

**JUNE 14th, 2021
MEDIA RELEASE**

**THE GLOBAL SOUTH CALLS OUT CANADA FOR BREACHING
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS**

**WITNESSES FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH DETAIL IMPACT OF CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S
COLLUSION WITH MINDGEEK/PORNHUB IN VIOLATING INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS**

Canadian feminist organizations working collaboratively with organizations in the Global South, and the vulnerable Global North, call for immediate action from Canadian Parliament to protect victims of online rape and torture pornography.

Millions of women and girls worldwide, victims and exited survivors of shared content on pornography platforms, have suffered grave human rights violations as the Canadian government has taken no action to end MindGeek/Pornhub's sharing of images for profit. These women suffer both individually and collectively from significant long term harm including murder, threats, physical and mental injury, emotional suffering, economic loss and/or substantial impairment of their fundamental rights.

This is a global call for Parliament to not only follow its own laws, but also the international human rights laws which Canada has ratified. Why is the government ignoring its international obligations?

It is an oxymoron to inquire if women "consent" to filmed rape, beatings, kidnap and other human rights violations. Of course, they do not. It is not the Canadian taxpayer's job to pay MindGeek/Pornhub to screen violent pornographic videos made of extremely vulnerable women in countries where their children are starving, they are victims of conflict and crisis, have had to migrate or face structural lack of opportunities.

It is the job of billion-dollar corporations like MindGeek/Pornhub to ASSUME that trafficking and organized crime exist in the Global South's context of porn production. It is MindGeek/PornHub's obligation to SCREEN OUT all videos of criminal abuse coming from the Global South. MindGeek/Pornhub is not a safe place, it is a place where grave, massive, serious, systematic and flagrant human rights violations of women and girls, happen every second.

Canadian and global feminist organizations demand Parliament take immediate to action to protect victims from having their worst nightmares filmed and replayed endlessly by international organized crime. We call for Canada to follow not only its own laws but also the international human rights laws which Canada has ratified.

When: June 15th, 2021, 11:00 am EST

Zoom link: <https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/88598049984>

Meeting ID: 885 9804 9984 Passcode: 453698

Contact Details:

Charlie Angus, Member of Parliament, Canada, Charlie.angus@parl.gc.ca 613-992-2919.

Megan Walker, Executive Director, London Abused Women's Centre, mwalker@lawc.on.ca 226-376 0781

Quotes

"The Canadian government needs to take seriously the allegations of illegal and violent content on Mindgeek/Pornhubs platforms the affects on women and children around the globe. Laws that already exist need be enforced by Canadian law enforcement on this Canadian based company. We also need to ensure that Canada meets its international obligations by preventing the posting of internet content that promotes violence against women and children".

Charlie Angus, [Member of Parliament for Timmins, Jay Bay, Ontario](#)

"Wealthy countries are the main consumers of 'real' women pornography. Most of the Indian women used on Pornhub don't even know the videos of their rapes are being sold for profit worldwide."

Vaishnavi Sundar (India- ENG) writer, filmmaker and women's rights activist from the South of India who has campaigned for women's sex-based rights. She is the country contact for the [Women's Human Rights Campaign](#) (WHRC).

"Canada, like France, is a G7 member promoting progressive legislation against sexual exploitation. Responsibility should include discouraging the demand that leads to trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation."

Alyssa Ahrabare (France/Morocco - FR) legal expert, spokeswoman for [Osez Le Féminisme!](#) Project Officer of the [European Network of Migrant Women](#) and co-covener of its young women's movement Radical Girlsss.

"Consent is irrelevant in cases of trafficking, and although videos of these women were uploaded on Pornhub, many were consequently killed and disappeared. These women cannot raise their voices against MindGeek"

Rita María Hernández (Mexico-ENG) – advocate who has worked for over a decade on frontline services offered to trafficked and prostituted women and girls, especially in the border between Mexico and United States, currently Policy and Advocacy Director at [Rescue Freedom International](#).

"Pornhub promotes a worldwide rape culture, and then profits from repeating male's violence against women and girls, in unending torture cycles."

Nerea Novo (Spain -ENG) - journalist, data analyst and activist at [Femicidio.net](#), a civil society observatory on violence against women in Spain specialized in documenting femicides and group sexual assaults in the country.

"Women from countries of the Global South live socioeconomic injustice, armed conflicts, humanitarian emergencies. Pornography production, distribution and consumption are an abuse of power and position of vulnerability"

Esohe Aghatise (Nigeria/Italy -ENG) - jurist, women's rights activist and United Nations Expert on Trafficking as well as Executive Director of [Associazione Iroko Onlus](#), which provides services to victims of sexual violence and trafficking in Italy.

"Canada has become a gross human rights violator of women and girls worldwide, as it fails to prevent and prosecute the occurrence of wrongful acts on MindGeeks porn platforms."

Dr. Gail Dines (United States -ENG) - Professor Emerita of Sociology and Women's Studies who has been researching and writing about the porn industry for more than 30 years. She is the President of [Culture Reframed](#), a non-profit organization dedicated to building resilience and resistance in young people to the harms of porn culture.