

CANADA FAMILY ACTION COALITION

RESCUE OF TWO CHILDREN FROM PEDOPHILES UNDERSCORES NEED FOR TOUGHER SENTENCING

Ottawa, Ontario – March 11, 2010 – At the same time Canada Family Action's Brian Rushfeldt was at a News Conference on Parliament Hill yesterday calling on the government for tougher laws and sentences for child sex offenders, Ontario's Provincial police chief was announcing the rescue of two little girls from sex offender pedophiles in Ontario and the arrest of 35 individuals.

“Many people believe this is a problem in third world countries, but do not realize the extent to which child sex crimes are occurring right here in our own country,” says Rushfeldt.

“Yesterday's arrests underscore CFA's demand for tougher sentences to protect children and deter pedophiles,” says Rushfeldt. “We want Canada to be a safe haven for children, not a tourist destination for child sex criminals.”

Rushfeldt says CFA is concerned that far too often the hard work and lengthy investigations by police are wasted by pathetic sentences that send pedophiles back into the community – sometimes after serving as little as 14 days. “It's no wonder Canada is viewed as a safe haven for pedophiles. These criminals can permanently destroy the life of a child and suffer little more than the minor inconvenience of a few days in jail.”

CFA is calling for minimum mandatory sentences of 3 years for possession of child sex images; 7 years for distribution, and 10 years for production of the images – those who photograph the abuse and rape of an innocent child.

“If this government is serious about getting tough on crime, they must start by getting tough on crimes against our children who suffer life-long consequences from sex crimes. Every child sex image is a crime scene. I believe the character of a society is measured in how we care for the most vulnerable members of our society. Canada's children deserve justice.”

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