

# Stop Trafficking !

Anti Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

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This issue highlights the growing tolerance for sexual violence in media and advertising and the efforts to reveal its connection to sex trafficking of women and children.

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- Society of Jesus, CA Prov.
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## Twelve Contributors to Sexual Exploitation Need to Hear from Us

In January 2015 'Morality in Media' published its latest 'Dirty Dozen' List, exposing some of the widespread ways in which subtle messages promote violence against women and children in our contemporary society.

Among the repeat offenders were Hilton Hotels & Resorts, the American Library Association, Verizon, Facebook, YouTube, the "Fifty Shades of Grey" book and movie about sexual violence toward women, the growing phenomenon of "sex week" on college campuses and Cosmopolitan magazine. Making their first appearance on the list were the U.S. Department of Justice, American Apparel, Backpage.com and CKE Restaurants.

Some of the 'Dirty Dozen' offender are featured in the following pages.

For the complete list and evidence for why each is named in 2015 List, go to: <http://endsexualexploitation.org/dirty-dozen/> (<http://thetablet.org/cites-dirty-dozen-of-sex-exploitation/>)



## 'Morality In Media' Changes Its Name

Founded in 1962, the *National Center on Sexual Exploitation* (NCSE), formerly *Morality in Media* (MIM), is the leading national organization dedicated to opposing pornography by highlighting the links to sex trafficking, violence against women, child abuse, and addiction.

Changing its name is meant to better describe the scope and mission of the organization, which is to defend human dignity and expose the seamless connection among all forms of sexual exploitation. The NCSE vision is that all individuals have a right to be free from the effects of pornography and all other forms of sexual exploitation.

(See: <http://endsexualexploitation.org/> and <http://moralityinmedia.org/>)



## Awareness

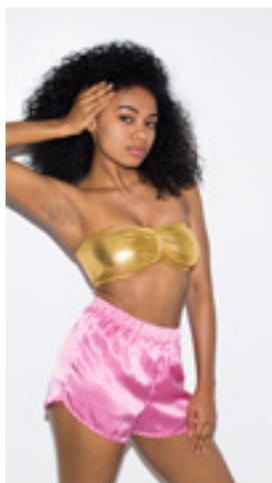
### American Apparel

American Apparel's advertising strategy is to normalize the objectification of women. As a brand and company, American Apparel has promoted a hypersexual culture. To sell products, the company regularly features nude or provocatively posed young girls with an emphasis on women's breasts, buttocks and pubic area. In many ads, women appear to be masturbating. In other ads, they are dressed to resemble sexualized children. Sleazy advertising campaigns affect the way society views and treats people, particularly women.

In June 2014, American Apparel's CEO, Dov Charney, was fired over myriad reports of sexual harassment and exploitation of his fellow employees and subordinates.

The company seems to have fallen in public opinion over these ads and the sexual misconduct of its founder. Over

the past four years, American Apparel has cumulatively lost a total of more than \$100 million. The Washington Post wondered if these events signaled, *"the fashion industry has finally hit porn chic fatigue."*



To view other more explicit ads, see the website:

<http://www.americanapparel.net/>  
(<http://endsexualexploitation.org/americanapparel/>)

### American Library Association

For years the American Library Association (ALA), a self-styled champion of First Amendment freedoms, has encouraged public libraries to keep all computers unfiltered and to allow patrons, including children, access to hardcore adult and child pornography. As a result, child sexual abuse, sexual assault, exhibitionism, stalking, public masturbation, sexual harassment of librarians and other patrons, and other lewd behavior takes place in libraries across the country.

Despite losing lawsuits that authorized libraries the right to install filters for porn, the ALA continues to disseminate misleading information to libraries about their responsibility and ability to filter pornography. Libraries look to the ALA for guidance on best practices and legal advice—yet the ALA refuses to give libraries all of the details.

ALA encourages libraries to refuse federal and state funding which stipulates that libraries have filters (and often provides funding to cover the installment of good filters). (<http://endsexualexploitation.org/ala/>)

# ALA

### Libraries Reluctant to Screen Reading for Minors

Librarians say they oversee a storehouse of knowledge where access to information should be expected — not denied. The onus is on parents, they say, to monitor their child's library usage.

*"If a parent is deeply concerned about their minor teen's access to library materials, it is their responsibility to monitor that,"* said Deborah Caldwell-Stone, deputy director of the office for intellectual freedom at the Chicago-based American Library Association, which bills itself as the oldest and largest library association in the world.

*"The library can't know what the family's values are. They can't restrict access based on disapproval of the content. They do what they can to match usage and materials, and to give parents all the information they need so they can make good decisions in light of their family values."*

Access to adult content varies depending on the library. Some use website-blocking software on every computer, or on computers in youth sections of the library. ([http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2013-08-24/news/ct-met-library-adult-content-20130824\\_1\\_library-materials-american-library-association-library-usage](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2013-08-24/news/ct-met-library-adult-content-20130824_1_library-materials-american-library-association-library-usage))

### 'Backpage.com'

A quick scan of the adult services section on Backpage.com shows pornographic photos used as advertising to buy and sell women and children. In fact Backpage.com is the leading U.S. website for prostitution advertising, generating nearly 80% of all online prostitution advertising revenue during 2012-2013. They post over one million prostitution ads each day. Law enforcement officials say trafficked women and children are sold on Backpage.com daily. The site is even actively opposing laws that make it a felony to advertise sexual services of children.

In fact, the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) found more than 50 cases in 22 states that tied child prostitution crimes to ads posted on Backpage. Similar classified advertising websites, such as Craigslist.com, have taken down their adult services ads after being petitioned to eliminate the section. Backpage continues to ignore the evidence, putting profit above children's safety. (<http://endsexualexploitation.org/backpage/>)



Awareness

Carl's Jr. & Hardee's Restaurants

CKE Restaurants is an international fast food franchise that owns over 3,300 restaurant locations in 42 states and 30 countries. This highly successful restaurant business includes Carl's Jr., Hardee's, The Red Burrito and The Green Burrito.

Sexually exploitive ads and explicit images of the female body are primarily used to sell products for Carl's Jr. and



Hardee's. Such commercials include scantily dressed women performing common tasks—such as washing a car, grilling a burger, or attending a drive-in movie. The women sexualize these tasks while eating a CKE product. These tasks are sexualized by lascivious clothing, lingering camera shots on various body parts and provocative movements, positions and gestures by the actresses.

For examples of CKE screenshots and commercials, go to:

<http://endsexualexploitation.org/cke/>

Many viewers have found this sexually driven material upsetting, as it objectifies women and shapes children's perceptions of sexuality through prime time television ads. Numerous individuals and notable groups have reached out to CKE Restaurants, pleading for a less harmful approach to advertising.

Unfortunately, when questioned about the effects of the objectification of women, Andrew Puzder, CEO of CKE Restaurants, seems more interested in profitable marketing than in the harm that may come from his over-sexualized ads. His refusals to address public complaints and his abrasive responses to distressed parents are alarming. (<http://endsexualexploitation.org/cke/>)

'Fifty Shades of Grey'

The 'Fifty Shades of Grey' book trilogy, film, and franchise promote torture as sexually gratifying and normalize domestic violence, particularly violence against women. This type of material cultivates a rape and sexual violence culture and permeates U.S. society. With the popularity of this series, mainstream opinion-makers (like Oprah, Dr. Phil, the Today Show and others) are telling the public that humiliation, degradation, and torture in sex is normal — just give it a try. What the franchise advertises as love and erotic sex is actually abuse and violence.

The mainstreaming of this book sends the message to women that they can "fix" violent, controlling men by being obedient and loving. Many of the arguments shared on social media and in forums in favor of the book are from women in similar relationships. They claim that this change is possible for their violent partners too and so won't "give up" on them. These women are remaining in violent and controlling relationships and this book reinforces their lack of strength to walk away. The popularity of 'Fifty Shades of Grey' among women sends a message to men that this is what women really want. (<http://endsexualexploitation.org/fifty-shadesgrey/>)





## Awareness

### Pornography Fuels Human Trafficking

Agents, porn directors, porn producers, pimps and other performers often cause women to participate in porn through:

- Force and threats of force – beating; slapping; punching; beating with objects; physical restraints; rape; gang rape; attempted rape
- Fraud – fraudulent offers of employment; promises of money and fame; deceitful enticing and affectionate behavior; lying about working conditions
- Coercion – threats of serious harm to body, reputation, finances; intense manipulation by pornographers to lure in naive women; threatened legal action in an effort to intimidate and control; intimidation and humiliation; emotional and physical coercion used to break the woman's resistance to hardcore sex acts; drugs and alcohol. Accordingly many performers in pornography are being sex trafficked. (<http://stoptraffickingdemand.com/trafficking-within-the-industry/>)

### Porn Trains Victims

Traffickers show pornography to sex trafficking victims to train them and desensitize them to the sex acts they will be forced to perform. This is especially true if the victim is a child or a young woman. The victims soon believe that porn sex is real sex and that everyone is expected to perform this way.

### Victims Produce Porn

Forced sex acts between a trafficked woman or child and a "John" are often filmed and photographed. Reports from victims, "pimps", "Johns" and law enforcement show that the recorded footage is used in various ways:

- Uploaded to the Internet for mass consumption. Popular sites share free user-generated content. Some content is uploaded to pay-for-porn sites as well. There is no way to always tell the difference between "consensual" acts and "forced" acts in porn.
- "Pimps" use the images as advertisements for selling their victims again through popular websites such as Craigslist.com or Backpage.com.
- "Johns" share their recordings on "bragging" forums with other men

who buy sex.

- Trafficked women and children are sometimes used in the increasingly popular "Live Porn" where a performer is in front of a webcam. Then a "John"/viewer relays requests, often for torture, through chat and within seconds the requests are filled ("Be your own porn director!"); live stream the raping of girls by "Johns" with others watching via the webcam.
- "Pimps" have capitalized on web porn, knowing they can make more money and remain anonymous much easier by getting into the business of creating porn. There have been many reports that "pimps" will manage their own porn sites to make even more money. This enables them to get paid not only for the initial exchange, but to continue making money even after the "John" has finished. Some victims have explained that they are required to maintain the websites themselves and to update them with new content frequently. Running a "virtual brothel" is safer and easier for them than selling girls on the street. (<http://stoptraffickingdemand.com/facts/>)

### Porn Feeds Demand

Porn users often seek to act out what they have viewed in pornography. Additionally, porn users demand a constant stream of new, increasingly violent and fetishized content. In order to keep up with this demand, more women and children become prostituted and trafficked.

Research demonstrates that pornography changes the brain, which leads to addiction and a desire for more deviant materials. It also creates permission-giving beliefs – that it is normal to pay for sex or that all women enjoy violent sex. These changes often lead users to act out what they have viewed. Spouses and girlfriends usually do not want to participate in the violence associated with porn sex, so the user seeks it elsewhere – through prostituted or trafficked women and children.

In The Projection Project: Journal of Human Rights and Civil Society, a study conducted interviews of 854 prostituted women from nine countries. 47% said customers tried to make them perform what the customer had seen in porn. In another study, The Witherspoon Institute, interviewed 200 prostituted women. 23% had been assaulted by clients seeking porn sex who "insist[ed] that the woman enjoyed the assault." The idea that a woman would enjoy sexual assault is an especially toxic product of pornography.

In 1983 a former prostitute, 'T.S.', testified at a public hearing in support of an anti-pornography civil rights law. She stated that men witness the abuse of women in pornography constantly, and if they cannot engage in that behavior with their wives, girlfriends, or children, they force a 'whore' to do it. She expressed concern about young girls currently being prostituted because the content in porn was so much worse than the porn her clients had been viewing in the 1970s. She worried the girls would be required to perform increasingly unsafe and humiliating acts. T.S. made this statement in 1983. Since then, pornography has grown exponentially in violence and degradation.

Demand cont. pg. 6





## Action

### Tell Carl's Jr. Executives to Stop Exploiting Women

Take to Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and all of social media to talk back to Carl's Jr. and tell them you are taking your appetite elsewhere.

Share Travis's photo (right), or your own similar photo, asking others to #cutthecarls. Check out what others are doing in this same campaign by checking hashtags #cutthecarls and #morethanmeat and then share that with others.

Tweet @Carlsjr & @Hardees and tell them - "Stop using sexual exploitation to make a profit."

Thanks 'Beauty Redefined' for getting this started!  
<http://www.beautyredefined.net/cut-the-carls/>

### Stop American Apparel's Porn Ads

Encourage American Apparel to re-examine their advertising techniques and brand identity. Contact American Apparel at: 747 Warehouse St. Los Angeles, CA 90021 T. 213-488-0226; F. 213-488-0334



### Make 'Backpage.com' More Accountable

Call on Backpage.com to eliminate their "adult services" section and to stop seeking profits from sexual exploitation. Join policy makers, feminists, religious groups, many celebrities, anti-trafficking organizations and thousands of concerned citizens in making this request.

Go to: <http://posting.www.backpage.com/classifieds/Contact>

### Campaign: #50DollarsNot50Shades

This campaign was started by Stop Porn Culture, London Abused Women's Center, Ontario and the National Center on Sexual Exploitation.

Real women don't end up like Anastasia, the girlfriend. Rather, they often end up in a women's shelter, on the run for years, or dead.

- Therefore, boycott '50 Shades of Grey' -- the film and book.
- Contribute \$50 to a local domestic violence shelter instead.
- Then use the hashtag #50dollarsnot50shades or #fiftyshadesisabuse

on your social media networks to expose what is really promoted by '50 Shades of Grey': coercion, humiliation, degradation, stalking, isolation, manipulation, physical torture, intimidation, possessiveness, jealousy, emotional and physical abuse.

**Informative Web Sites:**  
 (Each contains information related to human trafficking)

#### Consequences of Porn Addiction

<http://www.PornHarmsResearch.com>

#### Pornography and the Male Sexual Script: An Analysis of Consumption and Sexual Relations

<http://pornharmresearch.com/wp-content/uploads/Sun-Bridges-Johnson-Ezzell-2014-Pornography-and-the-male-sexual-script-An-analysis-of-consumption-and-sexual-relations.pdf>

### Library Action

Bypass the American Library Association for the sake of your community's children. It often takes only a few concerned citizens to ask for effective filters to be installed and most libraries and schools will do it. Take on this project and lead the way in your neighborhood.

Download the Safe Schools/Safe Library Kit at: <http://www.SafeLibraryProject.com>

### Demand *cont. from pg. 4*

Mainstream pornographers have commented that they are having a hard time finding girls willing to perform the increasingly deviant sex acts demanded by porn users. Hence they respond to this demand by forcing women and children to engage in sex acts while being filmed and photographed. (<http://stoptraffickingdemand.com/johns-acting-out/>)

**Stop Trafficking!** is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of *Stop Trafficking!*

[www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm](http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm)

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