

ECSAF's Response to Intimate Photos Involving a Minority Group Leader and Children

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It has been recently revealed on online forums that the leader of an ethnic minority group, which claims to strive for racial equality, used the organization to reach some children and took scores of intimate photos with them. These photos show a lot of unnecessary physical contact, leading to associations with child pornography and pedophilia. The End Child Sexual Abuse Foundation (ECSAF) is very concerned about this incident, and has issued the following response:

- ECSAF filed a report on the incident at Sham Shui Po Police Station today (May 17).
- Any group or organization providing services to children are obliged to ensure that its employees, related persons, operations and activities do not cause harm to children. The photos show the leader of the group touching private parts of children, which is unacceptable.
- While it may seem from the photos that the children acted willingly, most children lack the ability to distinguish right from wrong. Just because they do not understand the concepts of child pornography and pedophilia does not make the photos acceptable.
- We urge the circulation of photos which may lead to public association of child pornography and pedophilia to cease immediately. Children are protected by law, and any action which may negatively impact their growth, even if it is not illegal, should be prohibited.
- The Security Bureau should establish a legislative timetable as soon as possible, stipulating that all persons (including employers and employees) engaging in work related to children or mentally incapacitated persons should be required to undergo a sexual conviction record check to reduce potential risk, providing children with the protection they deserve.
- We advise parents to be more vigilant about the need to protect their children from harm. Children should be taught to protect themselves and refuse physical contact that is "doubtful, ambiguous or uncomfortable".

Please contact us at 2889 9922 for enquiries.

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