



**For Immediate Release:
September 16, 2008**

**Contact: 1-866-560-9028
media@stopinternetpredators.org**

**Stop Child Predators Commends Oprah for Supporting
Senate Bill Targeting Internet Predators**

Alarming episode informed viewers of the prominence of online child predation

Washington, DC – Today Stop Child Predators applauded The Oprah Show for tackling the serious and disturbing phenomenon of child predators and online trafficking of child pornography and for helping to raise awareness of U.S. Senate Bill 1738, the Protect Our Children Act.

“It is the mission of Stop Child Predators to inform make parents of the dangers that threaten our children so they can take the necessary precautions and protect the safety of their children,” said Stacie Rumenap. “We commend Oprah for utilizing her show as a platform to educate viewers about the urgent need for our nation to come together to take a stand against child predators.”

Oprah encouraged viewers to visit her website in order to contact their senators and express their concern by calling for the passage of the bill before September 26 recess. The bill would provide federal funding for law enforcement officers who are greatly in need of the resources necessary to effectively track down child predators and prevent future predation.

The shocking episode also acknowledged that this new digital age brings with it new threats. Stop Child Predators recently launched a public education campaign called Stop Internet Predators designed to increase awareness of emerging Internet technologies that can endanger our children’s safety and privacy.

Fourteen advocacy groups have already joined the coalition which strives to inform parents and communities about threats created by emerging technologies. By empowering families with education and resources, parents can take an active role in their children’s safety and privacy.

A major concern is the misuse of new technologies by child predators. One such technology is Google “Street View,” a new application that allows users to view high resolution images of homes, schools, playgrounds, and other places where children gather. In some instances, children have been captured in the photos.

Stop Internet Predators seeks to limit the potential for child predators to abuse Street View technology to prey on children and encourages parents and communities to urge local leaders to ban Street View until it has been safeguarded. It won't protect our children from all predators, but removing the photos of children from this technology is a good place to start.

For more information about the campaign please visit www.StopInternetPredators.org.

About Stop Child Predators

Stop Child Predators brings together a team of policy experts, law enforcement officers, community leaders, and parents that persuade lawmakers and the public to enact policies that protect America's children from sexual predators. Stop Child Predators is the only national organization that leads campaigns in every state to advocate legislation that prevents the sexual exploitation of children and protects the rights of child victims.

###