



U. S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
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Ms. Sandy Rios, President
Ms. Janet M. LaRue, Chief Counsel
Concerned Women for America
1015 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005

June 30, 2003

Dear Ms. Rios and Ms. LaRue:

We are in receipt of your letter expressing concern about the proliferation of pornography, and inquiring about our office's prosecution of pornography-related cases. The investigation and prosecution of child exploitation, child pornography and obscenity cases has been and will continue to be a priority in Northern District of Iowa. We continuously work with state and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as with prosecutors in the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, to aggressively investigate and prosecute those who illegally manufacture, distribute and possess such materials.

In the last three years, our office has investigated and prosecuted many such cases, including:

- six cases in which defendants were charged with using children to manufacture child pornography. (Four of these defendants have been convicted and received sentences of between ten and thirty years imprisonment. One is awaiting sentence. One is a fugitive);
- three cases in which defendants were convicted for sexually exploiting or attempting to sexually exploit children they met the internet;
- one case in which a defendant was convicted for selling child pornography over an internet subscription site;
- two pending cases in which defendants are charged with distributing child pornography;

- two cases in which defendants were convicted for purchasing child pornography over the internet; and
- more than a dozen cases in which defendants were convicted for possessing child pornography.

Our office has also provided training to many state and local law enforcement organizations in an effort to improve and increase pornography-related investigations in our district.

In addition to investigating and prosecuting these offenders, our office is also seeking to help prevent the sexual victimization of children. Representatives from our office have made numerous presentations to elementary and middle school PTAs about the dangers children face on the internet. We are also planning a College and University awareness program for the fall of this year.

With respect to your inquiry about the status of the specific pornography and obscenity complaints forwarded to this office by Morality in Media, we have provided each of these complaints to our local federal law enforcement agents for appropriate investigation.

Thank you for your inquiry about our pornography-related prosecutions. Be assured that we take very seriously all the complaints we have received and will continue to make it a priority to investigate and prosecute those individuals and entities that violate federal law.

Sincerely,



CHARLES W. LARSON, SR.
United States Attorney