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## 2012 TEXT OF EMAIL SENT BY A SNAP CHAPTER LEADER IN RESPONSE TO BARBARA BLAINE'S LETTER ON BEHALF OF DR. STEVE TAYLOR

I first heard about the letter that Barbara had sent in support of Dr. Taylor after the leader's meeting in Tampa.

When I read the letter of and the reactions, I really wanted to understand what was going on, especially from Barbara. http://reform-network.net/?p=14717

I am pretty sure that all of us agree on the following:

- watching or possessing images of child abuse is as much a crime as making them, because it involves actual crimes committed on children

- there can never be any exception to this, for anybody (apart from people of the law)

- trying to minimize the crime by stressing the "other" good deeds of such a person is unacceptable (that is exactly what the church does)

- one of the motto's of SNAP is "we will never be silent". If we remain silent on this issue, to protect SNAP, we are making a fatal error.

- nobody is infallible, everyone makes mistakes

- if we do we need to face them, apologize and move on, as this will only make us stronger - if we stay silent, then we are just as much hypocrites as the people we are accusing every day

I believe Barbara owes us an explanation. That is the very least. Writing the letter was a mistake, and I agree with many of us that Barbara should apologize publicly. This is a very serious issue. It goes to the core of what we are doing. If nothing is done about it, SNAP will not survive. I do not want this to happen. In view of the attacks on SNAP by the church, it is even more important that we do not keep silent about this.

I am immensely grateful to SNAP. Their (your) very hard work made it possible for us in Europe to be where we are now. More and more and more investigations are being made, by scholars, by police and courts. They are investigating not only the crimes of abuse, but also the cover up. In Belgium there is a national investigation into "guilty negligence" of the whole hierarchy. Hundreds of cases are being studied. More and more voices are going up all over Europe to file charges for crimes against humanity. Without the pioneering work of SNAP this may not have been possible.

I am fighting the horrible injustice that is done unto children, destroying their lives. We are all in this fight for the cause, not for the organization. We must never follow blindly, but keep on using our common sense.

That is what I feel and wanted to share with you. (Name redacted)