

*Sex  
Trafficking*

*Child  
Sexual  
Abuse*

*Prostitution*

*Pornography*

*Sexting*

*Violence  
Against  
Women*



NATIONAL CENTER ON  
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

## ***DEFENDING DIGNITY***

***2016 REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL CENTER  
ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION'S EFFORTS  
TO PROMOTE SEXUAL JUSTICE***

*Sexualization  
of Children*

*Objectification*

*Child Sexual  
Abuse Images  
(Child Pornography)*

*Sexual  
Addictions &  
Compulsivity*

*Sexual  
Assault &  
Violence*





# NATIONAL CENTER ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Established 1962

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December 2016

## RE: MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friend of NCOSE,

Do you long for a more innocent time—a time when sexually explicit imagery didn't confront you at the grocery store, and when hardcore pornography wasn't on offer at the hotel where you and your family go for vacation? Does your heart mourn for the children being exposed to unimaginably violent and degrading pornography on their smart phones and by their friends at school? Does your heart ache for the countless families that have been broken due to pornography addiction, and for the beautiful lives shattered in the production of it? If so, we have a lot in common.

I join with you in longing for a society that seeks to protect the innocent, shield the vulnerable, preserve the sacred, and safeguard the dignity in us all. Like you, I'm deeply saddened by all the pain and suffering caused by pornography and other forms of sexual exploitation like sexual assault, child sexual abuse, prostitution, and sex trafficking. But I also hold fast to the belief that we can transform our culture! It won't be easy, but we can restore our homes, communities, and country, to a time of public decency, mutual respect, and regard for the safety and wellbeing of others.

That's why I'm excited to share with you news of the many successes we at the National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) are achieving in our efforts to turn the tide on sexual exploitation. In the pages that follow, you'll see how from cleaning up grocery store checkout lanes and hotel on-demand movie offerings, to championing the national discourse on the public health harms of pornography, helping to achieve important victories in the American judicial system, and galvanizing the movement against sexual exploitation, NCOSE is proving that we can turn the tide.

Sexual toxicity, abuse, and exploitation become inevitable facts of life only when we give up. But, there's too much that's on the line, too much that's beautiful and radiant in life, to ever give up the fight.

So if you aspire to end sexual objectification and violence, read on! You'll be inspired to see what is possible when the shared vision of a world free from sexual exploitation brings people together.



Sincerely,

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

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### CHANGING POLICIES THAT EXPLOIT

Major 2016 Victories .....	5
Law Center .....	7
Ongoing Battles .....	8
Turning Point for the War on Illegal Pornography .....	10

### LEADING THE MOVEMENT

Testimonials: Why I Give to NCOSE .....	12
The Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation .....	14
Shifting the National Dialogue on Pornography .....	16

### EDUCATING THE PUBLIC

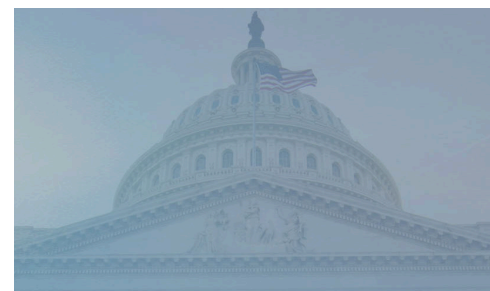
Influencing the Media .....	18
Sexual Justice Advocate Program .....	19
Equipping The Public with Tools & Resources .....	20

### EXPOSING THE CONNECTION

Pornography: A Bipartisan Public Health Crisis .....	24
Confronting Rape: The Overlooked Victims .....	26
Campus Sexual Assault: The Forgotten Factor .....	29

### HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Consider a Legacy Gift to NCOSE .....	30
Join The Movemet! .....	31



## NCOSE GETS RESULTS!

Since 2011, NCOSE instigated 71 corporate and governmental changes. In many instances policies that previously permitted promoting or profiting from sexual exploitation were reversed. 15 of these victories were in 2016!

## NCOSE EMPOWERS INDIVIDUALS

79,710 individuals took 140,997 actions against sexual exploitation in 2016

## CHANGING POLICIES THAT EXPLOIT

## MAJOR 2016 VICTORIES



### *The Hotel Industry Completely Transformed!*

As of December 31, 2016, two million hotel rooms *worldwide* will no longer offer on-demand hardcore pornography to guests. Based on recent occupancy rates for American hotels, this translates into approximately 1.3 million occupied rooms that are now porn-free every single day—or 480,000,000 porn-free, occupied rooms per year! This industry shift comes as a result of a series of NCOSE victories with major hotel chains like Hilton Worldwide, Hyatt Hotels, Starwood Hotels, and InterContinental Hotels Group.



### *The Food Industry Beginning to Change!*

NCOSE was happy to join forces with lead partner Enough is Enough and dozens of other groups to call on McDonald's and Starbucks to filter their WiFi in all US locations. Both mega-corporations responded to our concerns and agreed to implement a new policy in America, and to enable their locations worldwide to do so as well! McDonald's and Starbucks now join the ranks of other corporations such as Chick-fil-A and Panera Bread, which are all doing their part to address the public health crisis of pornography by proactively filtering out pornography on their WiFi.



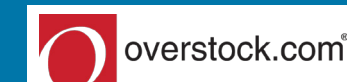
#### *Walmart Corporate Changes*

Walmart stopped selling eroticized child nudity books after we exposed their involvement. They then met with NCOSE to begin dialog about how to change other sales choices that profit from exploitation.



#### *Overstock.com Policy Victory*

With the threat of being put on NCOSE's Dirty Dozen List, Overstock cleaned their website of all hardcore pornography items & instituted policy prohibiting sales in the future.



#### *Jet Blue Progress*

Jet Blue insisted that pornography magazines for sale in their terminal at JFK Airport be removed and are looking into instituting this policy at other airports across the country. We will continue to levy this relationship for further progress!



### Resolutions Recognizing the Public Health Impacts of Pornography Adopted

Utah's legislature unanimously passed a resolution drafted by our Law Center recognizing the public health impacts of pornography. This same resolution is being considered in many other states, as well as in the Canadian and Israeli Parliaments, and the GOP officially adopted a party platform recognizing pornography as a public health crisis. NCOSE plays a vital role providing policy makers with draft resolutions, peer-reviewed research, and bolstered public support. These innovative tactics have been remarkably effective at getting influential leaders, opinion makers and the general public to recognize the harms and social costs of pornography.

### NCOSE Amicus Brief Influences Georgia Supreme Court

Our Law Center was asked to write a key legal brief for the Georgia Supreme Court in a case where a child predator was claiming he had a constitutional right to find children online and explicitly discuss sexual acts in an arousing and exploitive manner. This line of argument was accepted in another supreme court in a different state so we knew we had to be involved in the Georgia case. In the end, our legal brief helped to convince the Georgia Supreme Court to rule against the child predator. Obscene Internet contact with a minor is not "free speech"—it is child abuse!



Despite our many victories over the last few years, it became clear to us that we needed something more than a highly aggressive public policy or public relations campaign. We needed a Law Center. That became obvious when we saw ourselves missing critical opportunities for change simply because our movement did not have a hard-charging legal team. Other movements working on important social issues have such a team, they are in the courts, in the legislatures, and they rack up many good victories because of it.

The Law Center, organized officially in 2015, quickly found there is no shortage of opportunities to further this great cause. It was our Law Center that drafted the Resolution declaring pornography to be a "public health crisis," which passed the Utah legislature, and was signed by Governor Gary Herbert and which is now under consideration in a variety of other states, as well as by the parliaments of Canada and Israel.

It was also our Law Center that was asked to write a key legal brief for the Georgia Supreme Court in a case where a child predator was claiming he had a constitutional right to find children online and talk to them about sex in an arousing and exploitive manner. This line of argument was accepted in another supreme court in a different state so we knew we had to be involved in the Georgia case. In the end, our legal brief helped to convince the Georgia Supreme Court to rule against the child predator.

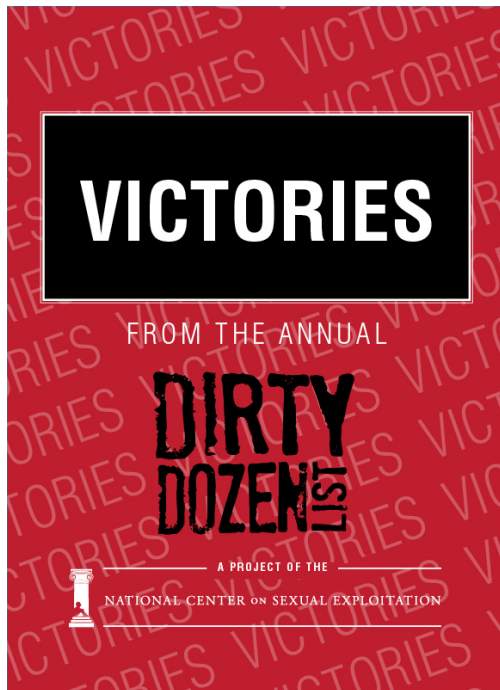
Our legal team just filed an Amicus Brief in a case in California where the state anti-prostitution law is being challenged in federal court. The groups challenging that law are arguing that all sexual activity, no matter what, is a protected right under our U. S. Constitution. I don't have to tell you where this would end up if they win. All laws against prostitution and of course pornography would be threatened and we would almost certainly see an increase in sex trafficking and child sexual abuse as a result.

Our legal team is also finishing a massive project to update an immensely helpful and highly demanded legal manual that teaches local and state officials how to ward off sexually oriented businesses with regulations, zoning, and more.

The NCOSE Law Center is one of a kind and is essential to the movement to defend dignity.



## OTHER RECENT VICTORIES



#### American Apparel

- American Apparel stopped using nudity and blatant sexual acts in its advertising for clothing and took extensive measures to remove these types of ads from its online and print catalogues.

#### Comcast

- Comcast improved usability and tightened the parental control settings for cable users.



- 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.

#### facebook

- Facebook has taken steps to improve efforts to block and report child pornography on its site.



- Fifty Shades of Grey film release was met with substantial opposition, including a viral social media campaign and hundreds of PR interviews to highlight how the series and film normalizes sexual violence.

#### Google

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

#### Google play

- GooglePlay instituted policies that prohibit pornographic apps in their app store after the first year on our list, though lax enforcement of this policy followed. After a second year on the list, GooglePlay removed all apps in violation.



- Hilton Hotels Worldwide publicly announced it would stop selling pornography and issued orders to implement this policy in all of its brand contracts around the world. It is expected to be in full-force by July 2016.



- Hyatt Hotels revised their brand standard to stop profiting from all in-room pornography film offerings and has demanded that all of their properties comply in 2016.



- InterContinental Hotel Group will perform an audit of their more than 4,800 properties around the world and is insisting that all hotels immediately cease selling porn films or face the risk of losing good standing as an IHG brand. IHG made this move without having to be publicly named to the Dirty Dozen List.



- Verizon removed the child-themed and slavery-themed movie titles they were offering through their FiOS TV.



- Walmart, RiteAid, Food Lion and other retailers moved to put the sexually explicit Cosmopolitan magazine behind blinders in their retail shops.



- YouTube launched the much safer YouTube Kids app, which gives kids a better protected space to watch age-appropriate videos without risk of being exposed to the violent and sexual content on the official YouTube site.



## ONGOING BATTLES

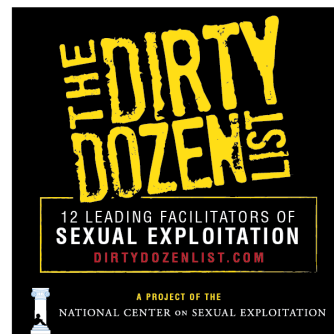
### *The Cable Industry is Our Next Target!*



In recent years, NCOSE has been immensely successful at getting entire industries to rethink their policies and to join the movement as partners fighting sexual exploitation, from commercial airlines to hotels to fast-food chains. And now we are setting our sights on the cable/satellite industry. We are raising the stakes in our battle with Verizon. Now is the time! We have built an activist army, secured the interest of key media outlets, and have developed tentative relationships with Verizon executives. All of this work is geared toward the goal of getting Verizon to stop offering on-demand pornography channels. Due to our proven track record, you can be sure we will use that momentum to push the other major cable industry leaders to follow suit.

### *The Annual Dirty Dozen List*

At NCOSE we work for a world where pornified culture becomes unacceptable to all people who care about human dignity and well-being. One way we do this is through the annual “Dirty Dozen List,” which names a range of mainstream institutions that contribute significantly to the normalization of sexual exploitation. The organizations, agencies, and businesses named to this list are among the nation’s worst. They facilitate and defend access to pornography, pander and profit directly from pornography, or push an agenda that normalizes pornography or other egregious forms of sexual exploitation.



We will continue naming and shaming until these mainstream contributors to the normalization of sexual exploitation no longer stand in alliance with pornographers, pimps, and sex buyers, and instead join the civilized world in working for a society free from sexual exploitation.

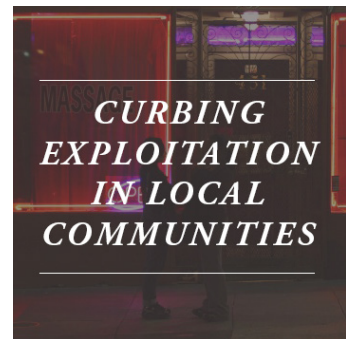
### *Shutting Down Prostitution and Trafficking Website, Backpage*



Backpage.com is a classified ads website that routinely profits from posting ads for child sex trafficking, adult sex trafficking, and adult prostitution. Our legal team is currently assisting a lawsuit against Backpage.com by three young women who were sex trafficked on the website. This is the only lawsuit against Backpage.com that has received the green light to go to trial. So it is vitally important, not only for the three individual women involved, but also for future cases seeking justice for survivors of sexual exploitation on Backpage.com. NCOSE is also educating the public and media about this business, as well as working with dozens of other groups and leaders in Congress to employ various strategies to close down this website and others like it.

### *Developing a Plan to Assist Local Leaders in Closing Illicit Massage Parlors*

Most cities are riddled with illicit massage parlors that offer prostitution services, often by trafficked women, and few efforts have been started to address this growing problem. Our Law Center is working to improve county ordinances and to develop local coalitions of county officials, business & church leaders, and outraged citizens, to help close these down. The goal is to replicate our efforts across the country!

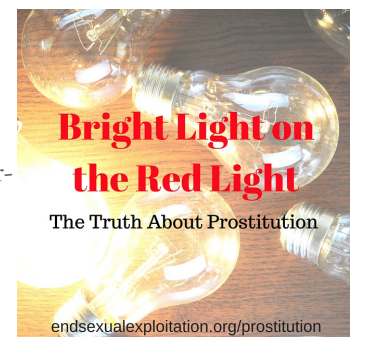


### *Addressing the Exploitation of Boys and Men*

Too often, the sexual exploitation of males is ignored. Whether the issue is sex trafficking, sexual objectification, exploitation in the pornography industry, sexual assault or abuse, we know that boys and men can be victims too. This year we made a conscious pivot in our platform to ensure these individuals are represented in our work. We hosted an expert consultation with male survivors, academics, and advocacy leaders to learn how to better address this population and we continue to look for opportunities to publicly comment or take action against policies facilitating the exploitation of men.

### *Bright Light on the Red Light: Revealing the Harms of Prostitution*

This year we began the new Bright Light on the Red Light campaign in an effort to increase public education and policy activism surrounding the issue of prostitution. We recognize prostitution as an inherently exploitive, harmful practice. Studies characterize the violence that animates prostitution as brutal, extreme, common, stunning, normative, and ever-present. This project is vital given recent pressure from Amnesty International, and other organizations, to label prostitution as “sex work.” We’re here to say: “Sexploitation is nobody’s job.”



### *Safe Schools, Safe Libraries*



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 and adults are bypassing to gain access to pornography. Many cases have been reported of adults using library computers to access and download child sexual abuse images (i.e. child pornography.) This is a national outrage. Our Safe Schools, Safe Libraries Project empowers parents throughout the country with the tools needed to change policies at their local schools and public libraries. We have also prepared model state legislation that mandates effective filtering in schools and libraries, as well as model library policies to keep pornography off computers.

## TURNING POINT FOR THE WAR ON ILLEGAL PORNOGRAPHY



### DID YOU KNOW?

*Federal obscenity (hardcore pornography) laws, which have not been enforced for the past eight years, 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. Learn more at our website [WarOnIllegalPornography.com](http://WarOnIllegalPornography.com)*

While we understand how the Trump victory has caused many to have unsettling feelings about the coming administration, we must look for every opportunity to advance our cause. On that score, we see almost limitless possibilities and because of this we developed a plan of action for the immediate future and for the next four years.

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 by enforcing constitutionally upheld federal obscenity (hardcore pornography) laws.

In the 1980s, great gains were made as the United States Department of Justice began to prosecute violations of federal obscenity laws. NCOSE's current president and CEO, Patrick Trueman, served as

chief of the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section at USDOJ and witnessed firsthand how pornographers in many parts of the country responded to the threat of prosecution by self-regulating and pulling potentially illegal material off their shelves. Unfortunately, in the past twenty years we've seen pornography and its effects reach a pandemic level, only a handful of prosecutions of pornographers have occurred. The previous eight years saw zero prosecutions of adult pornography and the official disbanding of the taskforce appointed to do these cases. Thus, illegal, obscene pornography is flooding our nation and the harm is great, including addiction, exploitation, family disintegration, violence against women and children, increased demand for trafficked individuals, and more. Many are stating that we have a public health crisis because of the consequences of pornography.

In an effort to get these prosecutions restarted, NCOSE has implemented a deliberate and calculated plan over the past seven years, bringing together corporate and government leaders, uniting the movement, and influencing the media. No other entity is better poised to help facilitate these key discussions than the National Center on Sexual Exploitation. We have the facts, the expertise, the connections, the strategy, and the gravitas. We understand the seamless connections between all forms of sexual exploitation and can powerfully communicate those connections to those in positions of influence. We can equip those who share our perspectives and educate those who have yet to consider our concerns.

NCOSE is working diligently at present to influence the nomination process of key positions in the next administration that could be influential in helping us to curb exploitation and specifically get obscenity prosecutions started again. Additionally, we will have an extensive outreach effort to select appointees after the new administration takes office. There is reason for optimism. For example, the man who will be the next U.S. Attorney General, Sen. Jeff Sessions, was an ardent supporter of obscenity prosecutions when he was U.S. Attorney from Alabama. Likewise, Betsy DeVos who will be the next Secretary of Education is likely to be very approachable regarding the necessity of addressing the issue of pornography being distributed and accessed in schools.

Our multifaceted plan, which we are already focused on implementing, brings with it not only the possibility of reinitiating obscenity prosecutions, but also includes efforts such as: developing comprehensive efforts to combat the demand for commercial sex; amending the Communications Decency Act of 1996 to allow states to prosecute those who use the Internet to facilitate sex trafficking; defeating the agenda to fully decriminalize prostitution; launching a major campaign on the public health crisis of pornography; and much, much more.

## NCOSE CREATES A MOVEMENT!

547,821 individuals have joined NCOSE in defending dignity. Additionally, 13 million people heard NCOSE's call for sexual justice—freedom from sexual exploitation, objectification, and violence.

## NCOSE HELPS FRAME PUBLIC OPINION!

In 2005-2006 there were approximately 200,000 articles written that mentioned the public health impacts of pornography. In 2015-2016 there were over 4,710,000 articles on this topic. That's a 1,870% 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:

*"I've been following NCOSE since the 1990's when it was MIM. NCOSE's resources help individuals and organizations who are working diligently to protect their families and their communities from the harms of pornography. NCOSE has a dedicated team that has a history of great accomplishments. I forward information about NCOSE's campaigns to a wide circle of activists. The ripples span outward - and the army of citizens (who are equipped to battle the porn industry) grows. Thank you, NCOSE for defending dignity."*

- ANN REDDING, PRESIDENT / CHRISTIAN ACTION LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA

*"I give [to NCOSE] because porn has ruined a lot of my life. I've been tapped in it for years. I wish it did not exist."*

- ANONYMOUS

*"NCOSE does it, that's the bottom line. Patrick, Dawn, and the team are changing culture. Nobody has achieved so many significant successes - they truly are THE center of the anti-sexual exploitation movement."*

- RON DEHAAS, FOUNDER & CEO, COVENANT EYES AND NCOSE BOARD MEMBER



*"[Many people] are outraged and disgusted by the pornography industry in all its shapes and forms, but that's about where it ends. A movement such as yours gives those of us who wring our hands and cry, '...but what can I do? I'm only one person...' a venue to make a real difference against such despicable evils...Strength in numbers!"*

- RON & VIVIAN NORD



*"I wanted to tell you how comforting and encouraging it is to know that you and those with you are standing up for this cause. In a world so saturated in sexuality, it is near impossible not to feel isolated and alone just in speaking about these issues socially. I write this with tears in my eyes (streaming down my face to be really honest), all the way from Australia, to say thank you for being a light on a hill, shining out for all to see. Thank you for giving us hope that we are not alone. Thank you for making a difference and for shouting out for all to hear that we can make a difference. If I could put my arms around you and hug you I would."*

-SARAH

*"I give [to NCOSE] because my marriage has been hurt by porn in the past, and to fight for the future..."*

-JESSICA SZCZERBA



*"I am happy to financially support the National Center on Sexual Exploitation because they are getting results! They give much needed push back and hold accountable organizations who sponsor and promote sexual exploitation. And the work they do in bringing together leaders and activists at their annual summit is priceless in building a movement with momentum."*

- KRISTEN JENSON, FOUNDER OF PROTECT YOUNG MINDS AND AUTHOR OF GOOD PICTURES BAD PICTURES

*"[I] read [NCOSE's] emails & links & watch the videos & think about what I've seen & read & heard because we're all equal, we all deserve to be loved & treated respectfully, and, the main reason I got involved, is because I struggle with the results/products of sexual exploitation greatly, & if someone offers me a way to fight it like you & your organization have, I'm willing to fight it. Fighting it alongside you & your organization, & with the help of God, is so much better than trying & failing on my own. Thank you, & God Bless."*

-TAYLER HOLLER

*"I support NCOSE because of the amazing, persistent, dedicated staff who are relentless in efforts to stop pornography, expose its harmful effects on everyone involved and how this ties into sex trafficking. Keep up the good work!!"*

- LISA FAZEKAS

*"I'm a father of four, an elder in our church, and a public school sixth grade teacher, and in all three of these settings, I have clearly seen the detrimental, long-lasting impact of kids' (and adults') exposure to harmful material. Thank you for giving us an effective means to combat this modern-era scourge, and for inspiring us to do so!"*

-TODD A'HARRAH

*"We are a small non-profit in Wisconsin, and we rely on the National Center on Sexual Exploitation for resources all the time. We don't have the ability to gather the high quality research and talking points, so it's so helpful to know we can trust what NCOSE puts out there when we do local educational events."*

- SUSAN

*"I give [to NCOSE] because I have seen firsthand the impact pornography has had on the people I love. I give because I have personally been trying to make a difference in my community regarding the harms of pornography for several years now. I have realized that one voice is not nearly as powerful as many voices united together...Thank you so much for creating the strong national voice that I was trying to create individually. I am proud of what the National Center has accomplished. Thank you for your vision, leadership and courage!"*

-LIZ STOCKIN



*"I used your site to show a relative the dangers of pornography. Until then he thought it was 'harmless entertainment'. After some thought he now knows better... Thank you."*

- FRAN

*"Now I know that I'm not the only one who cares"*

- AZARAH



# THE COALITION TO END SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

The Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation (CESE) represents the broad movement to fight pornography and all forms of sexual exploitation. This grand coalition all started six years ago, when Patrick Trueman and I joined this organization. Until Pat and I began to create the coalition, the few organizations fighting these ills were isolated and worked only within narrow fields. Many said the battle against pornography was a lost cause. We felt like we were fighting alone. We knew we needed a new, dynamic change to take place in order to salvage this battle.

Hence we set about to create a movement against sexual exploitation by developing a broad-based coalition, one in which people of all faiths or no faith, people of any political party or no party, could join and feel at home. We regularly work to unite these diverse leaders through both our CESE Summit and our Issue Consultations.

At last year's CESE Summit in Houston, TX, we brought together speaker Dr. Gail Dines—a Marxist Jew—and speaker Matt Fradd—a conservative Catholic. Both worked together for a shared cause: human dignity. There were perhaps nearly as many Clinton supporters as Trump supporters in attendance, but from the unity and cooperation displayed at the Summit, one wouldn't even know! Each attendee put aside politics, religion, and other differences to work together and that is why we have such hope for this movement—and that is what we are, a movement!

Now the coalition has grown to hundreds of groups and we are just getting started.

Our Issue Consultations bring advocates and specialized experts together in order to form cohesive strategies for combating various forms of sexual exploitation. Our members are addressing issues such as child sex abuse, sex trafficking, marriage dysfunction, addiction recovery, and more. All of these groups recognize the pernicious effects of pornography in their respective causes. In the past year we have held issue consultations & strategy meetings on the victimization of boys, the public health crisis of pornography, sexual violence, and prevention efforts to protect children and families. These meetings solidify partnerships and spur collaborative projects that help promote sexual justice—which is freedom from sexual exploitation, objectification, and violence.

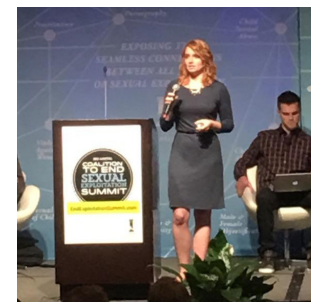
Acting together as a coalition we have been able to affect positive change and you can be certain that even more success lies before us. We are no longer fighting alone! We've raised the army, and it's more comprehensive and powerful than ever before.

We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to join us at the next CESE Summit in early 2018 in Washington, DC!



With Gratitude,

Dawn Hawkins  
Senior Vice President & Executive Director, NCOSE  
Director, CESE







## SHIFTING THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON PORNOGRAPHY

For years, the public debate about the harms of pornography was limited to a small minority of values-driven advocates that were routinely ostracized from the mainstream media.

Then a dynamic new argument hit center stage: the public health crisis of pornography.

Suddenly, the values-driven advocates were joined by academic researchers, neurosurgeons, secular organizations, and more. Suddenly, our cause had both inherent human dignity and science on its side, and that was a message that couldn't be ignored.

In 2005-2006 there were approximately 200,000 articles written that mentioned the potential harms of pornography to public health. The numbers have since skyrocketed.

In 2015-2016 there were over 4,710,000 articles on this topic.

That's a 1,870% increase in 10 years.

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation was at the tip of the spear for this transformative shift in national discourse.

In 2014, together with Culture Reframed and National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, NCOSE brought together key experts to start to build a case for the public health crisis from pornography. NCOSE's first CESE Summit rolled out this messaging to the movement and a highly successful press conference helped the message go viral. Since then, NCOSE has regularly held public events and major media campaigns around this theme. Our Symposium on Capitol Hill to inform members of Congress and their staff about the many neurological, physical, psychological, and social harms of pornography was standing room only. NCOSE's Law Center drafted the Utah state resolution that declared pornography a public health crisis—the first of its kind—which then set the stage for the Republican National Committee to include similar language in its party platform.



### *NCOSE SHAPES CULTURE!*

With 65 press statements, 60 TV and radio interviews and 5,845 press hits has shaped public opinion through influencing the media, mentioning NCOSE's aggressive projects and arguments.

### *NCOSE EDUCATES THE PUBLIC!*

In 2016, NCOSE published 11 new resources, spoke in 22 states and three countries, and gathered 427,112 ambassadors to spread the message on social media.

## *EDUCATING THE PUBLIC*



## INFLUENCING THE MEDIA

“I’m not the only one who cares.”

This is what one of our supporters said they realized after seeing NCOSE in the news, addressing the harms of pornography.

Pornography and sexual exploitation are damaging countless lives every day, and yet so many people feel alone in their trials. NCOSE conducts aggressive press outreach in order to spread the message: you are not alone.

By influencing the way the media covers these issues, we are helping to re-shape culture, and we are giving a voice to those who previously felt their value of human dignity was unrepresented in the news.

The media impacts not only general awareness and education on issues of sexual exploitation, but it also influences key decision makers in corporations and governmental offices. In the past, NCOSE has used press conferences and press releases in order to pressure businesses like American Apparel or Hilton Worldwide to stop distributing explicit material. Outreach to the media, therefore, is a vital part of what NCOSE does because it both educates the public and serves as a tool of activism to create policy changes.



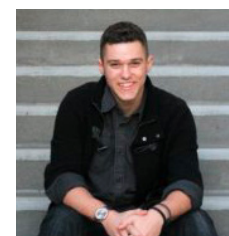
## SEXUAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE PROGRAM

Internships at NCOSE provide energetic and highly motivated college students the opportunity to become active agents in creating a world free from sexual exploitation. Since launching a new intensive internship program—the Sexual Justice Advocates (SJA)—in the spring semester of 2016, NCOSE has hosted nine students from a wide-range of institutions including Auburn, Brigham Young, Catholic, Vanderbilt, and the University of Alabama.

Interns are quickly assigned a range of projects that address the full spectrum of sexual exploitation (i.e. pornography, prostitution, stripping, sexual trafficking, child sexual abuse, sexual assault and rape), while emphasizing pornography’s central role in fueling other forms of sexual abuse.

Importantly the work at NCOSE helps interns gain new professional skills and subject matter expertise through hands-on opportunities. Interns are active participants in staff meetings, develop presentations, conduct research, write blogs, and much more. SJA Interns also enjoy abundant opportunities to meet nationally recognized leaders in the field of anti-sexual exploitation and attend educational and cultural events in Washington, DC.

Summer intern Emily Sopp told us, “I loved working at NCOSE this summer. While the fight against sexual exploitation is sometimes difficult, the work is rewarding. I got to see so many victories and company policies change to fight sexual exploitation as an effect of NCOSE’s work. I was able to get really good first-hand experience writing and working with media.”



Thaddeus Tague, also a summer intern had this to say: “An Internship with NCOSE gave me the first opportunity to apply my skill set to an area of work that I was passionate about. I could see the results of the work I was doing, and it all was for an amazing cause.” After his internship officially ended, Thaddeus decided to continue on as a NCOSE volunteer!

Please recommend NCOSE’s Sexual Justice Advocate Internship Program to those looking for a meaningful internship experience and who are passionate about fighting for sexual justice. To apply, please visit [endsexualexploitation.org/positions](http://endsexualexploitation.org/positions)



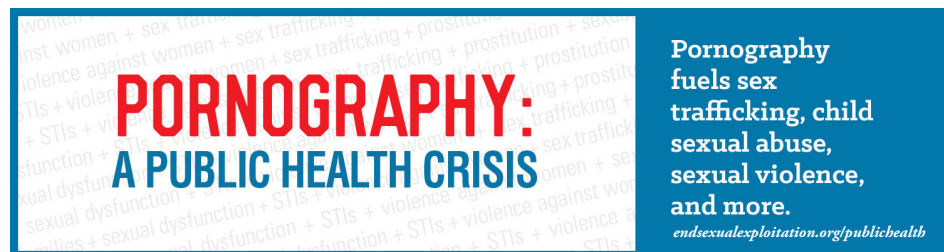
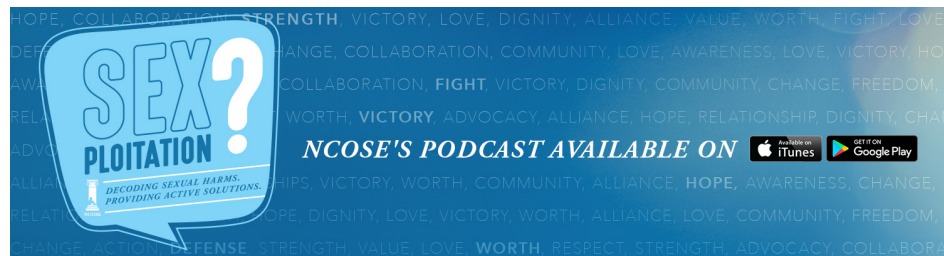
NCOSE SJA Interns Winter 2016”



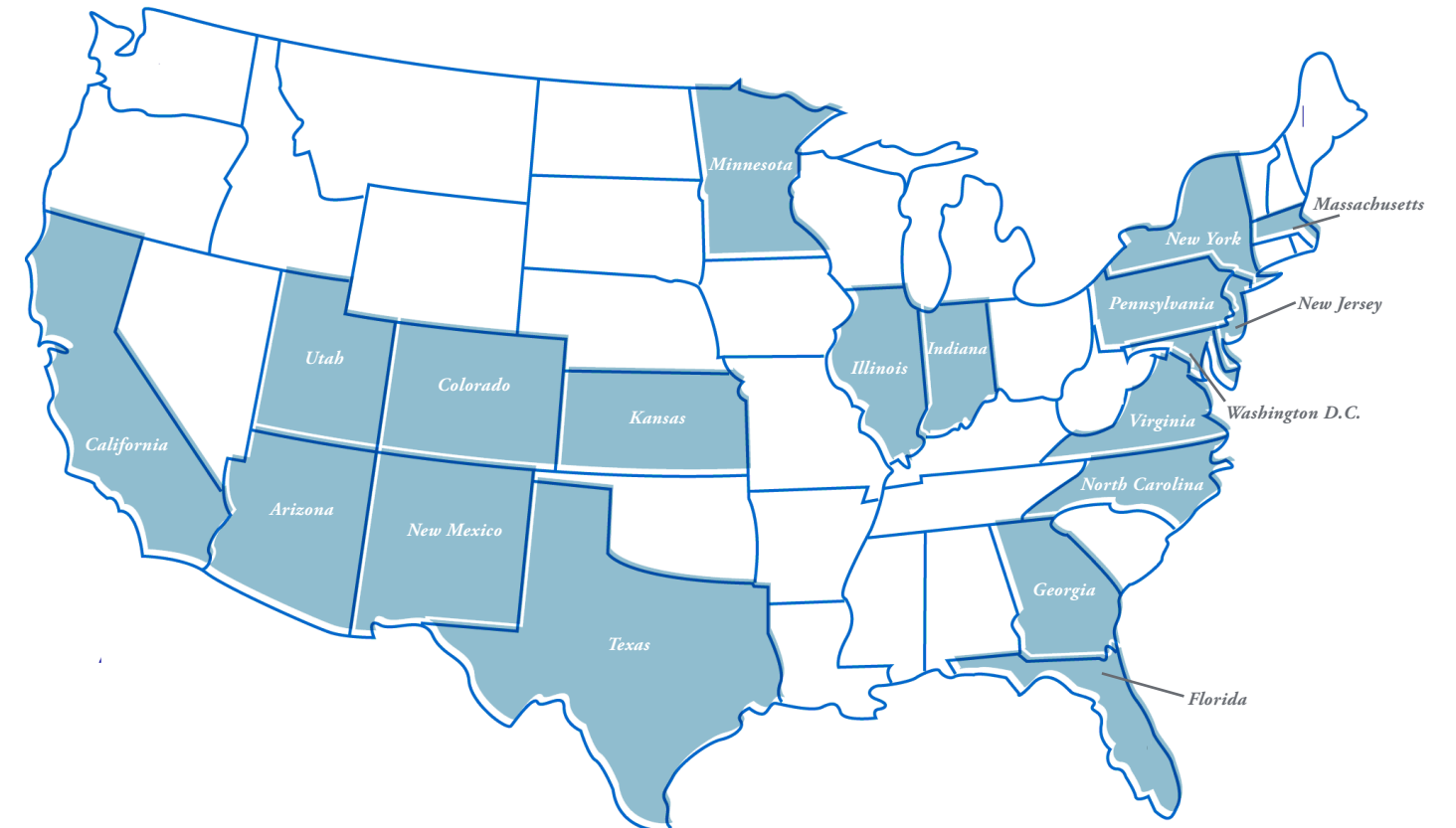
## EQUIPPING THE PUBLIC WITH TOOLS & RESOURCES

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation educates and empowers the public by addressing the links between all forms of sexual exploitation, and exposing the public health crisis of pornography. NCOSE gathers the latest peer-reviewed research, along with anecdotal evidence, in order to shed light on the pandemic of sexual harm. NCOSE also gathers a database of resources to aid those struggling with pornography addiction, their partners, and their families. Through media and grassroots efforts, NCOSE raises awareness and gives a voice to those who are seeking the abolition of sexual exploitation in their home, their community, and their country.

Some of the tools developed and enhanced in 2016 to help fight exploitation include:



IN 2016, NCOSE SPOKE OR EXHIBITED IN 22 STATES, AS WELL AS TRINIDAD & TOBAGO AND CANADA, AND OUR TEAM TOOK OVER 60 TRIPS!



NCOSE MAINTAINS THE END EXPLOITATION ACTION CENTER WHERE INDIVIDUALS CAN SEND LETTERS, SIGN PETITIONS, MAKE CALLS, AND MORE.



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

Evidence supports the fact that child sexual abuse, prostitution, pornography, sex trafficking, sexual violence, and more, are not isolated phenomena occurring in a vacuum, but that these and other forms of sexual abuse and exploitation overlap and reinforce one another. For example, 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 also know that pornography is often made of sex trafficked women and children<sup>1</sup>, and that females who consume pornography are at greater risk of being a victim of sexual harassment or sexual assault.<sup>2</sup>

Facts like these are important to the movement to end sexual exploitation. They provide insights that can help activists and social service providers from a wide array of disciplines (e.g. child sexual abuse, domestic violence, anti-sex trafficking, etc.) develop better strategies for prevention of sexual exploitation and enhance their services to survivors. This is why a large part of NCOSE's work is focused on exposing the connections between all forms of sexual exploitation.

In the articles that follow, we take a closer look at some of these connections and hope that this material is helpful to you in your personal efforts to combat sexual exploitation.



*Left: NCOSE VP of Education and Outreach Lisa Thompson lecturing at law enforcement training hosted by NCOSE in Washington, DC. Top Right: NCOSE Sr. VP and Executive Director Dawn Hawkins speaking about ways to curb demand for sex trafficking. Bottom Right: NCOSE President & CEO Patrick A. Trueman at opening of national CESE Summit.*

<sup>1</sup> Melissa Farley, Ann Cotton, et al. (2003). Prostitution and trafficking in nine countries: An update on violence and posttraumatic stress disorder. In M. Farley (Ed.) Prostitution, Trafficking and Traumatic Stress. (pp. 33-74). Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Maltreatment & Trauma Press.  
<sup>2</sup> Silvia Bonino, Silvia Ciairano, Emanuela Rabagliette, and Elena Cattelino, "Use of Pornography and Self-Reported Engagement in Sexual Violence among Adolescents," *European Journal of Developmental Psychology* 3, no. 3 (2006):265-288; Leslie Gordon Simons, Ronald L. Simmons, Man-Kit Lei, and Tara E. Sutton, "Exposure to Harsh Parenting and Pornography as Explanations for Males' Sexual Coercion and Females' Sexual Victimization." *Violence and Victims* 27, no. 3 (2012): 378-395.

## WHY BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE CAN AGREE THAT PORNOGRAPHY IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

By Dawn Hawkins, condensed from original article authored for *The Huffington Post*

What does it take for something to be considered a public health crisis?

This question hit the national stage when UT passed a formal resolution recognize it as such and the Republican National Committee declared pornography a public health crisis in its platform.

Opponents of the RNC platform have been quick to smear the amendment as a “moral panic” and have argued that guns should be labeled a public health crisis rather than pornography.

Both of these claims ignore the reams of peer-reviewed research documenting the harms of pornography—harms which devastate individuals and families irrespective of their party affiliations.

Since 2011, there have been 24 major studies that have revealed porn has negative and detrimental impacts on the brain.

A 2014 study found that increased pornography use is linked to decreased brain matter in the areas of the brain associated with motivation and decision-making, and contributed to impaired impulse control and desensitization to sexual reward. A Cambridge study found that compulsive pornography use is characterized by novelty-seeking, conditioning, and habituation to sexual stimuli in males; such effects propel users to seek more extreme content over time in order achieve the same level of arousal.

Research also demonstrates that pornography use is linked to increased verbal and physical aggression against women, and the incidence and severity of rape perpetrated by batterers.

In fact, pornography use is connected to an increased acceptance of rape myths, risky sexual behaviors among adolescents, behaviors associated with higher incidence of STIs, and increased sexual dysfunction.

All of this research shows that pornography objectively has many physical, psychological, and social harms.

None of it mentions morality.

When it comes to pornography, we see a different kind of carnage than we see with guns. While pornography doesn't leave bullet riddled corpses, it nonetheless leaves a path of destruction in its wake that must be addressed. With deeply rooted ties to sexual violence, sexually transmitted diseases, and destructive compulsive use patterns, pornography is laying waste to countless lives.

Because pornography is so pervasive today, it has surpassed the ability of individuals and families to protect themselves from its harmful influences. This situation requires a public health approach to raise awareness about the harms of pornography, provide resources to those struggling with it, and to offer effective prevention strategies.

It is vital for our nation to have an open dialogue about pornography's destructive nature.

The public health crisis of pornography is a bipartisan issue.

The 2016 draft of the Democratic National Committee's party platform already includes language denouncing violence against women and sexual assault. What is pornography but a recording of these very actions?

A study analyzing scenes from popular pornography films revealed that 88% of the scenes depict acts of physical aggression against women. Eighty-seven percent of aggressive acts were perpetrated against women, and 95% of their responses were either neutral or expressions of pleasure. It is time for Americans, no matter their political affiliation, to take a stand for women's equality and for human dignity. There can be no true equality in America when violence against women is considered sexy.

Further, the DNC is calling for a greater emphasis on sexual violence prevention efforts.

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.

Therefore, prevention programs on sexual violence must involve a discussion of the harms of pornography in order to be holistic and effective.

While the RNC and DNC use different language on matters of sexual exploitation (e.g. “protecting children” versus “ending sexual violence against women”) I think it is clear that we are all striving for an America that defends the sexual safety and health of its citizens.

Learn more at [EndSexualExploitation.org/publichealth](http://EndSexualExploitation.org/publichealth)



*National Symposium on public health impacts of pornography hosted by NCOSE at US Capitol in July 2015.*

## CONFRONTING RAPE: THE OVERLOOKED VICTIMS PROSTITUTED AND SEXUALLY TRAFFICKED PERSONS ARE RAPE VICTIMS TOO

By Lisa L. Thompson, VP Education & Outreach, NCOSE

Studies characterize the violence that animates prostitution as brutal<sup>1</sup>, startling<sup>2</sup>, normative<sup>3</sup>, and ever-present.<sup>4</sup> Indeed, physical and sexual violence across prostitution types is pervasive—whether one is prostituting in Miami or Chicago, indoors or outdoors, for drugs or to pay the rent, on a street corner, in a car, back alley, brothel, massage parlor, or strip club—both the threat of, as well as actual violence, permeate everyday existence in “the zone” of commercial sexual exploitation.<sup>5</sup>

Rape is the defining experience of prostitution: the fear of it, the daily hypervigilance required to prevent it, the crushing physical and psychological trauma experienced by victims when it inevitably occurs. For instance, in their seminal study of prostitution across nine countries, Farley et al. found that 75% of prostituting persons in the U.S. reported being raped, and of those, 59% were raped more than five times.<sup>6</sup> Prostitution survivor Rachel Moran has explained that:

Prostitution and rape are commonly distinguished by the logical fact that to buy something and to steal something are two different things; but when we consider that the sex bought in prostitution is the same type of sex stolen in rape, sex that is, as Kathleen Barry puts it: ‘. . . disembodied, enacted on the bodies of women who, for the men, do not exist as human beings, and the men are always in control’—it is then that we understand how deeply traumatizing it is for the woman whose body is so used. When we understand that the sex paid for in prostitution shares so many of its characteristics with the sex stolen in rape, it makes sense that so many prostituted women make clear parallels between the two experiences.<sup>7</sup>

Thus, it’s not surprising that survivors have described their experiences of prostitution as “paid rape,” “pay-as-you-go rape,” and “being raped for a living.”<sup>8</sup>

The vast majority of physical and sexual violence inflicted on those in the sex trade is perpetrated either by sex buyers or intimate partners who also frequently double as pimps (i.e. sex traffickers).<sup>9</sup> It’s important to recognize that the specific activities of pimps “include recruitment, harboring, transporting, provisioning and obtaining persons [specific elements of sex trafficking] for purposes of exploiting them by pandering them for commercial sex acts. Thus, the terms pimp and sex trafficker are synonymous.”<sup>10</sup> Consequently, any pimp-controlled (i.e. prostituted) individual is a sexually trafficked person.

For pimp-controlled/sexually trafficked persons, whether or not the commercial sex buyer is aware that the individual they have purchased is trafficked does not mitigate the victim’s experience of their sexual encounter as one of rape. As individuals compelled to sell themselves, the individuals providing sex are not “consenting,”

1 Celia Williamson and Gail Filaron, “Violence, Risk, and Survival Strategies of Street Prostitution,” *Western Journal of Nursing Research* 23, no. 5 (2001): 463-475; Jody Miller and Martin Schwartz, “Rape Myths and Violence against Street Prostitutes,” *Deviant Behavior: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 16 (1995): 1-23.

2 Kendra Nixon, Leslie Tutty, Pamela Downe, Kelly Gorkoff, and Jane Ursel, “The Everyday Occurrence: Violence in the Lives of Girls Exploited through Prostitution,” *Violence against Women* 8, no. 9 (September 2002): 1016-1043.

3 Melissa Farley, “Prostitution, Trafficking, and Cultural Amnesia: What We Must Not Know in Order to Keep the Business of Sexual Exploitation Running Smoothly,” *Yale Journal of Law and Feminism*, 18 (2006): 109-144.

4 Geetha Suresh, L. Allen Furr, and Aylur Kailasom Srikrishnan, “An Assessment of the Mental Health of Street-based Sex Workers in Chennai, India,” *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice* 25, no. 2 (2009): 186-201; Jody Miller and Martin Schwartz, “Rape Myths and Violence against Street Prostitutes,” *Deviant Behavior: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 16 (1995): 1-23.

5 National Center on Sexual Exploitation, “Prostitution: ‘The Zone’ of Raw Male Physical and Sexual Violence,” (2015), [http://endsexualexploitation.org/wp-content/uploads/NCOSE\\_ViolenceInProstitutionBooklet\\_ru3.pdf](http://endsexualexploitation.org/wp-content/uploads/NCOSE_ViolenceInProstitutionBooklet_ru3.pdf) (accessed January 19, 2016).

6 Melissa Farley et al., “Prostitution and Trafficking in Nine Countries: An Update on Violence and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder,” in *Prostitution, Trafficking and Traumatic Stress*, ed. Melissa Farley (Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Maltreatment & Trauma Press, 2003), 33-74.

7 Rachel Moran, *Paid for: My Journey through Prostitution* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2013), p. 112-113.

8 Moran, *ibid.*, p. 113.

9 National Center on Sexual Exploitation, *ibid.*

10 Lisa L. Thompson, “On a Street Corner by You: Pimps as Practitioners of Torture,” in *Global Perspectives on Prostitution and Sex Trafficking: Europe, Latin American, North America, and Global*, ed. Rochelle L. Dalla, Lynda M. Baker, John DeFrain, and Celia Williamson (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2012), 291-314.

thus the sex acts in which they are involved are inherently sexual assault and rape.

As psychologist Wendy Freed has observed, “When an individual has been beaten into submission, and has become passive and accepting of what is done to her because she is a captive, then any sexual encounter she has is rape. Even if she has worked hard to attract the customer, because she has no right to refuse consent, she is being raped.”<sup>11</sup>

Regardless of its legal status (legal, illegal, or decriminalized), prostitution is extremely dangerous for women. For instance, some prostituted women are unrecognized victims of intimate partner violence by pimps who masquerade as boyfriends. Moreover, both pimps and sex buyers use methods of coercion and control like those of batterers<sup>12</sup> and tantamount to forms of torture.<sup>13</sup>

Once in the commercial sex industry (by means of trafficking or not), prostituting persons endure unspeakable acts of physical brutality and violence; suffer serial rape by so-called customers and pimps; undergo forced abortions; acquire drug and alcohol dependencies; live in fear of their lives and for the lives of their family and friends; suffer acute psychological reactions as a result of their ongoing, extreme physical and emotional trauma; and contract sexually transmitted diseases, which all too often bring life-long illness and hasten death. If they survive the physical abuse, the psychological and spiritual impacts of these experiences on victims are devastating and enduring.

\*This article was adapted from “Prostituted and Sexually Trafficked Persons are Rape Victims Too: What Everyone—SANE and SART Professional Especially—Should Know,” by Lisa L. Thompson and published by SANE-SART Online Clinical. The original article is available at <https://www.sane-sart.com/prostituted-and-sexually-trafficked-persons-are-rape-victims-too/>.



11 Wendy Freed, “From Duty to Despair: Brothel Prostitution in Cambodia,” *Prostitution, Trafficking and Traumatic Stress*, ed. Melissa Farley (Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Maltreatment and Trauma Press, 2003), 133-146.

12 Farley, M. (2006). *Prostitution, Trafficking, and Cultural Amnesia: What We Must Not Know in Order To Keep the Business of Sexual Exploitation Running Smoothly*. *Yale Journal of Law and Feminism*, 18, 101-136; Thompson, *ibid.*

13 Thompson, *ibid.*



## CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT: THE FORGOTTEN FACTOR

*By Lisa L. Thompson, VP Outreach & Education, NCOSE*

From the Brock Turner Stanford University rape case, to sexual assault scandals involving major collegiate football teams, and the suicide of Cherelle Locklear, a college student who killed herself after being raped at a fraternity house, in recent months America's news headlines have been dominated with reports of sexual assault on college campuses.

Sexual assault on college campuses is certainly not a new phenomenon, but could something new on college campuses be fostering an atmosphere conducive to sexual assault? NCOSE's answer to that question is "Yes!" and we think that that "something new" is Internet pornography.

In past decade universities have begun admitting the first wave of students who in their adolescent years had easy access to free Internet pornography. For instance, a 2008 study of university students found that 93% of boys and 61% of girls had seen Internet pornography during adolescence. The researchers reported that the degree of exposure to paraphilic and deviant sexual activity before age 18 was of "particular concern."

Since then things have only gotten worse. Since the advent of Internet-streaming in the late 2000s, adolescents have had access to vivid, hardcore pornography depicting incest, sex with animals, violence against women, and depictions of women who appear to enjoy the violence. Not only are adolescents exposed to and using hardcore pornography as never before, large numbers of them are encountering pornography at a very young age. As reported in a 2016 study, 49% of college males first encountered pornography before age 13. But why does this matter?

First, increased pornography use among males is correlated with more alcohol use and more binge drinking. Second, other studies have found that the pornography exposure rate among college-aged males is nearly universal. Third, not only are nearly all college-aged males consuming pornography they are also consuming high amounts of violent pornography. As researchers have pointed out, even so-called "mainstream" commercial pornography "has coalesced around a relatively homogenous script involving violence and female degradation."

In view of this backdrop, John Foubert's study of pornography consumption among fraternity men is especially alarming. In a survey of 489 fraternity men, Foubert and his colleagues found that within the past 12 months, 83% viewed mainstream, 27% sadomasochistic, and 19% rape-themed pornography.

These same men were also asked the following two questions: "If you could be assured of not being caught or punished, how likely would you to be rape?" and "If you could be assured of not being caught or punished, how likely would you be to force a female to do something sexual that she did not want to do?" Among all three types of pornography consumption, users expressed a significantly higher self-reported intent to commit sexual assault and rape if they knew they wouldn't be caught, than men who did not see pornography during the past 12 months. The researchers reported that the effect among users of sadomasochistic and rape pornography was "severe." Additionally, those who consumed sadomasochistic and rape pornography expressed greater belief in rape myths.

Of course, not all men who look at pornography will engage in sexual assault or rape. However, given that even "mainstream" pornography is permeated with sexual violence, that its use is pervasive among college-aged men, and that pornography consumption is clearly associated with attitudes (i.e. self-expressed intent to rape) and behaviors (i.e. binge drinking) that exacerbate the potential for sexual assault, college administrators across the country should be gravely concerned. At NCOSE, we believe that efforts to combat sexual assault on college campuses will only be successful when coupled with efforts to reduce rampant pornography use among collegiate males.



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*CONSIDER A LEGACY GIFT TO NCOSE*

NCOSE has been around for 54 years! Our organization was originally founded in New York City as Operation Yorkville and later renamed Morality in Media. Now known as National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE), we continue to hold true to our mission as the longest standing group committed to fighting pornography in the country.

NCOSE is the recognized leader in the movement to end sexual exploitation, and we will continue this fight until we know that each family is safe from the harms of pornography.

By considering NCOSE in your financial plans, you will be working to fight sexual exploitation for years to come. Through planned giving, organizations like ours develop and maintain a firm financial foundation to weather the inevitable economic challenges that confront every non-profit.

I ask that you please consider NCOSE in your financial planning. Whether you want to put NCOSE in your will, donate a gift of stock or retirement plan assets, there are many ways to support NCOSE now and into the future. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please reach out to us!





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