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**PERSONS AGAINST RITUAL ABUSE-TORTURE**

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December 10, 2004

The Honourable Irwin Cotler  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada  
284 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON  
Canada  
K1A 0H8

Letter sent via E-mail: [webadmin@justice.gc.ca](mailto:webadmin@justice.gc.ca)

**Dear Mr. Cotler, Minister of Justice:**

We have read your letter of September 22, 2004. In your letter you assured us that our concerns about the human rights violation of ritual abuse-torture, and thus, the concerns of the persons so victimized whose signed statements are attached to our letter of May 12, 2004, has been forwarded to the appropriate officials within the Department of Justice Canada for their consideration.

Regretfully we cannot rest on your assurances. There is no evidential documentation that we have been able to find, when previewing the [www.canada.justice.gc.ca](http://www.canada.justice.gc.ca) website, that indicates interventions of due diligence have been initiated concerning ritual abuse-torture since the release of the 1993 report, *Changing the Landscape: Ending Violence ~ Achieving Equality*, by the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. The exact opposite has occurred—there are no best practice interventions addressing the atrocity of ritual abuse-torture.

In the above referred to 1993 report is a chapter entitled, "Under-Acknowledged Forms of Violence" (pp. 45-47) which lists stalking/criminal harassment, pornography, abuse of trust, reproductive technologies, and "ritual abuse". Reviewing this list it is evident that best practice interventions have and continue to be initiated regarding stalking/criminal harassment, pornography, trafficking, and reproductive technologies. However, the only Canadian reference found to

“ritual abuse” was one tiny footnote on the family violence fact sheet that mentioned other forms of abuse. The term “ritual abuse” was included in this list as another form of violence (<http://www.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/fm/familyvfs.html>). A tiny footnote does not constitute a best practice intervention when reviewing the human rights atrocities listed under the sub-title “ritual abuse”. Being tortured by family members and like-minded groups is repeated many times. The connection is made that these ritual abuse-torture families and like-minded groups are involved in the exploitative transnational crimes of torture by non-state actors, in the manufacturing and selling of pedophilic and captive adult pornography including “snuff” movies which is about murder, human trafficking, the illegal drug trade, “white slavery”, and many other forms of victimization horrors that persons—from infancy to captive enslaved women—endured.

**Our questions now are:**

- 1. How can the Department of Justice justify its actions to nullify—to make invisible—the horrific crime of ritual abuse-torture?**
- 2. Is this failure not a profound abuse of power and an abuse of trust when an entire governmental structure not only fails in their mandate to protect the legal and human rights of all its citizens including those who have and are enduring ritual abuse-torture?**
- 3. Are such failures not considered abuses of power and abuses of trust which are powerful forces of oppression that are contributing to the on-going ritual abuse-torture of persons—from infants to captive enslaved women?**
- 4. Do such failures provide a cover of impunity for the perpetrators of ritual abuse-torture?**

## **Human Trafficking**

We do appreciate the Canadian government’s attention to the heinous organized crime of human trafficking. We note, however, that the Justice web site section on trafficking and the list of key *Criminal Code* offences relevant to trafficking in persons does not list torture as an offence that happens to persons who are trafficked (<http://www.justice.gc.ca/en/fs/ht/criminalcode.html>). The United Nations Committee Against Torture has considered specific forms of torture, including human trafficking of women, as a gender-sensitive interpretation of torture as is defined in Article 1 which reads: “any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental is intentionally inflicted on a person ...”

The human trafficking and the torture by non-state actors that occurs to persons—from infants, to youth, to captive enslaved women—within the context of ritual abuse-torture families and like-minded groups fits this consideration. We see no evidence that the Justice Department has acted with due diligence to consider the inclusion of torture by non-state actors as a criminal offence perpetrated by traffickers within any context of human trafficking including within the context of ritual abuse-torture families and like-minded groups.

From your various public announcements and speeches, such as the one you gave to the, “Forum on Human Trafficking”, in March, 2004, you professed the opinion that raising awareness is a key to preventing human trafficking. Further your speech spoke of an urgent need to raise our voices to mobilize “a constituency of consciousness both domestically and internationally.” Our letter accompanied by person’s signed victimization statements is our and their voices of consciousness written to you to raise awareness and to mobilize our government’s “constituency of consciousness” as there is no evidence that the women’s voices of consciousness of 1993 have been heard. There is simply no evidence that there has been due diligence or political will to act to uphold the human rights of persons who have survived the organized crime, the human rights violations, and torture by non-state actors—the perpetrators of ritual abuse-torture.

**Our questions are again the 4 listed previously.**

### **The Historical: Eleven years ago**

Eleven years ago, in 1993, the testimonial evidence heard by the national panel on violence against women challenged systematic doubt, denial, or rejection of the reality that there are those among us who intentionally commit acts of human evil—who organize the violent crime of ritual abuse-torture in order to partake of their sadistic pedophilic and captive adult entertainment and pleasures, to fulfill their financial greed quotas, and to exert totalitarian power and control over vulnerable persons—from captive infants, to youth, to captive enslaved women. And it was 1993 when we started to bear witness to the human rights atrocities of ritual abuse-torture victimization and were also faced with systematic doubt, denial, isolation, and rejection. Today, there is no room for systematic refusal to act irresponsibly because there are more known facts about the extensiveness of the human potential to commit acts of human evil within the context of relationships such as the adult-parent-child relationships. For example:

1. In 1993, when women (or men) spoke of being infant or toddler victims of pedophilic torture within the context of ritual abuse-torture families/groups the common response was: there is no evidence that infant-toddler torture happens. Today, denial that such acts occur is impossible. Police now have in their possession the actual images of newborn infants with their umbilicus cord still attached, infants so young that they had surgical tape over the stumps of their umbilical cords, infants in diapers who were/are enduring sexualized-physical-mind-spirit pedophilic tortures.<sup>1</sup>
2. In 1993, when women (or men) spoke of enduring bestiality and forced animal-human pornography with dogs and large animals such as horses or donkeys this reality was also denied as being without evidence. Today,

- denial that such acts occur is impossible. Police have in their possession DVD's with traumatized-tortured children forced into animal-human pedophilic pornography involving dogs and horses.<sup>2</sup>
3. In 1993, when woman (or men) stated they had "pictures" taken of them that involved pedophilic pornography and bestiality and these were made at home or in places known to their families/groups their testimonies were also dismissed. Police now report that the manufacturing of homemade pedophilic pornography is a fact.<sup>3</sup>
  4. In 1993, when women (or men) made statements that they were over-drugged even as infants, toddlers, or young children during their ritual abuse-torture victimization, they were disbelieved. Denial that young victims are drugged is no longer possible. In the horrific child pornography Henrick's trial in Prince George, BC, where RCMP officers seized 22 homemade videotapes of sexualized rapes against many children, aged three to seventeen, many remembered little of their horrors because of the so-called date-rape drugs they were given.<sup>4</sup>
  5. In 1993, when women (or men) told that the pedophilic pornographic tapes were used for training films, within the context of the ritual abuse-torture family or like-minded groups, to teach them how to perform for the parental-adult torturers this reality was dismissed as bizarre. Well, no longer, for a man has been convicted and jailed for videotaping his sexualized assault of a youth to use "as a type of training film".<sup>5</sup>
  6. In 1993, when a woman (or man) stated their families or like-minded groups were part of a trans-national organized co-culture of ritual abuse-torturers, involving group—family or gang—pedophilic torture and human trafficking their reality was rejected. This victimization knowledge was ahead of civil society's awareness. This is no longer the case, organized crime and human trafficking is a multi-billion dollar organized criminal activity as stated on the Justice web site.
  7. In 1993, when a woman (or man) stated they were victims of torture by ritual abuse-torture families or by like-minded groups, this too was ahead of civil society's acceptance of the reality that there exists a vast extensiveness of violence including torture that can and does occur within parent-child relationships or caregiver-child relationships. Today, denial of this truth is unacceptable. Today, torture by non-state actor—mothers, fathers, and intergenerational perpetrator families and like-minded groups—has become the knowledge of daily newspaper reports. Reports that present to the world facts and images of a girl or boy child "bound like a lamb being carted to slaughter", hung, tied down to a bed, to a pole, hooded, objects—beer bottles, sticks, fishing knife, and persons repeatedly reaching into her body, burned, beaten, "sewn to a table-rope

- stitching through her flat chest”, her fingers nailed and screwed to a board to restrain her while she was raped by her father, gang raped, inhumane dehumanizing tortures, caged, urinated on and into, forced to eat feces, deprived and starved.<sup>6</sup>
8. In 1993, when a woman (or man) stated they were forced within the context of ritual abuse-torture family/group gatherings to be involved in horrors that included the rape and torturing to death of other children or adults they were called or labeled crazy. This was a reality that civil society stated there was no evidence for. Wrong, again, as is evidenced in an Italian police investigation that netted “Necros Pedo” pornographic materials showing children being raped and tortured to death.<sup>7</sup>
  9. In 1993, when a woman (or man) spoke of being forced into horrific sexualized ordeals in morgues or funeral homes for the necrophilic pleasures of the perpetrators of ritual abuse-torture the reality of pedophilic necrophilic tortures was dismissed as impossible. Not true. A man was jailed for seven years after being convicted of carrying out sexualized attacks on two teenage girls and showing them the dead bodies in the hospital mortuary where he worked.<sup>8</sup>
  10. In 1993, when a woman (or man) told of how professionals failed to ask questions when they were taken to hospital, as children, with injuries that resulted from sexualized tortures, professionals and social structures looked the other way or sided with the adult perpetrator by stating “so and so wouldn’t do such a thing”. Today the fact is that parents, family members, caregivers, or persons known to the child are the most frequent perpetrators of violence against the child. It is also a known fact that a child is terrorized into explaining away vaginal or rectal bleeding as “an accident” such as “falling on my bike”.<sup>9</sup>
  11. In 1993, when a woman (or man) listed their perpetrators of ritual abuse-torture to be their mothers, fathers, grandparents, extended family members, and like-minded groups, they were ostracized. When they stated further that the ritual abuse-torturers were persons with wealth, persons with positional and social power—doctors, lawyers, dentists, nurses, social workers, politicians, and yes, even priests they were further ostracized. We specifically draw attention to priests as perpetrators because it would now be considered bizarre of a person to claim that some priests are not perpetrators of abuse, torture both as state-actors and non-state actors, and yes, we are hearing of priest involvement in ritual abuse-torture. When the victimized persons stated these perpetrators used their homes, the homes of like-minded others, basements, warehouses, their work sites, their cars, boats, cabins, airplanes, hotels, motels, their community connections, and their money to buy places where they could “safely” inflict their tortures, social

ostracization was again unjustly inflicted upon persons who spoke of their survival.

**Our questions are again the 4 listed initially.**

### **Ritual Abuse-Torture: A Crime of Destructive Wholistic Dimensions**

Ritual abuse-torture victimization involves horrific acts such as the ones described above—and more. Ritual abuse-torture is a **crime of destructive wholistic dimensions** involving intentionally organized child abuse, terrorization, animal-human cruelty, all forms of torture—physical, sexualized, and mind-spirit, rampageous pedophilia, necrophilism, group violence, horrification, life-threatening indoctrinations, exploitation—pedophilic and captive enslaved female pornography, trafficking, and forced labor. For victimized persons—from infants, to youth, to captive enslaved women—to be safe they require that the violation of their human rights and the torture inflicted by non-state actors be identified and named in its entirety.

Persons who were victimized by ritual abuse-torturers—families and like-minded groups—told of the tortures and horrors they had and were enduring in 1993. We, as witnesses to thousand of hours of listening and caring, along with the persons who have submitted their signed statements of victimization, are back again to state there is no visible evidence of a Canadian governmental will to mobilize “a constituency of consciousness both domestically and internationally” to act to respect, protect, and fulfill the human rights and legal obligations for persons who have, who are, or who are at risk of being ritually abused-tortured.

Further, in reference to your speech, “Forum on Human Trafficking”, in March, 2004, you mentioned you were one of the people who have been the beneficiary of the compelling work, *The Natashas*, by Victor Malarek. We too have read his book describing the human trafficking of women on continental Europe. We know the Canadian Natashas! They are girl (and boy) infants, toddlers, children, youth, and captive adult women.

Are they not equally worthy of your recognition and in need of your protection via your position of power as Minister of Justice and defender of human rights?

**Our questions are again the 4 listed initially.**

## **Misopais: The Underpinning of Hate Crimes against Children**

Again, referring to your speech, “Forum on Human Trafficking”, in March, 2004, in which you make reference to hate crimes by stating:

***“That hate crime against any identifiable group constitutes an assault on the inherent integrity and worth of the human person. It constitutes an assault on the equal dignity of all persons.”***

We introduce you now to a word—a concept—a belief—an attitude—that we have coined to explain: “Why do the perpetrators of ritual abuse-torture do what they do? **The word, the concept, is misopais—the hatred of children.** Much like misogyny—the hatred of women—is the underpinning for violence against women so to is misopais the underpinning of violence against the child person, including the ritual abuse-torture of children of all ages. So, ritual abuse-torture also has to be recognized as a hate crime of destructive wholistic dimensions that constitutes an assault on the inherent integrity and worth of the persons whose humanness and dignity has been so grievously assaulted.

Assuring us and the persons whose signed victimization statements are attached to our May 12, 2004 letter, have been forwarded to the appropriate officials within the Department of Justice Canada for their consideration is to ask us to trust blindly. We cannot do that for all the reasons we have outlined.

### **Conclusion:**

Trust is built on evidence—behaviours and actions. In this case, trust would have to be built on factual evidence that the reality of the human rights violations and torture exposed in 1993—that ritual abuse-torture that was reported to occur in every region of Canada—has not been shelved, ignored, dismissed, discarded, treated with cynicism, or devalued. Tragically, to date, Mr. Colter, there is no such evidence to support that we ought to trust in or trust to the justice system or other systems such as the Status of Women. Rather, the evidence suggests that the Canadian governmental systems have turned their backs on persons—infants to captive adults—and the horrific crime of ritual abuse-torture in spite of legal and human rights obligations. If we are proven wrong we will apologize ... until then wisdom dictates we ask for the following interventions:

- 1. Please answer the four questions we have repeatedly posed above.**
- 2. To ensure the transfer of knowledge necessary to address the organized crime, the human rights violations, and the**

acts of torture perpetrated by non-state actors—the perpetrators of ritual abuse-torture—we request to have direct contact with the “appropriate officials within the Department of Justice Canada” who have the responsibility to develop best practice interventions to address the organized crime of ritual abuse-torture.

3. We ask that the section on “ritual abuse’ and torture that is included in the national report, “*Changing the Landscape: Ending Violence ~ Achieving Equality*” be placed on the Department of Justice Canada website.
4. We ask: What suggestions do you have, given a background as a human rights lawyer, which would result in upholding the legal and human rights of Canadians and all persons who have survived ritual abuse-torture?

Sincerely,

**Jeanne Sarson & Linda MacDonald**

#### Endnotes

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  - <sup>2</sup> CP. (2004, September 23). Authorities seize child porn, bestiality DVD’s, A6. *The Chronicle Herald*.
  - <sup>3</sup> Gooderham, M. & Laghi, B. (1996, December 14). Tracking high-tech pedophiles. *The Globe and Mail*.
  - <sup>4</sup> Moore, D. (1999, July 12). Village tries to put child pornography case behind it. P.A6. *The Chronicle-Herald The Mail-Star*; Vallis, M. (2000, November 18). ‘The jurors on this case were victims too’. *National Post*, pp. B1-B5.
  - <sup>5</sup> Lightstone, M. (2004, July 15). Pimp gets 7-year sentence, p. A1-A2. *The Chronicle Hherald*.
  - <sup>6</sup> Cherry, P. (2002, December 7). Uncle filmed girl’s rape by father, jury told. *The Montreal Gazette*; Coolican, L. (2002, December 17). Conditional sentence imposed for man possessing child porn. *The Star Phoenix*; Eglinton, R. & Porter, C. (2003, March 16). OPP Detective John Smith scans computer images and videotape for child pornography, sometimes 3,000 images a shift. He’s one of few officers able to stomach the job. [Http://www.thestar.ca/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Articl](http://www.thestar.ca/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Articl) Downloaded 3/18/03; Grevatt, G. (2001, October 6). Bridgewater man jailed one year for selling child porn, A3. *The Chronicle-Herald The Mail-Star*; O’Brien, J. (2003, February 21). Dad gets 50 months for sex assaults on daughter. *London Free Press*; Pacienza, A. (2002, January 22). Seizure shows city has become centre for child porn: Toronto police, p. A2. *The National Post*; Perkel, C. (2004, June 17). Stiff sentences sought, p. A5. *The Chronicle*

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*Herald*; Robertson, I. (2003, February 8). Cops: Canada's largest haul of child smut. *Toronto Sun*.

<sup>7</sup> CNN. (2000, October 28). Italy charges 1,500 people in child porn inquiry.  
<http://www.cnn.com/2000/WORLD/europe/italy/10/28/rome.porn/index.html>

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<sup>8</sup> Press Association. (2003, November 4). Seven years for mortuary sex attacker.  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uklatest/story/0,1271,-3349018,00.html> Downloaded 11/04/03.

<sup>9</sup> O'Brien, J. (2003, February 21). Dad gets 50 months for sex assaults on daughter. *London Free Press*.