JIM BANKS
THIRD DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEE ON
ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR

COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–1403

September 17, 2020

The Honorable William Barr
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Barr,

We're writing to recommend you bring charges against Netflix, Inc. for the distribution of the film "Cuties," which contains child pornography.

As defined by 18 U.S.C § 2256, child pornography is any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a minor, and that conduct does not need to specifically depict sexual activity to qualify.

Cuties clearly meets the United States' legal definition of child pornography. According to IMDB's parental guide, Cuties contains, "a scene where an 11-year-old girl dressed in a tank and panties is splashed with water and begins twerking in a frenzied kind of way," and numerous other, equally distressing depictions of minors including the display of an 11-year-old child's bare breast. One reviewer recently said, "What the Avengers movies are to comic-book geeks, Cuties is to pedophiles."

The First Amendment protects corporations and individuals from obscenity law if they can prove artistic expression, but this protection rightfully does not apply to child pornography. Cuties is child pornography and its distributors should be prosecuted accordingly.

Cuties' defenders claim that the film *intends* to criticize the objectification of young girls. The reality is that Cuties *does* depict minors engaged in sexually explicit acts. It's visual fodder for pedophiles and its message is beside the point.

To us, and to the vast majority of Americans, it's deeply upsetting to see a mainstream media company promote the sexualization of children. We appreciate you considering this issue and eagerly await your response.

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Sincerely,

Jim Banks
Member of Congress

Van Taylor
Paul Gosar, D.D.S.
Ralph Norman
Greg Murphy
Tom Tiffany
Jeff Duncan
Troy Balderson
Chris Stewart
Doug LaMalfa
Chuck Fleischmann
Randy Weber
Steve King
Ted Budd
Pete Olson
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Lloyd Smucker