

Making a Difference

The quarterly newsletter of the MARYLAND COALITION
AGAINST PORNOGRAPHY, Inc.

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VICTORY For Victims of Deepfakes - Federal and Maryland Legislation Success!

We celebrate the passage in Maryland of [SB 360](#) to criminalize deep-fake revenge porn. Last year it passed the Senate, but differed from the House version, and did not quite make it. But this year, SUCCESS! We are grateful for the diligence of Senator Katie Fry Hester in re-introducing and fighting for it through its many steps and amendments these 2 years! Testimony came from numerous witnesses, nearly all favorable, notably Lisae Jordan of MCASA and Frederick County attorney, Joyce King, as well as MCAP. These ladies spoke so compellingly about the plight of Maryland victims whom they have tried to help, whose reputations were so irreparably damaged by revenge porn. Cases are rapidly proliferating wherein people (often teens) discover, far too late, how easily-found, free computer applications are being used to edit their faces onto false, sexually-explicit images of bodies. Until now, victims had no recourse to private civil action suits, but now they do on the basis of defamation, if the computer-generated visual representation is indistinguishable from an actual visual representation of the person and is of a sexual or intimate nature. Prohibitions are also in effect on the knowing distribution of such images.

The Take It Down Act

On the federal level, the [Take It Down Act passed Congress](#) in April with great bi-partisan support! This is a HUGE win for privacy, dignity, and accountability. Thank you to Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Rep. Maria Salazar (R-FL), Rep. Madeline Dean (D-PA), First Lady Melania Trump, and the countless advocates who made this possible.

[Operation Restore Justice: 205 Child Sex Abuse Offenders Arrested in FBI-Led Nationwide Crackdown](#)

In an effort executed over the course of five days by all 55 FBI field offices and the DOJ Criminal Division, the operation removed 205 sex offenders off the street and also resulted in the rescue of 115 children. Those arrested are alleged to have committed various crimes, including the production, distribution, and possession of child sexual abuse material; online enticement and transportation of minors; and child sex trafficking. In Minneapolis, for example, a state trooper and Army reservist was arrested for allegedly producing child sexual abuse material while wearing his uniforms. In Norfolk, Virginia, an illegal alien from Mexico is accused of transporting a minor across state lines for sex. In Washington, D.C., a former Metropolitan Police Department Police officer was arrested for allegedly trafficking minor victims.

In many cases, parental vigilance and community outreach efforts played a critical role in bringing these offenders to justice. For example, a California man was arrested about eight hours after a young victim bravely came forward and disclosed their abuse to FBI agents after an online safety presentation at a school near Albany, NY.

Also, two alleged leaders of the notorious online group "[764](#)" were arrested for orchestrating a vast child exploitation ring. Operating through platforms like Discord and Telegram, they allegedly coerced minors into producing explicit content and self-harm, using threats and psychological manipulation.

See something going on that might indicate predators at work? SAY SOMETHING!

Call the FBI's tipline at 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324), tips.fbi.gov, or call a local FBI field office. These cases were brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by U.S. attorneys' offices and CEOS, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, visit justice.gov/psc.

BRIDGING THE GAP: PORN'S NEGATIVE IMPACTS & SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR FAMILY

FIGHT THE NEW DRUG

LIVE EVENT

10/5/2025 | **FAITH BIBLE CHURCH**
26325 THREE NOTCH ROAD
MECHANICSVILLE, MD 20659 | **6:30 PM ET**

You and your family are invited to this live event hosted by the Maryland-based "COME TO THE TABLE MINISTRY" on October 5! Come to an age-appropriate and engaging live presentation by Fight the New Drug.

Fight the New Drug is a non-religious and non-legislative organization that exists to provide individuals the opportunity to make an

informed decision regarding pornography by raising awareness on its harmful effects using only science, facts, and personal accounts.

LIVE PRESENTATION RESULTS

Our presentations have proven to be effective in educating individuals on the harmful effects of porn so they can become empowered to make informed decisions regarding porn for themselves.

To gauge audiences' understanding of the harmful effects of pornography and to help determine the success of each event, Fight the New Drug provides individuals an opportunity to complete a survey before and after live presentations. Over the years, the data collected during our presentations show that, across all demographics, most audience members change their views surrounding pornography after hearing an FTND presentation.

- "PORN CAN BE HARMFUL" 93% of students shifted their response to "agree" after a presentation.
- "PORN CAN NEGATIVELY IMPACT MENTAL HEALTH" 93% of students shifted their response to "agree" after a presentation.
- "PORN IS NOT A HEALTHY WAY TO LEARN ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS" 98% of students shifted their response to "agree" after a presentation.
- Did you know - 53% of boys and 39% of girls believe that pornography is a realistic depiction of sex?

For more information about Fight the New Drug – see <https://youtu.be/YnnrHnxHAdA> and view a [FTND Live Presentation Trailer](https://www.tableministry.com/events/2-2/) More info, details and how to register, see <https://www.tableministry.com/events/2-2/>

We commend another powerful article from Chris McKenna, via the PYE ([Protect Young Eyes](#)) blog: “[What is Sextortion? A Prevention and Response Guide for Families.](#)”

Mr. McKenna is an undisputed top authority in this field and a dynamic speaker who offers both in-person and webinar presentations to a variety of groups such as schools and home-schoolers, teachers, churches and organizations. MCAP invites our readers to consider booking him to speak to your group. Contact Education Chairperson Peggy Cairns at mcapinc@mcap1.com.

MCAP also was impressed by the highly acclaimed new Netflix 4-part crime-drama entitled “[Adolescence.](#)” An excellent review and cautionary warning [article by Barbara Winters](#) appears on her Hopeful Mom website. Nicki Reisberg of the podcast “[Scrolling2Death](#)” wrote about it:

“From what I’ve seen, the film is an accurate representation of what can and is happening to the underdeveloped brains of children when they are pushed addictive and harmful algorithms ... It’s true that kids alone in their room with technology can be the most dangerous place in the world. ... The bad stuff keeps the kids scrolling longer. Though fictional, it realistically portrays current social concerns of parenting youth today – social media, isolation, toxic masculinity,”

We would add that it deals with teen sexting, fatherhood, bullying, marriage challenges, sibling relationships, school discipline and law enforcement problems, and more.

The NOT A FANTASY Report

NCOSE (National Center on Sexual Exploitation) released a groundbreaking new report, *Not a Fantasy: How the Pornography Industry Exploits Image-based Sexual Abuse in Real Life* on May 13. The 73-page report by Lisa Thompson exposes how the pornography industry facilitates, normalizes, and profits from image-based sexual abuse (IBSA). Included is an executive summary about 9 ways the industry is harming the people depicted and society. There are extremely scant, if any, “benefits” to the individual participants. It can be downloaded [here](#).

The “[Dirty Dozen List](#)” for 2025 was also released on April 3rd. Because Big Tech lacks a foundational incentive to prioritize online safety, the call this year is to **repeal Section 230** of the Communications Decency Act. The Communications Decency Act (CDA) was passed by Congress in 1996 with intentions to combat content harmful to minors on interactive technology platforms, while also protecting budding internet companies from what was posted by third-party users. While most of the CDA was struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court, the CDA’s section 230 was allowed to remain. This section provided a shield to tech companies so that they would not be considered liable for what third-party users might upload to their platforms. In the years since, this remaining section of CDA, only 26 words long, has given technology platforms near complete immunity from the rampant sexual abuses they facilitate and even profit from. Reform of CDA Section 230 is necessary for a safer internet community, and would reflect the modern challenges that plague the Internet and its users. Watch the compelling, explanatory [YouTube video](#) (only 2 minutes), and [click here](#) to sign on to urge Congress to act.

Our MCAP President, Mary Modderman, will soon step down from her office after serving for 5 years, and if Peggy Cairns moves into that role, our board needs others to come forward to assist with tasks. Both are going to be stepping into larger life roles as grandmothers this summer! Many hands make lighter work! Won’t you consider volunteering? On our board we need a V.P., secretarial/email help, membership/development, social media help, event planning (our 40th anniversary is in 2026!), fund-raising, newsletter writing/editing, and occasional miscellaneous tasks. For example, later this summer there will be the annual [National Night Out](#) on



Tues., August 5. Police departments in various locations around our counties will host fun, family-oriented community events at which MCAP enjoys having a display table featuring our resources, e.g. at Allen Pond in Bowie and in Gaithersburg. Please let us hear from you! Call Peggy at 301-910-1534 or email mcapinc@mcap1.com. We can’t do this without you!

ACTION BOX

- ❖ MCAP is in great need of board members and administrative help. **Please** email mcapinc@mcap1.com if you can help. Particularly see the article about **National Night Out** on the evening of Tues., Aug. 5. Monthly Zoom meetings are easy to attend, usually on a Wed. evening. Lacking more volunteers, we will need to significantly curtail our activities.
- ❖ Could your child's school use a speaker to talk about Internet dangers? Contact Officer [Joe Dugan](mailto:joseph.dugan@maryland.gov) at joseph.dugan@maryland.gov. Another nationally renowned speaker, [Chris McKenna of the Protect Young Eyes](#) organization is someone MCAP would like to engage. Email us at mcapinc@mcap1.com if interested.
- ❖ Concerned enough to protest sexualized materials that have been found in local county public school libraries and curricula? See the "Take Back the Classroom" resources from [Capitol Resource Institute](http://www.capitolresourceinstitute.org). <https://www.capitolresource.org/>
- ❖ Consider attending or inviting others to attend the "Briidging the Gap" event featuring a presentation from Fight the New Drug in Southern Maryland, 6:30 pm, October 5 [see article].
- ❖ We are so grateful to those of you willing to subscribe and join MCAP for \$15 annually. [Paypal](#) or, with no fee, use [Zeffy at www.protect-maryland-kids.com/donate](http://www.protect-maryland-kids.com/donate) are easy ways to do this, or checks can be mailed to MCAP, P.O. Box 2868, Silver Spring, MD 20915-2868.



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Silver Spring, MD 20915-2868

P.O. Box 2868

Maryland Coalition Against Pornography