

Jeanne Sarson, MEd, BScN, RN and Linda MacDonald, MEd, BN, RN

March 31, 2016

Arnold Viersen, M.P.
Member of Parliament for Peace River - Westlock
House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

VIA E-MAIL: arnold.viersen.a2@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Viersen:

We are writing to you in support of your Motion M-47, *On the Public Health Effects of Violent Sexual Material*, you introduced in the House of Commons, March 8, 2016.

We have dedicated the past 23 years of our professional nursing careers working to gain human and legal rights for individuals who have survived acts of torture victimization carried out in the domestic or private sphere by individuals and groups, including by parents, extended family members, human traffickers, pornographers, pimps and johns, and other like-minded individuals. Within this context women so victimized reveal that they as children and or as adults have been forced by such perpetrators to participate in violent pornographic acts that have been recorded in some form of media and that such crime scene images are also utilized as 'training' material. Therefore, the misogynistic and misopedic harms we are professionally familiar with are the extreme destructive consequences to the women and to the girls or boys who are made vulnerable by such victimization.

The third dimension of harm is on the viewers be they a child or adult. Therefore, such harmful effects require the absolute need to address demand. Demand is connected to the supply and to the victimization not only of the viewers and the harmful misogynistic attitudes that can devour their concepts of respectful and consenting sexuality, but it also nourishes various criminal activities against women and children, especially the girl child. These crimes include the manufacture of torture pornography and snuff or kill pornography,¹ and also sexualized crimes and exploitation of women and girls. Research data from the Canadian Centre for Child Protection provides the knowledge that the fastest-growing category of crime scene child pornography involves newborns to age eight years and that "torture" and "bondage", bondage being a form of sadomasochism, is perpetrated against these very young children, predominately by family and friends.²

Such victimization creates a very vulnerable population that fosters a multitude of grave concerns from public health to addressing human equality and legal rights. We support M-47 being adopted.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Sarson, MEd, BScN, RN and Linda MacDonald, MEd, BN, RN

¹ Sarson, J. & MacDonald, L. (2015). [Fact Sheet: Torture in the Private Sphere](#).

² Cribb, R. (2015, April 26). [Underground child porn trade moving towards youngest victims](#). *The Hamilton Spectator*.