

## Support for Senate Bill 2123

Senator Keith Boehm

I am here this afternoon to voice support for SB2123. I supported this bill because it works on protecting the most vulnerable in our society from the scourge of pornography/ obscenity. It changes Century Code to target ways in which the pornography industry gets this horrid and damaging material into our minors hands. I look at our children as the most valuable resource that North Dakota has. There is much talk about other resources in our state. How to protect them, how do we increase the quality and how to capitalize on them. We need to do the same for our most valued resource our children. When a child is exposed to pornography it changes them forever, changes their brain. Brain scans have shown this result. Some say that this intrudes on free speech. I do not believe pornography is free speech. Do not our public institutions censor/ban pornographic magazines.

If an adult is concerned about free speech, they can get this material at any adult bookstore or online pornographic store, their free speech is unhindered it is just hindered where minors are concerned. I ask that the committee would make this legislation work even if it takes an amended version or melding it with another bill. I ask that this committee give a do pass on SB2123.

## Freedom to View Statement

The **FREEDOM TO VIEW**, along with the freedom to speak, to hear, and to read, is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. In a free society, there is no place for censorship of any medium of expression. Therefore these principles are affirmed:

1. To provide the broadest access to film, video, and other audiovisual materials because they are a means for the communication of ideas. Liberty of circulation is essential to insure the constitutional guarantee of freedom of expression.
2. To protect the confidentiality of all individuals and institutions using film, video, and other audiovisual materials.
3. To provide film, video, and other audiovisual materials which represent a diversity of views and expression. Selection of a work does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content.
4. To provide a diversity of viewpoints without the constraint of labeling or prejudging film, video, or other audiovisual materials on the basis of the moral, religious, or political beliefs of the producer or filmmaker or on the basis of controversial content.
5. To contest vigorously, by all lawful means, every encroachment upon the public's freedom to view.

This statement was originally drafted by the Freedom to View Committee of the American Film and Video Association (formerly the Educational Film Library Association) and was adopted by the AFVA Board of Directors in February 1979. This statement was updated and approved by the AFVA Board of Directors in 1989.

**Endorsed January 10, 1990, by the ALA Council**

**(/offices/oif)**

Lets look at commonly used statement by those in opposition.

It is not put out by any legal entity.

It is put out by a entity that has a vested interest in promoting pornography. when i look at the description of who formed it, the statement says all the right things but comes from an organization that supports pornography because it is supposedly free speech. Our government is tasked with protecting its citizens and that is what this legislation does. Pornography is reaching our children and the formerly safe institutions are being used to do it. I challenge everyone that hears this to study our sanctioning organizations and affiliations to see what they are really purveying, and you find out they are not gold standards but dark standards as they promote pornography and perversion.