



Golden House 29 Great Pulteney Street London W1R 3DD Tel: 0171-287 7027 Fax: 0171-287 7026 dougchirn@aol.com

David Webb
68C Flood Street
Chelsea
London SW3 5TE

RECEIVED 2 MAY 1998

29th April 1998

Dear David

Sex in the British Media: Interview on Thursday 14th May – 17.00

Thanks for the information about NCROPA and yourself, which arrived just after I spoke to you today.

Firstly can I confirm our interview with you here at Golden House on Thursday, 14th May at 17.00. Could you get here for 16.45, so that we can set up and go through final preparation before the interview. Before the interview we will despatch a list of questions and any further information that you may need for the interview.

Herewith further background information concerning our series. We are setting out to examine the British sex industry in a very un-British way: without irony, puerility or prudery – we believe the first such in-depth examination ever. We will deal in great detail with the historic and on-going debate about pornography, censorship and law enforcement in this country.

The format of the series is a blend of documentary and 'talking-head' debate. It will feature around 100 key contributors ranging from politicians, psychiatrists and journalists to producers, editors and performers of adult films, magazines and entertainment. Already involved in the project are Michael Mansfield, Ann Widdecombe, Linzi Drew, Dr David Starkey, Dr Mary McIntosh, Dr Rosalind Miles, and Christopher Tane.

For the series to be balanced and coherent it is of paramount importance that all of the involved legal and moral questions are dealt with by experts. To this end we will be involving several media lawyers, (including a expert on the issues raised by the internet), a European legal expert, and a US constitutional expert. The series aims to tie these particular legal points together into a moral/legal

intellectual context, and we feel this is something you could help us enormously with.

The editorial line of the series is balanced and both open- and broad-minded. It provides a level platform for pornography producers to debate with politicians, for promoters of liberalisation to be given equal time with their critics. Central to the programme is an examination of British culture and attitudes and particularly British TV culture – so your experience as an actor may well be pertinent. Lady Elspeth Howe has agreed to be interviewed to speak about the work of the Broadcasting Standards Council and the challenges that it faces in the coming years.

The series will look at the history behind British customs and practices in the law regarding sex and censorship and at current public and political attitudes to pornography. It aims to take a 'snapshot' of how the British and their government handle sex in the age of the video, international free trade and the internet. By doing so it will reveal a portrait of our society which will say much more than just how we feel about sex.

We'd like to talk to you about NCROPA's history, aims and on-going work. We would be interested too in your knowledge of the work of the BBFC, and the consultation process that you are involved in with them.

Douglas Chirnside's last three series *Marco Polo Not* (Channel 4), *David Starkey's Henry VIII* (Channel 4), and *Plastic Fantastic* have been well received, and I'm attaching a company filmography for your reference.

Your interview should be brief but thorough, taking up less than an hour of your time and involving just you and a single camera unit. I hope the series appeals to you and I look forward to meeting you. Questions will follow!

Yours sincerely,



JAGO LEE
Researcher
0171 287 7365 DDI