



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
CALGARY DIOCESAN COUNCIL

PORNOGRAPHY HURTS

POSTCARD CAMPAIGN

Protect our children!

Speak up for stringent online pornography controls!

League members have historically voiced their concerns about pornography with national resolutions dating back to 1921! Before debuting its "Pornography Hurts" campaign in 2013, the League participated in "WRAP" (White Ribbon Against Pornography) - a crusade inspired by a Catholic woman in the USA in 1987. Our goal is to defend human dignity and impede sexual exploitation by raising awareness of pornography's addiction, victims and destructive effects on children, marriages and families.

In 2017, members across Canada adopted the resolution, "**Mandatory Age Verification Mechanisms for Adult Pornographic Websites.**" It urges the federal government to enact legislation making it a criminal offence to publish online porn without mandatory age verification controls (e.g., driver's license, credit card). Currently, anyone with access to a computer, tablet or cell phone has "unrestricted" access to porn websites - including children.

Members and non-members alike are urged to speak up by lobbying the federal government for tougher legislation on the escalating multi-billion dollar porn industry. Join the CWL in mailing postage-free postcards to the Prime Minister, Minister of Justice and your elected MP. Include your name, return address, statement on porn's harmful impact and/or a question inviting a response. Please choose from the statement and question examples below, or create your own.



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STATEMENTS:

1. Degrading images on porn websites can induce sexual assault, violence and bullying.
2. It's absurd that an 8-year old can click an "18+" button to access porn websites.
3. It's absurd that porn magazine sales are limited to 18+, yet websites are unregulated.
4. It's alarming that any child with a computer or cell phone can access online porn.
5. Gambling sites must verify that users are "18+" as should harmful porn sites.
6. Marijuana is regulated to protect minors, as should harmful porn websites.
7. Porn breeds a culture of rape and abuse that often targets women and children.
8. Porn is abusive and degrading for voiceless victims of human trafficking.
9. Porn fuels the global sex trade, inciting demand for human trafficking.
10. Porn victims are scarred for life, as their images circulate forever.
11. Porn victims' sense of humiliation and worthlessness escalates with age.
12. Sexual education shouldn't encompass violent and degrading porn websites.
13. Smoking, gambling and alcohol are regulated, as should addictive porn.
14. The United Kingdom has shown that age verification for porn websites is doable.
15. Viewing porn can lead to damaging behaviors and sexual relationships.

QUESTIONS:

1. As our elected leader, how will you protect children from unrestricted online access?
2. Can Canadians count on you to protect children from unrestricted online access?
3. What action is the government taking to protect children from unrestricted online access?



Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister

Hon. Jody Raybould-Wilson
Minister of Justice

Hon. Jane Doe
MP – (Constituency)

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