

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE REFORM OF THE OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS ACTS

NCROPA

FIGHTING SEXUAL CENSORSHIP

HONORARY DIRECTOR - David Webb, R.A.D.A. Dip., 15 Sloane Court West, Chelsea, London, SW3 4TD - Tel: 071-730 9537

NO/DAW/DP

9th August 1991

Mr. Chong Won, Kwak,
President,
The Korea Ethics Committee for the
Performing Arts,

Sanho Bldg, 1475-2 Socho Dong, Socho Ku, Seoul, South Korea.

Dear Mr. Chong Won Kwak,

I have been sent a copy of your letter (dated 18th June 1991) to the British Ambassador in Seoul, by the Deputy Director (English) of The British Council in Seoul, Ms. Barbara Wickham. She asked us if we could help in supplying you with the information you require.

I think the best way I can respond to her request is to send you one of the National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts' (NCROPA's) promotional leaflets which briefly sets out our views and aims and thus gives an insight into the situation here in the U.K.

As you will see, we are a staunchly anti-censorship organisation which believes that the draconian and excessive state censorship laws which control 'the media' in the U.K. are totally outrageous and unacceptable and that is why we are fighting so strongly for their reform.

There is such a mass of such laws in the U.K. that it would be imposs-

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ible for me to detail them here. The text of your letter to the British Ambassador seems to indicate that you are in the process of formulating some code of practice for publishing and the performing arts and entertainment in South Korea. The NCROPA would certainly not wish you to base it, in any way, on the U.K.'s system which, as compared with most other Western-World countries, is uniquely and grotesquely authoritarian and intolerably repressive. The NCROPA believes in 'freedom of expression'. The U.K. Government, regrettably, does not, in spite of its hypocritical pontifications to the contrary, and it is high time that that myth was finally destroyed in the eyes of the rest of the world.

I do hope the leaflet will be helpful and, much more importantly, I hope that Korea will not emulate the U.K.'s appalling approach to matters of censorship and its imposition of massive State censorship restrictions.

If you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Yours sincerely,

David Webb,

Honorary Director,

National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts

Copies to: H.E. Mr. Jay Hee Oh, the Korean Ambassador to the U.K.
H.E. Mr. D.J. Wright, LVO, the U.K. Ambassador to Korea
Ms. Barbara Wickham, Deputy Director (English) The British
Council in Seoul

Enclosure