

November 22, 2023

Dear BC Members of Parliament,

I am writing to ask you to support <u>Bill S-210</u>, which requires commercial pornography sites to verify that consumers are adults in order to allow access to their content. This protection is necessary and urgent.

During the week of November 20th, the House of Commons is expected to debate Bill S-210. The bill, currently at second reading, was passed by acclamation in the Senate last April. It is now sponsored in the Commons by MP Karen Vecchio, Chair of the Standing Committee on the Status of Women.

Violent, degrading and dehumanizing, this abusive content is freely and easily accessible by children and young people, who are logging into or are inadvertently exposed to online pornography at an increasingly early age.

A growing body of research clearly underscores that children's exposure to this content contributes to multiple harms – impacting children's mental, social, and physical health.

The bill is supported by experts, lawyers, and civil society groups, including but not limited to: (*Click to access their reports in support of Bill S210)

- National Council of Women of Canada*
- Canadian Centre for Child Protection*
- Parents Aware*
- International Center on Sexual Exploitation*

I ask you to please support Bill S-210 throughout the legislative process. It is essential that we protect Canada's 8 million children from exposure to online pornography.

I am looking to you to prioritize the protection of children and to help ensure that this Bill passes.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Montani, Executive Director

- cc. The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
- cc. The Honourable Jenna Sudds, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development
- cc. The Honourable Marci len- Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth
- cc. The Honourable Pascale St-Onge, Minister of Canadian Heritage