



**ROBERT LLOYD**  
Executive Director

*"Protecting women, children and families in a sexualized culture"*

## SEXTING – THE NEW CRAZE

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Last month I had the opportunity to present awards to two champions of children and families -- Joanne Raia, Huntington Town Clerk, (far right), and NYS Assemblyman Andrew Raia, (far left). During the presentation Assemblyman Raia announced that the New York State Assembly has begun work on legislation to protect children & youth from the latest craze in wireless technology, "SEXTING".

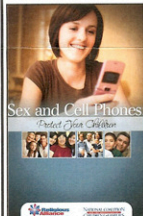
Teens across the country are taking nude or semi-nude photos of themselves with cell phones and sending them to friends and classmates via texting. (National Coalition Newsletter, "Action", May 2009)

Consider the following alarming statistics:

- 1 in 5 teens sent or posted nude or semi-nude photos or videos of themselves
- Over 70% of teens surveyed said they sent the sexually suggestive material to a boyfriend or girlfriend
- Over 40% of teens surveyed knew the messages would be shared with other people (National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy)

Many teens found guilty of "sexting" have been slapped with child pornography charges, added to sex offender registries, required to pay monetary fines, and admitted to juvenile detention centers.

The National Coalition for the Protection of Children and Families (NCAP) and LICCV believe the first course of action to stop this trend is education. "Many parents don't understand the full capabilities of wireless devices when they purchase them for their children" said Rick Schatz, President and CEO of NCAP.



To educate parents and provide them with practical steps to protect their children, NCAP has published a booklet entitled "Sex and Cell Phones: Protect Your Children." This resource includes safe-use practices, and highlights the parental controls offered by cell phone providers.

*LICCV will send this booklet free of charge for any gift of \$25 or more received during the months of July and August.*

Many concerned citizens contacted our office about the indecent billboard ad posted by Calvin Klein at the corner of Houston and Lafayette Streets in New York City. LICCV contacted Mayor Bloomberg and New York County District Attorney Robert Morgenthau regarding this issue.

We, along with several other community and national organizations, are joining forces to confront these major advertisers, who continually push the envelope with the public display of indecent material. As a result of the combined public outcry against Calvin Klein, the ad was replaced with a less offensive image.

*The summer season is one of the hardest times for charities and non-profit organizations. Please remember us before you leave for your summer vacation, and send us a generous gift in the enclosed envelope.*

*Standing Together Opposing Pornography*  
*Robert Lloyd*

