



Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee

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House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
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VIA EMAIL: Arnold.Viersen@parl.gc.ca

Re: Motion M-47

The Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee represents 13 Municipalities, 3 School Districts and 2 Electoral Areas on Southern Vancouver Island, BC. Our job is to be the voice of the community, for families and children who may come into contact with the justice system.

On October 19th Joel Conway from Fortress Foundation presented the trailer for **Hope For The Sold** and discussed the issue of Human trafficking/Sexual Exploitation, Youth and Child Exploitation, Youth Porn use/Addiction. For more than a decade we have been facilitating school presentations for youth to help forewarn and forearm them against predators.

Porn is not what it used to be, and allowing children to access it by clicking “I’m over 18” is not sufficient protection. You need more identification to download a song than to download porn that is violent, disrespectful and promotes brutality, abuse of power and control. The Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee supports conducting a study into the public health impacts of online violence and sexually explicit and degrading material on men, women and children. We hope that this study will result in strategies to prevent easy access to online violent and sexually explicit material.

Victims of Child Abuse suffer for decades when their pictures persist on the internet, as do other children who see this normalization of abuse. Youth may be charged with the creation of pornography – often inadvertently when they mimic what they have seen online. This issue is a top concern for families and we fully support this motion.

Yours truly,

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