



## **Advanced Technology Summit Joint Statement**

Whereas, the development of wireless and other advanced technology now allows for the distribution of video images;

Whereas, while the further development of technology creates societal benefits, the abuse of this technology will also facilitate the further distribution of pornography;

Whereas, this further distribution will cause minors to be exposed to harmful material, including pornography;

Whereas, a child's exposure to pornography can have traumatic, distorting, abusive, and/or addictive effects<sup>i</sup>;

Whereas, it is reported the pornography industry is looking to cell phones and other wireless handheld devices as a "lucrative vehicle for distribution<sup>ii</sup>";

Whereas, a recent study conducted by the RAND Corporation and published in the journal *Pediatrics* stated that "heavy exposure to sexual content on television related strongly to teens' initiation of intercourse...Youths who viewed the greatest amounts of sexual content were two times more likely than those who view the smallest amount to initiate sexual intercourse...<sup>iii</sup>";

Whereas, the U.S. has the highest rate of teenage sexually transmitted diseases in the industrialized world<sup>iv</sup>, and 34% of women become pregnant at least once before they reach the age of 20<sup>v</sup>;

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<sup>i</sup> Manning, J. (2005). *The Impact of Internet Pornography on Marriage and the Family: A Review of the Research*. p. 34. Publication pending.

<sup>ii</sup> NY Times. (September 17, 2005). *Ring Tones, Cameras, Now This: Sex Is Latest Cellphone Feature*. Matt Richtel and Michel Marriott.

<sup>iii</sup> *Pediatrics*. (2004). *Watching sex on television predicts adolescent initiation of sexual behavior*. Collins RL et al.

<sup>iv</sup> National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. (1997). *Whatever Happened to Childhood? The Problem of Teen Pregnancy in the United States*. Washington, DC: Author.

<sup>v</sup> National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. (2004). *Factsheet: How is the 34% statistic calculated?* Washington, DC: Author.

We the undersigned do hereby commit to work in conjunction with other like-minded organizations, the wireless technology industry, and federal, state and local governments including, but not limited to, the Department of Justice and the Federal Communications Commission to combat the threat that the abuse of advanced technology poses to the health, safety and welfare of our nation's children and families.

Signed:

American Mothers, Inc. - Bobbie Burbridge-Lane

American Values - Gary Bauer

The Burbridge Foundation - Bobbie Burbridge-Lane

CP80 Foundation - Ralph Yarro

Focus on the Family - Daniel Weiss

Internet Keep Safe Coalition - Marsali Hancock

Legacy Law Foundation - Margie Johnson

Let Freedom Ring - Colin Hanna

Maryland Coalition Against Pornography - Arthur McKnew

Morality in Media - Bob Peters

National Association of Evangelicals - Rich Cizik

National Coalition for the Protection of Children & Families - Rick Schatz

National Law Center for Children and Families - Richard Whidden

Pittsburgh Coalition Against Pornography - Dorn Checkley

Think Atomic, Inc. - Ralph Yarro

United Methodist Church - Reverend Cynthia Abrams