

Supply

to pay television, must be changed to include the protection of women and children.

Third, the National Coalition Against Media Pornography asks that the Governments of Canada:

3. Implement local by-laws to limit access to pornography by children. While this will not erase the problem, at least it will say to the next generation that this generation cares about it, and it is not okay when they go to buy candy at their local store to flip through magazines showing the bondage and rape of women, who are of course, "loving it."

The fourth recommendation of the Coalition is:

4. And finally, and permanently, education. We must confront pornography, talk about it, protest it, boycott stores carrying it, fight about it in our homes, include courses dealing with it in our schools and understand it. For to continue to turn a blind eye to pornography,—

I add parenthetically "as this Government is doing":

—is to never confront what we need to know. What we need to know about pornography is painful, but until we see that truth, we will continue to live a lie.

Those are the recommendations of the Coalition Against Media Pornography. I understand that that coalition has the support of something like three million Canadians. Churches have supported them, as well as women's organizations and other organizations right across Canada.

My time is running out, but I want to repeat some of the things that have been said by the National Association of Women and the Law which held its biennial conference in Victoria recently on February 23 to 25, which made the following recommendations.

Mrs. Erola: We funded that.

Mr. Kilgour: First, that Canada's pay television licensees should be bound by the sex-role stereotyping guidelines recommended last September by the CRTC task force. You might be aware, Mr. Speaker, that the Canadian Association of Broadcasters strongly supports these guidelines but no pay TV licensee is a member of that organization. This Party has already indicated through its cultural spokesman, the Member for Don Valley West (Mr. Bosley), that it supports this recommendation, and we supported it at the time of the controversy over the licensing by the CRTC of pornography on pay TV.

The second recommendation of the National Association of Women and the Law was, and I quote:

(2) That the Regulations under the Broadcasting Act which prohibit the broadcasting of "any abusive comment or pictorial representation of any race, religion or creed" be amended to include ABUSIVE MATERIAL ON THE BASIS OF SEX (i.e. abusive material against women) and that these Regulations be made to apply to pay television licensees;—

Again I would state for the record that this Party has already urged that this be done through its cultural spokesman.

Third the National Women's group recommended, and I am quoting:

(3) That the hate propaganda section (281.2) of the Criminal Code prohibiting the incitement of hatred against identifiable races, ethnic and religious groups be amended to include hate propaganda against women.

How has the Government replied to all this? The Minister Responsible for the status of women (Mrs. Erola) interjected

that they had funded the conference. Very good, but what is the Government going to do about the meat, as compared to the icing on the cake? What is going to be done about the substance of what is recommended as compared to funding, with the \$89 billion budget this year? Instead, as I mentioned earlier, the Minister of Communication brought in a new policy last week, and I have already referred to how that policy explicitly bars the CRTC from doing anything about content. In his policy statement the Minister said that the issuing of a broadcasting license to a particular applicant or the amendment or renewal of a particular broadcast license, the specific content of programming, any restriction on freedom of expression are not to be the business, it would appear to me, of the Governor in Council. In other words, the Government is opting out of the problem created by the pay television Playboy broadcasts.

Why can the Government not do something in its new broadcasting policy to prevent the Canada Film Development Corporation from making anti-women, anti-humanity, anti-children films like "Videodrome"? They will come back and tell us that it is freedom of expression and they want total freedom of expression whether it involves the disembowelling of women or children or whatever. That is total freedom of expression. That is one of the altars at which this Government worships, unfortunately.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, my time is up. I am simply saying to the Government that it is easy to talk, it is easy to fund. It is harder to act, it is harder to do, when one knows that it is, I gather, one of the chief tenets of 1980s liberalism that the community has no rights, families have no rights, people with any sense of decency have no rights because the only people we listen to are those who call for total freedom of expression. If a producer calls for a movie such as "Videodrome" which requires disembowelling or sticking a pin in a woman's earlobe, that is okay because there is a minority who think that is just fine. I submit that times have changed. People are getting concerned about the causal connection between pornography and crimes against women and children. I tried to cite some evidence showing that it is becoming more and more obvious that there is a connection.

• (1650)

I simply ask the Government for once not to talk about its concern but to get up on its hind legs and do something about the problem that will make this country fit for all Canadians and finally break the connection between crime and sex and violence which has become so endemic to our culture at the moment.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Questions, answers, comments.

[Translation]

Mr. Tounignant: Mr. Speaker, whenever the Hon. Member refers to violence, pornography and so on, I must first assure