



The Scottish
Parliament

Nicol Stephen MSP

Cathy Jamieson MSP
Minister For Justice
St Andrews House
Regent Road
EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

CATHY JAMIESON
17 AUG 2006
MIN FOR JUSTICE

27 July, 2006

Dear Cathy

[REDACTED]

Thank you for the acknowledgement (ref: 2006/0023185) to my letter of 12 July on behalf of my constituent [REDACTED]

You may recall that [REDACTED] was commenting on the joint Home Office and Scottish Executive consultation on the possession of extreme pornography.

[REDACTED] has provided further information which he believes backs up his case that child pornography sites should be tackled first.

I would be grateful for your comments in due course so that I can reply to my constituent.

With my very best wishes.
Yours sincerely

pp Nicol Stephen
MSP for Aberdeen South constituency

C.U. received

02 AUG 2006

Nicol Stephen

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 July 2006 17:09
To: Nicol Stephen
Subject: RE: E-mail from Scottish Parliament's Internet site

Olwen,

I've just read a piece that highlights the problems with images on the internet:

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/07/20/iwf_child_abuse_survey/

"That's according to a half-yearly study from the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) which found that paedophile sites hosted overseas remain accessible for up to five years despite being reported to the relevant authorities."

Now if child abuse sites can remain available, "For example, a website first reported in 1999, that's become the subject of a further 20 IWF complaints, still remains available." that's six years and counting, what chance does the government have to shutting down sites that aren't as vile as these? Personally I'd say nil. Before anyone even thinks of looking at pornography and spending time on working out if there needs to be any new laws etc., perhaps we should tackle what 99.9999% of the population agree is repugnant?

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Nicol Stephen [mailto:nstephenmsp@cix.co.uk]
Sent: 04 July 2006 13:35
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: E-mail from Scottish Parliament's Internet site

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your recent email to Nicol Stephen via the Scottish Parliament website.

Unfortunately, when your message arrived it appeared incomplete - please see below.

Would it be possible for you to resend your email?

Thank you again for getting in touch and I look forward to hearing from you further.

Kind regards,

Olwen Hamilton

Office of Nicol Stephen MSP
173 Crown Street
Aberdeen
AB11 6JA

Tel: 01224 252728
Fax: 01224 590926

Email: Nicol.Stephen.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

-----Original Message-----

From: oracle@prodweb.scottish.parliament.uk
[mailto:oracle@prodweb.scottish.parliament.uk]



Biting the hand that feeds IT

[The Register](#) » [Internet and Law](#) » [Digital Rights/Digital Wrongs](#) »

Original URL: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/07/20/iwf_child_abuse_survey/

Child abuse website takedown delays can take years

By [John Leyden](#)

Published Thursday 20th July 2006 11:25 GMT

Only one in 500 (0.2 per cent) of child abuse images on the net are hosted in the UK, down from 18 per cent in 1997.

That's according to a half-yearly study from the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) which found that paedophile sites hosted overseas remain accessible for up to five years despite being reported to the relevant authorities.

For example, a website first reported in 1999, that's become the subject of a further 20 IWF complaints, still remains available. The IWF is calling for greater international efforts so that sites hosting child abuse content can be rapidly taken down and so that those who publish illegal material can be traced and investigated.

Online photo album services began to be used for posting images of child abuse online in the first six months of 2006. Non-commercial hosting of images of child abuse on Japanese message boards continued to be a problem. While the abuse of US free hosting systems gathered pace. The distribution of child abuse videos online also grew in prevalence.

The IWF (<http://www.iwf.org.uk>) operates a hotline that allows members of the public or IT pros to anonymously report on child abuse content online as well as criminally obscene or racist content hosted in the UK. Any potentially illegal websites hosted in UK can be removed within 48 hours.

During the first six months of 2006, the IWF's hotline processed 14,000 reports, up 24 per on figures from 1H05. Many (5,000) of these reports were over paedophile websites, a 49 per cent increase on first six month of 05. Half (50 per cent) of child abuse content was traced back to the US, with Russia (15 per cent), Japan (12 per cent) and Spain (9 per cent) also acting as significant hosting locations for depraved images online.

The IWF suggests the rise in calls to its hotline takes might be down to public intolerance of child abuse content online combined with increased awareness of its role in combating it. Greater expertise in tackling new ways of distributing abuse images online by its workers might also be a factor, the IWF suggests.

Vernon Coaker MP, under-secretary for policing, security and community safety at the Home Office, said: "UK Ministers continue to press for greater action at an international

level, but this report underlines the importance of the work the IWF and ISPs are doing to block all UK residents from accessing websites, wherever they are hosted, identified as potentially illegal by the IWF by the end of 2007.

"It is crucial to raise awareness among UK internet users about the IWF as the vehicle to report their inadvertent exposure to this type of content," he added. ®

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[CIO wanted - must be good at fixing broken ID card schemes](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/07/20/home_office_rescue_plan/) (20 July 2006)

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[Govt sets target for blocking child porn sites](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/05/18/uk_site_blocking/) (18 May 2006)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/05/18/uk_site_blocking/

[AOL, MS join forces to combat child abuse](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/04/24/child_ceop/) (24 April 2006)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/04/24/child_ceop/

[US and Russia urged to 'stem tide of child pornography'](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/03/08/iwf_report/) (8 March 2006)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/03/08/iwf_report/

[Cleanfeed working overtime, says BT](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/02/07/bt_cleanfeed_iwf/) (7 February 2006)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/02/07/bt_cleanfeed_iwf/

[Police and NSPCC tracing web images of children](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/09/27/tracking_internet_child_abuse/) (27 September 2005)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/09/27/tracking_internet_child_abuse/

[IT pros more aware of Sexual Offences Act](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/09/13/iwf_soa/) (13 September 2005)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/09/13/iwf_soa/

[IWF cracks down on illegal porn at work](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/05/11/iwf_campaign/) (11 May 2005)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/05/11/iwf_campaign/

[UK police tackle mounting internet porn caseload](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/04/22/uk_police_internet/) (22 April 2005)

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[IT industry told to 'cough up' by child campaigners](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/04/18/kids_online/) (18 April 2005)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2005/04/18/kids_online/

[IT professionals urged to swot up on new Sexual Offences rules](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/09/29/iwf_soa/) (29 September 2004)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/09/29/iwf_soa/

[BT on child porn stats](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/07/22/bt_ispa_cleanfeed/) (22 July 2004)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/07/22/bt_ispa_cleanfeed/

[BT blocks 230k attempts to access child porn](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/07/20/bt_internet_block/) (20 July 2004)

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/07/20/bt_internet_block/

[BT to block child pornography](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/06/07/bt_iwf_trails/) (7 June 2004)

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