

### SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR

WHEREAS, Sexual Exploitation of a child occurs when an individual abuses, employs, uses, persuades, induces, entices, coerces, authorizes, buys, trades, or sells material that depicts sexually explicit conduct involving a minor;<sup>3,4</sup> and

WHEREAS, Child pornography is any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a minor (persons less than 18 years old);<sup>1,2</sup> and

WHEREAS, Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, or retaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act through the use of force, fraud, or coercion;<sup>8,9</sup> and

WHEREAS, Sextortion is a form of sexual exploitation where one individual threatens to reveal sexually explicit images of another person unless that person meets specific demands;<sup>10,11</sup> and

WHEREAS, U.S. law enforcement agencies have seen a dramatic increase in cases of sexual exploitation of children since the 1990's; ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) noted a more than 1,000 percent increase in complaints of child sex trafficking from 2004 to 2008;<sup>5,6</sup> and

WHEREAS, The Utah ICAC Task Force from January 2015 to December 2015 received 2,867 documented complaints and 733 cyber tips associated with sexual exploitation of a minor;<sup>7</sup> and

WHEREAS, Since the inception of the Utah ICAC Task Force in 2000, the number of documented complaints has increased every year and continues to increase;<sup>7</sup> and

WHEREAS, Despite the seriousness of the problem, the incidence of commercial child sexual exploitation is difficult to measure; however, it is estimated that as many as 325,000 children in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico are at risk each year for becoming victims of sexual exploitation;<sup>12,13</sup> now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent associations promote and support the adoption and enforcement of laws, at all levels of government, to end the recruitment, force or involvement of a minor in conduct or violence of a sexually nature and all forms of sexual exploitation; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent associations advocate for the protection of rights of victims and support provided measures for the physical, psychological, and social recovery of victims of sexual exploitation; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent associations encourage and call for members, policy makers, schools and community organizations to actively raise awareness and to address those conditions and situations that contribute to the sexual exploitation of a minor.

(Replaces SAF 1989-2 Pornographic Exploitation)

## Documentation:

- <sup>1</sup>"Child Pornography." *Child Pornography*. United States Department of Justice, 3 June 2015. Web.
- <sup>2</sup>"18 U.S. Code § 2256 - Definitions for Chapter." *LII / Legal Information Institute*. Cornell University Law School. Web.
- <sup>3</sup>"8 U.S. Code § 2251 - Sexual Exploitation of Children." *LII / Legal Information Institute*. Cornell University Law School. Web.
- <sup>4</sup>"Title 76 Chapter 5b Part 2 Section 201." *Utah State Legislature*. N.p., 2011. Web.
- <sup>5</sup>"Key Facts." *Missingkids.com*. National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.
- <sup>6</sup>"Personal Safety Tips." *ID My Child INC*. Web. <<http://idmychildkit.com/p/safety-tips>>.
- <sup>7</sup>Busch-Upwall, Michelle, Utah Attorney General's Office ICAC Task Force. "Utah Exploitation of a Minor Statistics 2015." Message to Rachel Peterson, Utah PTA Safety Commissioner 2014-2016. Feb. 2016. E-mail.
- <sup>8</sup>"Definitions and Methodology." *United States Department of State*. United States Department of State. Web. <<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2013/210543.htm>>.
- <sup>9</sup>"What Is Human Trafficking?" *Blue Campaign*. United States Department of Homeland Security, 14 Sept. 2015.
- <sup>10</sup>"Sextortion." *Missingkids.com*. National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.
- <sup>11</sup>"The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children." *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews* 42.1 (2010). National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. <[http://www.missingkids.com/en\\_US/documents/CCSE\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.missingkids.com/en_US/documents/CCSE_Fact_Sheet.pdf)>.
- <sup>12</sup>"Child Trafficking." *Pollyklass.org*. Polly Klass Foundation, n.d.