



CANADA
**FAMILY
ACTION**
LEADINGCITIZENACTION

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NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

CFA Responds to Government's *Protecting Children from Sexual Predators Act*

Calgary – Canada Family Action (CFA) celebrates today's announcement by Justice Minister Nicholson of the additional proposed legislation to protect defenseless kids from sex predators. "We are encouraged that the Conservative government is listening to Canadians who are angry about the escalation of sex crimes against children and the pathetic sentences handed out by judges to pedophiles," says Brian Rushfeldt, President of Canada Family Action. "But we do ask why the most hideous crime, **production** of "child porn" (often the rape of a child) was not mentioned in this Act."

In 2009 Canada Family Action launched its Child Safe Nation campaign, a nation-wide grassroots effort calling on tougher laws to protect kids, deter pedophiles and achieve justice for victims of internet sex crimes. "Our campaign sparked anger and disgust in Canadians who were shocked to learn about the weak laws and lax sentences issued by judges," Rushfeldt says. "This is an issue that has struck a chord with all Canadians, regardless of political party affiliations. In Canada parents value children and expect our government to deal harshly with those who sexually exploit and abuse our kids."

CFA's Child Safe Nation campaign has included the distribution of over 300,000 brochures, a major ongoing petition, radio advertising, public service announcement airing on numerous television stations, media interviews, meeting with MPs from the national political parties and preparation of a policy brief for the government.

The Child Safe Nation campaign asks for three changes to the criminal code: required reporting of child sex materials by internet service providers (already introduced), tough mandatory sentences for pedophiles, and changing the term "child pornography" to "child sex abuse materials" in the criminal code.

"CFA will continue to lobby for higher mandatory sentences, especially for a 15 year sentence for the rape of a child and production of materials, but we are very thankful to Minister Nicholson for taking leadership in implementing many changes that will make Canada a safer place for kids," said Rushfeldt.

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For interviews, contact Brian Rushfeldt: 403-295-2159 or 403-471-2150

For statistics, see: See <http://childsafenation.ca/statistics/>

Canada Family Action (CFA) presently has over 40,000 active supporting member and, thousands of affiliate supporters such as churches. We have had up to one million Canadians participate in some of our grassroots lobby campaigns.