

*Sex
Trafficking*

*Child
Sexual
Abuse*

Prostitution

Pornography

Sexting

*Violence
Against
Women*



NATIONAL CENTER ON
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

DEFENDING DIGNITY 2017 REVIEW

*THE NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION'S
EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SEXUAL JUSTICE*

*Sexualization
of Children*

Dehumanization

*Child Sexual
Abuse Images
(Child Pornography)*

*Sexual
Addictions &
Compulsivity*

*Sexual
Assault &
Violence*



NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

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December 2017

RE: MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friend of NCOSE,

Over the past several months, monumental moments have ignited a long-overdue national discourse on sexual harassment, the growing debate about the public health crisis of pornography, and the unprecedented shifts in posture among our opponents in the battle to fight online sex trafficking. Something seismic is taking place—and it's no accident.

The death of pornographer Hugh Hefner sparked a flurry of social commentary. The accusations of sexual harassment and assault against film producer Harvey Weinstein received the national opprobrium they deserve. In combination, these two events created an unprecedented opportunity to draw parallels between the Playboy culture Hefner created and which Hollywood so readily embraced. We strategically leverage high-profile public events like these to amplify our message, making significant contributions to the national discussion through press statements, Facebook Live events, opinion pieces, blogs, and podcasts.

On another front, our efforts to combat the public health crisis of pornography have received increased backlash from the pornography industry and their apologists. The industry and their allies in the media have clearly taken note of the successful efforts by several states to pass the resolution, drafted by our Law Center, which declares pornography a public health crisis. Their deliberate attempts to discredit us will ultimately fail; too many people are living proof of pornography's psychological and physical health harms.

Also noteworthy is the new momentum we have built in the fight against online sex trafficking. The final outcome of efforts to amend the Communications Decency Act (CDA)—essential to fighting websites that facilitate sex trafficking—has yet to be seen. Even so, for the first time ever, the industry has acknowledged that the status quo is unacceptable. This alone represents a colossal shift in the political landscape.

As I hope this brief discussion and the inclusive highlights of our work will show, NCOSE's history, vision, and work during the past 55 years demonstrate our passionate commitment to protecting the flame of human dignity, and to confronting the broad web of sexual exploitation within our society.

To some our vision of a world free from sexual exploitation surely seems fanciful and impossible. But the impossible can never be achieved if no one is bold enough to try! Yes, we know our vision is audacious, our mission epic. Even so, we are undaunted. Thank you for standing with us.

In the year ahead, no matter the odds, we will kindle new and bigger fires on the watchtowers of hope. With your help, we will be the beacon for all those who long for a world free from sexual exploitation.



Sincerely,

Patrick A. Trueman
President & CEO
National Center on Sexual Exploitation

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NCOSE: CELEBRATING 55 YEARS OF DEFENDING HUMAN DIGNITY

Looking Back

In the fall of 1962, an unidentified individual placed pornographic material outside a school, thus exposing two Yorkville (Manhattan, NY) area grammar school children to explicit content. The principal of the school reported the incident to her pastor who then informed other ministers and rabbis in the area.

This seemingly small incident sparked a community campaign, then known as Operation Yorkville, to fight against the distribution of obscene material. Powered only by volunteers and limited funds, that fledgling campaign grew rapidly; the organization gained national prominence and changed its name to Morality in Media (MIM). The leaders of this movement found themselves coordinating letter writing campaigns, discussing sexual exploitation on national television and radio, holding community forums and meeting with mayors and town councils, analyzing laws and suggesting legal reforms, walking the halls of the U.S. Congress, serving on presidential commissions, and even sitting in the Cabinet Room with the U.S. President.

Using every “social media” tactic of the era, MIM became the beacon of hope and light for those concerned about the insidious trend to normalize sexual exploitation in American culture. MIM worked relentlessly to educate the public about the harms of pornography and bring about the robust enforcement of federal obscenity laws. By the late 1980s and early 1990s, the producers and distributors of pornography across the country found themselves under federal prosecution. Major figures of the industry such as Reuben Sturman and Harry Mohny were convicted and sentenced to prison. The “glory days” of the sexual exploitation industry seemed numbered.



The Rise of the Internet

The fact that MIM had many successes and slowed the upward trajectory of sexual exploitation in America is indisputable. This feisty little organization successfully fought the titans of sexual exploitation, and kept the fires of human dignity burning brightly. But what MIM’s leaders, and most others, could not foresee was the rise of the Internet. Quite simply, the Internet changed everything.

The fact that technological advances have made pornography more accessible to more people is not new. For instance, due to his growing alarm at the emergence of pornography on cable television, in 1981 president of

MIM, Father Morton Hill, embarked on a 39-city “Town Meeting Tour” to alert the public of the emerging “cableporn” problem. He also used the trip to gather information about the impact of pornography on citizens and communities across the country and then delivered this report to lawmakers. Father Hill was widely quoted as saying, “Pornography is no longer just downtown, it’s downstairs.”

If he were alive today, Father Hill would surely say, “Pornography is no longer just downtown or downstairs; it’s everywhere.” Indeed, porn-free spaces are increasingly hard to find. From public libraries, and public and private schools, to television, home computers, and handheld devices, the Internet and streaming capabilities have cast the shadow of pornography far and wide.

NCOSE Today

Today, while the National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) carries on the tradition of MIM (our name changed to NCOSE in 2015), our mission is decidedly larger. Over 55 years of fighting sexual exploitation has given us a unique, panoramic perspective that enables us to see that sexual exploitation is not one issue, but many issues woven together.

We know that child sexual abuse often predates an individual’s entry into prostitution, and that sexting makes many adolescents vulnerable to revenge porn or sexual extortion. We recognize that strip clubs provide the perfect learning environment for sexually toxic attitudes and behaviors, and are common venues for sexual assault and sex trafficking. We see that pornography is linked to sexual violence and is used to groom children for sexual abuse. We know that demand for commercial sex fuels prostitution and, therefore, sex trafficking as well. The connections simply multiply.

We have worked hard to become the leading national organization shining a light on the links between all forms of sexual exploitation and on the public health crisis of pornography. NCOSE’s work falls under three broad headings: 1) policy activism to combat corporate and governmental policies fostering sexual exploitation, 2) public education and engagement, and 3) spurring united action by leading the international Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation.

NCOSE’s tactics include grassroots mobilization, thoughtfully designed social media campaigns to voice the concerns of individuals and allied organizations, aggressive communications strategy, symposia, legislative briefings, and press conferences that give a national stage to our issues, and the development of data-rich resources that add heft to our intellectual arguments.

With this potent formula, NCOSE has succeeded in pushing back against the sinister forces of sexual exploitation that have shrouded our country in darkness. NCOSE’s successes are beacons of hope to all those who feel voiceless and powerless to confront the destructive impacts of sexual exploitation. Read on for more information about some of our notable, recent successes!

As you can see, NCOSE is the vanguard of a movement seeking to keep the flame of human dignity burning brightly, and to ignite the light that will restore our culture’s embrace of its responsibility to be the beacon for human flourishing and freedom around the world—especially the freedom from sexual exploitation.



NCOSE GETS RESULTS!

NCOSE instigated 15 corporate and governmental changes in 2017! Several corporations whose policies previously permitted promoting or profiting from sexual exploitation dramatically improved or completely reversed these harmful policies. This brings us to a total of 86 policy improvements since 2011, when NCOSE began to utilize public advocacy as a powerful instrument for corporate and governmental changes.

NCOSE INFLUENCES FEDERAL LAWMAKERS!

With over 180,000 steps taken in the halls of the U.S. Capitol and congressional office buildings, NCOSE team members personally connected with every Senate and House member 22 times, hosted 4 national briefings, and attended 45 meetings with congressional staff.

CHANGING POLICIES THAT EXPLOIT

SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS & VICTORIES IN 2017



The National Center on Sexual Exploitation contends that no organization or corporation should profit from or contribute to sexual exploitation.

Unfortunately, many mainstream companies and groups do just that.

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) fights for your belief in human dignity in the arena of private and public policy. With the help of thousands of grassroots activists and the NCOSE-led Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation, NCOSE is instigating tangible policy changes. NCOSE's efforts led to 15 policy changes and improvements in 2017, which can be viewed at EndSexualExploitation.org/victories.

Here is some of NCOSE's notable progress from 2017

Twitter Blocked Blatant Searches for Pornographic Photos and Videos

In March, 2017 Twitter—a member of the Dirty Dozen List—changed its platform so that when users type in hashtags or keywords traditionally associated with pornography and prostitution no results are shown in the “photo” or “video” search categories. This is a significant break from Twitter's past laissez faire approach, which even defended this kind of content. There is still more work Twitter must do to curb sexual exploitation on its platform, but NCOSE will continue pressuring Twitter through grassroots actions, media, and more.



Snapchat Improved its Policy on Graphic, Risqué Stories

After placing Snapchat on its Dirty Dozen List, NCOSE made public and private requests for the corporation to improve Snapchat Discover—a section of the popular app where magazines, newspapers, and TV outlets can publish content specifically created for Snapchat. In January 2017, Snapchat updated its guidelines for Discover publishers to discourage click bait and to decrease inappropriate content being seen by minors. Snapchat still needs to improve many policies, such as in-app reporting, but this progress is a victory for the thousands of individuals who have taken action and for millions of users.

Social Media Campaign to #TackleDemand for Super Bowl Sex Trafficking Reaches Over 1 Million People

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation partnered with over 25 other human rights and anti-trafficking organizations to send one simple message on the night of the Super Bowl: “Real sports fans don't buy sex.” This simple concept caught on, and by the end of the night, over 1 million individuals saw this message through sharing on social media.

Three States Passed Resolutions Declaring Pornography a Public Health Concern

In 2017, Tennessee, South Dakota, and Arkansas passed state resolutions to formally acknowledge the public health harms of pornography. The resolutions were based on the National Center on Sexual Exploitation's model resolution. In 2016, Utah passed this same resolution and the Canadian Parliament unanimously passed a motion based on our work. Several other states continue to consider it. This is a vital tool for public and policy education, and paves the way for states to address these matters on a larger scale.

Verizon Makes Improvements to Decrease Accidental Pornography Exposure

After NCOSE met with Verizon's CEO last year and conducted large-scale action campaigns over the last few years, Verizon has taken a step toward curbing its participation in sexual exploitation. They have created an opt-in system for new subscribers to FiOS IPTV services, so that new customers will no longer have on-demand pornography films and channels automatically piped into their homes. Instead, only those who actively seek out and request on-demand pornography will be exposed to it. Verizon continues to sell hardcore pornography, so NCOSE is continuing to call for substantial policy changes, but we are heartened by this step forward.

NCOSE Helped Stop New Hampshire from Removing Laws Against Prostitution

NCOSE staff intervened when "sex work" lobbyists began disseminating biased research and proposing bills to remove all laws against prostitution in the state of New Hampshire. It would have meant that New Hampshire's Employment Security office could suggest to unemployed women that they accept "jobs" in the sex industry, making prostitution a job like any other. Additionally, full decriminalization of prostitution would make New Hampshire a destination state for sex buyers and make it vulnerable to the increased crime rate that accompanies prostitution. NCOSE joined others in writing to and meeting with members of New Hampshire's legislative leadership to explain why amending the law in this way would be detrimental. NCOSE believes it is critical to hold the line on this and so engages in battles across the U.S. to stop the legalization of prostitution.

School Education Resource Removes Most Sexually Graphic Content

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, EBSCO promises "fast access to curriculum appropriate content." However, many of their school products provided easy access to hardcore pornography sites, extremely graphic sexual content, and even links to recruitment sites for porn and prostitution. Via a system that bypasses school Internet filters, EBSCO was bringing the dark world of XXX to America's elementary, middle-school, and high-school children.

EBSCO has been in communication with NCOSE for several months in an effort to solve these problems, and has implemented a number of solutions like removing certain publications and fixing some publisher settings. The vast majority of blatantly graphic material has now been removed!

RECENT VICTORIES AND PROGRESS

A PROJECT OF THE



NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION



GOOGLE adopted a policy to prohibit pornographic ads and any ads that link to websites with sexually explicit content.



THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE stopped the sale of pornography in all Army and Air Force base exchanges. The DOD also ordered regular search and removals of all sexual materials in public and workspaces take place for all military branches.



WALMART, RITE AID, FOOD LION and other retailers moved to put the sexually explicit Cosmopolitan magazine behind blinders in their retail shops.



With NCOSE's leadership, a number of the world's most prominent **HOTEL CHAINS** all agreed to stop selling pornography through their on-demand and cable services. This is 1.2 million occupied hotel rooms on average that are porn free each night, now!



DISNEY removed a sex trafficking scene in their Pirates of the Caribbean rides.



WALMART removed child nudity books and many pornographic films and magazines from their online store.



In 2016, **VERIZON** removed the child-themed and slavery-themed pornographic films they were offering through their Fios TV. In 2017, Verizon changed their policy for NEW Fios IPTV customers so that they are automatically offered porn-free TV packages and must call to request access to pornographic channels.



Despite their past laissez-faire approach to sexual exploitation, **TWITTER** is now blocking several pornography- and prostitution-related search terms, or hashtags, particularly from the results in the "Photos" and "Videos" section of the social media platform.



A robust campaign in collaboration with NCOSE's ally, Enough is Enough, led to both **STARBUCKS** and **MCDONALD'S** agreeing to filter their WiFi in all U.S. locations.



SNAPCHAT now gives publishers the ability to age-gate sensitive content, including overly sexualized content, within. Discover, the publisher section of the app.



The chairman of **OVERSTOCK.COM** ordered that nearly all of the pornographic and sexually explicit magazines, books, films, and other items be removed from sale on this prominent shopping website.



All four burger brands under **CKE RESTAURANTS** promised to stop producing hypersexualized, misogynistic ads for their fast food products.



AMERICAN APPAREL stopped using nudity and depicting sex acts in advertising for its clothing lines and took extensive measures to remove these past ads from online and print catalogues.



COMCAST has improved usability and tightened the parental control settings for cable users, and in 2017 agreed to make it much harder to just stumble upon the pornographic content they are selling.



After NCOSE led a boycott with more than 20,000 participants, **GROUPON** promised to stop selling coupons for sexually exploitive events like tours of torture porn studios or

See more of NCOSE successes at endsexualexploitation.org/victories



ONGOING BATTLES

New challenges and opportunities arise every year in the fight for human dignity, yet it is also vital to maintain concerted efforts in key areas in order to achieve substantial progress. That is why NCOSE is excited to continue its fight in many arenas, including the following campaigns.

Creating Safe Schools & Safe Libraries

Schools and libraries are fostering unsafe, unhealthy environments for children in three primary ways: (1) inadequate, or non-existent, filters to prevent exposure to pornography on school WiFi and school devices, as well as devices given to students for personal use at home and school; (2) online school databases that expose children to pornography, normalize sexually violent and risky acts, and promote prostitution; (3) and inadequate, or non-existent, policies and training for teachers and school administrators regarding appropriate media literacy and reporting procedures. NCOSE is rolling out robust, new strategies in our Safe Schools, Safe Libraries project.

Taking on Sexploitation in Videogames

Videogames are often a fun outlet through which children and adults explore, build, and create. Unfortunately, videogame creators are increasingly promoting content that gamifies pornographic, hypersexualized, sexually coercive, and violent themes. Many of these games are easily available to young children. This is particularly alarming, because it makes the user not just a voyeur, but an active participant in staging the scene. As our society suffers from the consequences of campus sexual assault, military sexual assault, and rising child-on-child sexual abuse, we see that normalizing the sexual use (and often abuse) of others in videogames is irresponsible on the corporate and social level. NCOSE is taking on Steam, the “Wal-mart” of online video game stores with over 35 million users under age 18 by demanding they remove these games and publicly commit to a more robust policy against sexually explicit and exploitive games.

Holding YouTube Accountable as a Facilitator of Child Abuse, Sex Trafficking, and Pornography

Google’s YouTube is the most popular video-sharing site in the world. However, despite its strict terms of use, the website does little to monitor or restrict sexually exploitive content and forces users to go through a rigorous process to report content for removal. Instead, YouTube often allows the content to remain in order to generate views and more profit. NCOSE has been fighting this for years already, but with new partners (including powerful international leaders, new research, and a more robust plan to expose YouTube’s darker side) we expect significant changes to their policies.

Shaping the TV/Movie Streaming Industry

Of special concern is the increasing amount of sexually graphic content on streaming services for television shows and movies, like Amazon Prime, Netflix, Hulu, Roku, and more. The budding streaming industry is quickly outpacing cable, as more young parents and millennials enter the market for television services. Unfortunately, streaming devices do not have the same level of strict regulation that prime-time cable does, so many shows available through these services are rife with blatant nudity, softcore pornography, and extreme sexual violence. Often these shows appear as “suggested” content, with insufficient warnings about their graphic nature, and so many parents are ill-equipped to make informed decisions about what their families watch. Moreover, many young kids are clicking on these shows because they are positioned right next to cartoons they love. NCOSE is strategically positioned to influence this young industry, before its policies are set in stone, and is eager to launch a major campaign in 2018.

The Freedom from Sexploitation Agenda

Like never before in our nation’s history, America suffers from systemic sexual exploitation. This necessitates that our federal government address the full spectrum of sexual harm.

Too often, policy makers don’t recognize the links between forms of sexual exploitation and so their efforts to institute reforms are piecemeal and short-sighted. Policy and laws are critical tools to teach the public about these issues and to protect many of our most vulnerable.

Over 2016-2017, NCOSE developed The Freedom from Sexploitation Agenda, presenting Congress and the executive branch with robust recommendations that powerfully combat sexual exploitation and which will protect human rights and the flame of human dignity. The Agenda, currently with 16 policy points, is an ambitious effort consisting of common sense policy recommendations that range from calling for stronger enforcement of constitutionally upheld obscenity laws (which outlaw the distribution of obscene, hardcore pornography), to establishment of a policy to ban members of the U.S. military from patronizing strip clubs, to amending a critical law that would seriously curb online sex trafficking.

To launch The Freedom from Sexploitation Agenda, NCOSE hosted a major symposium at the U.S. Capitol, bringing together experts from across the country to address various threads in the web of sexual exploitation. NCOSE compiled and edited the papers from these talks, which were subsequently published in the academic journal DIGNITY, giving an entirely new audience access to our issues.

To implement the agenda, NCOSE is building relationships with influential leaders in Washington and convincing many to use their influence to curb these issues. NCOSE is the only organization advocating that our national political leaders address the connections between all forms of sexual exploitation. The Freedom from Sexploitation Agenda is a major NCOSE priority for the next three years. Learn more at SexploitationFreedomAgenda.com





DEFEND JUSTICE: PROSECUTE ILLEGAL PORNOGRAPHY

Most people are shocked to hear that federal law prohibits the distribution of obscene (hardcore) pornography through hotel/motel TV, cable/satellite TV, the mail, common carriers such as FedEx and UPS, retail shops, and the Internet. That is because federal laws prohibiting the distribution of hardcore pornography have not been enforced in the past eight years. The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly upheld obscenity laws against First Amendment challenges, explaining that obscenity is not protected speech, similar to other forms of unprotected speech like blackmail, defamation, or child pornography (i.e., child sexual abuse images).

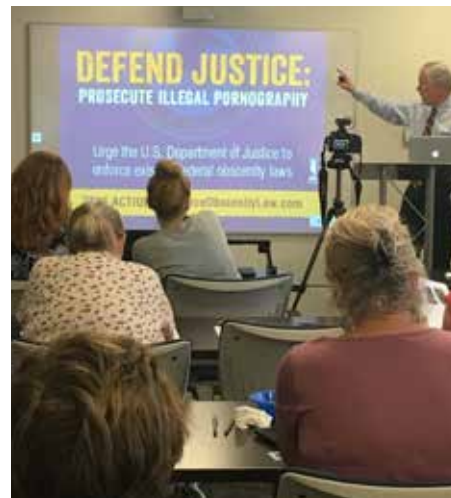
It has been a top goal of the National Center on Sexual Exploitation to change our nation's trajectory by ensuring that our obscenity laws are vigorously enforced because there is no more effective means of curbing pornography in America than the strict enforcement of obscenity laws against the major producers and distributors of obscene material. You have heard us speak about this project time and again, as much of NCOSE's strategy the past few years has been focused on this effort, but now we see a bright ray of hope.

In pursuit of that goal, we met recently with U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and made a forceful case for obscenity law enforcement. We brought key leaders to the table to influence him, including former U.S. Attorneys and pro-family leaders like a representative of Dr. James Dobson.

NCOSE is also galvanizing congressional support. We drafted a resolution for U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch calling on the attorney general to enforce obscenity laws, and we are conducting massive PR campaigns to make the public aware of the harms of pornography.

With Patrick Trueman (former chief prosecutor at the U.S. Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section under Presidents Reagan and Bush) as NCOSE's President & CEO, and given NCOSE's leadership in instigating federal obscenity law enforcement in past decades, NCOSE is opportunely positioned to advocate that, once again, federal obscenity laws will be strictly enforced.

While there is still more work ahead, our goal of revitalizing federal obscenity prosecutions has never been closer to realization.



In August 2017, NCOSE organized a meeting with U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, bringing together former U.S. Attorneys and key allies.



***NCOSE
CREATES
A MOVEMENT!***

We broadcasted NCOSE's message advocating for freedom from sexual exploitation, objectification, and violence to 11.2 million people through our social media platforms and press outreach. As a result of our broad reach, 602,693 individuals across the nation are part of NCOSE's grassroots army.

***NCOSE
HELPS FRAME
PUBLIC
OPINION!***

In 2005-2006 there were approximately 200,000 articles written mentioning the public health impacts of pornography. In 2015-2017 there were over 4,713,179 articles on this topic. That's a 2,256% increase in 10 years.

LEADING THE MOVEMENT



TESTIMONIALS: WHY I GIVE TO NCOSE

THE FOLLOWING ARE PERSONAL TESTIMONIES ABOUT WHY SOME OF OUR SUPPORTERS HAVE CHOSEN TO SUPPORT NCOSE.



*U.S. Representative Ann Wagner and
National Center on Sexual Exploitation staff*

I'm grateful for the important work that the National Center on Sexual Exploitation does in confronting the exploitation of the most vulnerable members of our society. I particularly appreciate the countless hours that NCOSE staff have spent on raising awareness about H.R. 1865, the Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act. This bill would clarify Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, and ensure that websites that facilitate sex trafficking can be held accountable for criminal conduct. Bad actors should not be able to commit sex trafficking crimes online that they could not commit offline. NCOSE has been an excellent partner in helping lead this national movement, and I salute their fantastic team members.

- U.S. REPRESENTATIVE ANN WAGNER (R-MO)

Thank you and most importantly, thank you for all of your love and compassion that you give to those that suffer! Please know that guys like me are doing everything possible to stop this Industry and to be part of the solution!

- JAMES MUNSEY, FLORIDA

I am a survivor of sex trafficking. I finally mustered the courage to run away after a very violent encounter with a buyer in a hotel room and then going to my trafficker's room to find him watching porn on the TV. When I learned this year about your work to get hotels to stop selling pornography, I was able to move forward a little more in my healing journey. Thank you for making the connections and for defending truth.

- ANONYMOUS

"I was confronted today by someone saying that anyone who claims not to watch porn is 'a psychopath, a liar or lives in a monastery' and I was deeply offended. Thanks to you guys, I didn't feel shy about replying to them to correct them. You've made me feel much better about my views... Thanks for everything."

- ERIC PRATT, OREGON



I support NCOSE financially and with my time, because pornography strikes at the very fabric of our nation and has left a trail of misery and degradation. We are witnessing broken lives and a society where sexual exploitation has become all too common in our schools, businesses and even the military. While the NCOSE team is changing the culture and leading the way in this battle, we are all called to do more.

- DAN O'BRYANT, NCOSE BOARD MEMBER

New to your group, but familiar with many of your areas of concentration. Your research has helped me as a health-care provider to review the current evidence on topics that are absolutely necessary to discuss. Not only to discuss as a society, but in healthcare. Sexual exploitation and pornography (to name a few) are public health crises that have been ignored for far too long. We have to talk about "uncomfortable" issues in order to break the silence and help the victims. Knowing the signs, how to safely intervene & improving social policies saves lives. Thank you for the work you do!

- THALIA G., IOWA

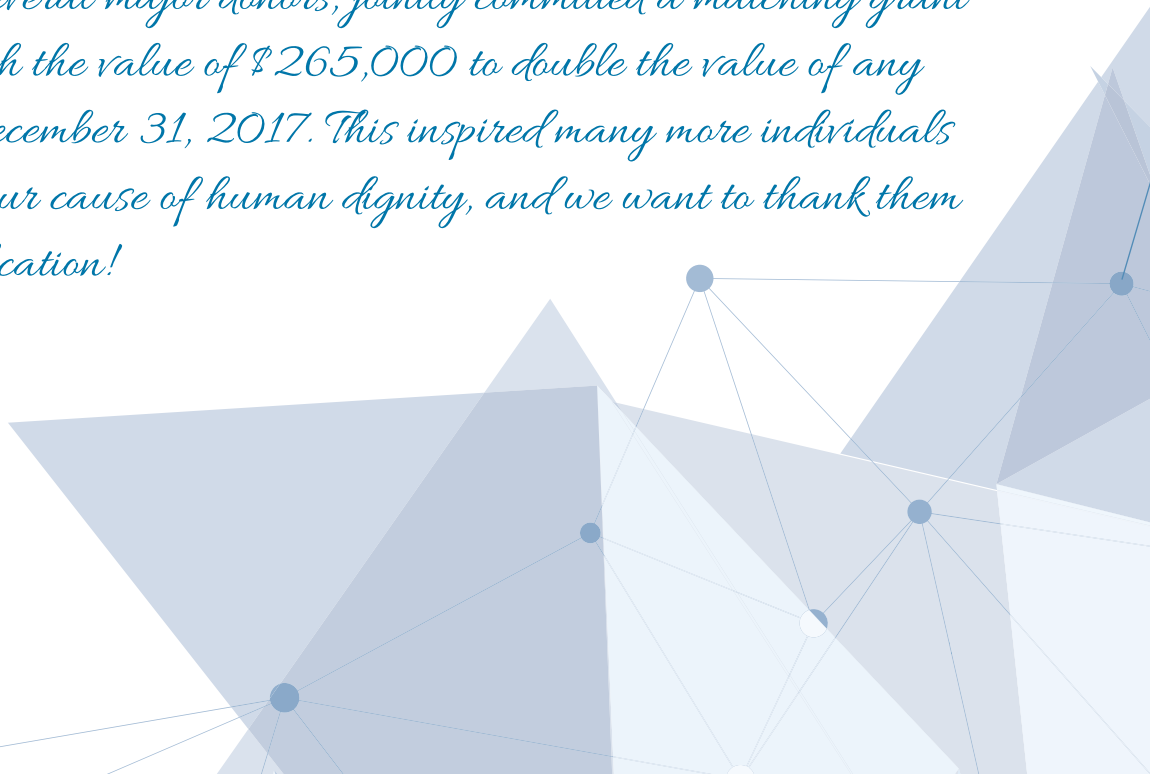
"I didn't have the courage to speak up about my own experiences with sexual abuse until I heard that you were going to host events discussing male sexual exploitation. I got the courage to share with my wife after showing her your website and I feel so grateful to no longer carry this in silence, alone. Thank you."

- RONALD, MASSACHUSETTS

"Wow, NCOSE, thanks for doing these hard things and paving the way for all the rest of us to follow after. Your team and work is a great example to us all. Thanks for being brave. You make it easier for me to make hard decisions to stand up and say something myself also. We are blessed to have such wonderful organizational leaders out there doing good instead of harm."

- TIFFANY, ARIZONA

As a testimony to their commitment to NCOSE, our Board of Directors and several major donors, jointly committed a matching grant to NCOSE with the value of \$265,000 to double the value of any donations by December 31, 2017. This inspired many more individuals to contribute to our cause of human dignity, and we want to thank them all for their dedication!





THE COALITION TO END SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

The pandemics of sexual abuse and exploitation are far too large for any one person or organization to defeat on their own. It is vitally important that those working for freedom from sexual exploitation find forums that inspire unity and collaboration, so that the voices of the few can be amplified and the movement can grow. The more the movement grows, the more it gains the energy and momentum to inspire still more people to pursue the vision. This is why, for nearly a decade, NCOSE has led the effort to galvanize the movement for freedom from sexual exploitation.

Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation

Spearheaded by NCOSE, the Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation (CESE) is a loose-knit partnership of more than 300 organizations. CESE breaks down divisions between sexual exploitation sectors, as well as creating a more cohesive and comprehensive national and international effort to defend the flame of human dignity.

CESE's power is in its diversity. It brings together academics and activists; neurosurgeons and social workers; lawyers and family therapists; radical feminists and religious leaders; Democrats, Independents, and Republicans; secularists, Catholics, Evangelicals, Mormons, Jews, and Muslims. Before the existence of the CESE, many of the individuals and groups working to combat sexual exploitation worked in isolation or within small affinity groups. Opposing political and religious views further stymied opportunities for synergy. But, through hard and sometimes painful efforts, CESE has succeeded in not only lowering the walls of mistrust, but in building strong relationships and collaborations, which unite the movement and add power and vibrancy to the light it shines.

End Sexual Exploitation Summit

The most powerful resource provided by CESE is the Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation (CESE) Global Summit. The CESE Summit brings together more than 500 movement leaders from around the world, provides attendees with training and strategies, and creates networking opportunities that foster relationship-building and the cross-pollination of ideas to increase the growth and influence of the movement. The ripple effects of the CESE Summit are being felt around the world.

Collaborative Task Forces

To amplify limited resources, NCOSE spearheads task forces comprised of survivors, academics, medical professionals, and experts. Our most effective task forces are addressing prevention of sexual exploitation, the public health crisis of pornography, and male sexual exploitation.

Activism Campaigns

NCOSE also regularly leads campaigns buoyed by collaboration from coalition members, such as its 2017 public awareness campaign: "Tackle Demand," which reached more than 1 million people, to fight the normalization of prostitution and commercial sex specifically at major sporting events like the Super Bowl.





COALITION TO
END SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION

GLOBAL SUMMIT

2018

HOSTED BY



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The Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation Global Summit is vitally important for any leader in the movement to end sexual exploitation. But don't take our word for it!

"I liked the diversity of attendees—people from all backgrounds all over the world."

— LINDSEY COATES, SUMMIT CHURCH

"I am so thankful for all the people here who are making a difference. It's good to know that I'm not alone in my efforts."

— HEIDI OLSON

"I liked the depth and breadth of the information. This is such a multi-faceted issue and the breadth was quite necessary, but so was the depth. Great job!!"

— JUDITH GRIGSBY, THE REFUGE OF DMST

"A great encouragement for all fighters."

— ALICIA GUESS

"Keep up the incredible work! The conference is such a huge boost of hope!"

— SAM

"It was a necessary, inspiring, exciting, overwhelming and compelling experience."

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OUT OF THE SHADOWS: ADDRESSING THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF BOYS AND MEN

For too long, male sexual exploitation victims have been overlooked. The media, politicians, and society at large have all failed to adequately address the experiences of boys and men involving sex trafficking, prostitution, child sexual abuse, sexual objectification, or early childhood exposure to pornography. As a result, countless boys and men suffer in silence without receiving any attention, respect, or love, and without receiving the appropriate services for recovery. They don't know where to turn because no one is even talking about them and their daily sufferings. They are without hope.

In 2016, NCOSE started a task force within our Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation to address these issues more fully. We brought together survivors, academics, medical professionals, and other non-governmental organizations. We gathered messaging tips from our coalition, poured over what little research is out there, and worked to shed light publicly on these issues where we can. As our efforts and task force coalesced, we realized it was time for a major public effort to expose these realities and to bring our work to the next level. As part of this, we planned three intense days of events in September.

We were proud to co-host our events titled, *Out of the Shadows: Addressing the Sexual Exploitation of Boys and Men* with the U.S. Institute Against Human Trafficking and Washington College's Institute for Religion, Politics, and Culture. The first day, we hosted a press conference at the National Press Club in order to get media to address all of these issues more deliberately. We also were able to find 6 hours that day to just brainstorm with the key leaders who were in town for our events, which has led to the creation of a new campaign we hope to launch in early spring, 2018. The second day of *Out of the Shadows* included a ground-breaking National Symposium, bringing together more than 200 DC-area government leaders to educate and start them on a critical assessment of this overlooked problem. The third day, we hosted workshops with college students at Washington College and hope to roll out this program at other schools across America.

These events were transformative for the entire movement and for the millions of males who are struggling with these issues in the dark. The events reached tens of thousands of viewers online and we heard messages from men who were coming forward about their own past abuse for the first time because they heard of these events.

These events and our ongoing coalition efforts shed a light on the victimization of boys and men to bring these problems out of the shadows. The complex web of sexual exploitation cannot be dismantled until every survivor has a voice.

Learn more about this work and see our groundbreaking research summary at ExploitationOfBoysAndMen.com.



NCOSE SHAPES CULTURE!

With 61 press statements, 69 TV and radio interviews and an average of 15 mentions in national media each week in 2017, NCOSE has reached people in their homes and on their commutes to and from work, shaping public opinion through the media.

NCOSE EDUCATES THE PUBLIC!

In 2017, NCOSE hosted 18 events with more than 59,000 individuals attending, published 130 new resources for the public and our allies to use, and spoke at 59 events around the country, as well as in Italy, Hungary, Croatia, Canada and Antigua.

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC



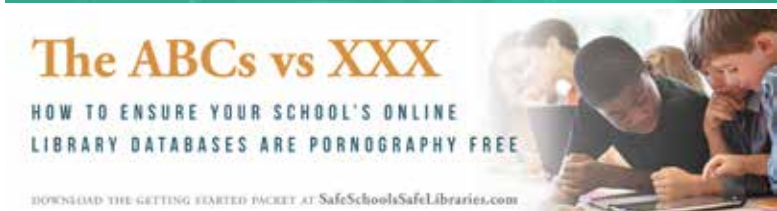
EQUIPPING THE PUBLIC WITH TOOLS & RESOURCES

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) not only informs the public about the problems of sexual exploitation but also galvanizes them to become part of the solutions. NCOSE reaches individuals through online digital strategies and aggressive press outreach, resulting in media features an average of 15 times a week. By influencing how the media covers sexual exploitation issues, we're doing our part to reshape culture and represent dignity and truth in a news cycle too often preoccupied with salacious and degrading messages.

In 2017, NCOSE participated in a Walmart public health fair, and spoke at Georgetown University, sex trafficking conferences in Hawaii, family conferences in Hungary and Croatia, and more! Expanding to new audiences like Walmart and prestigious universities is bringing NCOSE's messages against sexual exploitation out of the echo chamber and into the realm of the movable middle where we can change hearts and minds.

NCOSE gathers the latest peer-reviewed research, along with anecdotal evidence, to bring the pandemic of sexual harm out of the shadows. Projects like Pornography: a Public Health Crisis; Bright Light on the Red Light: the Truth about Prostitution; and Out of the Shadows: Addressing the Sexual Exploitation of Boys and Men serve to challenge cultural assumptions and bring clarity to diverse exploitation issues.

Some of the tools developed and enhanced in 2017 to help fight sexual exploitation include:



SEXUAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Internships at the National Center on Sexual Exploitation catalyze the next generation of college students to become activists for human dignity and a world free from sexual exploitation.

College students are particularly targeted in our society by messages that pornography is healthy, that “sex work” is empowering, and that free speech only applies to those who agree with the fickle messages of pop culture.

The NCOSE Sexual Justice Advocate Internship Program offers an antidote to these prevailing trends. High-achieving college students who want to make a difference can intern at NCOSE to conduct research, write blogs, develop advocacy strategies, visit Capitol Hill, and gain new professional skills through a range of hands-on opportunities. Interns also receive weekly trainings on sexual exploitation issues to learn how to think about and discuss the reality of pornography, prostitution, sex trafficking, and more with their fellow students.

In 2017, NCOSE’s internship program hosted 12 students from educational institutions including Ohio University, the University of Alabama, Brigham Young University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and The Catholic University of America.



Summer intern Kimberlee Tinio Forsgren told us, “My experience at NCOSE has been very valuable. Some of the aspects of the internship that I enjoyed most were gaining hands-on experience in multiple areas of interest and working with many amazing people who are passionate about ending sexual exploitation.”

Spring intern Tyler Johnson said, “[After the NCOSE internship,] I feel equipped with the knowledge of the basic operations of nonprofits and I better understand the ties between all forms of sexual exploitation and the necessary actions needed to better advocate for justice.”



Please recommend NCOSE’s Sexual Justice Advocate Internship Program to university students looking for a meaningful internship experience to oppose exploitation and fight for human rights. To apply, visit endsexualexploitation.org/positions.

Hosting each NCOSE intern costs approximately \$4,000 per semester. If you would like to help empower the next generation to stand for dignity, please consider a donation at endsexualexploitation.org/donate.



NCOSE Sexual Justice Advocate Interns Summer 2017



ENGAGING INDIVIDUALS & INSTITUTIONS

Grassroots mobilization and large-scale change are sparked when NCOSE brings experts, advocates, and influencers together.

In 2017, NCOSE continued its strategic agenda to host press conferences, national briefings, webinars, an eight-part summer seminar series of in-office trainings for DC leaders, and speaking publicly around the country and even the world. In 2017, NCOSE's small, but powerful team hosted 18 influential events and participated in 59 other conferences and seminars.



Patrick Trueman, NCOSE's president met with Pope Francis at the Vatican during an exclusive international event on safety for children in the digital age, at which the Pope issued a profound statement calling for a greater Catholic response to the harms of child exploitation and exposure to Internet pornography. Over the years, NCOSE has leveraged its position as a research-based institution to encourage religious institutions, as well as secular ones, to make these issues a priority and NCOSE welcomed Pope Francis' statements! NCOSE's international reach did not stop there.

Dawn Hawkins traveled to Budapest, Hungary to speak at three different conferences, and while there made significant connections with leaders like a minister in the Hungarian government, South African allies, and members of Parliament from the country of Serbia.

These connections have set the stage for several future partnerships, both at home and abroad, and built upon NCOSE's existing extensive work with South Africans to organize a coalition, navigate laws regarding pornography, and educating their parliament about prostitution. As a result, the South African parliament came out with a landmark report on prostitution that strongly favors human dignity above exploitation.

Lisa Thompson conducted a statewide training series on sex trafficking in Hawaii, which was hosted by state Representative Andria Tupola in partnership with Hawaii's State Department of Health and Department of Human Services. As a direct result of these trainings, the officials in Hawaii are working to create an informational website about human trafficking, so that citizens can locate key information about trafficking in their state.

Haley Halverson traveled to Zagreb, Croatia for a conference on addiction where she spoke on the first panel ever in the country to address research on the harms of pornography. She then gave two workshops to help parents protect and prepare their children. She forged new relationships with experts from Scotland, Serbia, and Australia in addition to strategic meetings with Croatian leaders. As a result, NCOSE is now the key organization giving strategic insight and research to help the country of Croatia address the harms of pornography.

Hosting and participating in these targeted events is the seminal strategy for engaging individual concerned citizens, experts, and policy or cultural influencers. After each event, we garner increased support and advance the cause of truth and dignity.



*Sex
Trafficking*

*Child
Sexual
Abuse*

Prostitution

Pornography

*Violence
Against
Women*

***EXPOSING THE SEAMLESS CONNECTION
BETWEEN ALL FORMS OF EXPLOITATION***

*Sexualization
of Children*

Objectification

Sexual





RECOGNIZING LINKS BETWEEN FORMS OF EXPLOITATION

By Dawn Hawkins, Sr. Vice President & Executive Director

At the National Center on Sexual Exploitation we believe that different forms of sexual exploitation and abuse are interconnected, and that to deal successfully with one form of sexual exploitation we must recognize and understand the links between them all.

Consider the following examples of how forms of sexual exploitation overlap.

Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse and Pornography

Recently, an attorney contacted us who is representing an eight-year-old girl raped multiple times by a 13-year-old neighbor boy. The young boy, who appears to be addicted to hardcore pornography, actually had his younger siblings and the sibling of the victim “watch” the sexual assault as if it was a play. What should we expect when a 13-year-old with an immature brain has been exposed and conditioned to the extremes of Internet pornography? It seems to me he learned his pornography lessons well, and as a result it will take years, maybe decades, to unravel the trauma endured by all of these children.

Sadly, this is not an isolated incident. While there is not yet much data on this growing problem, reports of this kind of sexual abuse by younger and younger child offenders are on the rise. I receive Google alerts with news reports on child-on-child sexual abuse around the country almost daily. Last year, reports from England, where they are keeping track, explained, “Allegations of children committing sexual offences against other children have risen 78% . . . in just four years. . . .”^[1]

A news article from Missouri last year reported:

“Child-against-child sexual abuse is more common in Missouri than experts had previously believed . . . Senate Bill 341 . . . [requires] all complaints of children with problem sexual behaviors to be assessed by the state. Before the new law, there was no statewide procedure for handling the problem . . . While experts had believed the number of cases this would affect each year was about 600, the first five months under the new law brought almost 2,000.”^[2]

Child sexual abuse often leads to depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, self-harm, PTSD, risky sexual behaviors, poor physical health, drug and alcohol dependencies later in life, and a host of other difficult struggles.^[3] We know that child sexual abuse often predates an individual’s entry into prostitution.^[4]

I believe that this issue of child-on-child sexual abuse is a pandemic. Tens of thousands of families are hurting and yet we’re only barely starting to discuss it. We must quickly prepare for this and do all we can to curb it. We must especially assess the role early exposure to hardcore pornography is playing in turning our young children into sexual offenders.

Sexting and Sex Trafficking

I recently met a young girl who shared with me that after sending her older, supposed boyfriend sexts (i.e., sexually explicit text messages), as he requested, he threatened to share the sexts with her parents, teachers, and friends if she didn’t do as he instructed. He went on to sell her for sex again and again to his friends and strangers. This went on for three months before she told anyone what was happening.

One study from the Journal of Adolescence indicates that, “offline sexual coercion was significantly associated with sending and being asked for a naked image, as well as receiving a naked image without giving permission.”^[5] This demonstrates that sexting is sometimes “an online extension of offline forms of sexual coercion.”^[6]

Last year, the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department’s Human Trafficking Bureau provided reporters with a comprehensive update on the horrific nature and the sheer number of human trafficking cases that involve children and young teens taking nude photos of themselves and sending them over the Internet. They investigated 519 cases involving nude photos of young girls and boys; one in four appeared to be “selfies” produced by the children.^[7]

Based on survivor accounts and data such as this, we know the use of sexting and so-called revenge pornography, also known as non-consensual pornography, as a form of sexual extortion is sometimes a tactic used by traffickers. Yet young people receive little education about this and other dangers associated with sexting in our hyper-sexualized world.

Commercial Sex Industry and Sex Trafficking

Not long ago, I read a news article reporting a trafficking bust at a strip club, where a strip club owner pressured a 14-year-old to dance and perform sex acts for money.^[8] There are constant news reports of prostitution happening in the backrooms of strip clubs, or being arranged between dancers and patrons by club managers. Among those of us who work to combat sex trafficking, strip clubs are known hubs for prostitution and sex trafficking.^[9] Vednita Carter of Breaking Free, who works with hundreds of survivors each year, has explained many times over, “Stripping is a gateway into prostitution, it’s the place where the training begins. Until we as a society recognize all forms of sexual exploitation including ‘stripping’ we will never end the vicious cycle of sex-trafficking and prostitution.”^[10]

Fifty-five percent of sex buyers in a study by Dr. Melissa Farley noted that they located women for prostitution in strip clubs,^[11] and 90% of the men she interviewed, sex buyers and non-sex buyers, held the opinion that almost all bars and strip clubs in Boston sold minor children in the sex industry.^[12]

The men buying sex know exactly where to go to find girls for sale; thus, I was shocked when I learned that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the Department of Homeland Security, as well as local governments, are partnering with a group calling itself Club Operators Against Sex Trafficking.^[13] Purportedly strip club operators are now partners in the fight against trafficking across the United States because they claim to be on the watch for sex trafficking and are participating in local anti-trafficking awareness campaigns.^[14] This represents a bizarre failure on the part of government officials to recognize that the strip club industry’s business model is firmly founded on sexual objectification of dancers, be they male or female. Why are we collaborating with the very people who are responsible for selling women and men for sex?

Our organization, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, works to highlight specifically the public health impacts and harms of pornography. In that role, I have had the opportunity to talk with dozens of female porn performers and I can tell you that nearly all of them shared with me stories of deception, threats, and violence that were used to either coerce them into pornography, stay in porn, or provide sex acts outside of the porn films. Traffickers and pimps are using pornography to advertise prostitution and to traffic women.^[15] Survivors of prostitution and sex trafficking regularly share that in the course of being prostituted, the sex acts were frequently recorded, distributed, and uploaded to the Internet.^[16] Further, females who consume pornography are at greater risk of being a victim of sexual harassment or sexual assault.^[17] As my theme suggests, there are clear links between stripping, prostitution, pornography and sex trafficking.

The casual way we treat stripping, prostitution, and pornography, has greatly increased the problem of sex trafficking. We cannot begin to solve the problem of sex trafficking and yet ignore raw commercial sexual exploitation.

A Call to Address the Full Spectrum of Sexual Harm

We must continue to highlight the links between these horrific realities, because the terror and the trauma of sexual exploitation experienced by so many of our fellow Americans is great. In closing, my plea to you today is that we stop addressing these issues as if they are separate problems.



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[2] Joe McLean, "Child-on-Child Sexual Abuse Bigger Problem than Thought in Missouri." ABC17News, February 8, 2016, <http://www.abc17news.com/news/crime/child-on-child-sexual-abuse-bigger-problem-than-thought-in-missouri/55326827> (accessed February 4, 2017).

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[4] Rochelle Dalla, Yan Xia, and Heather Kennedy, "'You Just Give Them What They Want and Pray They Don't Kill You': Street-Level Sex Workers' Reports of Victimization, Personal Resources, and Coping Strategies." *Violence Against Women* 9, no. 11, (2003): 1367-1394; Melissa Farley, Ann Cotton, et al., "Prostitution and Trafficking in Nine Countries: An Update on Violence and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder," *Journal of Trauma Practice* 2, no. 3/4 (2003): 33-74.

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[7] Jim McDonnell, "The Dangers of Sexting: Commentary by Sheriff Jim McDonnell." SCVNews.com, March 13, 2016, <http://scvnews.com/2016/03/13/the-dangers-of-sexting-sheriff-jim-mcdonnell> (accessed February 9, 2017).

[8] John Luciew, "Human-Trafficking Victim Forced to Dance at Pa. Strip Club, Cops Say," Penn Live, July 21, 2015, http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2015/07/human-trafficking_victim_force.html (accessed February 9, 2017).

[9] National Human Trafficking Hotline, "Hostess/Strip Club-Based," <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/sex-trafficking-venuesindustries/hostessstrip-club-based>, (accessed February 9, 2017).

[10] Vednita Carter, "Strip Clubs: Where Prostitution and Trafficking Happen," *Prostitution Research & Education*, October 7, 2013, http://prostitutionresearch.com/pre_blog/2013/10/07/strip-clubs-where-prostitution-and-trafficking-happen (accessed February 9, 2017).

[11] Melissa Farley et al., "Comparing Sex Buyers with Men Who Don't Buy Sex: 'You Can Have a Good Time with the Servitude' vs. 'You're Supporting a System of Degradation.'" annual conference Psychologists for Social Responsibility, Boston, MA, July 15, 2011, <http://www.prostitutionresearch.com/pdfs/Farleyetal2011-ComparingSexBuyers.pdf> (accessed February 9, 2017).

[12] Ibid.

[13] U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, "HSI, Club Operators Forge Partnership to Combat Sex Trafficking: News Release" June 15, 2014, <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/hsi-club-operators-forge-partnership-combat-sex-trafficking> (accessed March 12, 2017); Citybizlist, "Countywide Effort to Fight Human Trafficking Takes Effect January 1 With New Poster Campaign of Hotline Number," January 6, 2016, <http://southflorida.citybizlist.com/article/325772/countywide-effort-to-fight-human-trafficking-takes-effect-january-1-with-new-poster-campaign-of-hotline-number> (accessed March 12, 2017); PR Newswire, "Adult Entertainment Industry Partners with Department of Homeland Security to Educate San Diego on Anti-Human Trafficking," January 17, 2017, <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/adult-entertainment-industry-partners-with-department-of-homeland-security-to-educate-san-diego-on-anti-human-trafficking-300391819.html> (accessed March 12, 2017).

[14] John Rogers, "Strip Clubs Team Up with Authorities to Bust Sex Traffickers," *The Seattle Times*, February 1, 2014, <http://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/strip-clubs-team-up-with-authorities-to-bust-sex-traffickers> (accessed February 9, 2017).

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SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN OUR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

By Haley Halverson, Vice President of Advocacy and Outreach



Schools and libraries are supposed to be safe environments for children, and the community, to come together to pursue education and character development.

However, sexually exploitive material is seeping into these learning spaces, potentially damaging children's intellectual development and warping their sexual templates.

Schools and libraries are fostering unsafe, unhealthy environments for children in three primary ways: inadequate, or non-existent, filters to prevent exposure to pornography on school WiFi and devices, as well as devices given to students for personal use at home and school; online school databases that expose children to pornography, normalize sexually violent and risky acts, and promote prostitution; and lastly inadequate, or non-existent, policies and training for teachers and school administrators regarding appropriate media literacy and reporting procedures.

Childhood exposure to pornography can be devastating for their development. Research has demonstrated that children are more susceptible than adults to addictions and to developmental effects on the brain^[1] and since 2011, there have been 35 peer-reviewed studies which reveal pornography use has negative and detrimental impacts on the brain.^[2]

Pornography also teaches children that sexuality is violent, which fuels child-on-child sexual abuse, and later interpersonal sexual violence as children grow up. Analysis of the 50 most popular pornographic videos (those bought and rented most often) found that 88% of scenes contained physical violence, ubiquitously against women and 95% of women responded either neutrally or with expressions of pleasure.^[3] It's no surprise, then, that a meta-analysis of 46 studies reported that the effects of exposure to pornographic material are "clear and consistent," for putting people at increased risk for committing sexual offenses and accepting "rape myths"—such as that women enjoy sexual violence.^{[4][DH2]}

In addition to childhood exposure to pornography in schools, libraries are increasingly targeted by individuals seeking to access child sexual abuse imagery (i.e. child pornography). This year alone we've seen reports of this trend in states like Kentucky, Connecticut, California, New York, Illinois, Wisconsin, and more. Without filters, the veneer of anonymity provided by library computers encourages some patrons to access child pornography, in addition to adult pornography. Oftentimes reports of sexual assault, harassment, or lewd exhibitionism in libraries is tied to the offender watching adult pornography on the library computer in preparation of the illegal actions.

Lack of Filtering Leaves Children Vulnerable

Schools are not doing enough to protect children from being exposed to pornography on school grounds or school-assigned electronic devices. A young mother contacted us recently to share the following:

"...The teacher of my daughter's first-grade class was using a projector and his computer at the front of the classroom and did a search on Google Images for an image to show the class along with the lesson. To their horror, his seemingly innocent, academic search yielded many pornographic photos, which sadly the whole class saw. The school's filters did not block it out and the teacher didn't realize that it's often a dangerous exercise to use Google Images." – Molly H., Virginia

Educational Databases Mislead Parents About Online Safety

Robin is a mother from Colorado. She first contacted us a year ago because her daughter was in middle school and was exposed to pornographic content in electronic resources the school had given her for student work. She was distraught. How could an “age-appropriate” online school platform expose her daughter to sexually graphic content when she was just trying to do her homework?

Unfortunately, Robin’s experience was not an isolated incident. The educational database in question, EBSCO Information Services, is a division of the 3-billion-dollar corporation, EBSCO Industries, which sells multiple academic products to tens of thousands of schools nationwide, public and private.

In its advertising for schools, EBSCO promises “fast access to curriculum-appropriate content.” However, its Explora, Science Reference Center, Literary Reference Center, and other products specifically targeted to elementary, middle school, and high school programs, provide easy access to hardcore pornography sites and extremely graphic sexual content. Innocent searches provide pornographic results. Particularly concerning, the fact that graphic content, often filled with themes of violence, rape, and prostitution, is appearing within a school-sanctioned device gives a sense of “authority” to the content.

EBSCO has been in communication with NCOSE for several months in an effort to solve these problems, and has implemented some solutions like removing certain publications and fixing some publisher settings; however it’s not yet clean and other databases used by schools have similar content.

Inconsistent Policies and Training for Teachers Leaves Families Without Resources or Trust

One Spanish teacher in Wyoming thought she could improve her lesson on Cuban culture by playing a music video on YouTube for the 22 eight-year-olds in her class. Not only did the video she chose to show the class depict full-frontal female nudity for half of the video, but because she walked out of the classroom while it was playing she didn’t catch that the next video to autoplay on YouTube was a hardcore pornography video. The principal decided that it was not something that needed to be reported to parents, even when one set of parents insisted upon it. When several angry parents confronted the teacher, she claimed she had no idea that exposure to pornography and nudity was a common problem with using YouTube and that she thought it would be totally safe for classroom use.

School administrators, teachers, librarians are not receiving adequate training on simple media literacy; they are unsure of school policies regarding use of some tools in the classroom like YouTube, Google Images, or simple Internet searches.

The damage done by childhood exposure to sexually explicit material in school is compounded by unclear school policies. Most schools have no course of action if pornography is accessed other than threatening the child with losing the privilege of using Internet and devices; parents are not regularly notified; the issue is regularly pushed under the rug.

When the educational institutions are ill-equipped to deal with these concerns, parents and students are also left without resources. Parents are not being trained or notified of pornography’s potential risks and students are not trained well on media literacy and digital citizenship. Even if there is curriculum for these topics, it often does not include discussions of pornography or sexually explicit material.

The Safe Schools, Safe Libraries Campaign

NCOSE has a robust campaign already underway, and has brought in parents and other experts to help increase the momentum with a stronger, more robust strategy moving forward. Together, with the help of thousands of supporters and many experts, we will instigate a national shift to protect children from pornography in schools and libraries.

Equipping Parents Locally

NCOSE utilizes digital strategies and resources, such as the website SafeSchoolsSafeLibraries.org, to educate parents about the problems in our schools and libraries. Included are step-by-step tutorials and grassroots actions for concerned parents or citizens, whether in the form of social media, or instructions to change policies at their local schools or libraries.

Shaping State Policies

We must also spark important state policy reform across the nation. NCOSE is currently developing model state legislation and working with local policy organizations on the ground to galvanize states into passing solutions for better filtering and training in schools and libraries.

Shifting National Prioritization of Child Protection from Pornography

In addition to national advocacy campaigns against the likes of YouTube and EBSCO, NCOSE is also investigating the way the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is managed and pressuring the Federal Communications Commission and Department of Education to improve this matter. This federal law requires libraries and schools to install effective filters in order to receive certain levels of funding, yet the oversight and enforcement of these policies has seemed to fail over the past several years.

It is by far beyond an individual or a family's capacity to protect against these concerns alone. We must call on individuals, states, businesses, and the federal law to assist in decreasing the harms to our children and certainly to stop facilitating sexual exploitation.

As sexual violence, sex trafficking and prostitution, and child exploitation are at historic levels in the United States and around the world, we must begin to address the issues of curbing sexual exploitation at these young ages, not promote it and entice children into those lifestyles through our public schools and libraries.

[1] Frances E. Jensen with Amy Ellis Nutt, *The Teenage Brain: A Neuroscientist's Survival Guild to Raising Adolescents and Young Adults*, (New York: Harper Collins, 2015); Tamara L. Doremus-Fitzwater, Elena I. Varlinskaya, and Linda P. Spear, "Motivational Systems in Adolescence: Possible Implications for Age Differences in Substance Abuse and Other Risk-Taking Behaviors," *Brain and Cognition* 71, no. 1 (2010): 114–123.

[2] Your Brain on Porn, "Brain Studies on Porn Users," (2014) <http://yourbrainonporn.com/brain-scanstudies-porn-users> (accessed July 13, 2016).

[3] 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.

[4] Elizabeth Paolucci-Oddone, Mark Genuis, and Claudio Violato, "A Meta-Analysis of the Published Research on the Effects of Pornography," *The Changing Family and Child Development*, ed. Claudio Violato, Elizabeth Paolucci, and Mark Genuis (Aldershot, England: Ashgate Publishing, 2000), 48–59.



MAKING THE CASE: PORNOGRAPHY AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Lisa L. Thompson, Vice President of Research & Education

Pornography has created an unprecedented epidemic of sexual harm. Anyone owning a device with Internet connectivity can quickly be sucked into the bottomless abyss of hardcore pornography therein. The range of brutal, violent, debasing, fetishized, and paraphilic content it envelopes beggars description.

A popular pornography tube site reports that in 2016, people watched 4.6 billion hours of pornography on its site alone;^[i] 61% of visits occurred via smartphone.^[ii] Sixty percent of this website's visitors were millennials (those aged 19-35 in 2016).^[iii] Eleven pornography sites are among the world's top 300 most popular Internet sites.^[iv] The most popular such site, at number 18, outranks the likes of eBay, MSN, and Netflix.^[v] Children and young people are being exposed to this content, which by default is their "sex education." Quickly caught within its magnetizing force, adolescents and persons of all ages are developing debilitating compulsive sexual behaviors and experiencing unprecedented amounts of sexual dysfunction. Sexual templates are warped, promising relationships die, marriages crumble, lives are wrecked, and the zest for a full and productive life is drained away.

No matter one's vigilance and preparedness, it is increasingly difficult—if not impossible—to live a porn-free life. 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 these problems accountable. While educating individual parents to guide and protect their children is always part of any prevention plan, the problems posed by pornography today are well beyond what individuals and families can do to protect themselves.

This is why NCOSE is leading the charge in calling for a public health approach to combating the harms of pornography—an approach which harnesses the expertise of persons from a wide range of disciplines and institutions to address the problem. Public health approaches have proved effective with other major problems from smoking, to lead poisoning, and HIV/AIDS. We plan to replicate these successes.

Massive consumption of hardcore pornography is poisoning our society. Converging social science overwhelmingly suggests that pornography is correlated with a broad array of harms that are adversely impacting the public health of the nation. These include higher incidence of STIs,^[vi] acceptance of rape myths,^[vii] increased verbal and physical sexual aggression,^[viii] reduced impulse control and reckless decision making,^[ix] increased sexual dysfunction,^[x] greater acceptance of prostitution^[xi] and likelihood of purchasing sex,^[xii] and more.

Of special concern, because their dopamine receptors are more active and responsive to addictive stimuli^[xiii] adolescents who are exposed to pornography are more susceptible to forming compulsive sexual behaviors than adults. Additionally, Internet pornography consumption by adolescents is associated with risky sexual behaviors, such as engaging in one-night stands,^[xiv] having more sexual partners, engaging in anal or group sex, and using alcohol or drugs during sex, all of which can have profoundly adverse effects.^[xv] More information about the public health harms of pornography is available on our website at endsexualexploitation.org/publichealth.

Educating individuals, educators, medical professionals, policymakers, and elected leaders about the public health crisis of pornography, and galvanizing efforts to fight it, are critical to NCOSE's vision of creating a culture that rejects the toxic effects of pornography use as harmful to the welfare of society.

To this end, NCOSE holds briefings and press conferences on this issue, and routinely publishes blogs and

analysis on the dangers and negative impacts of pornography. NCOSE's briefing at the U.S. Capitol "Pornography: A Public Health Crisis" was jammed wall-to-wall with interested and concerned Hill staffers and lawmakers. NCOSE compiled the papers presented at this event into a publication that has been a catalyst motivating activists to champion this cause at the state and federal level. Our videos from this event are available on the Internet, thereby extending the longevity of the briefing indefinitely. Additionally, NCOSE has dedicated countless hours to the review of reams of peer-reviewed research to compile one of the most comprehensive research summaries on the harms of pornography available today.

NCOSE is also unique in its utilization of digital tools to shine light on the public health crisis. Through large social media followings, regular online webinars, and robust and organized websites, millions are reached each year. Furthermore, NCOSE is executing a calculated and deliberate outreach plan to influential media outlets, dramatically influencing the way pornography is discussed in the public discourse, working to shift the tone from mocking derision to addressing the scientific research and the harm endured by many Americans in a serious and thoughtful way.

In the coming years, NCOSE plans to publish analysis of and vigorously publicize key studies; create resources providing powerful rebuttals to the pseudoscience being widely promulgated by sex industry apologists; expand its existing research summary and database of journal articles; deepen its existing and form new relationships with key academics doing research in fields related to this issue; and create new resources making the science documenting the harms pornography understandable to the average person.

[i] Pornhub, "Pornhub's 2016 Year in Review," (2016).

[ii] Ibid.

[iii] Ibid.

[iv] Jonathan Marciano, "Top 300 Biggest Websites: Based on Both Mobile and Desktop Data for the First Time!" Similar Web (July 19, 2016), <https://www.similarweb.com/blog/new-website-ranking> (accessed July 24, 2016).

[v] Ibid.

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[viii] 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.

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[x] Aline Wéry and Joel Billieux, "Online Sexual Activities: An Exploratory Study of Problematic and Non-Problematic Usage Patterns in a Sample of Men," *Computers in Human Behavior* 56 (2016): 257–266; Brian Y. Park et al., "Is Internet Pornography Causing Sexual Dysfunctions? A Review with Clinical Reports," *Behavioral Sciences* 6, no. 17 (2016): 1–25; Verena Klein, Tanja Jurin, Peer Brikken, and Aleksandar Štulhofer, "Erectile Dysfunction, Boredom, and Hypersexuality among Couple Men from Two European Countries," *The Journal of Sexual Medicine* 12, no. 11 (2015): 2160–2167; Katherine S. Sutton et al., "Patient Characteristics by Type of Hypersexuality Referral: A Quantitative Chart Review of 115 Consecutive Male Cases," *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy* 41, no. 6 (2015): 563–580; Erick Janssen, *The Psychophysiology of Sex*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2007.

[xi] Thomas Johansson and Nils Hammarén, "Hegemonic Masculinity and Pornography: Young People's Attitudes Toward and Relations to Pornography," *Journal of Men's Studies* 15, no. 1 (2007): 57–70, doi: 10.3149/jms.1501.57.

[xii] Steven Stack, Ira Wasserman, and Roger Kern, "Adult Social Bonds and Use of Internet Pornography," *Social Science Quarterly* 85 (2004): 75–88; Martin A. Monto and Nick McRee, "A Comparison of the Male Customers of Female Street Prostitutes With National Samples of Men," *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology* 49, no. 5 (2005): 505–529; Martin A. Monto, "Summary Report for National Institute of Justice Grant #97-IJ-CX-0033 'Focusing on the Clients of Street Prostitutes: A Creative Approach to Reducing Violence Against Women'" (October 30, 1999); Carl Göran Svedin, Ingrid Kerman, and Gisela Priebe, "Frequent Users of Pornography: A Population Based Epidemiological Study of Swedish Male Adolescents," *Journal of Adolescence* 34, no. 4 (2011): 779–788. See also Rachel Durchslag and Samir Goswami, *Deconstructing the Demand for Prostitution: Preliminary Insights from Interviews with Chicago Men Who Purchase Sex*. (Chicago, IL: Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, 2008); Melissa Farley, Julie Bindel and Jacqueline M. Golding, *Men Who Buy Sex. Who They Buy and What They Know* (London, UK: Eaves, 2009); and Farley et al., "Comparing Sex Buyers with Men Who Don't Buy Sex: 'You Can Have a Good Time with the Servitude' vs. 'You're Supporting a System of Degradation.'" Paper presented at Psychologists for Social Responsibility Annual Meeting July 15, 2011, Boston, MA. San Francisco: Prostitution Research & Education (2011).

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[xv] Debra K. Braun-Courville and Mary Rojas, "Exposure to Sexually Explicit Web Sites and Adolescent Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors," *Journal of Adolescent Health* 45 (2009): 156–162; C. Marston and R. Lewis, "Anal Heterosex among Young People and Implications for Health Promotion: A Qualitative Study in the UK," *BJM Open* 4 (2016): 1–6, doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2014-004996; Emily R. Rothman, et al., "Multi-Person Sex among a Sample of Adolescent Female Urban Health Clinic Patients," *Journal of Urban Health: Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine* 89, no. 1 (2011): 129–137, doi: 10.1007/s11524-011-9630-1; E. Häggström-Nordin, U. Hanson, and T. Tydén, "Association between Pornography Consumption and Sexual Practices among Adolescents in Sweden," *International Journal of STD & AIDS* 16 (2005): 102–107; Johansson and Hammarén, *ibid.*

NCOSE IMPACTS POP CULTURE!

Game of Thrones had more than 50 graphic rape scenes in the first 60 episodes. After receiving a torrent of backlash from NCOSE, and others, the 7th season, with an average of 10.26 million viewers per episode, had 0 rapes and 0 graphic scenes of prostitution.

NCOSE PREVENTS NORMALIZATION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING!

Following outreach from NCOSE, Walt Disney Parks and Resorts removed the human trafficking scene in the Pirates of the Caribbean Ride where women were tied up, crying, and auctioned off to jeering men. Now approximately 27,600 people who enjoy this Disney World ride annually will no longer see a scene mocking human trafficking as a joke!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED



TO FIGHT SEXPLOITATION

Do you feel passionate about defending human dignity and taking a stand against sexual exploitation?

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) is here to help you find the activism projects that are a fit for you.

ACTIVATE YOURSELF: Before changing the world, you must educate yourself about the issues.

NCOSE produces educational materials to help you get started. Find lots of tools at our main website, EndSexualExploitation.org. Here are some highlighted resources we recommend:

EndSexualExploitation.org/PublicHealth
StopTraffickingDemand.com
EndSexualExploitation.org/Prostitution
EndSexualExploitation.org/Podcast



ACTIVATE YOUR FAMILY: You can bring recovery and prevention into your home.

NCOSE's Pornography Resource Center hosts lists of tools for those recovering from pornography addiction and their loved ones, technology solutions, and parents working to protect their children. EndSexualExploitation.org/Resources

Resources for Survivors of Sexual Exploitation or Abuse
EndSexualExploitation.org/SurvivorResources

10 Conversation Starters for Parents Talking to Kids About Pornography
EndSexualExploitation.org/10ConversationStarters

4 Conversations for Parents to Guard Against Child Sexual Abuse
EndSexualExploitation.org/articles/ChildSexualAbuse

ACTIVATE YOUR COUNTRY: Make a large cultural impact in the fight against sexual exploitation.

NCOSE gives you the chance to influence high-profile corporate and government officials:

- Take Online Action Like Emailing and Signing Petitions for the Dirty Dozen List | DirtyDozenList.com
- Take over 85 online Actions right from home Against Other Facilitators of Sexual Exploitation | EndExploitationAction.com
- Ask the Department of Justice to Enforce Obscenity Laws Against Illegal Pornographers | EnforceObscenityLaw.com
- Attend NCOSE's End Sexual Exploitation Global Summit | EndExploitationSummit.com

ACTIVATE YOUR COMMUNITY: Your local region needs your leadership to help defend dignity.

NCOSE provides grassroots activism ideas that you can use to jump-start your own campaigns. With over 20 active campaigns, here's a sample of a few to help get you started:



Take Action Against Mainstream Facilitators of Sexual Exploitation In Your Community at DirtyDozenList.com



Host an Event in Your Community and Invite NCOSE Representatives to Speak email public@ncose.com



Call on Hotels to Take a Stand Against Sexual Exploitation at EndSexualExploitation.org/NoVacancy



Join the NCOSE Prayer Team endsexualexploitation.org/prayer



Conduct a City Blitz Awareness Campaign Through Billboards, Concerts, etc. at EndSexualExploitation.org/CityBlitz



Become a NCOSE Intern in Washington, DC endsexualexploitation.org/positions



Protect Children in Your Community at SafeSchoolsSafeLibraries.com



Host a Fundraising Event to Contribute to the National Center on Sexual Exploitation public@ncose.com



Remove Hyper-Sexualized Magazines from Your Local Stores through CosmoHarmsMinors.com



Distribute Flyers and Educational Materials to Local Businesses and Churches through endsexualexploitation.org/handouts



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INVESTING IN A FUTURE FOR DIGNITY

NCOSE has been blessed to receive the generous support of many donors giving \$1,000 or more annually. Without this support we would not have the impact we have today. Our enemies, however, have millions of dollars from their illicit trades that allow them to continue to promote sexploitation in our country and around the world. If we hope to win, it will take the combined efforts of our most loyal donors to increase their support and consider special gifts in support of NCOSE's efforts.

Strengthen Our Foundation by Joining the Dignity Defense Alliance with a Recurring Donation

Each year, NCOSE receives hundreds of gifts from faithful donors from around the world who comprise the Dignity Defense Alliance—a group of individuals who commit to donate to NCOSE every month or every quarter. In order to achieve our goals, we are asking all donors to increase their current giving and to join our monthly giving club. By doing so, the Dignity Defense Alliance will increase your impact and help NCOSE strengthen our position as a defender of the flame of human dignity.

Leave a Legacy of Decency through Planned Gift Commitments

NCOSE has been fighting and winning battles against sexual exploitation for more than 55 years, and we do not plan to stop now. We are building on the legacy of those champions of human dignity who have come before us and established a strong foundation. More importantly, we are preserving this legacy for millions of citizens across the country who have been or who, in the future, will be impacted by forms of sexual exploitation and/or the public health crisis of pornography.

One of the most effective ways you can create a legacy in support of the victims of sexual exploitation is by including NCOSE as a beneficiary of your estate plans. Whether it be in your will, a charitable trust, or a charitable gift annuity, there are many ways you can increase your impact and legacy through a planned gift commitment.

Join NCOSE's Circle as a Major Giving Partner

LOADSTARS' CIRCLE: \$50,000

NCOSE's highest leadership level, Loadstars' Circle Members are our guiding lights as we seek to foster a culture of human flourishing and sexual wellbeing. Loadstars' Circle Members receive the following benefits for their generosity:

- Annual personal briefing and/or meeting with NCOSE Leadership;
- Impact reports to update them on how their gifts help promote a culture of dignity;
- Invitations to private NCOSE events around the country;
- Complimentary registrations for the CESE National Summit;
- Recognition at the CESE National Summit (optional);
- Invitations to private receptions at NCOSE events;
- Invitations to all NCOSE webcasts and conference calls.

WATCHTOWER CIRCLE: \$10,000

NCOSE's Watchtower Circle Members' generous support helps us defend the most vulnerable in society and is treasured by our leadership. In gratitude for this support Watchtower Circle Members receive the following benefits for their generosity:

- Impact reports to update them on how their gifts help promote a culture of dignity;
- Invitations to private NCOSE events around the country;
- Invitations to CESE Summit;
- Recognition at the CESE Summit (optional);
- Invitations to private receptions at NCOSE events;
- Invitations to all NCOSE webcasts and conference calls.

BEACON CIRCLE: \$5,000

NCOSE's Beacon Circle Members increase our ability to shine light on forces of sexual exploitation in our culture. Each year their influence grows. Beacon Circle Members receive the following benefits for their generosity:

- Invitations to CESE National Summit;
- Invitations to NCOSE events;
- Invitations to private receptions at NCOSE events;
- Invitations to all NCOSE webcasts and conference calls.

LAMP LIGHTERS' CIRCLE: \$1,000

NCOSE's Lamp Lighters' Circle Members are the grassroots army that forms the foundation of our efforts to strengthen the culture. Lamp Lighters' Circle Members receive the following benefits for their generosity:

- Invitations to CESE national summit;
- Invitations to NCOSE events;
- Invitations to all NCOSE webcasts and conference calls.





JOIN THE IGNITE THE LIGHT CAMPAIGN

At the National Center on Sexual Exploitation we work for a world where everyone is valued for their own unique individuality, not for how well they conform to a manufactured ideal of sexiness. We work for a world where children are not sexually abused or “trained” by exposure to sexually explicit media to sexually harm each other. We work for a world where human beings are not bought and sold for sex, whether on seedy street corners or via the modern convenience of the Internet. We work for a world where the pornified vision of reality—with its raw, brutal, debasing, hate-filled themes—becomes intolerable to all those who have concern for the well-being of humanity, respect for human dignity, and affirm human rights.

We work for a world free from sexual exploitation in all its forms.

We work for a world in which the light within each of us and our culture burns strong and bright.

Such a vision is beyond the ability of any one individual or NCOSE to realize without the help of many others. Those with this shared vision must join together to lay the foundations for sweeping societal renewal—to Ignite the Light within communities and culture.

NCOSE is rolling out a new three-year plan in early 2018. This is your invitation to join with us in driving back the murky darkness of sexual exploitation that has swept over our land. We will share this with you soon!

Clearly, the challenge before us is immense: how to transform a culture that has normalized, facilitated, profited from, and become apathetic to far-reaching sexual exploitation.

This difficult mission will require significant time, resources, courage, and commitment. But together we can Ignite the Light and preserve the flame of human dignity!



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