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July 15, 1983

Dear Ben:

Thank you for your recent letters following up on our March 28 meeting concerning enforcement of Federal anti-obscenity laws.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet with you and other leaders from some of the groups concerned about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. I was impressed by your testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, I want you to know that we have set up a working group here at the White House to coordinate enforcement efforts under Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. Direction will be provided by Steve Galebach in our Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your outspoken concern and support in this important matter. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

Dr. Ben Armstrong
Executive Director
National Religious Broadcasters
CN 1926
Morristown, New Jersey 07960

RR:OPD:AVH:CMD:RDC:RCH:
P-122(v)
cc: Morton Blackwell

July 12, 1983

Dear Archbishop May:

Knowing of your strong support for enforcement of Federal anti-obscenity laws, I am taking this opportunity to bring you up to date on our recent initiative in this area.

As you may know, I had a meeting at the White House in March with citizen leaders who are concerned about the spread of ever more extreme forms of pornography throughout our land. I am impressed by their testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities.

In response to the thoughtful recommendations made at that meeting, we have set up a White House working group to coordinate among the Federal agencies with responsibility for investigation and enforcement under Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate the support of concerned leaders for our efforts in this important matter. Thank you again for your interest, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

The Most Reverend John L. May
Archbishop of St. Louis
The Catholic Center
4445 Lindell Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63108

RR:OPD:AVH:CAD:RDC:RCH:AVH:plr-7pman

cc: w/copy of inc. to Morton Blackwell



THE CATHOLIC CENTER

Archdiocese of St. Louis

February 24, 1983

133630

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

May I thank you for your action on February 16 urging speedy passage by Congress of the tuition tax credit legislation. Your action is a great encouragement to so many people of modest income who are struggling to maintain our tradition of private schools working side by side with our public schools for the better education of all our children.

May I ask also your favorable consideration of the interfaith appeal for vigorous enforcement of the federal anti obscenity laws in the war against pornography. Very respectfully I would like to join with so many others in requesting your executive instruction to the Attorney General to carry out such enforcement of our laws which have already been enacted for this purpose.

With my prayers for you and all your work for our people,

Sincerely yours,


Most Reverend John L. May
Archbishop of St. Louis

Maiselle -- Chuck Donovan asked me to send
you copies of the Presidential and Anne
Higgins' form letters regarding pornography.

Maureen Hudson

P-122

RE: Pornography

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 21, 1983

Dear VnameV:

Thank you for writing to express your support for enforcement of Federal anti-obscenity laws.

In March of this year, I had the opportunity to meet in the White House with leaders from some of the groups concerned about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. I was impressed by their testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, we have set up a working group here at the White House to coordinate enforcement efforts under Federal anti-obscenity laws.

Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. Direction will be provided by our Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your support in this important matter. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

(6/20/83)

Vinside_addressV

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RDC/RCH

P-122A

RE: Pornography

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 21, 1983

Dear VnameV:

Thank you for writing to express your support for enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

In March of this year, I had the opportunity to meet in the White House with leaders from some of the groups concerned about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. I was impressed by their testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, we have set up a working group here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws.

Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your support in this important matter. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

(6/20/83)

Vinside_addressV

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH

P-122B

RESTRICTED TO MORTON BLACKWELL

RE: Pornography (letters addressed to Morton Blackwell)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 28, 1983

Dear VnameV:

Morton Blackwell has shown me your letter expressing support for enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

In March of this year, I had the opportunity to meet in the White House with leaders from some of the groups concerned about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. I was impressed by their testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, we have set up a working group here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws.

Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your support in this important matter. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

(6/24/83)

Vinside_addressV

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 19, 1983 (XXX198)

Dear Mr. Ortega:

Thank you for your message to President Reagan expressing concern about the nationwide sale and distribution of obscene materials. I can assure you that the President shares your convictions about this problem.

Leaders of citizens' groups concerned about pornography have twice met with President Reagan, first in July 1982 and more recently on March 28, 1983. These meetings were devoted to discussion of how best to enforce existing laws against pornography. The President has directed Attorney General Smith to take all appropriate action to combat pornography, and we believe that important progress has now been made against this threat.

Organized criminals are deeply involved in the manufacture and distribution of pornography. The Administration believes that it is important for Federal efforts to strike directly at such criminal groups. Accordingly, the Department of Justice has created twelve task forces throughout the country to battle organized crime. As part of this campaign, the President has also proposed creation of a special Presidential Commission on Organized Crime, which will be responsible for reviewing the problems posed by organized illegal activity in areas like drugs and pornography.

In addition, the Attorney General has already acted to ensure that the Justice Department is using existing resources to combat pornography through a four-point approach.

- . First, the FBI is in the process of identifying and investigating violations of Federal anti-pornography laws, giving priority to the most egregious violations.
- . Second, all United States Attorneys have been sent a personal memorandum from the Attorney General stressing the importance of anti-pornography enforcement, especially in cases involving large-scale distributors, organized crime and child pornography. U.S. Attorneys were told that they may prosecute where pornography is a significant local problem, and they should lend all necessary support to local officials.

(5/19/83)

- . Third, all Law Enforcement Coordinating Committees (consisting of Federal, State and local law enforcement officials) have been instructed to review the pornography threat in their areas and to coordinate efforts against it.
- . Fourth, the Justice Department has been working with Congress to strengthen the Federal law against child pornography and to increase criminal penalties for pornographers.

The Administration recognizes that total elimination of the pornography problem can be accomplished only by means of strict enforcement of local statutes and ordinances. Concerned citizens like you have the power under present Supreme Court rulings to demand the enforcement of local laws which provide the first and best line of defense against pornography and its attack on community standards.

President Reagan urges you to continue working with your fellow citizens to secure effective enforcement of pornography laws in your area. He will continue to do everything in his power to ensure that our common goals are achieved.

With the President's appreciation for your message and with his best wishes,

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

(5/19/83)

Mr. Michael Ortega
Mail Analyst Night Supervisor
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 60
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Draft Letter Re Pornography

Dear :

Thank you for writing to express your support for enforcement of our federal anti-obscenity laws.

Recently, in March of this year, I had the opportunity to meet in the White House with citizen leaders who are concerned about the spread of ever more extreme forms of pornography through our land. I was impressed by their testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities.

In response to the thoughtful recommendations made at that meeting, we have set up a White House working group to coordinate among the federal agencies that have responsibility for investigation and enforcement under the federal anti-obscenity laws. I have asked the working group to look into policy questions related to the improvement of our enforcement efforts in this area, including the proposals for action that were presented at the White House meeting in March.

Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our ^{White House} Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate the support of concerned citizens for our efforts in this important matter. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

RR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 19, 1983 (XXX198)

Dear Mr. Ortega:

Thank you for your message to President Reagan expressing concern about the nationwide sale and distribution of obscene materials. I can assure you that the President shares your convictions about this problem.

Leaders of citizens' groups concerned about pornography have twice met with President Reagan, first in July 1982 and more recently on March 28, 1983. These meetings were devoted to discussion of how best to enforce existing laws against pornography. The President has directed Attorney General Smith to take all appropriate action to combat pornography, and we believe that important progress has now been made against this threat.

Organized criminals are deeply involved in the manufacture and distribution of pornography. The Administration believes that it is important for Federal efforts to strike directly at such criminal groups. Accordingly, the Department of Justice has created twelve task forces throughout the country to battle organized crime. As part of this campaign, the President has also proposed creation of a special Presidential Commission on Organized Crime, which will be responsible for reviewing the problems posed by organized illegal activity in areas like drugs and pornography.

In addition, the Attorney General has already acted to ensure that the Justice Department is using existing resources to combat pornography through a four-point approach.

- . First, the FBI is in the process of identifying and investigating violations of Federal anti-pornography laws, giving priority to the most egregious violations.
- . Second, all United States Attorneys have been sent a personal memorandum from the Attorney General stressing the importance of anti-pornography enforcement, especially in cases involving large-scale distributors, organized crime and child pornography. U.S. Attorneys were told that they may prosecute where pornography is a significant local problem, and they should lend all necessary support to local officials.

(5/19/83)

- . Third, all Law Enforcement Coordinating Committees (consisting of Federal, State and local law enforcement officials) have been instructed to review the pornography threat in their areas and to coordinate efforts against it.
- . Fourth, the Justice Department has been working with Congress to strengthen the Federal law against child pornography and to increase criminal penalties for pornographers.

The Administration recognizes that total elimination of the pornography problem can be accomplished only by means of strict enforcement of local statutes and ordinances. Concerned citizens like you have the power under present Supreme Court rulings to demand the enforcement of local laws which provide the first and best line of defense against pornography and its attack on community standards.

President Reagan urges you to continue working with your fellow citizens to secure effective enforcement of pornography laws in your area. He will continue to do everything in his power to ensure that our common goals are achieved.

With the President's appreciation for your message and with his best wishes,

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

(5/12/83)

Mr. Michael Ortega
Mail Analyst Supervisor
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 60
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

AVH/CAD/RCH/OPD/AVH

Michelle Shuttles

July 7, 1983

Dear Archbishop Iakovos:

Thank you for writing to express your support for enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet in March with your representative, Fr. Efthimiou, and other leaders concerned about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. I was impressed by their testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, we have set up a working group here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your support in this important matter. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

The Most Reverend Iakovos
Archbishop of Greek Orthodox
Archdiocese of North and
South America
10 East 79th Street
New York, New York 10021

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH/dpf
P-122A(Variation)
Pornography

July 7, 1983

Dear Mr. Lindsay:

I was pleased to have the opportunity on March 28 to meet with you and other leaders in the drive against pornography and to discuss methods to improve enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

We share a deep concern about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. Your testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities was particularly impressive.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, I have directed that a working group be established here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your active interest and support in this important matter, and I welcome your continuing contribution to our efforts against this significant national problem. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Richard P. Lindsay
The Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-Day Saints
50 East North Temple Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH/dpf
P-122A(Variation)

July 7, 1983

Dear Mr. Wildmon:

I was pleased to have the opportunity on March 28 to meet with you and other leaders in the drive against pornography and to discuss methods to improve enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

We share a deep concern about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. Your testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities was particularly impressive.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, I have directed that a working group be established here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your active interest and support in this important matter, and I welcome your continuing contribution to our efforts against this significant national problem. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Donald E. Wildmon
Executive Director
National Federation for Decency
Post Office Box 1398
Tupelo, Mississippi 38801

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH/dpf
P-122A(Variation)

July 7, 1983

Dear Mr. Young:

I was pleased to have the opportunity on March 28 to meet with you and other leaders in the drive against pornography and to discuss methods to improve enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

We share a deep concern about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. Your testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities was particularly impressive.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, I have directed that a working group be established here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your active interest and support in this important matter, and I welcome your continuing contribution to our efforts against this significant national problem. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Homer E. Young
Security-Investigative Consultant
4212 Minnecota Drive
Thousand Oaks, California 91360

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH/dpf
P-122A(Variation)

July 7, 1983

Dear Cardinal Krol:

I was pleased to have the opportunity on March 28 to meet with you and other leaders in the drive against pornography and to discuss methods to improve enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

We share a deep concern about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. Your testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities was particularly impressive.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, I have directed that a working group be established here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your active interest and support in this important matter, and I welcome your continuing contribution to our efforts against this significant national problem. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

His Eminence John Cardinal Krol
Archbishop of Philadelphia
222 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH/dpf
P-122A(Variation)

July 7, 1983

Dear Howard:

I was pleased to have the opportunity on March 28 to meet with you and other leaders in the drive against pornography and to discuss methods to improve enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

We share a deep concern about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. Your testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities was particularly impressive.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, I have directed that a working group be established here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I certainly appreciate your active interest and support in this important matter, and I welcome your continuing contribution to our efforts against this significant national problem. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Howard Phillips
National Director
The Conservative Caucus, Inc.
450 Maple Avenue, East
Vienna, Virginia 22180

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH/dpf
P-122A(Variation)

July 7, 1983

My Dear Doctor:

Thank you for writing to express your support for enforcement of our Federal anti-obscenity laws.

I was pleased to have that opportunity to meet in the White House with leaders concerned about the ever more extreme forms of pornography being distributed throughout our land. I was deeply impressed by their testimony on the destructive effect of pornography on our children, our families, and our communities.

In response to the recommendations made at that meeting, we have set up a working group here at the White House to coordinate investigation and enforcement of the Federal anti-obscenity laws. Members of the working group include representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Customs Service, and the Postal Service. The executive secretary of the group is Steve Galebach of our White House Office of Policy Development.

I believe that this will prove to be an effective way to strengthen our efforts in this area, and I certainly appreciate your support in this important matter. The leadership you have provided on this and other moral issues through the years are a vital ingredient of the success we hope to achieve. Thank you again, and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Norman Vincent Peale
1025 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10028

RR/OPD/AVH/CAD/RCH/AVH/dpf
P-122A(Variation)