

The Local Scene

- “Adult” bookstores are operating in Maryland counties. Zoning regulations, some of which MCAP was instrumental in getting passed, should affect these businesses, if enforced. These X-rated operations are only allowed to operate during certain hours and at restricted distances from schools, residences, playgrounds, libraries, and places of worship. Also, many video stores have an X-rated section.
- “Exotic” (nude) dancing bars or clubs are proliferating. New, though weak, regulations on these are emerging.
- Local cable TV offers pornography, some of it explicit and profanity-filled.
- Dial-a-porn services are obtainable only upon written request to the telephone company.
- Long distance (1-900) numbers are still available but may be blocked by the phone company on request.
- Some drug and convenience stores in the area have removed pornographic magazines, but some independent stores and many newsstands, bookstores, novelty shops and gas stations carry them.

What You Can Do

The most important thing you can do is speak out. Edmund Burke said, “All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men [and women] to do nothing.”

You can also help fight against pornography by:

- Keeping informed by visiting the MCAP website and those of national organizations such as Morality in Media, Enough Is Enough, Parents TV Council, Concerned Women for America, and the National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families. MCAP is also on Facebook.
- Contacting your federal, state and local policy-makers urging them to support

- measures that control/limit obscenity and protect children from exposure to pornography.
- Reporting the online addresses of obscene web pages using www.obscenitycrimes.org.
- Contacting the FCC about broadcasting that exceeds decency standards.
- Becoming a member of MCAP and joining the fight on the local and state fronts. You will receive a quarterly newsletter and information about upcoming events.
- Inviting MCAP to speak at your place of worship, club, school, etc. Call **301-439-8475**.

You can make a difference! Join MCAP today!

To join MCAP, please mail this application form with your check to:

MCAP
P.O. Box 2868
Silver Spring, MD 20915-2868

- I am enclosing \$15 for the MCAP newsletter/membership.
- Additional donation \$ _____

MCAP is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

MCAP

Maryland Coalition
Against Pornography, Inc.

Working to protect children, families,
and communities from
the devastating effects of pornography

301-439-8475
www.mcap1.com



MCAP's Goals

Because the purpose of MCAP is to reduce the destructive influences of pornography in the community and to raise standards, the organization focuses on the following:

- Educating the public about the harmful effects of pornography
- Taking appropriate action against businesses that deal in pornography
- Supporting businesses which do not distribute pornographic materials
- Encouraging the enforcement of federal, state, and local obscenity and child pornography laws and lobbying local, state, and federal elected officials
- Protecting minors against exposure to pornography
- Providing help to those struggling with addictions to pornography

The Problem

Pornography is an epidemic, insidiously infecting our country, communities, and families. It pollutes minds and souls, dehumanizes, objectifies, and degrades. A big business, largely controlled by organized crime, it contributes to rape, child sexual abuse, suicide, teen pregnancy, AIDS, and the breakup of marriages and families. Recovery from pornography addiction is harder than cocaine addiction because sex-related images linger in the brain forever.

Pornography and the First Amendment

Obscenity (hard-core pornography) is illegal and is not protected by the First Amendment. This was reaffirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973 in *Miller v. California*. The effort to eliminate hard-core pornography is not censorship. Upholding the federal and state laws prohibiting obscenity is everyone's right in a democratic society.

Dangers to Children on the Internet

Minors are easily accessing illegal material such as obscenity and child pornography, either intentionally or unintentionally. Although Congress has passed laws designed to protect children from exposure to online porn and from predators, too often these attempts have been struck down by the courts. The burden is upon parents to monitor their children's online activities or to install filtering that will block porn sites. There are several good products available and accountability programs. For more information, consult www.getnetwise.org or www.safefamilies.org. Libraries and school computers are also, in many areas, unfiltered. If this is true in your community, consult www.safelibraries.org.

The National Scene

- Pornography is one of the leading causes of family breakdown. Online porn contributes to more than half of divorces. Pornography had an almost non-existent role in divorce just a decade earlier.
- Nine of 10 children ages of 8–16 have been exposed to pornography online. 47% of school-age children receive pornographic spam on a daily basis. As much as 20–30% of the traffic to some pornographic web sites are children.
- Worldwide pornography revenue in 2006 was \$97.06 billion. Approximately \$13 billion was in the United States (Internet Filter Review, 2006). This exceeds the combined revenues of ABC, CBS and NBC (\$6.2 billion), or all combined revenues of all professional football, baseball and basketball franchises.
- Every second, \$3,075.64 is being spent on pornography, 28,258 Internet viewers are viewing pornography, 372 Internet users are typing adult search terms into search engines, and every 39 minutes, a new

pornographic video is made in the United States (Internet Filter Review, 2006).

- Child pornography has become a \$3 billion annual industry (Top Ten Reviews, 2005).
- Millions of pornographic magazines are mailed each year; 70% ends up in the hands of children.
- Sex abusers are using online services to transmit child pornography and to communicate with children.
- Hard core and child pornography is accessible on internet terminals and wirelessly in public libraries.
- Ten percent of Americans adults admit to Internet sexual addiction.

"The internet is a perfect drug delivery system because you are anonymous, aroused and have role models for these behaviors. To have [this] drug pumped into your house 24/7, free, and children know how to use it better than grown-ups... it's a perfect delivery system if we want to have a whole generation of young addicts who will never have the drug out of their mind."

Mary Anne Layden, Sexual Trauma and Psychopathology Program, University of Pennsylvania's Center for Cognitive Therapy

- The FBI reports that the most common interest among serial killers is hardcore pornography. 87% of child molesters were regular consumers of hardcore pornography.
- \$14.5 billion in revenue is expected to be generated by the adult mobile content sector over the next five years.
- Internet porn introduces the issue of a hostile work environment. Employees are accessing sites that, when viewed by an offended co-worker, can bring lawsuits upon a company.
- Each month, 9.4 million women access adult sites; 13% admit to doing it at work.