated with Pornography Consumption," *JAMA Psychiatry* 71, no. 7 (2014): 827-834.
- ** Ana J. Bridges, Robert Wosnitzer, Erica Scharrer, Chyng Sun, and Rachael Liberman, "Aggression and Sexual Behavior in Best-Selling Pornography Videos: A Content Analysis Update," *Violence against Women* 16, no. 10 (2010): 1065-1085.
- ***Paul J. Wright, Robert S. Tokunaga, and Ashley Kraus, "A Meta-Analysis of Pornography Consumption and Actual Acts of Sexual Aggression in General Population Studies," *Journal of Communication* 66, no. 1 (February 2016): 183-205.

Children and Adolescents Are at The Greatest Risk.

As research shows such exposure affects their developing brains and shapes their sexual templates. The younger and more often children are exposed to such content the more problematic it becomes.

Adolescents are more susceptible to forming addictions than adults because the dopamine neurons in their nucleus accumbens (i.e. the brain's pleasure center) are much more active and have an exaggerated plasticity in response to addictive stimulus. Thus, it can be said that a propensity for addiction is more strongly “hardwired” into the adolescent brain. Internet pornography consumption by adolescents is associated with risky sexual behavior that can have profoundly adverse effects such as anal sex, multiple sexual partners, and substance use during sex.

Such outcomes are not surprising in light of research into how the human brain develops which shows that adolescents are not as readily able to access their front lobes—the portion of the brain that controls impulses and allows for rapid, smart decision making.

Like other public health issues, not all exposed have the same response. However, for many, repeated exposure and use is correlated to problematic sexual behaviors that can lead to porn-induced erectile dysfunction, divorce or failed relationships, and sometimes sexually aggressive and violent behaviors. Research is also showing correlations to violence against women, increased STI rates, and increased sexual dysfunction among young men.

Other Resources:

- PornHarmsResearch.com
- EndSexualExploitation.org/publichealth
- FightTheNewDrug.org
- YourBrainOnPorn.com
- CultureReframed.org
- ProtectYoungMinds.com
- EducateAndEmpowerKids.com
- PornHarms.com





STEP 2) DETERMINE YOUR LOCAL POLICIES & SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

Start in your home

- Ask your child about their experiences.
- Have they seen pornography in school? If yes, stay calm. You want to know where, how, what, who else was around, etc.
- Ask them specifically if the school computers have filters and about how effective they are.
- Are they aware of any other students accessing pornography through the school computers?
- Is the school Wi-Fi filtered if students are accessing the Internet on their own personal devices through the school's Wi-Fi?
- Is this issue ever discussed by teachers, school administrators, or librarians with students?

This is a great opportunity to have a needed conversation on these topics with your child and you'll be surprised what you learn.

Test the school/library computers on your own

- Warning: during this process, you may be exposed to graphic content. If you are not comfortable searching for the proof yourself, you can still move on to the next step. This is just helpful ammo, but it is not necessary.
- First check to see if the websites will offer access directly to hardcore pornography websites.
- Next, check to see if searches for phrases like "pornography" and "sex" turn up pornographic content in search engines. Try additional slang terms in addition to innocent searches. Check image or video sections on search engines as well.
- If you find pornographic content on the school/library computer or Wi-Fi, try to take screen shots (or snap a picture on your phone) as proof.

Inquire about the local policies in your school or library

Questions to Ask:

- What is the school or library's exact policy on pornography and accessing pornography via the computer or Internet systems? Ask for a copy of the policy.
- How is the policy communicated to students? o What happens if one does access pornography via the school/library systems?
- What training have school and library staff had on these topics?
- What are the names of the filters on the computers?
- Which computers are filtered? All computers or only in certain areas? Are teachers' computers filtered?
- How effective are these filters?
- Who manages them and keeps them up-to-date?
- Are the devices assigned to kids filtered and modified? How are parents notified about devices assigned to kids?
- How does a user turn off the filter? For example, do they simply ask or check a box?

Tips:

- Take thorough notes on your actions and findings.
- Be considerate, friendly, & patient. Even if you are upset by your findings, treat the school and library staff as allies (we're likely to make more progress!).
- Ask them if they think this is a problem in the school/library and if they have ideas for solutions. They might become your strongest allies for change.





STEP 3) PREPARE YOUR REQUESTS & RESPONSES TO LIKELY OPPOSITION

We have provided some suggestions to arguments we have heard in response to local efforts to improve filtering in schools/library. Feel free to use your own language.

Why Do We Need Filters For Public Libraries?

Pornography has created many public health impacts, including compulsive pornography use, increased demand for trafficked and prostituted persons, increased child sexual abuse and violence against women, and more. In addition, there are many concerning reports regularly surfacing from libraries who do not filter or only partially filter their computers. Dozens of news articles in the past 18 months indicate that predators use libraries to anonymously access pornography and child pornography; some then immediately harass or sexually assault individuals within the library. The library needs to be a safe place for everyone, young and old, to learn and access information.

Is pornography free speech, protected by the First Amendment?

Contrary to popularly held beliefs, obscenity (most hardcore pornography) is not protected Free Speech. In fact, federal obscenity laws, which are not being enforced, 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.

The First Amendment was intended to protect ideas and debate, not obscene material – In *Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. 15, 34 (1973), the Supreme Court said: “[T]o equate the free and robust exchange of ideas and political debate with commercial exploitation of obscene material demeans the grand conception of the First Amendment and its high purposes in the historic struggle for freedom. It is a ‘misuse of the great guarantees of free speech and...press.’”

Also, libraries regularly make decision about what material to provide or not provide. For example, libraries typically do not stock magazines or books that have little to no educational value or cultural historical significance, instead making room for useful and edifying material. Since the library is already engaged in selecting which works to carry or not carry, we ask that common sense be applied to this scenario and that libraries decline to carry or provide access to hardcore pornography.

Isn't it up to parents to keep their kids away from pornography, not the school/library?

Pornography today is so ubiquitous that it is nearly impossible for parents to prevent their children from being unintentionally exposed to it. The National Center on Sexual Exploitation regularly hears from parents who limit their children's computer access, install filters, discuss the harms of pornography with them, and yet still the children are exposed to hardcore, violent pornography.

Once a social or health issue involves problems that affect individuals or groups beyond their capacity to correct – responsibility shifts from individual accountability to holding the forces and influences that cause it accountable. As cultural caretakers of children and education, libraries and schools are responsible to not provide children with pornography the same way they are responsible to not provide children with cigarettes. These institutions are held to a higher standard due to their influence in children's lives.

Isn't pornography helpful sexual education?

Pornography teaches that women enjoy sexual violence. Analysis of the 50 most popular pornographic videos (those bought and rented most often) found that 88% of scenes contained physical violence, and 49% contained verbal aggression. Eighty-seven percent of aggressive acts were perpetrated against women, and 95% of their responses were either neutral or expressions of pleasure. Other common themes in mainstream pornography today include: teen or child, slavery, racism, and incest. Is that the kind of sexual education we want for our kids?





Isn't filtering software unreliable and weak?

Not really anymore! Filtering software has improved greatly in the past decade. Major businesses like Nike and UPS, major schools like Texas A&M and the San Diego Unified School District; and countless other groups rely on filtering software. Groups that argue that filters cannot protect our children from porn rely on outdated information, while ignoring the fact that businesses, schools, and countless others use filtering software without problems.

Won't filters block important & useful information?

Almost all filtering software today is able to distinguish pornographic information from useful sexual health information. Additionally, filters include an option to temporarily unblock or override computers that are used for legitimate purposes.

Is it expensive to install filtering software?

The truth is exactly the opposite. By installing filtering software, public libraries and schools make themselves eligible for E-Rate, a federal program that reduces the cost of providing Internet in libraries nationwide. In addition, filtering software can help reduce costs by blocking websites infected with viruses and malware, which cause expensive damage to networks.

Our school/library has never had an issue. Why should we worry now?

In all likelihood, if your library does not have filters, patrons are using library computers to access pornography. However, filtering will make sure there isn't a problem in the future. Filters will prevent children from developing a porn addiction by accessing pornography at the library. For more insight on the laws surrounding the issue of filtering, see the FAQs.



4) BUILD A LOCAL COALITION OF ALLIES

You are not the only person in your community who is concerned about the impact of pornography on children, or society at large.

While some parents and individuals may not have your bravery, you will likely be able to find allies! As you begin making inquiries with librarians and schools in your area, share your concerns with friends and family. Talk with the parents of some of your kids' friends or ask around in online community groups. If people in libraries and schools are slow to respond to your concerns, it would be especially useful to reach out to individuals in your community who are involved in parent-teacher associations, who are on the board of a school or library, or who have politically influential connections. Be strategic and work to bring together individuals with diverse influence.

Invite them to meet at your home (or elsewhere) to discuss this problem. Try to get 10-20 people on board initially.





5) BEGIN OUTREACH TO LIBRARY/SCHOOL OFFICIALS

Who do I contact?

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

- Patrons
- Library Volunteers
- Librarians
- Head Librarian
- Library Director
- Library Board of Trustees
- County Board of Commissioners
- City Council Members
- Mayor
- County Commissioners
- State Librarian
- State Legislators
- Governor
- Federal Communications Commission

LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Students and Parents
- Various Teachers
- School Librarian/Computer Teacher
- School Counselors
- Assistant Principal
- Principal
- Parent-Teacher Groups (PTA/PTO)
- Student Counsel (if high school)
- School District Superintendent
- School Board Officials
- City Council Members
- Mayor
- County Commissioners
- State Legislators
- Governor
- State Department of Education

Tips & Reminders:

- Stay calm and friendly, even if they are defensive. Stick to facts as much as you can.
- Take good notes of all conversations you have with officials. Record if a public event.
- Consider sharing a few examples of either personal or local experiences when pornography was accessed at the library or examples from news articles found at the end of this packet.
- Contact the library/school officials with calls, letters and emails. A few of you should meet personally with the directors and community officials. Sometimes, this step alone will be enough. If it is not, consider attending community meetings and speaking up publicly.

WHAT DO I SAY?

Questions to ask specifically about filtering & pornography:

- Do you have a policy about accessing pornography at your library/school?
- What is your policy? May I have a copy of it? Is the policy posted somewhere for the public to see?
- Do you have filters on library/school computers?
- If yes, can users disable filters themselves? How? • If yes, are they on all computers or just on some computers?
- If they are on just some computers, which computers have filters? Might children be exposed to pornography if an adult is viewing it on the unfiltered computers? Is it easy for other patrons to see the screen? (Consider taking pictures of the setup and of someone's screen where one might walk by.)
- Are the librarians/teachers able to disable the filters for themselves or for users?
- What is your responsibility if a patron/student is viewing pornography? Are you supposed to say something to them?
- Have patrons/students/teachers viewed pornography here?
- Can you share with me instances when pornography was accessed? What happened? (You don't have to include names.)
- Does the viewing of pornography make your feel uncomfortable or unsafe in your job?
- If there are no filters, why not?



Additional questions to ask regarding digital safety:

- **Digital Citizenship:** Does your school have online safety or digital citizenship lessons for K-6th grade? If so, do they discuss the harms of pornography, or what to do if you see it? If they discuss the harms of pornography, and action steps for students, request a copy of those materials. Send them to public@ncose.com.
- **Safe Reporting:** Are children informed of what to do if they see pornography at school, on a school device, or in general? Are they assured that there is no punishment for telling a teacher about seeing pornography?
- **Teacher Preparation:** Are teachers trained with clear guidelines for how to respond when a student reports seeing pornography to them? Do they have training on counseling students who are upset by exposure to pornography? Are bus drivers and recess safety supervisors also trained about what to do if children either watch, or report seeing, pornography in those environments?
- **Child-to-Child, and Adult-to-Child, Exposure Policy:** What consequences are there for children who expose other children to pornography in school, and do children know these consequences? Are children informed of what to do if an authority figure or adult shows them pornography?
- **Parental Notification:** Is there a policy in place that parents are immediately notified if their child is exposed to pornography at school? Are teachers aware of this policy, and is it enforced?





6) ATTEND & PRESENT AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

Find out when and where the library/school board meets. You have a right to attend the public meeting and should be given a few minutes to make your case. It is a good idea to have a few others go with you to present at the meeting.

Often, it just takes presenting here one time to get things to change. However, plan to attend many meetings, getting more and more allies to testify with you in future meetings.

We can likely help arrange to have local experts on this issue present also.

It could also be helpful to attend your next city council meeting and present your case there as well.

7) INCREASE PUBLIC PRESSURE

If your school or library officials are not responding and refuse to help, you can increase the pressure on them.

This could include petitions, letters from concerned citizens, a calling effort to officials and staff, contacting your local newspapers, a friendly demonstration in front of the building to give information to parents/patrons, etc.

Contact other leaders in your community to ask for help, such as elected officials, business owners, or church leaders. Ask them to sign a pledge or sign a letter of support. Perhaps a few leaders will sponsor local legislation mandating an anti-pornography or filtering policy. Get other local citizens to contact them as well.



SUCCESS STORIES

February 2017, one mom simply forwarded information about the explicit material on EBSCO's databases to her local school district and immediately got action. They replied and committed to remove links to EBSCO in the local schools and libraries while they contacted EBSCO to seek a permanent solution that would not allow access to pornographic content.

Jefferson County, CO In July 2011, a parent complained to the library because her 5-year-old son was exposed to pornography and witnessed a teen masturbating in front of his computer. The computer had a privacy screen, but the child still saw the images while walking by. The library did nothing about the incident and allowed the teen to stay on the computers. The parent then contacted the local sheriffs office and the teen received a ticket for trespassing and faced charges of indecent exposure. Outraged by the inaction on the part of the library and their excuse that they “can’t do anything about it,” a few concerned parents got together and decided to pressure the library board about this issue. Some concerned citizens voiced their concerns at the public library board meetings, citing the many harms of pornography and the dangers of having free access at the library. In August 2011, the library board voted 4-0 to block access to all porn sites. They now have a no-porn policy in place.

Utah In 2001, a concerned mother in UT realized that pornography was being accessed at her local library in Salt Lake City. In unbelief, especially because the Children's Internet Protection Act was just passed the previous year, she contacted a few library officials. She was told nothing could be done and that filters were unconstitutional. She attended many meetings of the Library Board where she and a number of experts presented their concerns clearly and politely. She also collected and presented hundreds of letters from other citizens to the board explaining their concerns. They dismissed her efforts, claiming that pornography was not being accessed at their libraries.

With the help of others, she ran a “check” on random computers at the different libraries in her area and printed off these reports. It was found that pornography was accessed on all of them frequently. The computer closest to the librarian's checkout desk had the greatest history of users viewing pornography. She shared these reports with the library board at their next meeting and was again largely ignored. At that point, a local reporter contacted her whose child had been exposed to pornography while at the library. They held a press conference in front of the library and then requested a meeting with country government officials. She helped to organize an event for all state and local officer, as well as library board members, to explain how filters worked and answer questions. (Content Watch, an Internet Management company, presented at this meeting.) Finally, this concerned mom contacted a number of state legislators about sponsoring a bill to mandate filters in UT public libraries. With her persistence, the bill was sponsored and then passed in 2004 Visit [www.Women ForDecency.org](http://www.WomenForDecency.org) for more details on this story.

There are many success stories at our website, SafeSchoolsSafeLibraries.com





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Pornography? The term "pornography" is a generic, not a legal term. As noted by the Supreme Court in the landmark 1973 obscenity case, *Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. 15, 20, n.2, the term: "Pornography" derives from the Greek (harlot, and graphos, writing). The word now means "1: a description of prostitutes or prostitution 2. a depiction (as in a writing or painting) of licentiousness or lewdness: a portrayal of erotic behavior designed to cause sexual excitement." Webster's Third New International Dictionary Unabridged 1969).

What is Obscenity? The term "obscenity" is a legal term, and in *Miller v. California*, supra the Supreme Court established a three-pronged test for determining whether a "work" (i.e., material or a performance) is obscene and therefore unprotected by the First Amendment. To be obscene, a judge and/or a jury must determine: First, that the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest; AND second, that the work depicts or describes in a patently offensive way, as measured by contemporary community standards, "hardcore" sexual conduct specifically defined by the applicable law; AND third, that a reasonable person would find that the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political and scientific value. SIDE NOTE: Typical "hardcore pornography" (e.g., a website, DVD or magazine) consists of little if anything more than one depiction of hardcore sex after the other (i.e., it's "wall-to-wall" sex)

Is this a form of censorship? Not according to the U.S. Supreme Court. *US vs. American Library Association* (2003) ruled filtering library computers to protect children is not a form of censorship, but a legitimate way to protect children from harmful online material. Additionally, the U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly held that First Amendment does not include obscenity. Filtering library computers merely puts libraries on the same level as other Internet hotspots, which use filters and other precautions to safeguard their customers from illegal and obscene material.



SAFE SCHOOLS, SAFE LIBRARIES

What are the State & Local Laws? Some information can be found here, although this is slightly out-of-date: <http://www.ncsl.org/issuesresearch/telecom/state-internet-filtering-laws.aspx>. You can also look at the state school and library filtering laws on our webpage: <http://endsexualexploitation.org/sssl/>.

What are the Federal Laws? One common misconception people have is that pornography is legally protected by the First Amendment. The truth is that obscenity (most hardcore adult pornography) is prohibited under existing Federal laws. These laws 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. Additionally, it is important to understand that obscenity is not protected by the First Amendment. This has been repeatedly upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. The role of the Federal Government should be, as it has been in the past, to prosecute the major producers and distributors of obscene pornography. However, the U.S. Justice Department has not been consistently enforcing these laws.

Additionally, it is important to note that a specific law pertaining to libraries and schools regarding the Internet was passed by Congress in 2000 and was found to be constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2003. The ALA and the ACLU commonly misinterpret this law and disseminate misleading information to libraries and schools regarding their rights to place filters on computers. You will likely face this.

Background:

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is a federal law enacted by Congress to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on school and library computers. CIPA imposes certain types of requirements on any school or library that receives funding for Internet access or internal connections from the E-rate program – a program that makes certain communications technology more affordable for eligible schools and libraries. In early 2001, the FCC issued rules implementing CIPA.



More about the Children's Internet Protect Action (CIPA): Schools and libraries subject to CIPA may not receive the discounts offered by the E-rate program unless they certify that they have an Internet safety policy that includes technology protection measures. The protection measures must block or filter Internet access to pictures that are: (a) obscene, (b) child pornography, or (c) harmful to minors (for computers that are accessed by minors). Before adopting this Internet safety policy, schools and libraries must provide reasonable notice and hold at least one public hearing or meeting to address the proposal. Schools subject to CIPA are required to adopt and enforce a policy to monitor online activities of minors.

Opposition to CIPA and Filtering: The American Library Association (ALA) and ACLU often argue that it is against a person's First Amendment rights to have to ask a librarian to remove a filter for a desired search. However, this is exactly what the High Court said was sufficient in instances where an individual wanted to access material blocked by a filter. Adults may ask the librarian to unblock material. This is an important added barrier to individuals viewing indecent material in our schools and libraries. The mere need to ask would deter most individuals from attempting to view such material, and the requests would largely remain for material that is reasonable or for a specific purpose other than gratifying one's personal desire to view porn.

For more about this opposition and our efforts combat it, please visit EndSexualExploitation.org/ala



RECENT NEWS STORIES

“You Can Watch Porn at Chicago Libraries, But That Doesn’t Mean You Should” - 1/24/17

A woman went to the library to fill out forms for her mother’s nursing home, but instead saw someone watching “very explicit” porn without blinders, without headphones, and videotaping it on his phone. “It’s not my business what they look at,” said a librarian at Harold Washington Library.

“Olney man, 70, faces porn charges” - 1/3/17

Monte Carrol Wainscott had several search warrants executed in which officers were able to impose 15 charges of possession/ promotion of child pornography. It was found that he was using the library’s computers to upload pornographic pictures of children.

“Man imprisoned, downloaded child porn on public computers” - 11/8/16

Using the Washoe County Public Library (Nevada) computers, a man downloaded child sexual abuse images (i.e., child pornography) and email them to himself.

“Anderson man arrested on child pornography, voyeurism charges after graphic photos found on phone” - 10/26/16

Police say the 36-year-old man was taking inappropriate pictures of children, teens and adults without their knowledge. Library workers in Indiana told police that they found child pornography on a computer that the man had recently used.

“S.E. Idaho man arrested after allegedly viewing child porn at public library” - 10/26/2016

A man was arrested after allegedly viewing child pornography at a public library in Southeast Idaho.

“Kids Get an Eyeful At Public Library” - 9/28/16

Kids studying after school at their local library went to check out a book, but from the checkout line could see someone viewing porn on one of the library computers. The ALA says “the use of filtration software is a violation of the First Amendment right to free speech.”

Updated List at SafeSchoolsSafeLibraries.com



SPECIAL CONCERN ABOUT EBSCO

EBSCO Information Services offers online library resources to public and private schools (K-12), colleges and universities, public libraries, and more.

In its advertising for schools, it promises “fast access to curriculum-appropriate content.” However, its Explora, Science Reference Center, Literary Reference Center, and other products, provide easy access to hardcore pornography sites and extremely graphic sexual content. Innocent searches provide pornographic results. Via a system that bypasses school Internet filters, EBSCO brings the dark world of XXX to America’s elementary, middle, and high school children.

EBSCO executives have indicated a desire to fix this problem, but we can still use your help to ensure this issue is resolved.

CHECK YOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES TO SEE IF THEY HAVE EBSCO SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 1) Go to your local school’s main website and navigate to the library page
- 2) You will likely see a link to “online databases” or “research materials” somewhere on the page (you might have to poke around for it) and then click on that section
- 3) They usually have the databases they subscribe to listed right there. If you see an EBSCO product, please email us at public@ncose.com and provide the URL where you found this. Please include the school name, county and state in your email to us.

To learn more, or check for updates on our work with EBSCO, visit endsexualexploitation.org/ebSCO.



NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

EndSexualExploitation.org



Thank you for advocating for the rights of children, and people of all ages, to be free from the harms of pornography and other forms of sexual exploitation! Remember to visit EndSexualExploitation.org to learn more and to find additional ways to get involved with our organization.

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