



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

4th September 2009

Ms Sara Winter,
Ofcom,
Contents and Standards,
Riverside House,
2A Southwark Bridge Road,
London SE1 9HA

De Sara Winter,

I am writing with regard to your consultation package on revising the Broadcasting Code. Standards in the public media is an area which I have taken some interest in over the year's, including a private members Bill and a 10 minute rule Bill both relating to the British Board for Film Classification.

Rather than filling in your extended online questionnaire, I would be grateful if I could simply register my support for the submission on sexual material submitted by Christian Concern for Our Nation. Their case should be seen as a strong one from a humanitarian, rather than just a specifically religious, point of view. Most people accept that what people see in the media affects how they behave in everyday life. Despite the extensive academic debates over this premise, it is one which every advertiser simply takes for granted.

In September 2007 the **Ministry of Justice** published a research paper (research series 11/07) which you have probably read. It concluded that there is "clear and consistent [evidence that] exposure to pornography puts one at increased risk for ... committing sex offences, experiencing difficulties in one's intimate relationships and accepting rape myths."

Family breakdown is one of the great scourges of our time and is surely at least part of the reason why two international surveys have concluded that Britain is the worst country in the developed world for children to grow up in. Elaborate measures are developing to protect children from unsuitable Internet material. Tightening, rather than loosening, controls on television should, I believe, go hand in hand with these.

2nd E-File