The Rape Relief Files

Pornography - Red Hot Video

PORNOGRAPHY—A FEMINIST FORUM
MARCH 20, 9 AM to 5 PM, ROBSON SQUARE THEATRE
Program

MORNING—DEFINING PORNOGRAPHY *(Open to men and women)*		
		Speaker Facilitator
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Feminist Perspectives on Pornography (Theatre)	Debra Lewis, Co-author of *Rape: The Price of Coercive Sexuality*
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Slide program: *Abusive Images of Women in Mass Media and Pornography* (Theatre)	Produced by Women Against Violence in Pornography and Media, San Francisco
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Who is Hurt? Who Benefits?	Regina Lorek, Vancouver Rape Relief
11:00 am - 11:15 am	COFFEE	
11:15 am - 12:30 pm	WORKSHOP—What is Pornography? To discuss topics such as softcore/hardcore, content and messages, women in the industry, links to violence, etc. (See lobby for room locations)	
	Women only	Pat Feindel, Vancouver Status of Women
	Women only	Megan Ellis, WAVAW
	Women and men	Debra Lewis, Battered Women's Support Services
	Women and men	Vancouver Rape Relief
12:30 - 1:15 pm	LUNCH—BRING A BAG LUNCH (Nearby restaurants not open Sunday)	
AFTERNOON—ORGANIZING AGAINST PORNOGRAPHY *(Open to women only)*		
1:15 pm - 2:30 pm	PANEL—INTRODUCTION TO ORGANIZING ISSUES	
	1. Using the Legal System—What Has Been Done and Current Strategies	Janeis Andrews, North Shore Women's Centre
	2. Community Action—What Has Been Done and Current Strategies	Pat Feindel, BCFW Stop Red Hot Video Action Committee
	3. Legal Controls—A Feminist Defense	Debra Lewis
	4. Limitations of Legal Controls and Alternatives to the Legal System	Megan Ellis
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	COFFEE	
2:45 pm - 4:00 pm	WORKSHOPS	
	Strategies Using the Legal System	Janeis Andrews; Megan Ellis; Jillian Ridington, Vice President, NAC
	Community Action Strategies (1)	Women Against Pornography (Victoria); BCFW Stop Red Hot Video Action Committee; People Against Pornography
	Community Action Strategies (2)	Women Against Pornography; People Against Pornography; Little Mountain Anti-Pornography Action Committee
	Using the Media	Ellen Frank, Media Watch/WAVAW; Linda Hossie, Vancouver Sun
4:15 pm - 5:00 pm	Wrap-up: Future Directions and Closing Comments (Theatre)	Pat Feindel & Debra Lewis Vancouver Status of Women

The following is the text of a speech given by Regina Lorek of the B.C.F.W. Stop Red Hot Video Committee (Fall '82-spring '84). She is a member of the Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter collective.

Mercenary prostitution, the selling of a woman's body, originated in ancient Athens in approximately 594 B.C. as a government run enterprise to finance the building of the Greek military.

The 'pornobosceions' who ran these brothels are our present day pornographers. Pornography means the writing or depiction of subjugated women. Subjugated means owing obedience or loyalty. Government licensed brothels still exist. The military still needs prostitutes. Pornographers are still raking in the profits.

All that has changed is that technology has altered some of the profit margins of prostitution and pornography. If a man owns a woman as a prostitute, she can only produce profits from five, eight or maybe ten men per night. If a man owns a woman, and puts her in a movie, his profit is greatly multiplied.

Pornography has always made me uncomfortable. I have feared it, loathed it, sometimes been afraid that my lover would want me to be like the women in pornography, afraid that I wasn't...afraid that I was. I was angry that so many men had access to these women's bodies for as little as $1.50; angry at the men who undressed me with their eyes; angry at my lover who fantasized the woman on page thirty-nine when he was in bed with me. I was fascinated with the variety of vaginas, the different sizes and shapes of breasts and bums.

At sixteen I answered an ad for a photographer's model. I walked into the room, the door clicked shut, locked, ...there were three more men in the room than when I had entered. They told me to take off my clothes. I did, and they took pictures.

In later years when I fought with the man I lived with who brought pornography home all of these confusing feelings and thoughts came out as "get it out of her - now", or "I don't want you jacking off to that stuff". Nothing more complex than that.

I've worked at Vancouver Rape Relief for three and a half years now and have talked to a lot of women. I've spent the last six months as a member of B.C.F.W., deliberately looking at the pornography I have avoided for years.

I have been scared by some of the pornography I have seen, bored by some, amused by some, horrified by some, turned on by some and angered by lots. I have been walking around in a state of rage. I went home to my friend and love, and fought with him harder than I ever have, demanding that he and I prove right now - right here in this bed - that pornography does lie about my sexuality and oh, please, let it be true that pornography also lies about his. But it's not that simple. Sometimes it does, and sometimes it doesn't.

In the work I have been doing against pornography so far I have found that moral judgements get in the way, that generalizations are dangerous and that both of these lead to over simplifications.

Pornography in context

Pornography does not exist in a vacuum. We do not yet have control over our bodies.

We are still fighting for the right to abortion, an end to forced sterilization the right to love whom we choose ... women or men, an end to sexual harassment on the job, equal pay, the right to birth our babies the way we choose and the right for free 24 hour childcare.

We are still being raped, beaten, and forced into sexual practises that we do not choose. We are still forced into sexual slavery. The men who sell pictures of us in chains, tell us that this is what we really want, that beneath our protests of modesty burns a tigress-a vile man-eating woman. They suggest that all it takes is penetration in any orifice by any masterful man and we are sexually beserk, totally indiscriminate, ready to fuck anything, anytime.

Pornography does a nice job of both denying our humanity, and defining and controlling our sexuality. After all these years, all this exposure to pornogrpahy, all the reading, crying, raging and fighting, all the agonising about whether or not I am a puritan or a pervert, I still say: Get rid of pornography. I still don't want men jacking off to this stuff. I don't want men to imagine that their ejaculation is sacred, and that they not only can, but must use anything, or anybody (usually female) or any amount of force or coercion, to achieve it.

If you haven't seen any pornography lately you might be suprised at how the content has changed over the past twenty years. In B.C.F.W. we have been viewing some of the 52 tapes handed over to us by a store owner in Richmond, who bought the tapes from Red Hot Video on Main Street. We have noticed quite a difference between recent pornography and what was available in the 60's. The earlier tapes often showed women in control during sex. They portrayed little violence, some humour, some conversation, even sometimes a relationship between a woman and a man. In the 70's, there is more violence in these films...more rape, lots of anal sex, anal rape, no conversation apart from "you love it, don't you?"

The recent 80's pornography concentrates on bondage, studded collars, manacles, foam balls that keep the screams down, chains that go around the breast, and pliers that pinch the nipples. There is also a lot more rape, but the woman is always portrayed as loving it in the end. There is more oral and anal sex, more depiction of women participating in the humiliation of other women, and much more ejaculation into women's faces. I think what happened in pornography while we weren't looking goes something like this: After they solved the depression by sending the boys off to conquer each other we (women that is) ran the country. After World War II, the men in power campaigned very hard to get us out of the jobs we had, and back home to repopulate the white race. In the sixties we got the pill. The sexual revolution was not much of a revolution for us at all. We were pressured to be sexually accessible at all times, men didn't have to worry about us getting pregnant, and they still defined the terms of when and how we would be sexual.

Now that they didn't want us to produce babies, they got worried about what we'd do with all that sexual energy. In pornography, they built a version of us as sexually beserk. In their minds we were depraved, indiscriminate, and they even imagined us begging for pain. In the minds of men, abusing and torturing women became more acceptable, and maybe even necessary, as a way to control our sexuality.

The other half of this is the reemergence of the Women's Liberation Movement as a force to be reckoned with. As we got more and more vocal, in larger and larger numbers, we became more powerful, and therefore more threatening. Men made more and more violent pornography, and they imagined that force or the threat of force would keep us under control. The women in the porn appeared younger and younger; children have less power than grown women.

The pornographers and the moralists have alwasy assigned us to either the virgin or the whore roles. In current pornography children often take over the role of the virgin. The scenes are the same. Innocent child, pre-pubescent or pubescent, with a smoldering sexuality, just waiting for Daddy or any other man to let it loose by penetration in any orifice. For him there is the thrill of being the first man to "have" her and of course she'll never forget her "first".

The pornographers are absolutely right about that. I have worked with women who were raped by their fathers as children or teenagers and now they are in their 20's or 30's or 40's and they still haven't forgotten the terror. Some of them have still not been able to get the photographs their fathers made. One of them takes a razor to her thighs regularly to eliminate the body memory of her father's touch.

Stereotypes survive

Some of the pornography I've seen is very racist. In Filthy Rich there is a female Cuban cook who performs sexual acts with food, and whose main interest is to fuck anything, anytime. She is also aggressive and in control quite often. The punishment for this is violent rape by two white bikers. Again and again we have pictures of black women in leather. They are tough man swallowing, and they can take anything. These are the same ideas slave holders had.

A lot of pornography I've seen portrays some very stereotypical images of the poor and the rich. The poor smell and have bad teeth, but they sure do know how to fuck. Rich women are cold, frigid, manipulators who need to be taught a lesson or who use their money and position to get laid.

Vancouver Rape Relief & Women's Shelter
77 E. 20th Avenue,
Vancouver, B.C., V5V 1L7
872-8212

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The Rape Relief Files

Pornography – Red Hot Video

Who are the profiteers?

David Stoveman, the registered owner of the Main Street Red Hot Video store, makes a 300% profit on the tapes he sells, and over 400% profit on rentals.

Peter Struck, a distributor to Red Hot Video, buys tapes at $8.00 and sells copies at $16.00. When his house was raided twenty-one video machines and hundreds of tapes were confiscated.

But the lion's share of the profits are made by the producers.

Did you know that the porn industry is larger than the conventional film and record industries combined?; or that there are four times as many porn shops in the U.S. as there are McDonald's Restaurants? Did you know that there are 260 different periodicals in the U.S. devoted to child pornography?

Pornography as violence

It is estimated that 50% of pornography depicts violence against women or children. Of the 50% that does not contain violence, some scenes in pornography movies are funny, some appear consensual. What they usually do in the movies is soften you up with one of the funny or consensual scenes, and then throw in a little violence later. It makes the violence more acceptable, and leaves you with a lot of confused feelings.

Most of the violence done to women is not done in the making of pictures or movies. It is done by men who rape women, men who pressure women into sexual acts as a result of pornography, and men who less and less frequently see rape as aberrant anti-social behaviour. I'm sure some men are encouraged to rape by watching or using pornography.

A recent news story from Boston reported that four men gang raped a woman in a bar while twelve others stood around and watched and cheered. I can't prove that these men behaved in this way directly as a result of pornography, but I do know that the scene I just described occurs in a lot of pornography. Men no longer have to create their own fantasies, the pornographers do it for them. And pornography teaches men that their fantasies are possible; it convinces them that they can conquer all women.

Pornography certainly makes violence against women acceptable by depicting women as deserving of rape or as wanting to be raped. But let us not forget that it is men who rape women.

But isn't pornography just as degrading for men? NO. I and many other feminists don't think so.

Men competing with each other for how many times they can get it up, or how many women they can fuck without talking or feeling or thinking contributes to the emotional deadening of men. It amkes them suitable for their role as our oppressors. And I'm sure that role, that deadening, is often lonely and painful. But it does not compare to having two men ejaculate into your face for the benefit of the camera, the pornographers, and the men who buy it, even if they are lonely and in pain.

Men's feelings are important but there are several other things that must come first. Men must stop their violent, abusive and coercive behaviour towards women. Then convince other men to do the same. It is with those men that feelings can be worked through.

Men must share with women their money and time to free us up to fight for our liberation. Then, maybe then, we'll have a chance to prove that pornography is not only lies about women, but also about men. We can prove it in our beds, across our kitchen tables and on our picket lines.

My aim in fighting pornography is to end male domination. That is not the government's aim. The government will accomodate a few reforms but certainly nothing to threaten the existing balance of power.

I don't think women need much convincing about the dangers of pornography. What we need is action.

We need strategies that include humour and imagination. Strategies that mock pornographers and shame men who buy the materials. Strategies that we can implement in ones, twos, and in hundreds.

Regina C.

RED HOT VIDEO MAKES A LOT OF MONEY OFF THE BACKS OF WOMEN

- anyone can buy the title or franchise for $10,000
- a tape costs them $16.00 (copied) to buy, and they sell it for $49.95 - a 300% profit!
- if Red Hot Video rents the same tape at $3.00 a day, they can break even on that tape in 6 days... and if that tape is rented for 20 days out of the month... they've just made a 300% profit in the first month... and about 400% a month after that.
- multiply that by 400 titles and maybe 2 to 3 copies of each title, and you have 1,000 to 1,200 tapes at 400% profit within the first few months.
- the costs to Red Hot Video in salaries, rental, and equipment purchase are minimal.
- "Dan" Stoveman is the owner/manager of the Main St. store, and according to the Registrar of Companies in Victoria.... he owns only 2% of the stock... who owns the rest?
- "Dan" Stoveman is making a lot of money by helping men jack off to movies of women doing everything men want. "Dan" and his customers believe that ejaculation into or onto a woman at any is " any man's birthright"* (taken from add in porn video magazine for life size rubber dolls).

BOYCOTT RED HOT VIDEO

AND

SHUT THEM DOWN !!

put out by Rape Relief
872-8212

Red Hot Video now carries over 400 titles ... with several copies of each title.
Some examples of the titles they carry are: " Babyface", "Bad Girls" , "The Filthy Rich" and "Insatiable".

... 50% of the titles show some form of violence against women - forced sex, rape, beating, humiliation, or torture... and ALL of them show women as always sexually accessible to men. They All teach men that they have a right to any woman at any time.

Red Hot video has sold (and maybe still does) "Waterpower"... in which a man rapes women and forces them to undergo enemas to "purify" them.. in the end he tries to murder a woman in this way.

Red Hot Video claims to "self regulating" and "within the law"... in fact they carry anything that sells for as long as they can get away with it.

AND THE DEGRADATION OF WOMEN IS A HOT SELLER !!

Oct 1982

The Rape Relief Files — Pornography - Red Hot Video

Hot time at Red Hot Video

Protestors jammed the street at the West End's Red Hot Video outlet at Robson and Denman Saturday, demanding the closure of the shop and chanting thinly veiled threats of a repetition of the firebombings of three other outlets in North Vancouver, Surrey and Port Coquitlam.

"Two down, 11 to go," the anti-porn demonstrators chanted as they waved placards bearing such slogans as "Pornography is hate literature" and "Pornography is theory, rape is practice."

A leader said the protest was aimed specifically at the sale of video tapes depicting torture, abuse and rape against women and children.

But a patron of the shop, who defended his right to buy and view pornographic or "erotic" video tapes, said the store did not have any such tapes on sale.

"I'll give you $100 if you can find a tape like that in that store," he shouted at one woman demonstrator. She declined to accept the challenge.

The leaders of the demonstration said they wanted to "stamp out this kind of filth everywhere." Dozens of women's and community groups, including the Vancouver Status of Women and the B.C. Federation of Women, are tired of the failure of the attorney general's department to take action.

Police stood by as the demonstrators—men, women and children—marched in front of the store. Inside the store a security guard stood at the door and frightened employees watched the noisy crowd outside.

At the Red Hot Vido outlet on Main Street, a counter-demonstration was held across the street from the store. Signs accusing the anti-porn crowd of "fascism" and "thought control" were flaunted by a mostly-male group who said the extremist actions of the Wimmen's Fire Brigade (the group taking credit for the firebombings) could cost someone their life.

"Throwing bombs is violence and what they want to do with the stores is censorship," said self-proclaimed feminist Laura Flynn, who carried a placard reading: "The Wimmin's Fire Brigade are Nazis."

A male demonstrator, who sign read "Pornography i matter of taste. Free Spee matter of justice," nodd agreement. —Ed Co

Angry demonstrators block the sidewalk outside the Denman and Robson branch of Red Hot Video Saturday, vowing to close down all 11 of the chain's stores in the Lower Mainland. (Photo by John Humphries)

Woman's federation vows to close stores

The B.C. Federation of Women pledged Monday to close down every Red Hot Video outlet in B.C. by the end of the year after expressing sympathy with the "desperate acts" of arsonists who attacked three Red Hot outlets earlier in the day.

A previously unknown group called "Wimmin's Fire Brigade" took responsibility for the attacks, which destroyed the Red Hot outlet in Surrey and three neighboring stores, and caused minor damage to outlets in North Vancouver and Port Coquitlam.

Ted Emery, manager of the North Vancouver store, said he believes the attack was against him personally, because it was a "fluke" that he was not present when the attack on his store took place.

Red Hot Video has withdrawn in recent months tapes that groups have described as particularly violent.

The RCMP's E division, covering the Lower Mainland, is coordinating the investigations of the three attacks. "We don't have anything to report yet," Const. Gerry Lamontagne of division headquarters said Monday.

In a statement issued Mo[illegible] federation of women's commu[illegible] committee said:

"While we did not participat[illegible] fire bombings of November 22 [illegible] Lower Mainland, we are in agre[illegible] with the frustration and anger o[illegible] women who did.

"We noted and appreciated thei[illegible] efforts to see that no one got hurt.

"Thirty-six women's liberati[illegible] groups of the B.C. Federation [illegible] Women have made a decision to clos[illegible] Red Hot Video outlets this year.

"We insist that (B.C. Attorney General) Allan Williams take action immediately to prevent rich men profiting from Red Hot Video's hate literature about women and children.

"The women of B.C. are being driven to desperate acts. The Canadian and B.C. governments have failed to use the existing laws to defend more than half the population from the horrors of the pornography industry.

"Pornography is the theory — rape is the practice."

Committee member Lee Lakeman said the federation hopes to close the stores by exposing the owners, organizing and educating women and men on the pornography issue, boycotting the stores, and insisting on the application of relevant laws.

"We will certainly not desert the women who have taken the action," Lakeman said. "There's a difference between violence to a live woman and violence to a building."

But Jancis Andrews of the North Shore Women's Centre, which has been actively opposing Red Hot Video, criticized the attacks on the stores.

Saying she "deplores vi[illegible]" Andrews added: "It[illegible] we stand [illegible]

BCFW

british columbia federation of women

NEWS RELEASE — NOVEMBER 22, 1982

Thirty-six WOMEN'S LIBERATION groups of the B.C. Federation of Women have made a decision to close Red Hot Video outlets within the year.

While we did not participate in the fire bombings of November 22, 1982 in the Lower Mainland, we are in agreement with the frustration and anger of the women who did. We noted and appreciated their efforts to see that no one was hurt.

We insist that Allan Williams take action immediately to prevent rich men profiting from Red Hot Video's hate literature about women and children. The women of B.C. are being driven to desperate acts. The Canadian and B.C. governments have failed to use the existing laws to defend more than half the population from the horrors of the pornography industry.

Pornography is the theory, Rape is the practise.

WANTED

ALIAS: Black Cat Video, S.H.A. Video

FOR INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

DESCRIPTION: Red Hot Video rents and sells tapes that show detail the rape, torture, bondage and humiliation of women.

WARNING: Red Hot Video is armed with rationalizations and only interested in profits - and is therefore considered extremely dangerous.

HAS BEEN SIGHTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Vancouver 3223 Main Street
North Vancouver 965 Marine Dr.
Burnaby/New West 7705 6th St.
North Burnaby 4439 E. Hastings
Victoria 1819 Douglas Street
Vancouver West End 1789 Robson St.
Nanaimo 124 Nichol Street
Robson # 104 - 2350 Hwy. 97 North
Langley 20371 - A - 50th Avenue
Prince George 393 George Street
Richmond # 135 - 4800 No. 3 Rd.
Penticton 1415 Main St.

IF SIGHTED:

Expose them publicly for the pornography pimps they are — remember only silence is shame.

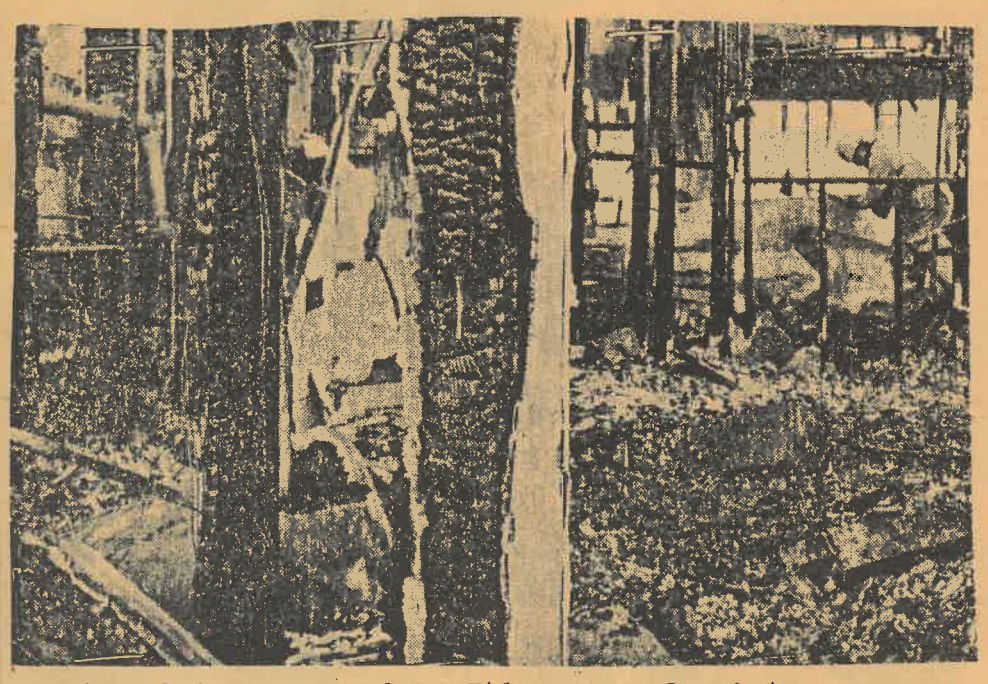
REWARDS!! When They Close Their Doors!

Join us March 12 at 2:00 pm at all locations to let Red Hot Video know what you think of them in your neighbourhood.

RAPE RELIEF AND WOMENS SHELTER
77 E. 20th AVE.
VANCOUVER, B.C. V5V 1L7
872 8212

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

B.C.F.W.



Remains of the Surrey Red Hot Video store after being firebombed by the 'Wimmins Fire Brigade', November 1982. Their action brought much media attention to women's groups that had been working to close down Red Hot Video. The 'Wimmins Fire Brigade' action was supported by women precisely because of the already existing work against porn.

We, the Wimmin's Fire Brigade, claim responsibility for the fire-bombing of three Red Hot Video outlets in the Lower Mainland of B.C. on November 22, 1982. This action is another step towards the destruction of a business that promotes and profits from violence against wimmin and children.

Red Hot Video sells tapes that show wimmin and children being tortured, raped and humilitated. We are not the property of men to be used and abused.

Red Hot Video is part of a multi-billion dollar pornography industry that teaches men to equate sexuality with violence. Although these tapes violate the Criminal Code of Canada and the B.C. guidelines on pornography, all lawful attempts to shut down Red Hot Video have failed becuase the justice system was created, and is controlled, by rich men to protect their profits and property.

As a result, we are left no viable alternative but to change the situation ourselves through illegal means. This is an act of self-defense against hate propaganda. We will continue to defend ourselves!

The Rape Relief Files — Pornography – Red Hot Video

An Unfinished Business

Our campaign against Red Hot Video was initiated at an annual convention of the British Columbia Federation of Women in 1982. B.C.F.W. is an umbrella organisation of 36 women's liberation groups. A motion was passed at convention to close down Red Hot Video (porn video chain) in one year, and a committee was struck to get the job done. The committee consisted of reps from several women's groups. At first we floundered, then we really had to get our act together when a group calling themselves the 'Wimmins Fire Brigade" firebombed 3 of the video porn outlets. There was a lot of media attention, and public outrage about the issue of porn. Many women had been actively lobbying the government (at various levels) to enforce existing legislation to control the kind, sale, and proliferation of pornography. B.C.F.W. released a statement before the firebombing announcing the formation of the committee to shut down Red Hot Video; and the day after the firebombing we released a statement saying in part 'although we did not participate in the firebombing of Nov.22, 1982... we are in sympathy with the anger and frustration of the women who did."

The combination of the two releases and the firebombing meant that we got a lot of media attention, and as a committee had to get on it... not only to get our analysis together...but to actually get some tactics going on this campaign.

Mostly we organised - with other women's groups ...provincial picketa of all the Red Hot Video outlets. We organised press conferences before the pickets where we would show clips of the videos sold at Red Hot Video. We had a lot of successful pickets...success measured by the number of people who turned out in support... the number of men we stopped from going into the shops...the amount of media attention we got for our analysis on pornography... the number of small groups that formed to organise against pornography in their area as a result of contact with us...the one video store owner who gave us his 52 tapes, and refused to sell porn. But in the end, after more than a year and a half of working together as a committee...we didn't shut down Red Hot Video.

We weren't operating in the 'Tenderloin', but in a neighbourhood; and anti-porn work was not the only thing any of the three of us were doing. Nicole and I worked full time and then some at Rape Relief, and Pat worked full time at the Status of Women. None of the three of us were willing to work against Red Hot Video full time, nor would our collectives agree to that. After a while we came to the understanding that pornography is not violence against women... that it is in fact the depiction of prostitution, and only rarely actually the depiction of violence against women. These were images we were fighting, and none of us were in direct connection with any women who were working in the porn industry or who had.

I think we should have done more:
- research - on the distributor (where did the stuff come from)
- and develop tactics to interfere with that
- research on the individual men who bought the franchises - and find ways to shame them
- do tours through the shops - find a place to organise those tours.

Sure, a few of the stores closed, and the ones that didn't had their profit margin cut into because they had to buy more fire insurance... and more security equipment... but that was more in response to the Wimmins Fire Brigade action than to any of ours.

In the end the committee was dissolved.. by that time there were 3 of us left still working on the committee - of an original 6

Looking back on it I think there were several factors for me that contributed to my quitting on that campaign. Mostly I think that it was very difficult to keep up the campaign without a daily practise... by which I mean, something we could all do every day.

I think that the women in WAVPM in San Francisco had the right idea in terms of a regular practise; they opened up an office right in the middle of the porn district, and did tours. They initaited regular letter writing campaigns...about sexist ads, record covers etc... They put out a regular newsletter, and they just kept it up. They built up quite a repertoire of tactics and a long list of small victories.

We never developed a regular practise, although looking back on it, I think we could have, and we could have encouraged all the 36 groups in B.C.F.W. to join us in the tactics that we initiated, therefore putting the weight of B.C.F.W. behind the tactics.

I think initially we were naive, and blown away by the porn we actually saw, and we didn't use effectively enough the momentum that women's groups had built up against pornography and the porn pimps.

When the committee first disbanded, I was initially relieved; I didn't want the responsibility anymore. When I look back on it now, I am embarassed and sad. I can see what we could have done, and I am regretful for the missed opportunity. Nicole and I have not, to this day, really talked about that time; nor have we evaluated together that campaign... really. Pat has gone to making videos (creating images to counter the ones in the porn), and speaks at conferences as an anti-pornography activist. But she is not organising any actions. Nicole and I are still working at Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter, fighting violence against women on the front lines.

The Attorney General is passing laws that regulate the sale and rental of porn videos, and a few of the lobby groups are active on that front.
... and Red Hot Video is still selling around the corner... with all their security equipment that make any spray painting a sure bust, and that goddamed Dan Stoveman who owns the place still raking it in hand over fist... open 7 days a week ... 24 hours a day... just like our rape crisis centre and women's shelter.
... I think I'm gonna do a little research.

Regina

Protest!

The pickets were back at Red Hot Video stores throughout B.C. Saturday.

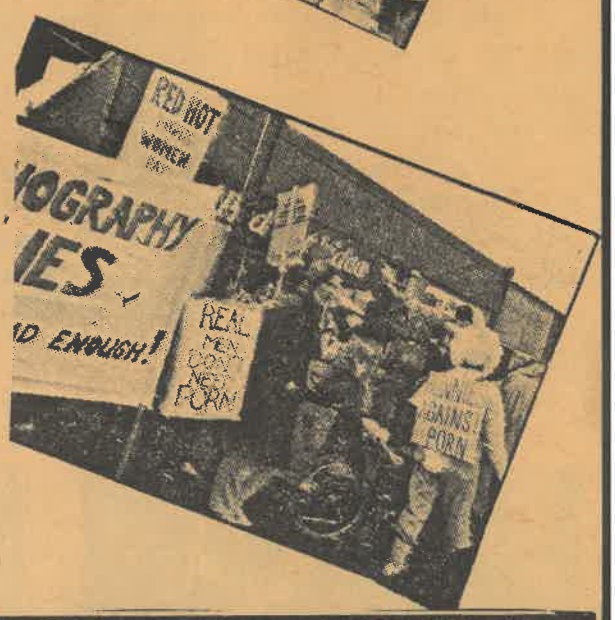
The largest demonstration against the sale of what organizers call hate literature against women, happened at the Main street location.

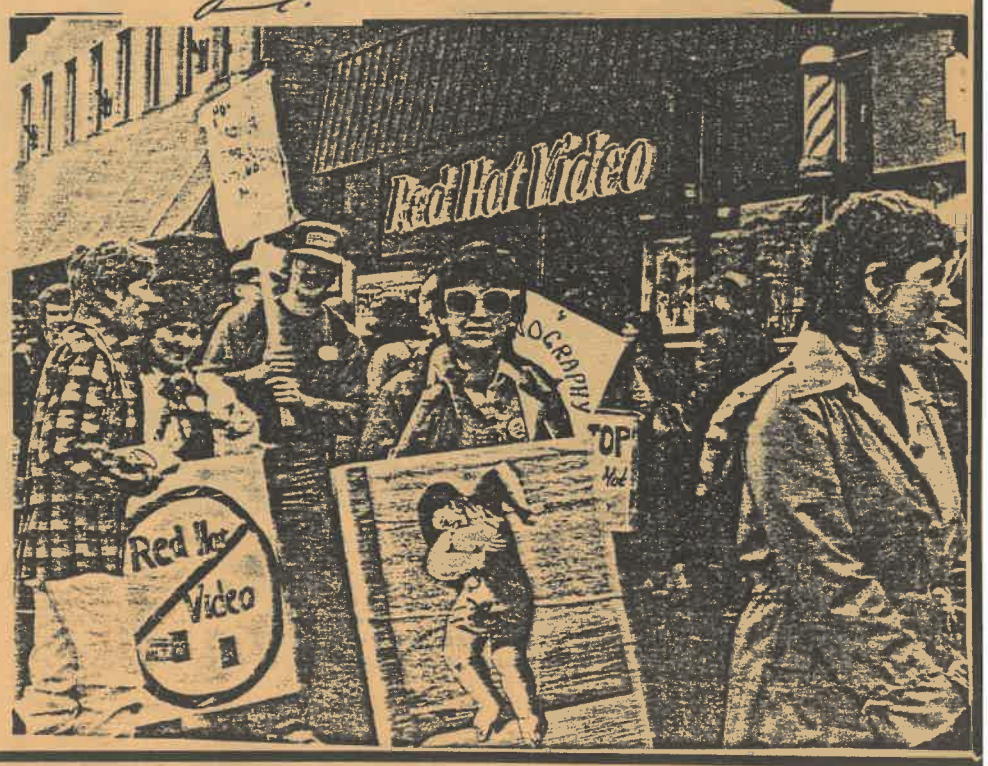
At the outlet, about 150 picketers formed a semi-circle in front of the store and chanted, "Red Hot Video, out of our community," numerous times.

The Little Mountain Anti-porn Group organized the hour-long demonstration at the store.

Red Hot Video was recently charged under the criminal code for distribution of films which show explicit scenes of violence and sex.

The store remained open during the demonstation and Red Hot employees took pictures of people protesting.





If you're keen on finding out more you may want to look at other broadsheets in our "Rape Relief Files".

see file:
- **Take Back the Night -Canadian Herstory
- **Take Back the Night -American Herstory
- **Take Back the Night -Traditions
- **Take Back the Night -Agit-Prop
- **Take Back the Night -Vancouver Herstory
- **Who Is This Man,Pattison?
- **Songs of Resistance
- **Prostitution-The Injunction Fight
- **Prostitution-Legal History
- **Who Killed Linda Tatrai
- **Pornography-Who Profits
- **Pornography-Legal History
- **Pornography-Red Hot Video
- **The Patriarchs -Jim Pattison