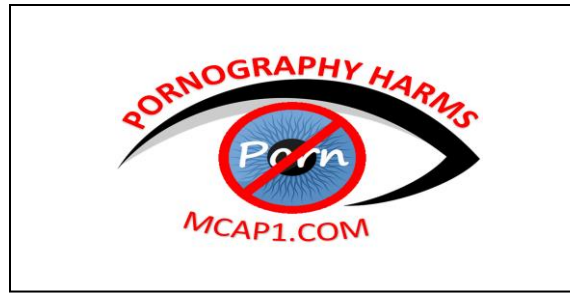


Making a Difference

The quarterly newsletter of the Maryland Coalition Against Pornography, Inc.

www.mcap1.com or [en español](#)

MCAP Hotline: 301-439-8475



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Montgomery and Prince George's Counties

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QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

from MCAP's survey of Maryland candidates for Board of Education

Maryland voters, please check out a valuable resource on our website, www.mcap1.com, to see answers to the following 4 questions that MCAP asked 90 candidates. We received many helpful replies that we hope will enable voters to make informed decisions during the primary election in early May. Learn the stances taken on these questions:

1) In your view, should parents have the right to direct the upbringing of their children with regard to the teaching of sex education, gender identity theory, and other sensitive topics? What policies would you put in place with regard to parental rights?

2) Some school systems have approved sexually explicit materials for public school libraries. For example, the book "Gender Queer" shows a graphic depiction of oral sex. Do you support making sexually explicit materials available in public school libraries? (For other examples, please see https://campussuite-storage.s3.amazonaws.com/prod/33903/86de7fb0-3a18-11e6-b537-22000bd8490f/2711569/93c52914-95de-11ee-bcf3-0a58a9feac02/file/FinalBookReconsiderationReport_2023.pdf)

3) The Carroll County public schools recently passed a policy prohibiting sexually explicit materials. Do you support or oppose similar policies in your school district? Why or why not?

4) Do you support or oppose the use of the videos by Amaze.org in our public schools, which include topics such as "How many times can a person masturbate in a day" and "Is it normal to watch porn?". See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50kgHtgblqY&list=PLwKLUKhFLWhYrnqR1rb1DKA4Ld6a4omL&index=3>

Other sources by which you can keep informed include:

In Montgomery County, the [YouTube recording](#) of a forum conducted by the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County.

Additionally, their [Voters' Guide online](#) includes responses from candidates. Starting on page 26, the question dealing with Parental Input may be of particular interest.

Likewise, the [Prince George's County LOWV Guide](#) can be consulted online.

Please remember that MCAP does not endorse any candidates.

WHAT DID COME TO PASS IN THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS YEAR?

MCAP's Winter 2024 newsletter and our website listed 14 bills being considered in our state's legislature that we were tracking, dealing with pornography. Of those, many more hearings were held, witnesses testified (including by MCAP), committee reports submitted and votes by Senators and Delegates cast. In some cases, an entire chamber voted unanimously in favor. But in the end, only 2 bills were enacted and now await the governor's signature: SB 113 and SB 182. This newsletter will cover those, then our next summer newsletter will discuss the others that **failed** to progress.

[SB 113](#) was the most of interest. Excerpts from the testimony of the lead sponsor, Senator Ariana Kelly (who deserves thanks) explain its import:

What does SB113 do?

Currently, Maryland's Criminal Law Article, Title 11 covers Indecency and Obscenity. Section 207 of the Indecency Title is the "child pornography" statute which, among other things, makes it illegal for an individual to solicit a minor to engage in the production of obscene material. The penalties are 10 years and \$25,000 for a first offense. Not only is soliciting a minor to create child pornography criminal behavior in itself, as it should be - it is also sometimes a first step in online grooming a minor for future physical acts or trafficking. That's where Section 3- 324 comes in. Under the current law against child pornography (under the Obscenity Title section 11-207), there is a gap that makes it difficult for law enforcement to prosecute individuals who are sexually targeting children online.

SB 113 adds a tool in the toolbox for law enforcement by linking the child pornography statute (11-207) to the existing "Sexual Solicitation of a Minor" statute (3-324).

Section 3-324 is a statute that defines "Sexual Solicitation of a Minor" and prohibits it. The definition is pretty straightforward. This legislation does not change the existing definition of "solicit" in the sex crimes subtitle - this can occur in person or online. All it does is appropriately add the production of child pornography reference 11-207 to the existing list of cross-referenced sex crimes against children. This would ensure the criminal penalties apply even when the "minor" being solicited to produce child pornography is an undercover police officer posing as a minor or parent. This addition would also cover third party solicitation which includes predators soliciting parents, siblings, neighbors, etc. to produce images of children. SB 113 adds an eighth crime to the list of crimes referenced in this statute. This is a small change in statute that will protect our children. Bad actors who solicit minors for physical contact will often solicit them for the production of child pornography before asking to meet. This minor change in Maryland statute allows undercover law enforcement to act as a line of first defense between offenders and our children.

Another key witness at the hearing was the heroine of last year's legislative session whom MCAP lauded in our Spring 2023 newsletter, Joyce King - the experienced prosecutor and Chief Counsel at the Frederick County State's Attorney's Office. She explained in detail what this change in statute will do and importantly, what it will not. Also, Major Jeff Eyler from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office shared the undercover operations process and the rampant solicitation of child pornography from offenders.

[SB 182](#) was not of great substantial interest, only dealing with a law enforcement provision that encompassed the prosecution of crimes, some of which related to pornography. It established requirements relating to the use of facial recognition technology by a law enforcement agency under certain circumstances.

THE 2024 [DIRTY DOZEN LIST](#) HAS BEEN RELEASED BY NCOSE



The Dirty Dozen List is an annual campaign by the National Center on Sexual Temptation calling out twelve mainstream entities for facilitating, enabling, and even profiting from sexual abuse and exploitation. Since its inception in 2013, the Dirty Dozen List has galvanized thousands of individuals like YOU to call on corporations, government agencies, and organizations to change problematic policies and practices. This campaign has yielded major victories at Google, Netflix, TikTok, Hilton Worldwide, Verizon, Walmart, US Department of Defense, and many more.

The website [DIRTY DOZEN LIST](#) includes links to further actions readers can take to join with petitions or letter-writing campaigns to protect these exploiters or sources of problems that MCAP urges you to participate in.

[How to Block Adult Websites on My Phone Permanently](#) (7 Methods)

Sharing this intriguing, very helpful [article](#) from CANOPY. In this article, the author walks you through 7 methods to do so:

1. iPhone Built-In Settings,
2. [Canopy's Internet Filter](#)
3. Android SafeSearch
4. Changing Your Router Settings
5. Using Apple Mac Settings
6. On Safari Browser
7. On Firefox Browser

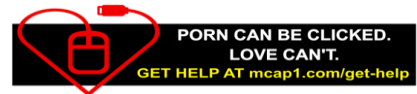
ACTION BOX

- ❖ MCAP is in great need of board members and administrative help, e.g. newsletter editing, legislative, graphic design, fundraising and social media outreach! **Please** email mcapinc@mcap1.com if you wish to serve. Monthly Zoom meetings are easy to attend, usually on a Wed. evening.
- ❖ Could your child's school use a speaker to talk about Internet dangers? Contact Officer [Joe Dugan](mailto:joseph.dugan@maryland.gov) at joseph.dugan@maryland.gov. He has been a member of
- ❖ the state Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, and is well-experienced.
- ❖ Concerned enough to protest sexualized materials that have been found in local county public school libraries and curricula? See the "Take Back the Classroom" resources from [Capitol Resource Institute](#).
- ❖ Can you translate English into Spanish? We need help with that, to offer educational handouts en Español. Please email us!



If you are on Facebook, do "like" [MCAP's page](#), keep current on developments with issues we are following, and share with others.

Request our decal



Making a Difference is published quarterly online and printed once a year. Editor: Peggy Cairns. A membership in MCAP is \$15 per year. This entitles you to receive the annual printed newsletter. All contributions to MCAP are tax deductible. We hope you will consider a donation via a check to MCAP, P.O. Box 2868, Silver Spring, MD 20915-2868 or via [Paypal](#).



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