

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 92. This bill, quite simply, will assist in the proving of a hypothesis; that there is a link between pornography and sex crimes. Many scoff at this idea, and I am not insinuating that pornography causes a person to become a sexual criminal. I firmly believe that the research conducted by Dr. Stanton E. Samenow, best known for his seminal work in the Program for the Investigation of Criminal Behavior, is compelling in showing that criminals choose to commit their crimes. Dr. Samenow's research has shown that what a person's environment offers or lacks is not decisive in his or her becoming a criminal. However, that is not to say that it doesn't influence behavior.

A person already thinking about committing crimes may pick up ideas from the media, television crime dramas, and pornography, particularly the variety known as S&M – sadomasochist. Dr. Samenow's work shows that these stimuli may even cause a person thinking of committing such acts to become more confident that they can successfully perpetrate the crime.

I will say, from my own personal experience as a law enforcement officer that pornography, hard core, sadomasochistic pornography, was often found at violent crime scenes. Not all of these crime scenes were sexual in nature but all of the crime scenes I am referring to were violent crime scenes.

I can also speak to my own daughter's sexual assault and murder. S&M pornography, printed material as well as video material, were located in the perpetrator's home. Some of the materials depicted behavior that was done to Kelsey by the perpetrator.

The collection of data by simply checking a box on the Kansas Standard Offense Report provides a simple means of recording this data. The KSOR is the document that is submitted to the KBI while a property report/evidence log is not. The KSOR makes it a simple operation to report on this data. This data can be made available to researchers who can then study this to see what type of link there is.

This is a simple, cost effective method of data collection that may well assist the law enforcement and corrections community. I ask that you find this bill favorable for passage.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sen. Greg Smith

District 21