

July 9, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

The continuous invasion of graphic, hard-core online pornography into cultures worldwide has been called the “largest unregulated social experiment in human history” and represents a hidden public health hazard we should not ignore. Scientific data and peer reviewed studies have concluded that Internet pornography harms children, women, and men; fuels pornography addiction, the breakdown of marriage, abuse, sex trafficking and hinders psychosocial and brain development in youth.

Children and adolescents are particularly vulnerable to the impact of this broad spectrum of dangerous Internet pornography. A growing number of [government commissions](#), [task forces](#), [scholars](#), and [institutions](#) have recognized the significant risks associated with unfettered Internet access by youth, and they have called upon governments, policy makers, caregivers, industry and educators to take action.

The 2016 Republican National Convention platform denounced pornography as “a grave threat to public health.” Numerous states including Utah, Virginia, Tennessee, South Dakota and others have proposed or passed resolutions declaring pornography a public health crisis.

During the 2016 election, Donald J. Trump signed EIE’s [Children’s Internet Safety Presidential Pledge](#) (and Hillary Clinton provided a letter of support) asking presidential nominees, if elected, to “uphold the rule of law by aggressively enforce existing federal laws to prevent the sexual exploitation of children online,” including the obscenity, child pornography, and sexual predation laws. EIE recently secured commitments from corporations, world leaders, and the current White House administration to defend children in the digital world as a top priority.

EIE is aggressively encouraging corporate industry leaders to voluntarily filter porn and child porn at their places of business, shielding its patrons from free, illegal hard-core porn and child abuse images. Our Safe WiFi campaign has already made a marked impact. McDonald’s Corporation is now filtering WiFi at almost all of its 14,000 restaurants; however, we all must do more to expose its emotional, physical, relational, and physiological dangers.

Dr. Jill Manning, a researcher, mental health practitioner and EIE Board member, stated, "It is groundbreaking to have corporate and political leaders reexamining the controversial topic of Internet pornography and concluding that the research substantiates a public health approach."

We implore state legislators to validate the widespread research addressing the harms of pornography by passing resolutions recognizing pornography as a public health crisis which we must collectively address by increasing public awareness, encouraging greater corporate responsivity and ensuring aggressively law enforcement and effective public policy.

Sincerely,



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