# Making a Difference

Newsletter for Maryland Coalition Against Pornography, Inc.

MCAP Hotline: 301-439-8475

www.mcap1.com

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TOGETHER WE CARE

Fall 2018



Save the date! MCAP will kick off our annual WRAP (White Ribbons Against Pornography) week recognition by hosting a talk by Dr. Gail Poyner (Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist), who will be talking about her book, *Pandora's Box is Open, Now What Do I Do?* It is a guide for helping children who have been exposed to pornography. Come learn practical ways to combat youth porn addiction, step-by-step, **Oct. 28th at 3 pm**, Silver Spring Civic Building, Ellsworth Room, Veterans Plaza, 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Free and open to the public. Please help us get the word out by posting the enclosed flyer! Come and invite a friend, especially if you work with children who have been exposed to pornography or know someone who does. It is more common and dangerous than you might think.

We also commend the WRAP activities of the National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) which are detailed at their web site: <a href="https://endsexualexploitation.org/WRAP/">https://endsexualexploitation.org/WRAP/</a>. Streaming video presentations you can watch include:

- 1. Understanding Sexual Exploitation by Lisa L. Thompson, Date: October 27, 2018
- 2. Today's Pornography Not a Constitutional Right, Not a Human Right by Patrick Trueman

Date: October 29, 2018

Also watch for our mobile billboard that will be driving our county roads again around WRAP week! This will be our third year running this mobile ad! If you approve of our efforts, would you please consider supporting us with a donation? See our web page for a way to do this using PayPal, or a check can be mailed to our post office box. It means so much!



# Recent News About Child Porn Cases in Maryland

MCAP is a part of discussions about prospects for legislation that could increase the penalty for possession of child pornography. Currently it is only a misdemeanor on the first convicted offense, then a felony for the second, but Maryland would do well to toughen this to make it a felony on the *first* offense. More and more cases like those below point to this need.

Frank Dunn, age 60, of Montgomery County, found guilty of child porn charges had 14,000-plus Images, 285 Videos of children engaged in sexually explicit conduct that investigators found on his home computers last year. He kept residences in Burtonsville and Silver Spring. Dunn will be sentenced to four to nine years in prison and must register as a sex offender. Agents from the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Inspector General participated in the arrest; Dunn was an employee of the federal agency, but the pornographic materials were all recovered from his home computers.

The images and videos found on Dunn's devices included approximately 1,123 files involving minors identified as victims of child pornography by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, files depicting the abuse of infants and toddlers and files depicting sadomasochism or violence against children. Dunn distributed child pornography over the internet from his Burtonsville residence using peerto-peer file sharing software.



Caleb Bailey, age 31, of Waldorf, had an underground bunker full of machine guns, explosives and child pornography has been sentenced to more than 16 years in federal prison. He was first arrested in a case that began as an investigation into a suspicious package he sent through the mail. Bailey had tried to ship hundreds of rounds of ammunition without a permit to a store in Wisconsin in February 2016, but the box broke open at a U.S. postal facility. Bailey called to ask about the undelivered package, leading the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to Bailey's home. While executing a

search warrant, investigators uncovered a cache of machine guns, unregistered short-barreled rifles and explosive devices. Authorities also found recording equipment and electronic devices containing more than 2,000 files depicting child pornography, including videos of teenage boys he recorded surreptitiously. During the search, authorities also found a 17-year-old described as a "minor victim" at the house. The teen had earlier taken a laptop, camera and hard drive from inside the residence to hide near a foot-bridge in the woods at Bailey's instruction. The government said he also used the weapons as a way to maintain the interest of the teenage boys he wound up secretly recording.

Bailey relied on hidden cameras to record teenage boys using the bathroom in his RV and at hotels where he would stay with the boys while they competed in ATV races. Bailey produced more than 100 videos between 2014 and 2016



Christopher Speights, age 35, former Prince George's County substitute teacher and basketball coach was sentenced in July to 35 years in federal prison and a lifetime supervised release on charges of producing child pornography. He pleaded guilty in March to *federal* charges of production and attempted production of child pornography, as well as charges of child sex abuse and possession and distribution of child pornography in Prince George's and Worcester counties. Prosecutors said in a statement that any sentence in those cases will be concurrent to his federal sentence.

Speights was arrested by the Maryland State Police in April 2017 after they got a tip from the online storage company Dropbox that someone was storing child pornography on their site that involved children. Speights confessed to having child pornography on his iPad, as well as documenting himself sexually exploiting boys at his home, as well as during school and basketball team trips in Maryland and North Carolina. He also posed as a minor online and solicited sexually explicit images from boys and girls, threatening to tell "Coach Speights" about inappropriate conversations if they didn't comply. All told, Speights asked for images from more than 20 young people.



### **Useful New App**

In our last newsletter, parental control features for smart phones were highlighted. Another tool is an app, <a href="https://www.bark.us/">https://www.bark.us/</a>, that monitors text messages, YouTube, emails, and 24 different social networks for potential safety concerns, so busy parents can save time and gain peace of mind. A free trial is currently being offered. Parents can get automatic alerts to signs of cyberbullying, depression, online predators, adult content, and more. Consult the Bark web site for details about what it monitors.

## Sexually Explicit Video Game, *Negligee:* Love Stories - and How to Limit It

Steam, the largest digital distributor for video games to children and adults, recently approved the first "100% uncensored" porn game for sale on its platform. The decision comes not long after Steam stated it would publish all video games regardless of content, barring anything illegal. Set to release on September 14th, *Negligee: Love Stories* is an anime visual novel where the player makes decisions for the story characters, mainly related to their sexual activity.

Not only does the game feature full uncensored sexual activity, it also promotes sexual harassment and abuse. On the official Steam page, game developer Dharker Studios states Negligee: Love Stories includes themes related to: "pressured sexual relationships", "abusive marriages", and "outdoor" (public) sexual activity. Also, one of the female characters is a stripper who appears to be further pressured into the commercialized sex industry by her boss.

"Steam is willfully contributing to the cultural objectification of women with this game. It normalizes the idea that men have the right to control and abuse women according to their will, something that ought to be socially unacceptable particularly in this #Me-Too era," said Dawn Hawkins, Executive Director of the National Center on Sexual Exploitation.

How do parents allow their children to enjoy video

games on Steam while also trying to protect them from inappropriate content, like age-inappropriate video games? Steam has a parental control system called <u>Family View</u> that allows parents/guardians to "limit an account's access to a subset of its content features... including, the Steam Store, personal Library, and Community." All these features can be gated with an additional PIN.

Below are the step by step <u>instructions</u> on how to enable Family View on your Steam account:

- 1. Log into the Steam account your child will use.
- 2. Click the Steam menu in the top menu bar.
- 3. Open the Settings option.
- 4. Go to the "Family" tab on the left side of the window that opens.
- 5. Click "Family View" to start the Family View wizard.
- 6. Step through the wizard to select the content and features you'd like to be accessible while in PIN-protected Family View.
  - 7. Select and confirm your new PIN.

In Family Mode, content and material that a parent has restricted will be unavailable and is very useful if you want to restrict your children from graphic content

However, when establishing Family Mode, it will be the parent/guardian's responsibility to vet video games and check their ratings and content. Steam games are rated by age, e.g. 'pegi 16' means 16 or over, but may not give enough details about what is in a video game for a parent to make an informed decision.

Send a complaint letter! See <a href="https://endsexualexploitation.org/videogames/">https://endsexualexploitation.org/videogames/</a>

### **MCAP Summer Highlights**

MCAP exhibited educational literature about the dangers of porn to children at display tables at two events – National Night Out, hosted by the Bowie Police Dept. at Allen Pond, August 7<sup>th</sup>.



Also, at the Prince George's County Back-to-School Block Party. Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>.

# 2018 WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

# **ACTION BOX**

- [ ] Visit the MCAP web page and click on the "Porn Harms Action Center" icon, which links to actions you can take.
- [ ] Participate in the White Ribbon Against Pornography (WRAP) campaign by flying ribbons on your car, mailbox or wearing one. Call Peggy Cairns, 301-649-4053, if you would like more ribbons to distribute. Ribbons cost 5 cents each, and are sold in bundles of 100 with \$2 shipping.
- [ ] We are in need of additional Board members. Please consider volunteering! Contact Bob Kammer at 301-847-9820 or email us at mcapinc@juno.com

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M.C.A.P., P.O. Box 2868, Silver Spring, MD 20915-2868. Any donations are much needed and appreciated!



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