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You've taught your child how to handle this situation outside...



...But what about inside?

## YOU ARE INVITED

U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz invites you and your children to attend her forum dedicated to protecting children from online predators.

Join law enforcement officials, internet safety advocates, and hear from Mary Kozakiewicz, whose daughter Alicia was abducted at age 13 and held by someone she met online.

September 2, 2008, 7-9 p.m.
Attucks Middle School, 3500 North 22nd Ave, Hollywood

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz 118 Cannon H.O.B. Washington, DC 20515

Official Business

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# Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz: Getting tough on the predators who use the Internet to prey on children

At the age of 13, Alicia Kozakiewicz was abducted by someone she met online.

Taken across state lines, her captor chained her in his basement.

Then, on the day she thought that she'd be killed, Alicia was rescued by the FBI...

### MOST ARE NOT THAT LUCKY.



Alicia Kozakiewicz was abducted from her home at age 13. She testified about the dangers children face online at a House Judiciary Committee hearing on October 17, 2007.



Rep. Wasserman Schultz joined Sen. Biden at a press conference to announce the introduction of the PROTECT Our Children Act in the Senate.

There are more than 500,000 people in the United States that law enforcement knows are trading in child pornography... today.

Yet due to lack of funding, law enforcement is investigating less than 2% of these perpetrators.

I'm fighting in Washington to give law enforcement the tools they need to stop online child predators.





Rep. Wasserman Schultz is joined by Alicia Kozakiewicz, Mary Kozakiewicz and actor David Keith at a press conference announcing the introduction of the PROTECT Our Children Act in the House.

## Debbie Wasserman Schultz Fights to Protect Children

Rep. Wasserman Schultz is fighting to stop the exploitation of children online. Our children deserve a future that is healthy and safe. Her legislation, passed by the House of Representatives in November by an overwhelming 415-2 margin, would train Federal, State, and local police to lift the digital fingerprints needed to help put child predators behind bars.

The PROTECT Our Children Act, sponsored by Rep. Wasserman Schultz, takes a bold step forward in addressing the growing problem of child exploitation. The Department of Justice and the FBI have testified before Congress that child exploitation is growing rapidly. New investigative techniques allow law enforcement to identify more than 500,000 individuals – right now, here in the United States – who are trafficking child pornography over the Internet. However, due to the lack of resources, law enforcement is investigating less than 2 percent of known offenders. Research shows that if officials investigated these cases, they could rescue real victims of child exploitation 30 percent of the time.

The Wasserman Schultz-sponsored legislation will authorize hundreds of millions of dollars in the next eight years that will be dedicated to combating child exploitation. This bipartisan legislation will:

- Increase funding for the existing Internet Crimes Against Children task force program like one right here in South Florida which supports the state and local law enforcement agencies that investigate child exploitation;
- Add hundreds of new federal agents that will be solely dedicated to crimes against children;
- Provide desperately needed forensic crime labs that will ease crippling backlogs and lift the predators' digital fingerprints; and
- Create a bold new national strategy to address online child exploitation and create accountability at the Department of Justice to deliver real results to America's children.

Rep. Wasserman Schultz's bill would drastically increase America's ability to track down and prosecute child sex offenders, rescuing thousands of children.

"We need to think of this as a war," said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz. "A war we must wage against sex predators, a war for our children. This legislation would train federal, state and local police forces to lift the digital fingerprints left by child sex predators so they can be put behind bars."



"One law enforcement official that I spoke with said, 'Because there are such limited resources, it's really difficult to investigate all of these cases and really only a small fraction of those criminals are pursued or even prosecuted.'"

#### CNN,

10/17/07

"Wasserman Schultz's bill would approve spending \$1 billion during the next eight years to go after online child exploitation."

South Florida Sun-Sentinel, 11/19/07

"A bipartisan coalition in Congress is trying to build support to do something about it, considering money for more cyber police among other things."

**ABC World News Tonight,** 10/17/07



## Protecting Your Children From Becoming Victims Of An Online Exploiter

For information on how to protect your children from child predators, and for online internet safety tips, visit the FBI's Innocent Images Project:

http://www.fbi.gov/innocent.htm

If you'd like me to keep you up-to-date on this and other issues, contact my office at the phone numbers listed on the back, or visit my Web site at <a href="https://www.house.gov/wassermanschultz">www.house.gov/wassermanschultz</a> and sign up for my electronic newsletter.