

The Rt. Hon Jim Wallace QC. MSP
St. Andrews House
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1. 3DG.
9/03/03

DFM'S OFFICE
13 MAR 2003
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S.W.A.P.
PO Box 23097
Brunswick Road
Edinburgh EH7 4YZ.

Dear Mr. Wallace,

PETITION PE476 – JUSTICE 2 COMMITTEE MEETING 29 JANUARY 2003

We write as members of Scottish Women against Pornography regarding the above meeting at which the Justice Committee discussed to our petition on the harm of pornography. We understand that the Justice Committee were informed by you that The Scottish Executive is now considering a research programme investigating violence in its different manifestations and that you will consider including research into the links between pornography and sexual violence either as part of a separate study or as part of a wider study looking at related issues.

In view of this information we understand that the Justice Committee decided to take no further action on our petition at the moment but to write to you recommending that your proposed research does include a study of the harm caused by pornography.

In view of this recommendation we now write to ask:

1. How you intend to take this recommendation forward?
2. What will be the nature and the timescale of the research you propose to undertake into the harm of pornography?
3. What opportunities there will be both for ourselves and the many women's organisations across Scotland who recognise the links between sexual violence and pornography both to participate in and inform this study?

We welcome the Executive's commitment to looking at violence and its different manifestations over the coming months and look forward to hearing from you as to how this research programme and study is to proceed.

Yours Sincerely,



For Scottish Women Against Pornography



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