

Dear Mr Crebolder,

I have asked the following questions in the Dutch House of Representatives, in part based on your messages. I agree that children should be protected against all types of abuse and that the government should not allow any doubts to exist in relation to this subject. The guidelines are not only a guide for judges but are also a signal to the community at large that abuse can be interpreted in a variety of ways. This should never be the case. I wonder what the answer of the Minister will be to the questions.

I would like to thank you for sending me your message.

Kind regards,

Khadija Arib

From: PvdA_Persvoorlichting (Press briefing for the Dutch Labour Party)

Sent: Tuesday 8 January 2008; 9:50

CC: Arib K.

Subject: Questions asked by Arib to the Minister of Justice regarding child pornography

The Hague, 7 January 2008

Questions asked by Arib (PvdA) to the Minister of Justice

regarding child pornography guidelines

- 1) Are you aware of the letter to the editor regarding "de schoonheid van een meisje"^{fn} ("the charms of a girl") which is a response to your letter regarding child pornography guidelines^{fn}?
 - 2) Do you agree with the opinion as expressed in the article that a child should always be protected against child pornography?
 - 3) What is your opinion on the assertion that the child pornography guidelines dated May 2007 allows a judge to punish the production, distribution and possession of child pornographic material lightly or even not to punish this at all? Do you agree that these guidelines allow various interpretations and that the perpetrators can easily get away with it?
 - 4) Could you provide an overview of the sentences pronounced in child pornography cases since the child pornography guidelines have come into force in May 2007?
 - 5) Do you agree that it is unacceptable that perpetrators receive light sentences or are not punished at all for the production, distribution and possession of child pornography material?
 - 6) Do you agree that it is unacceptable that this is possible within our current legal system and that this means that all children in the Netherlands could become the victim of child pornography?
 - 7) How are you going to ensure that perpetrators and repeat offenders involved in child pornography go scot free or receive light sentences? What are you going to do to ensure judges are better trained to assess child pornography cases? Are you willing to implement measures to ensure that judges have more information as to the type of child pornographic material involved in the specific case?
1. NRC 6 January 2008
 2. Letter from the Ministry of Justice dated 17 August 2007, reference 5501234/07/AS

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Information from the Dutch House of Representatives in combination with background files and the latest political news.

Information in preparation for a visit, explanation regarding the manner in which laws come to be and a tour through the history of the Dutch Parliament.

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