

CONCERNED  
WOMEN *for* AMERICA  
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

Good morning. My name is Macy Charles, and I am the State Legislative Strategist at Concerned Women for America. We are the nation's largest public policy organization for women, and I proudly represent our half-million members nationwide, including our chapters here in New Hampshire. Thank you, Chairman Hunt and members of the committee, for your attention to the devastating problem of children's access to pornography online in New Hampshire. Because of CWA's commitment to defeating sexual exploitation and strengthening families' rights, I am here in strong support of prohibiting the distribution of pornography to minors.

The widespread distribution of pornography through the internet is a crisis. It is a pandemic, and it is coming after our kids. In the United States, children are, on average, [exposed](#) to pornography by the age of 11. The vast majority of children (94% of boys, some studies suggest) are victims of this exposure, and we have only begun to reveal the effects.

We know beyond any doubt that pornography is addictive, but *to* what exactly are we addicting children? For one, a [study](#) by the American Psychological Association notes "the younger a man was when he first viewed pornography, the more likely he was to want power over women." Pornography often normalizes and familiarizes young boys with images of sexual violence, including rape and child sex abuse. Additionally, pornography glamorizes the sex industry, often luring young women to sell their bodies as commodities, and is linked to increased rates of anxiety and a host of mental disorders.

This is not a sexual magazine hiding in a closet drawer; this is an industry profiting off violence, and it is exploiting children at younger and younger ages. Porn is societal poison, and I implore you to do something about it.

Current "solutions" are not working. Our members tell us screens and blockers are not enough. Tech-savvy predators innovate around them, straight to children's eyes. This is especially simple when exposure is unintentional. The only path forward is to hold the distributor accountable and cut the exploitation at the source. We must prohibit distributors from profiting off the sexual exploitation of minors and, in turn, makes New Hampshire a safer place for families to thrive.