

Making a Difference

Newsletter for
Maryland Coalition Against Pornography, Inc.

MCAP Hotline: 301-439-8475

www.mcap1.com



TOGETHER WE CARE

Vol. 32, No. 1 Montgomery and Prince George's Counties

Winter 2017

MCAP's 30th Anniversary Celebration in November

We marked an amazing milestone in MCAP's history on the occasion of our 30th anniversary in November. We were kindly hosted by the Church of Latter Day Saints in Olney, and we enjoyed an excellent presentation by Savannah Lawrence of the National Center on Sexual Exploitation on why pornography is a public health crisis and the efforts to get legislation to declare it as such.



Savannah Lawrence of NCOSE



Peggy Cairns presenting certificate to Matt Aujero



Bishop Paul Lewis giving the opening prayer



Pastor Jeremy Hodges giving the benediction



Enjoying refreshments and fellowship



Jared McCarthy and Andree Green of the Prince George's County Attorney's Office receiving MCAP's certificate of appreciation for their work in enforcing ordinances that shut down many strip clubs last year

Government Workers Viewing Porn on the Job

U.S. Congressman Mark Meadows has introduced a federal bill intended to crack down on government employees who are using their agency computers to access pornography. Details about it are viewable at <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr680> -- Eliminating Pornography from Agencies Act, which was unanimously approved on March 8 by the House Oversight Committee -- would require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to issue new guidelines within 90 days to *"prohibit the access of a pornographic or other explicit website from a Federal computer."*

During a debate over the new legislation, Meadows called the bill a *"no-brainer,"* and said that watching *"egregious"* amounts of porn at work *"creates an unhealthy work environment that must be addressed."*

Meadows cited a recent [investigation conducted by WRC news](#), which found that nearly 100 government employees have either admitted to or have been caught watching pornography while on the job in the last five years.

Using the Freedom of Information Act, the station was able to uncover evidence of an FBI employee in Virginia who confessed to "*receiving, viewing, and saving approximately 50 images of suspected child pornography.*"

Reporters also found evidence of a patent and trademark employee who made 1,800 different connections to pornographic websites. The employee told investigators, "*When I am working hard, I go to these images to take a mental break.*"

Meadows also mentioned an employee at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) who [confessed](#) to watching averages of two and six hours of pornography a day while at work in 2013. Craig Ulmer, the EPA Deputy Assistant Inspector General, told reporters at [WRC](#) that misuse of government computers is prohibited, and said that cases like these constitute time fraud.

Congressman Meadows can be thanked via his email address: Mark.Meadows@mail.house.gov.

Dirty Dozen List for 2017

<http://endsexualexploitation.org/dirtydozen-2017/>

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation has released its annual list of bad corporate actors in America that perpetuate sexual exploitation through pornography, prostitution, and sex trafficking. Go to the web link to see how to sign on to petitions and get involved with this effort to urge more responsibility and reform. The Dirty Dozen List is an activism tool that has instigated tremendous changes, leading to policy improvements at Google, Hilton Worldwide, Verizon, Walmart, and the Department of Defense.

Anonymous Took Down 20% of the Dark Web of Child Porn

<http://www.newsweek.com/anonymous-hacker-dark-web-child-porn-operation-553014>

More than 10,000 websites on the dark web were knocked offline on Feb. 3 after a hacker associated with the collective Anonymous targeted an internet provider, Freedom Hosting II, that had been hosting child pornography. Details in the story provided by the website link above.

400 Children Rescued/348 Adults Arrested in the Takedown of a Child Porn Empire

<http://fightthenewdrug.org/400-children-rescued-hundreds-of-adults-arrested-after-police-take-down-child-porn-empire/>

Project Spade – a three-year international child pornography investigation in Canada, began back in 2010 when Toronto police officers first made contact with a man who had been sharing “very graphic images” of child sexual abuse. What they eventually found was a full-blown child porn production and distribution company in Toronto that was distributing their content online. What was especially disturbing about these arrests is the number of people who worked with or closely interacted with children. Among those arrested were 40 school teachers, nine doctors and nurses, six law enforcement personnel, nine pastors and priests and three foster parents.

The site was run by 42-year old Brian Way and sold and distributed images of child exploitation to people across the world. The head of Toronto’s Sex Crimes Unit said they enlisted the help of the United States Postal Inspection Service since many of the videos were being exported to the U.S. and began a joint investigation. Investigators cataloged hundreds of thousands of images and videos of “horrific sexual acts against very young children, some of the worst they have ever viewed,” said the lead investigator at a recent press conference. Police seized over 45 terabytes of data from the \$4-million business that distributed child porn to over 50 countries including Australia, Spain, Mexico, Sweden, and Greece. As a result of the investigation thus far, 50 people were arrested in Ontario, 58 in other parts of Canada, 76 in the United States, and 164 internationally.

Child pornography has become more prevalent and larger than we would ever like to imagine. It is said to be a \$3 billion-dollar industry globally, generating massive amounts of money for people willing to exploit young children. The people who actually get caught for the crime are just the tip of the iceberg. Child pornography has been expanding virally on the web for years and the material is only getting worse. In 2008, Internet Watch Foundation found 1,536 individual child abuse domains. Every week there are over 20,000 images of child pornography posted on the web (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 2003). Furthermore, U.S Customs Services estimates that illegal child pornography is offered by approximately 100,000 websites.

Spencer Gifts' Explicit Displays in Wheaton Plaza

MCAP has received complaints from some of our readers about some sexually explicit and distasteful items for sale at the Spencer's Gifts stores at Wheaton Plaza and Arundel Mills locations as well as questions about whether they can be legally displayed to minors. These are tame compared to what the chain store sells online, by the way. We have brought it to the attention of the Montgomery County police and the County Attorney, by way of photos taken by a board member. But so far, the reply received was that pictures of women in topless lingerie, dildos and other sex toys, and items used in S&M (whips, handcuffs, ropes) do not seem to meet the standard of obscenity. MCAP would like to know if our readers disagree, and might we want to pursue this further, e.g., appeal further to the Maryland Attorney General or start a petition.

MCAP's Legislation Page

MCAP devotes a special section of our website to local and national level legislation related to pornography. This is legislation that we follow on an ongoing basis. If you are interested in following this legislation as well, please see <http://www.mcap1.com/mcap/legislation>.

Maryland's Call for Action: Pornography is a Public Health Crisis

MCAP started a petition last Fall, asking our Maryland legislators to sign a resolution declaring pornography to be a public health crisis. By asking our legislators to sign a resolution declaring pornography to be a public health crisis, we are creating a call to action, stating that this problem has become more than any individual or family can combat on their own. A resolution does not change any existing laws, but it does create a foundation on which to build change. We are still seeking a sponsor for this resolution, and we still need additional signatures on our petition. Please sign the petition at <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/437/665/759/>.

MCAP is in Search of Spanish Translators

Are you or do you know of an English to Spanish translator who would be willing to volunteer help translating some of MCAP's educational materials and help enable a wider outreach to our community? We are also still in need of board members. Please email us at mcapinc@juno.com.

Scenes from Recent MCAP Exhibits



At the McLean Bible Church Purity Conference



At the National Capitol Christian Educators' Conference

ACTION BOX

- [] Please sign our petition to Maryland legislators to emulate those of Utah, to pass a resolution declaring pornography's harms to be a public health crisis. See <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/437/665/759/>
- [] Please thank U.S. Congressman Mark Meadows (R- NC) for sponsoring his bill, HR 680, to penalize federal employees who use their agency computer networks to access porn at work. His email is **Mark.Meadows@mail.house.gov**.
- [] Visit the MCAP web page and click on the "Porn Harms Action Center" icon, which links to actions you can take. Note the 2017 Dirty Dozen in particular. Article inside.
- [] We are in need of new Board members. Please consider volunteering! Contact Bob Kammer at 301-942-0882 or email us at **mcapinc@juno.com**

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A membership in MCAP is \$15 per year. This entitles you to receive the annual printed newsletter. All contributions to MCAP are tax deductible. Your subscription expiration month appears in the upper right of your mailing label. Please send renewal payments to: M.C.A.P., P.O. Box 2868, Silver Spring, MD 20915-2868. Any donations are much needed and appreciated!



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