

*Scott Cooper*



March 28, 2010

Mr. Rod Beckstrom, CEO and President  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers  
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330  
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601

Dear Mr. Beckstrom:

I'm a father of three and youth advocate from Petaluma, California. I've been involved in education and drug-related boards here in Sonoma County, California for several years and have served on the Petaluma Youth Commission. I am also part of a fledgling coalition committed to convincing ICANN to provide a zone on the Internet that is appropriate for general communities around the world ("Community Zone"). The Internet was created by government-sponsored initiatives paid for by citizens. Yet there is no available Internet zone for the millions of citizens in the United States and throughout the world who desire Internet access that is in line with generally accepted obscenity laws meant to protect minors.

We believe in freedom of speech, and for maintaining full access to the Internet for those who desire to view any lawful site available. This "Open Access" exists currently and is the only option provided to the Internet. We clearly need an additional zone that families and others who so choose can "opt into," which conforms to generally accepted obscenity standards. ICANN would be responsible for making sure that no IP addresses connected to obscenity are allowed in this Community Zone. We need just one safe option for our children.

The current arrangement is extremely detrimental to the well-being of children and to society. Our children are being exposed to hard-core, gratuitous sex, violence and profanity at a stage of life when they are still developing their beliefs, judgments and values. They are being socialized to view such images as normal, routine and comical. This is highly offensive to many cultural traditions around the world and would have been unimaginable to parents and educators of past generations. Internet filters are insufficient—they don't always work, they can be worked around, and many families do not have them, cannot afford them, or do not appropriately know how to use them. The onus for delivering at least one safe option needs to be on the providers of the Internet. The time for providing people of the world with a safe alternative for their families and children is now.

I am assuming in all of this that ICANN has the ability to provide such a Community Zone. If we should be petitioning others, please let me know. Please let me know if we can meet with you to discuss how we might make our case with the powers that be to proceed with the development of a Community Zone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Cooper".

Scott Cooper