



U. S. Department of Justice

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*United States Attorney
Northern District of New York*

June 9, 2003

P.O. Box 7198

315-448-0672

100 South Clinton Street

FAX: 315-448-0689

Syracuse, New York 13261-7198

Sandy Rios, President
and
Janet M. LaRue, Esquire
Chief Counsel
Concerned Women for America
1015 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Rios and Ms. LaRue:

We have received your letter of April 30, 2003 inquiring about our response to various complaints about obscene material available on the Internet. As you point out, obscenity is an issue of great concern to the Attorney General of the United States and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of New York shares that concern. Because of the national, indeed global scope of the Internet, this problem requires a coordinated response and the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section in Washington and its High Tech Investigative Unit are spearheading that effort.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of New York, together with our partners in state and local law enforcement, have focused on an aggressive campaign to combat the pernicious effects of child pornography and sexual exploitation of minors in our area. Given our limited local investigative and prosecutorial resources and the variety of extremely serious criminal threats confronting our region, we believe that this strategy best protects the interests of our citizens.

Over the past few years, we have brought criminal charges in more than 35 child pornography cases, as well as a significant number of other types of child exploitation cases. Most of these defendants, who either lived in our District or attempted to abuse minors here, have received substantial prison sentences. One of our prosecutors was recently recognized by the Department of Justice for his dedicated investigation and prosecution of these types of violations. Please rest assured that we intend to continue our vigorous efforts in this critical area. However,

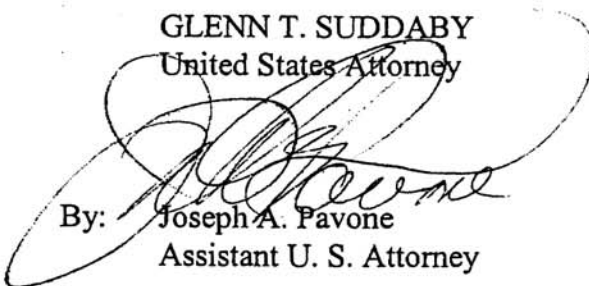
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given the confidential nature of law enforcement activities, we cannot provide further information about pending investigations.

We greatly appreciate your interest in the work of our Office and your suggestions about how we should balance our competing law enforcement priorities.

Sincerely,

GLENN T. SUDDABY
United States Attorney


By: Joseph A. Pavone
Assistant U. S. Attorney

JAP/pjb