



RECEIVED JUN 10 2003

U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Nebraska*

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June 3, 2003

Ms. Sandy Rios, President
Ms. Janet M. LaRue, Chief Counsel
Concerned Women for America
1015 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: CWA inquiry into status of obscenity investigations

Dear Ms. Rios and Ms. LaRue:

I have received your letter dated April 30, 2003, inquiring into the status of investigations into obscenity complaints referred to this office by the organization Morality in Media. The complaints we have received from Morality in Media all reference obscenity available over the internet. Under Department of Justice policy, we are precluded from confirming or denying the existence of specific investigations except in exceptional circumstances. I can tell you, however, that we take seriously all complaints we receive concerning alleged criminal behavior including those complaints alleging a violation of federal obscenity laws.

My office routinely files criminal charges alleging the illegal possession and distribution of child pornography. Adult obscenity cases, however, present different legal and policy issues. Guidelines issued by the United States Department of Justice direct that obscenity cases which are committed via computer are to be prosecuted in the district where the target and his or her computer are located. Multiple prosecutions in different districts are discouraged by that same policy. I am unaware of any complaints which have been referred to this office where the provider of the allegedly obscene materials is located in Nebraska.

I assure you my office will work within the United States Department of Justice policy on these matters. At a minimum, however, we will require that the provider and/or his computer be located in Nebraska.

Ms. Sandy Rios, President
Ms. Janet M. LaRue, Chief Counsel
Concerned Women for America
1015 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Suite 1100
June 2, 2003
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Thank you for writing to express your concerns about the matters referred by
Morality in Media. The issues you raise are of importance to us as we carry out our duty
to enforce federal criminal statutes.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael G. Heavican", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MICHAEL G. HEAVICAN
United States Attorney

MGH/js