Not Buying It

Annual Report 2018



It's been an incredibly busy year with some phenomenal successes – from a ground breaking legal challenge to the strip industry to getting Ann Summers to dump its partnership with Pornhub ...

'Times Up' Strip Clubs



Much of the first part of the year was taken up with a legal challenge using equality law against Sheffield City Council for its pro-strip club policy.

Working with local and national groups and countless individuals, including women from the strip industry, we crowd funded £15,000. The case went to court in June - with the Council conceding it had breached equality law.

The campaign received leading media coverage for months – from Sky News to the Guardian and BBC.

More Here: www.notbuyingit.org.uk/SheffieldShame

WEP. Women & Equalities Committee. Home Office



"We are not going to get rid of sexual violence if we mandate the sexual objectification of women in licensed venues" "it should not be up to local campaigners to force local authorities to make decisions that properly take account of women's safety and gender equality"

As a direct result of the Sheffield campaign, the Women's Equality Party (WEP) is now mandated to challenge the strip industry and we are now working with WEP branches UK-wide and with WEP head office.

The campaign was also <u>specifically referenced</u> in the Women and Equalities Committee report on sexual harassment – which roundly condemned the industry.

We also secured a first meeting with the Home Office to issue new guidance to Councils over the reality of the strip trade and Councils' licensing and equality rights and responsibilities.



Regional Campaigns

We worked with protestors in Sheffield and Camden challenging the licensing of local Spearmint Rhinos and other strip clubs. We urged objectors to call for Rotherham to close down its strip industry and called out the UK's first 24 hr strip club (in Liverpool). And we petitioned Sheffield not to honour its 'local boy made good', Peter Stringfellow.

We also provided information to Camden Council in their successful <u>High Court</u> <u>challenge</u> against one of their strip clubs, The Red Rooms, for having a floor of private booths. We protested and helped gather more than 1,000 signatures.

'Times Up' Porn



Good News!

Soon only Adults will be able to watch women being abused

New legislation means by Spring 2019 *all* porn will be age restricted and porn regulator, the BBFC, can force ISPs to block sites with 'extreme' content even for adults.

However, adults will still be able to access standard pornography – which is so abusive now that it can only be described as filmed sexual abuse - so harmful that non of it would be allowed *off* line (eg R18 video/C).

So we have been doing some work around the porn industry:

Porn No



Speaking at a UCL debate in Jan kick-started our work against porn. Off the back of this, we set up a stand-alone website exposing the abuse of mainstream pornography: **PornNO**

We also submitted responses on the harm of porn to consultations by the <u>APPG on Sexual Violence</u> and the Women's and Equalities Committee on <u>sexual harassment in public spaces</u> - published in their final report.

Ann Summers Dumps Pornhub



On Valentine's day, we asked Ann Summers to dump its partnership with Pornhub, with protests outside stores and a petition, signed by 2,5000 people. All Pornhub branding is now out of Ann Summers.

Read All About it Here

Protest & Cocktails





In December, we raised awareness outside a pornographer party in Leicester Square and started lobbying M&S to withdraw its new 'Porn Star' martinis.

Read More Here

'Times Up' Sexist Ads





Ads pre-approved, complaints ignored

We raised awareness over the large number of sexist, and racist, ads (not to mention the double standards) still abundant on the London Transport network, despite new codes to prevent this. We had a first meeting with TfL chiefs in November with more in the pipeline.

Read More Here

'Time, Up' Sex Ad,



We have been challenging advertising regulator, the ASA, over its refusal to end porn and sex ads in newspapers since we were founded in 2016. We got one step closer this year, when the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) echoed our calls. We had a first meeting with the EHRC, with more in the pipeline.

Read More Here

'Times Up' lib Dems



In September, we protested outside Lib Dem party conference to raise awareness of their shocking pro-porn, pro-prostitution, anti-child protection policies. This received media coverage and praise from (non Lib Dem!) MPs.

Read all about it here



Burger Off

We campaigned with groups in Sheffield to raise awareness of the inappropriateness of a local burger chain's 'happy meals' being named after Harvey Weinstein & pornographers. The restaurant is now shut.

More Here

Speaker Engagements

We took part in numerous speaker engagements including <u>Filia</u> – the largest feminist conference in the UK; <u>CEASE</u>; <u>Media Reform Coalition</u>; <u>POW</u> and several local WEP branches.







CEASE

In the News



Not Buying It and our campaigns featured in dozens of media including Sky News, 5 Live, BBC News, the Sunday Politics Show, The Guardian, Independent and many more.

More Here

Publications

We now have a veritable library of publications! See them all here

Website



On top of all this, our web site got a make over. Check it here

This could not have happened without our lovely 'web guy' – Steve - thank you!

More Thank Yous

And thank you to everyone who has supported us - with a special shout out to Jez (also long suffering, who does much of the invaluable behind-the-scenes research, alongside our totally enthralling book keeping). A very special thank you also to everyone to who donated to the crowd funder that allowed a legal challenge to be taken over strip clubs. And to everyone who has taken part in our campaigns, spread the word and left comments in support. We could not do what we do without your help!