

DefendDignity

Dear Retailer;

I am writing today to ask you to remove *Cosmopolitan* magazine from the checkout lanes in this store.

Cosmopolitan is a visually hyper-sexualized and verbally pornographic magazine, glamorizing things like public, group, anal, and commercial sex in nearly all of their issues.

Currently, *Cosmopolitan* is found in your checkout lanes, often at the eye-level of children and all other customers. *Cosmopolitan's* use of cover models and celebrities popular with children and teenagers reveals their strategy to appeal to children with their high-risk sexual messages.

Research has shown that people frequently exposed to softcore images become desensitized to them and are less likely to hold positive views of women.¹

Young people are impressionable, and this magazine routinely promotes risky sexual behaviours and normalizes commercial sexual exploitation, such as pornography and prostitution. It is full of gratuitous and explicit sexual discussions, and is consistent in its sexual objectification of women and men.

I know your company values your customers. In the interest of the well-being of your customers, I would ask that you join the fight against sexual exploitation and remove *Cosmopolitan* from your check out lanes immediately.

Sincerely,

Name

Address

¹ University of Nottingham, "Soft-core pornography viewers 'unlikely to hold positive attitudes toward women,'" June 15, 2016.
<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/news/pressreleases/2016/june/soft-core-pornography-viewers-unlikely-to-hold-positive-attitudes-towards-women.aspx> (accessed May 16, 2018).