

# MORALITY IN MEDIA

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*The leading national organization  
opposing pornography and  
indecentry through public education  
and the application of the law*

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*Attorney at Law*

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1100 G Street NW #1030  
Washington, DC 20005

Office: 202.393.7245  
Fax: 202.393.1717

[grassroots@pornharms.com](mailto:grassroots@pornharms.com)

June 16, 2014

Mr. Lowell C. McAdam  
Chief Executive Officer  
Verizon Communications  
140 West Street  
New York, NY 10007

Re: Request for meeting

Dear Mr. McAdam:

We are writing on behalf of the Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation to request a meeting with you and your senior staff to discuss Verizon's promotion of sexually exploitive behavior, particularly through the distribution of hardcore, possibly obscene pornography on your FIOS TV video service.

As you may recall, we wrote to you in March of this year when Morality in Media placed Verizon on our "Dirty Dozen List," an annual list of the top promoters of pornography in America. In our letter we noted that Verizon is likely violating U.S. obscenity law, 18 U.S. Code Section 1468, which prohibits distribution of obscene matter by means of cable television or subscription services on television. We noted that Verizon was offering a large variety of pornographic videos, many of which were targeted to adults who enjoy pornography with child themes such as "Pigtail Teens Pounded," "I Banged My Stepdad," "Mom, Daughter, and Me," "I Did the Babysitter," and "Young Amateur Teens."

Your director of Global Corporate Citizenship answered our letter attempting to justify such offerings by claiming that "this explosion of choice is of tremendous benefit to consumers." We were offended by this statement and encouraged the public to write and call the Verizon board of directors to encourage them to follow a better course of action.

We note that you have since eliminated the specific child-themed pornographic videos that we complained of and wish to congratulate you in doing so. This is a good step forward because no respectable company should cater to the gutter instincts of adults who enjoy material that purports to depict child sexual abuse.

However, Verizon is still offering a host of disgusting pornographic material, some of which appeals to that same gutter instinct. Verizon partners with Hustler, a noxious hardcore pornography company known for

its open misogyny (Hustler once featured on its cover a naked woman being fed into a meat grinder) and pornographic material that promotes adult-child sex fantasies. Hustler's produces the "Barely Legal" porn video series designed to appeal to these fantasies. Actresses are selected for the series that look very young and act like children. Verizon's Barely Legal offerings include, "F... the Nanny," which is described on FIOS as follows: "The *tiny* (emphasis added) sitter is curious about what you've got in your pants! Show her just how good that rough sex feels!" Others from your Hustler Barely Legal pornography include, "Dainty Girls Love it," "Almost 99lbs," and "18YO Girl Next Door."

Verizon offers similar pornographic material from other distributors, such as porn company Climaxx TV. The porn films in the company's "Young Girls" series include "He's a Perv," and "Natural and Perfect." Verizon also offers many pornographic videos that perpetuate racial stereotypes. "Asian Amateurs" is described on FIOS as depicting, "Sexy Asian amateurs on their knees to service you." "Girls/Older Men B&W" depicts "Six White Wildcats are seduced by horny Black older men..."

The Coalition to End Sexual Exploitation is a broad based group of concerned leaders and more than 150 organizations active in national, state, and local efforts to stop the same sexual exploitation in which Verizon engages. We are in earnest about our task because we are witnessing the widespread devastation to men, women, and even children and to our country due to pornography. Therefore we are targeting the major pornographers, like Verizon.

Google, which is also on our Dirty Dozen List, has recently taken major steps to extricate itself from the promotion of pornography. The company just announced that it will no longer allow pornographic ads and ads that link to sexually explicit websites. They also removed all sexually explicit apps from Google Play. We are applauding Google's good citizenship and hope that Verizon will follow suit to extricate itself from the pornography business.

Because all pornography exploits we strongly urge Verizon to stop involvement in *all pornography*. Pornography is causing widespread addiction, breakdown of marriages, child sex abuse, violence against women, and a host of other societal ills.

Verizon's own content policies prohibit pornographic content for material that "Verizon generates or produces, or to content that a third party generates or produces on Verizon's behalf." See "Content Policies for Verizon Networks," <http://responsibility.verizon.com/content-policy>, prohibiting "Content that contains anything that is obscene or indecent, or content with strong sexual, explicit or erotic themes or that links to such content." This is a policy that Verizon should employ across the board, not just for content generated by the company.

We are now set to launch a much larger effort against Verizon unless the company gets out of the pornography business. Before we do, we would be like to meet with you to discuss this matter. It would be our intention to bring to the meeting key members of our Coalition who are medical doctors, researchers, academics, and activists with extensive knowledge on the harms of pornography. We would like to educate you and your senior staff on these harms so that you can consider whether to continue promoting pornography to the American public.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Patrick A. Trueman  
President & CEO



Dawn Hawkins  
Executive Director