

AMENDED LETTER FROM APRIL 19TH, 2021
GLOBAL ACTIVISTS AGAINST VIOLATIONS BY PORNHUB
581 SIGNATURES, 123 SURVIVORS, 26 COUNTRIES

April 22, 2021

The Honourable Prime Minister Trudeau P.C.
The Honourable Erin O'Toole
Monsieur Yves-François Blanchet
Mr. Jagmeet Singh
Members of the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics, House of Common

Re: Protection of Privacy and Reputation on Platforms such as Pornhub

At the April 12, 2021 meeting of the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics, Liberal Members Han Dong and Francesco Sobara advocated that “sex workers” be invited to testify before the committee.

The study into the Protection of Privacy and Reputation on Platforms such as Pornhub is limited in its scope as per the mandate of the Privacy Committee and is looking specifically at the significant issues at MindGeek/Pornhub through the sharing of private and non-consensual images in online platforms.

Victims of rape, torture and trafficking, who have tried for years to remove their images from Pornhub, are desperate for Parliament to seek solutions to the uploading of child and non-consensual adult materials on Pornhub. Meanwhile, Liberal members are using their time on the committee to either promote the work of the Liberal party or to include the voices of “professional sex workers.” In doing so, the Liberals are undermining the current study and disregarding the voices of victims and survivors.

The world is watching how Canada deals with the issue of child and non-consensual content online. The committee has received correspondence from the U.S., Sweden, Australia and the Global South. The committee heard heart-wrenching testimony from survivors who were exploited on Pornhub. The committee heard from frontline advocates working with women whose lives have been destroyed because of Pornhub. The committee heard from experts who have researched this issue for decades.

If the Liberals wish to hear from “professional sex workers” in their attempt to decriminalize the commercial sex industry, they can conduct a separate study about the scope and impact of the sex trade in different platforms though they will have to face the enormous harm caused to women and children in this industry.

Mindgeek/Pornhub is complicit in the distribution and profiting from rape, torture, trafficking, non-consensual and child sexual exploitation content. The Ethics Committee must focus on seeking redress and ensuring that women and children are protected from male violence and exploitation.

Sincerely,
Global Activists Against Violations by Pornhub

cc: Parliament of Canada

581 SIGNATURES, 123 SURVIVORS, 26 COUNTRIES

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