

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 5, 2011

Dear General Holder:

We write to urge the Department of Justice vigorously to enforce federal obscenity laws against major commercial distributors of hardcore adult pornography. To that end, we urge you direct that the FBI and U.S. Attorneys work together to combat the growing scourge of obscenity in America.

In June 1998, when you served as Deputy Attorney General, you directed U.S. Attorneys to enforce these laws. The need for consistent and vigorous enforcement is even greater today because both obscene pornography and evidence of its harms have multiplied since then. Laws exist to respond to this crisis, but they need to be enforced.

Last June, an important briefing in the Capitol outlined how pornography has changed, becoming more harmful, addictive, and available, and linked to other crimes. Researchers, scholars, and other experts explained, for example, how today's hardcore pornography is typified by extreme violence against women and how pornography consumption can contribute to sexual harassment and sexual violence. Another expert warned that Internet adult pornography normalizes sexual harm to children, while another addressed the growing connection between pornography and sex trafficking. You should also be aware that the next version of the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual will include a disorder that encompasses pornography addiction.

Simply put, we know more than ever how illegal adult obscenity contributes to violence against women, addiction, harm to children, and sex trafficking. This material harms individuals, families, and communities and the problems are only getting worse. We urge you to study the evidence gathered in such sources as [www.pornographyharms.com](http://www.pornographyharms.com) to more fully understand the crisis and the urgent need for enforcement.

As you know, adult obscenity is not protected by the First Amendment. Congress has for decades passed laws seeking to curb the production and distribution of obscene pornography, including on the Internet. A consistent and strong commitment to enforcing these laws can have a significant impact.

We believe it is imperative that the Department, with cooperation by the FBI, investigate and prosecute all major producers and distributors of adult obscenity. We need your leadership.

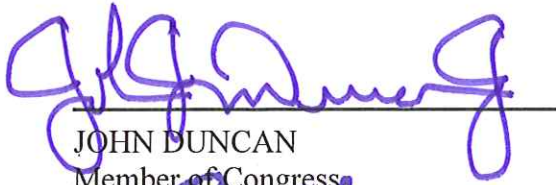
Sincerely,



J. RANDY FORBES  
Member of Congress



MIKE MCINTYRE  
Member of Congress



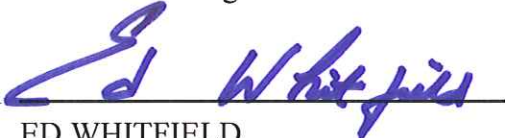
JOHN DUNCAN  
Member of Congress



JASON CHAFFETZ  
Member of Congress



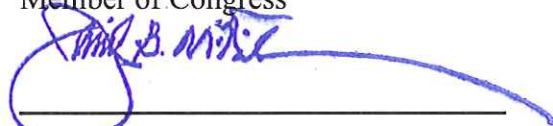
TODD AKIN  
Member of Congress



ED WHITFIELD  
Member of Congress



MIKE ROSS  
Member of Congress



DAVID MCKINLEY  
Member of Congress



CLIFF STEARNS  
Member of Congress



DONALD MANZULLO  
Member of Congress



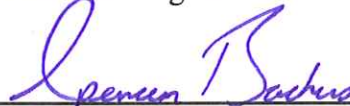
KENNY MARCHANT  
Member of Congress



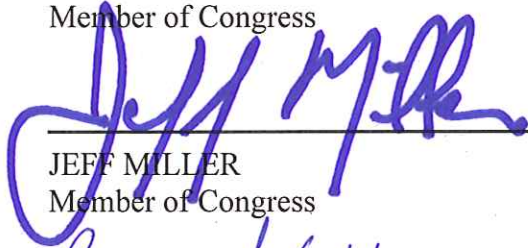
JOE WILSON  
Member of Congress



MICK MULVANEY  
Member of Congress



SPENCER BACHUS  
Member of Congress



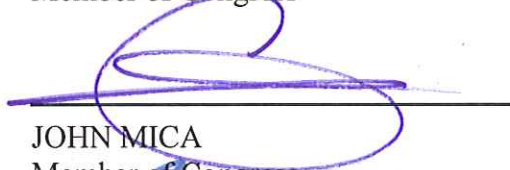
JEFF MILLER  
Member of Congress



RENEE ELLMERS  
Member of Congress



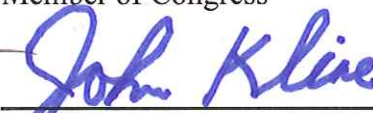
ALAN NUNNELEE  
Member of Congress



JOHN MICA  
Member of Congress



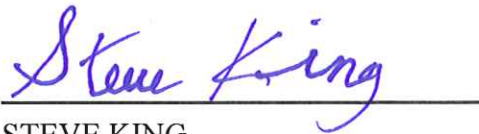
PETER DEFAZIO  
Member of Congress



JOHN KLINE  
Member of Congress



THADDEUS MCCOTTER  
Member of Congress



STEVE KING  
Member of Congress



SANDY ADAMS  
Member of Congress



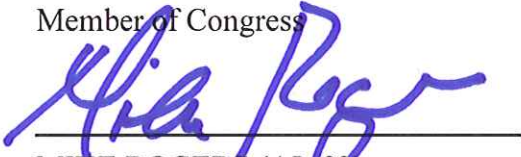
TRENT FRANKS  
Member of Congress



MIKE COFFMAN  
Member of Congress



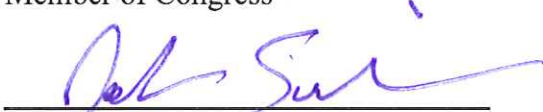
DUNCAN HUNTER  
Member of Congress



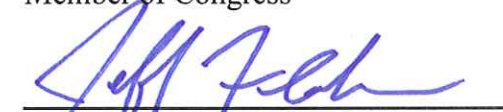
MIKE ROGERS (AL-03)  
Member of Congress



GARY MILLER  
Member of Congress



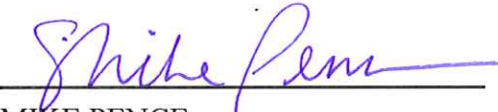
JOHN SULLIVAN  
Member of Congress



JEFF FLAKE  
Member of Congress



BOB GOODLATTE  
Member of Congress



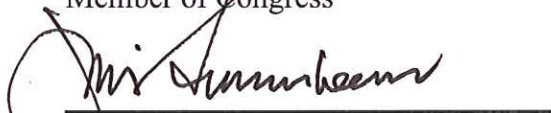
MIKE PENCE  
Member of Congress



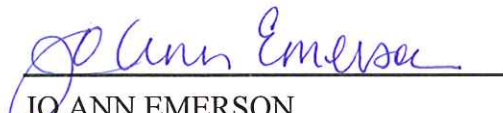
ROBERT LATTA  
Member of Congress



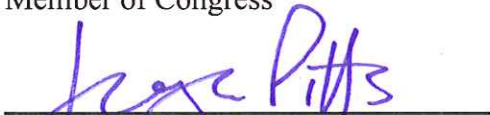
DIANE BLACK  
Member of Congress



JAMES SENSENBRENNER  
Member of Congress



JO ANN EMERSON  
Member of Congress



JOSEPH PITTS  
Member of Congress





TREY GOWDY  
Member of Congress

  
FRANK WOLF  
Member of Congress

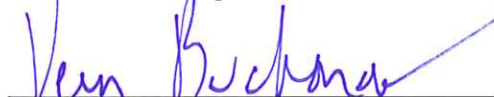
  
DAVID ROE  
Member of Congress

  
ADAM KINZINGER  
Member of Congress

  
MICHAEL CONAWAY  
Member of Congress

  
CHARLES BOUSTANY  
Member of Congress

  
JAMES LANKFORD  
Member of Congress

  
VERN BUCHANAN  
Member of Congress

  
HOWARD COBLE  
Member of Congress

  
SCOTT RIGELL  
Member of Congress


  
MARK CRITZ  
Member of Congress

  
TIM HUELSKAMP  
Member of Congress


  
RANDY NEUGEBAUER  
Member of Congress


  
TODD ROKITA  
Member of Congress

  
WALTER JONES  
Member of Congress

  
JIM JORDAN  
Member of Congress

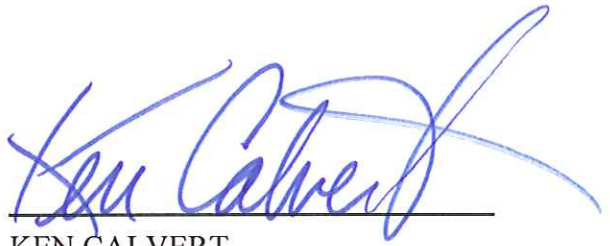
  
DENNIS ROSS  
Member of Congress

  
ROBERT DOLD  
Member of Congress

  
BILL FLORES  
Member of Congress



HOWARD MCKEON  
Member of Congress



KEN CALVERT  
Member of Congress



LOUIE GOHMERT  
Member of Congress



MIKE KELLY  
Member of Congress



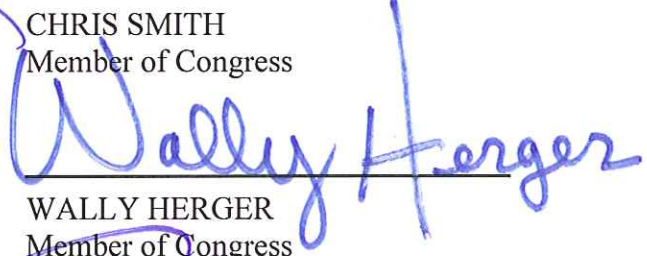
ROBERT ADERHOLT  
Member of Congress



CHRIS SMITH  
Member of Congress



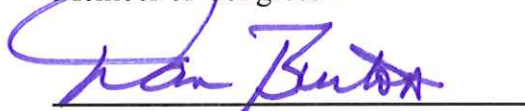
DAN BOREN  
Member of Congress



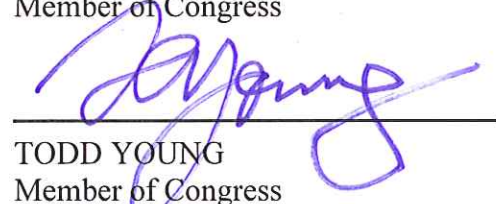
WALLY HERGER  
Member of Congress



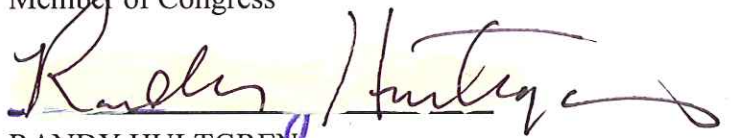
STEVAN PEARCE  
Member of Congress



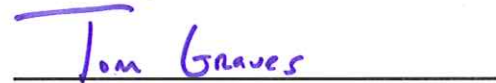
DAN BURTON  
Member of Congress



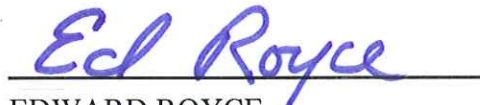
TODD YOUNG  
Member of Congress



RANDY HULTGREN  
Member of Congress



TOM GRAVES  
Member of Congress



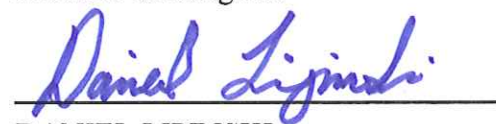
EDWARD ROYCE  
Member of Congress



SUE WILKINS MYRICK  
Member of Congress



JACK KINGSTON  
Member of Congress



DANIEL LIPINSKI  
Member of Congress



JEFFREY LANDRY  
Member of Congress

*John Fleming*  
JOHN FLEMING  
Member of Congress