



March 28, 2022

VIA FEDEX AND CERTIFIED UNITED STATES MAIL

Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General of the United States
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

[cc list attached]

Re: Pornography in Minor-Accessible School Libraries (following-up)

Dear Mr. Garland:

By letter dated January 5, 2022, I sent the attached letter advising you and your Department about the use and distribution in schools and other publicly funded facilities of sexually explicit, adult-authored materials *specifically intended for* minors. These practices are ongoing and they harm children. There is no setting in which materials with phrasing and imagery like these would be deemed appropriate and legal if presented to a minor – except, apparently, for public schools and libraries.

By your silence and inaction, do you mean to, in effect, protect the dissemination of such materials to minors? Concerned parents around the country – by international, federal, and even canon law – deserve to know and understand whether the Department by its current inaction is actually declaring a *de facto* repeal of applicable laws designed for the protection of minors.

These same materials have been the object of criticism by parents across the country. Parents have vociferously complained about this attack on their children to school boards, educators, librarians, and elected officials nationwide. I contrast your silence now with your earlier fury at the parents who complained. You threatened them by letter with criminal prosecution. Even the National School Boards Association at whose behest you made this threat later repudiated what you and your Department appeared poised to do: weaponize federal investigative and prosecutorial power against parents exercising their constitutional rights of petition on the matter of protecting their children. Yet even in face of this repudiation, you failed to retract your written threat.

Must we now advise our national constituency of concerned parents that you, as Attorney General of the United States, not only approve and support dissemination of these materials, but will also allow to remain in place your threat to use the Federal Bureau of Investigation to track down parents and caregivers who complain?

The American people are entitled to an answer.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elana Fishbein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "E".

Elana Fishbein
No Left Turn in Education

EF:sl

Attachment

cc: [see attached list]