

We need to have laws to make it an offence to possess child pornography and also NAMBLA-type material, because the pictures in themselves are not pornographic. What we want for the protection of children is that people who have a tendency to abuse children should not be able to possess this sort of material. (84:8)

Monica Rainey, President of Citizens Against Child Exploitation (C.A.C.E.) also expressed her organization's concern about the inadequate response of the criminal justice system to the sexual exploitation of children. Among other reforms, C.A.C.E. advocated minimum sentences to reflect the seriousness of offences, mandatory treatment of convicted offenders, better access to treatment for victims and a stronger voice for children in court. A national register of convicted child abusers was also suggested, as well as "sexual predator legislation", similar to that recently implemented in Washington State.

The Committee acknowledges that the sexual assault or exploitation of children must be addressed. It is victimization of a kind that causes children and their families untold physical and emotional pain and is a major contributing factor in higher levels of criminality among adults; the abused become the abusers. In light of this enormous impact, the Committee believes that issues raised by the witnesses demand immediate consideration. At the same time, the Committee believes that long term solutions are more likely to result from an in-depth, systematic examination of all aspects of the problem. For that reason, the Committee proposes to address the issue in the context of its review of the child sexual abuse provisions of the *Criminal Code* scheduled to begin in April of this year.