

2008 Presidential Candidates: The Internet and Pornography

Democratic Candidates

Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton

Website: [Supporting Parents and Caring for Children](#)

“Among the issues she has fought for and will make a priority as president are: Protecting children against violence and sexual content in the media and studying the impact of electronic media on children's cognitive, social, and physical development.”

John Edwards

Website: [One America, Many Voices: Open Media for the 21st Century](#)

“Edwards believes America must preserve the uniquely democratic nature of the Internet, which has allowed regular people to contribute on equal footing with big businesses and organizations. As president, he will ensure that the FCC preserves free expression and competition on the Internet by continuing to enforce net neutrality ensuring no degradation or blocking of access to websites. He will also bring interoperability to wireless communications so that Americans can connect any device or applications to their wireless service, just as they can to their landline phone service.”

Senator Barack Obama

No Statement

Republican Candidates

Mike Huckabee

No Statement

Rudy Giuliani

No Statement

Fred Thompson

Website: [Building Strong Families](#)

“Combating the spread of obscenity over TV and other media by making sure parents can better exercise their responsibilities.”

Senator John McCain

Website: [Protecting Children from Internet Pornography](#)

“John McCain believes the Internet offers tremendous promise in terms of freedom of expression, information sharing, and the spread of knowledge and commerce. It represents the greatest innovation of the modern era in terms of the democratization of free speech and access to information. From human rights groups in China to bloggers here in the United States, the Internet has opened a global dialogue that has propelled the world into an exciting new century of connectivity and communication.

However, there is a darker side to the Internet. Along with the access and anonymity of the Internet have come those who would use it to peddle child pornography and other sexually explicit material and to prey upon children. John McCain has been a leader in pushing legislation through Congress that requires all schools and libraries receiving federal subsidies for Internet connectivity to utilize technology to restrict access to sexually explicit material by children using such computers. While the first line of defense for children will always be strong and involved parents, when they send their child to school or drop their child off at the library, parents have the right to feel safe that someone is going to be looking out for their children.”

Mitt Romney

Website: [Challenge #10 Confronting Threats to American Culture, Values, and Freedoms](#)

“Software Filters To Guard Children From Online Pornography. Governor Romney will work with computer and software companies to make sure all new computers have optional parental control software filters that are ready and easy to use during setup. Governor Romney will also promote and increase awareness of available parental control filtering products for existing computers.”

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