

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 294336

ADOPTED ON DEC 05 2000

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego has a compelling interest in protecting the well-being of minors, in protecting parents' authority to shield their minor children from influences that parents find inappropriate or offensive, and in reducing juvenile crime; and

WHEREAS, our courts have recognized that minors are affected by and may be protected from patently offensive sex-related material; and

WHEREAS, recent academic literature corroborates the finding of earlier studies that violent video games produce psychological effects in minor children and that prolonged exposure to violent video games increases the likelihood of aggression in minor children (see Craig A. Anderson & Karen E. Dill, Video Games and Aggressive Thoughts, Feelings, and Behavior in the Laboratory and in Life, 78 J. of Personality and Soc. Psychol. 772 (2000), summarizing past research and noting that the "positive association between violent video games and aggressive personality is consistent with a developmental model in which extensive exposure to violent video games . . . contributes to the creation of an aggressive personality" and concluding that "the present data indicate that concern about the potentially deleterious consequences of playing violent video games is not misplaced"); and

WHEREAS, the law concerning regulation of these games is unsettled; however, the Council desires to determine whether an ordinance may be passed that would protect our youth without improperly infringing upon legitimate business and other interests; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that the City Manager and the City Attorney are directed to conduct the necessary research and investigation and return to Council with a recommendation regarding appropriate action.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By Shannon M. Thomas
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Deputy City Attorney

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