

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 239

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with regard to obscenity and sexual objectification in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 1, 1999

Mr. GARY MILLER of California (for himself, Mr. PITTS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. SCHAFFER, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. DELAY, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. GOODE, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. DEMINT, and Mr. ENGLISH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with regard to obscenity and sexual objectification in the United States.

Whereas the health and safety and morals of the children of the United States is a matter of compelling and surpassing importance;

Whereas the health and safety and morals of the children of the United States is threatened by purveyors and panders of pornography, violence, and philosophies which treat the individual as a commodity to be bought and sold;

Whereas the use of the human image as a vehicle to enhance depraved fantasies has a real effect on changing the atti-

tudes, values, mores, and ethics of consumers of such material; and

Whereas basic civil rights require that persons and their images not be used, sold, bartered, coerced, or defrauded into illegal sexual activity: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) although the first amendment to the United
4 States Constitution, as interpreted and construed by
5 the Supreme Court, makes clear that only narrow
6 limits on speech may be imposed, the people of the
7 United States should—

8 (A) review their own conduct;

9 (B) take all reasonable steps to use the
10 freedom of speech which has made and main-
11 tained this Nation in freedom to build up and
12 not destroy;

13 (C) advance public morality which is based
14 on respect for human dignity;

15 (D) restrain the growth of illegal sexual
16 speech and activity in all of its forms; and

17 (E) create an environment in which our
18 children will learn to do good and oppose evil.

19 (2) the President, the Congress, and the States
20 should review their laws, executive orders, and poli-
21 cies to determine and effectuate what may be done,

1 within the boundaries of the first amendment, to end
2 the use of individuals and their images as sexual ob-
3 jects or tools which undermine the dignity of all citi-
4 zens of the United States; and

5 (3) the President and the Attorney General
6 should—

7 (A) vigorously enforce Federal obscenity
8 laws to demonstrate the resolve of the United
9 States to uphold the dignity of the individual
10 from such degrading use; and

11 (B) aggressively pursue violations of laws
12 involving the interstate movement of individuals
13 for illegal sexual purposes, so that by leader-
14 ship, the United States might induce the many
15 members of the global community to end pros-
16 titution in all of its forms, which contributes to
17 the growth of organized crime, the creation and
18 use of illegal pornography, the spread of sexu-
19 ally transmitted diseases, and denial of basic
20 human rights to its victims.

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