

# Crimes against children essay



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

The World Needs to Know About Operation Koala Most of us know who Shawn Hornbeck and Elizabeth Smart are. Most of us know that there are images of missing and exploited children hanging on the entrance of Wall-Mart and in the lobby of the Post Office.

But if you ask someone if they know what Operation Koala is, most likely they don't. ` Operation Koala was a huge success story for missing and exploited children. Although its ending may not have been as dramatic as Shawn or Elizabeth's story, it was a headline worthy subject. Yet if you search CNN for Operation Koala there is one, 10 sentence news article on December 13, 2008. That's it. ` ` During Operation Koala, U.

S. and European officials joined together and dismantled seven massive child porn rings. More than 170 people around the globe, including at least 61 in the United States, have been arrested in this major operation targeting international child pornographers. This operation rescued 11 girls in the United States, ages 3 to 13, which were sexually abused by child pornography producers. Dozens more were located in Europe, including several young female victims in Ukraine. ` Operation Koala was largely successful due to the extensive reach of multiple joint forces, collection of data, and the dedication of many men and women around the world. These pornography rings hosting the worst of the worst, have dismantled but the investigation is far from over.

` Why is this not news worthy? I can search the headlines today and find that Kate Winslet's daughter was absolutely mortified that her mother wore a grey dress to the Oscars. Equally news worthy is the bidding war that is

taking place for the Octomom. Will she take the 1 million dollars plus a year of health insurance to star in a porno, or will she take a year worth of free diapers to turn down the deal? I would imagine that if any one of Ocotmom's 14 children were involved with Operation Koala, that there wouldn't be a debate over what she was going to choose. ` ` Recently I read a book by Lisa Gardner called Say Goodbye.

On the back of the book it describes a pregnant FBI agent whose mother and sister were victims of a serial killer. It talks about spiders and missing prostitutes and how the web that the FBI agent is caught up in, is more lethal than any spiders. When you read the reviews, they say that this is her best book so far and that her honest approach is an inspiration.

But when you start reading you find yourself absorbed in a story of little boys that are beaten, raped, and tortured over and over again. It's a sick book that is so well written that you can't put it down until you find out what happens to the little boys. You know what is going to happen, but you read and read about each horrifying detail that they suffer. This isn't fiction.

.. this is what happens to these young innocent children on a daily basis. Why would anyone write like this for pleasure? ` ` We are normal people, buying normal books to pass our days and this is our entertainment. What is going on in the minds of people who are not normal? What happens when they find themselves in another dark world where they cannot walk away? Why does society not want to hear about it in the news, but they are willing to pay for it at a local book shop. ` Operation Koala is one of many

operations working towards combating child exploitation and pornography and working towards these hard questions that don't have answers.

We should all try a little harder to take time to look at the missing children posters, take time to inform people about news worthy events like Operation Koala and don't support "fiction" stories of young children being abused. If more people took the time to care, took more time to become educated, America might not have so many red dots on the National Sex Offender Registry. ` Works Cited Gardner, Lisa . " Say Good Bye.

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