

CAMPAIGN

CENSORSHIP

AGAINST

THE DEFENCE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS SOCIETY

PLEASE REPLY TO:-

23 Budgen Drive
Redhill Surrey RH1 2QB
14th February 2001

To: Ms Esther Pierce
Dept for Culture, Media & Sport
Broadcasting
2 Cockspur Street
London SW1Y 5DH

Dear Ms Pierce,

PROSCRIPTION OF ADULT X SATELLITE CHANNEL

Thank you for your letter of the 12th. You state that "we consider that the position taken in this respect has the support of Parliament and the public generally."

You are wrong!

Parliament is not consulted about Proscription Orders. The public, however, was surveyed by the British Board of Film Classification last year and the published report reveals a much more tolerant attitude to explicit sexuality than you credit. In any event minorities have rights eg gays and fetishists.

In addition there is the question of logic. Hard-core pornography is now lawfully available to consenting adults through British Sex-shops in magazine and the newly liberalised "R18" video format. It is thus illogical and unacceptable for such material to remain proscribed on adults-only smart-card television. You point out that different countries may set different standards. Such standards should, however, be internally consistent. Smart-card television is the broadcast equivalent of "R18" video recordings. The BBFC Guidelines for "R18" material should therefore apply to both.

Yours for freedom of expression,

Cllr E Goodman
Chair of CAC

Enquiries to the Secretary, 25 Middleton Close, Fareham, *Hants* PO14 1QN
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