

RECEIVED JUN 10 2003



U.S. Department of Justice

Michael J. Sullivan
United States Attorney
District of Massachusetts

Main Reception: (617) 748-3100

John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse
1 Courthouse Way
Suite 9200
Boston, Massachusetts 02210

June 2, 2003

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

Dear Ms. Rios and Ms. LaRue:

I am in receipt of your letter dated April 30, 2003, inquiring about the status of any obscenity cases filed by this office and the status of investigations into complaints about obscene material available on the Internet that have been filed on Morality In Media's web site, www.obscenitycrimes.org. The investigation and prosecution of child exploitation and obscenity is a priority in the District of Massachusetts. Accordingly, we continue to 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 individuals and companies who produce and distribute child pornography and obscene materials.

I trust you understand that we are not able to comment on pending investigations. I can report, however, that we work with our local federal law enforcement agents who investigate complaints which this office receives about potentially obscene material available in Massachusetts. We also work with our state prosecution and investigation counterparts as well. As I am sure you recognize, most, if not all, of the obscenity complaints received by this office are not actually prosecutable because of the difficulty associated with locating the actual individuals or companies that create and distribute the objectionable material. Unfortunately, due to the anonymous nature of the internet, the trail to finding those individuals sometimes ends outside of our country's borders and out of our prosecutorial reach or, even more frequently, to a dead end. Other reasons that obscenity complaints may not be prosecutable are that venue may not lie in the District of Massachusetts, or the objectionable material giving rise to a complaint may not be obscene under the Supreme Court's obscenity standard set forth in Miller v. California, 413 U.S. 15 (1973).

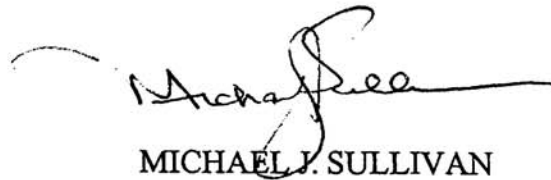
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However, to the extent that we are able to prosecute these matters, we attempt to ensure that federal and/or state law and resources are brought to bear on the problem.

Thank you for your inquiry about the status of our obscenity prosecutions. Be assured that we take very seriously the complaints we have received, and will continue to make it a priority to ensure that those individuals and entities that violate federal law are investigated and prosecuted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Sullivan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN
United States Attorney