

BRIEFS

Success in porn blitz

THE Royal Borough's drive against unlicensed pornography was boosted last week when Earl's Court shop manager, Gary Wright, pleaded guilty to supply and possession of unclassified pornographic videos. He was fined £650 with £832 costs at Walton Street Magistrates Court.

"Kensington & Chelsea Post" 17/1/91

HON. DIRECTOR

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David Kennington Litt.D.,

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NO/DAW/DP

18th January 1991

The Editor,
"Kensington & Chelsea Post"
London & Westminster Newspapers Ltd.,
Newspaper House,
Winslow Road,
London,
W6 9SF.

Dear Sir,

You reported in your 17th January edition of "Kensington & Chelsea Post" that an Earls Court shop manager had "pleaded guilty to supply and possession of unclassified pornographic videos", and that this was a boost to the "Royal Borough's drive against unlicensed pornography". The term "pornography" appears nowhere in British law and has no legal validity whatsoever, so (1) the shop manager could not have been convicted of possessing and supplying "pornographic videos", and (2) the Royal Borough has no powers to licence (or otherwise) "pornography" - whatever that is!

The U.K.'s disgracefully repressive censorship laws use the two concepts of 'indecent' and 'obscenity' to endeavour to suppress harmless sexually explicit material. The absurdity of this is that both of these concepts are purely subjective concepts and therefore capable only of individual, personal interpretation. This is often reflected in the outrageously diverse, whimsical and unjust court judgements found in such cases.

The answer, as virtually all other countries of the so-called 'free' Western World have wisely discovered and implemented, is for the repeal of such illiberal, draconian legislation and thus to allow consenting adults the freedom to choose for themselves what they see, read and hear.

The National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts (NCROPA) is launching a petition to H.M. Government calling for the legalisation of adult sexually explicit material ("pornography"?) in this country. Petition forms and further information maybe obtained from the address below. I do hope that all your readers who really cherish free freedom of expression will wish to support this long

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overdue action.

Yours sincerely,

David Webb,
Honorary Director,
National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts

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Newspaper House,
Mincing Lane,
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