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## NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE REFORM OF THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS

# NCROPA

HON. DIRECTOR — David Webb, 15 Sloane Court West, Chelsea, London SW3 4TD — Tel: 01-730 9537

COMMITTEE —David Kennington Litt.D., Gerald Fowler, M.A.Hon., F.A.B.E.,  
E.A.C. Goodman, LL.B.(Sol), Clifford Hanley, Pamela Manson, Eric E. Miller,  
Dr. Christine Pickard, M.B., Ch.B., Alexander Barrie AADipl, MAIE, Isabel Koprowski BA

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## NEWS MEDIA RELEASE

The NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE REFORM OF THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS (NCROPA) deplores the hysterical claims being made by some women M.P.s that so-called 'pornography' was responsible for the brutal rapes of two teenage girls, and not the intrinsically evil and irresponsible actions of the three rapists themselves.

As any honest lawyer will confirm, the citing of "pornography" as the trigger stimulus for such otherwise seemingly indefensible criminal behaviour is the favourite recourse of many a defence advocate in cases of sexual assault. The only twist in this case, ironically, is that it is the prosecuting counsel who is, and without any justification whatsoever, citing the mere discovery in the rape flat of a 'pornographic' magazine containing a sex fantasy story, as the inciting model for the appalling crimes which the defendants perpetrated and, in the process, virtually exonerating them for their crimes ahead of their own defence counsels' pleas in mitigation.

The women M.P.s, for their part, in their frenzied haste to capitalise on the inevitable emotive reaction to such outrageous behaviour, especially by some extreme feminists, have quite unjustifiably also seized upon this irrelevant piece of information and drawn a totally irrational and improper conclusion that it was the 'pornographic' magazine which was to blame. It was not. The blame lies fairly and squarely on the shoulders of those who committed the rapes, and on their entirely selfish and uncontrollable, self-motivated behaviour.

All kinds of human behaviour are depicted in the media, both good and bad, pleasant and unpleasant, legal and illegal and, of course, sexual and non-sexual. But the mere depiction of such behaviour, whatever that may be, whether it be in books,

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magazines, plays, films, or videos, however vile or heinous, in no way justifies the reader or viewer - the 'consumer' - imitating that behaviour in reality, nor excuses him or her for so doing.

No-one would seriously propose that any depiction in the media of, for example, murder, should be made illegal because such depiction would then justify 'consumer' imitative behaviour; and if a 'copycat' murder was then committed by the 'consumer', no-one would seriously put the blame on the depiction of the murder which was seen by the real-life murderer, rather than on the real-life murderer him or herself. The notion that poor old, much maligned 'pornography' is the root cause of all sex crime, as promulgated by many of our M.P.s, is, frankly, a nonsense. Furthermore, it is incorrect to infer, as some of them have done, that the link between its availability and sexual offences has not been researched. All the really credible major, world investigations into the subject have come up with the same conclusion, which is that 'pornography' is basically harmless, often positively helpful, and should therefore be freely available to those consenting adults who desire it.

What is very important to note is that, yet again, in a notorious case involving the commission of serious sexual offences, a hugely significant part was played by the use of drink and drugs, In this instance alcohol and cannabis. It might be more prudent for those hysterical women M.P.s to turn their attention to the certain links between these and sexual offences before clamouring for even more restrictions and proscriptions of innocuous 'pornography' than those we are already subject to in this absurdly and uniquely over-censored country.

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For further information telephone DAVID WEBB, Hon. Dir. NCROPA on 01-730 9537