

## MISLEADING STATISTICS

Much of the statistics offered at the SPC and “Ride for their Lives” are not sourced and deceptive. Below are a few examples.

1. **Ride claims Ohio has “100,624 known sex offenders:”** The NCMEC reports there are 19,288 as of June 2010.
2. **Every second \$3 million is spent on child porn:** If that was true, then the child porn industry made \$94 trillion per year, which is \$24 trillion more than the world economy. The BCS report on the adult porn industry netted profits at only \$10 billion in 2004.
3. **Ride reports over 250,000 computers in California traded child porn in 48 hours:** An MSNBC report stated there were 101,000 tips in 2008. ICAC reported 3100 arrests in 2008. There is no study verifying this claim.
4. **The average sex offender has over 100 victims:** This prevailing myth is a misquote of an outdated Gene Abel study which looked at acts of paraphilias (all types of non-normative sex acts) which, at the time, included consensual adult homosexual relationships. A very small minority of sex offenders are predatory “pedophiles” with multiple victims.

## MARK LUNSFORD

Why has the “Ride for their Lives” failed to mention Mark Lunsford is participating in this event, even though he is a member of the SPC? Lunsford has been the source of much controversy since becoming an advocate. Lunsford’s defunct JML Foundation was plagued by missing donations and mismanagement. Lunsford also drew criticism for suing the sheriff responsible for cracking the case on his daughter’s disappearance. Many people feel Lunsford is motivated more by money than by a sincere desire for change.

Lunsford supports the Walsh Act, which allows teens as young as 14 to be registered, yet used his influence to keep his own son off the registry when facing sex crime charges in 2008. Lunsford also promotes vigilante violence, including wearing the slogan “Save a Child, Hang a Pedophile” on his jacket.



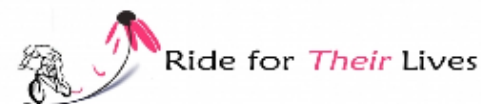
**RIDING FOR THEIR LIVES...  
OR FOR THEIR WALLETS?**

## RIDING FOR THEIR LIVES... OR FOR THEIR WALLETS?



“There is so much money to be made in scaring the hell out of Americans about sexuality that no one on this gravy train can afford to slow it down. Any outsider who questions this juggernaut is immediately labeled insensitive, anti-family, immoral, or a pedophile.

— Dr. Marty Klein, “America’s War on Sex” [p. 47]



An expose of the controversy surrounding the “Ride for their Lives” event hosted by the Surviving Parents Coalition, a lobbyist group

## WHAT ARE THEY REALLY RIDING FOR?



The “Ride For Their Lives” is an event hosted by the “Surviving Parents Coalition (SPC).” The SPC is *not* an organization that works directly with sexual abuse victims. As noted in their Mission Statement at the [www.spcoalition.org](http://www.spcoalition.org) website, their mission is to “advocate for legislations that will aid in the prevention of crimes against children and young people.” In other words, the organization is a *lobbyist* group. On the Ride for their lives website [<http://ridefortheirives.com/raising-awareness.html#>], they state the purpose of the event is to “raise more than a million dollars to help walk the halls of Congress to advocate for laws to help protect our children.” Ask yourself why a group of nationally known victim advocates need to raise a million dollars to do what they’ve already been doing for years.

## FOCUS OF THE RIDE

The “Ride” focuses on four main goals:

1. **DNA on felony arrests:** Many states already have laws on the books allowing the collection of DNA evidence anytime a person is arrested for a felony offense. Such programs also assume guilty until proven innocent, and constitutional issues over such intrusive methods of data collection.
2. **PROTECT Our Children Act OF 2008:** Why would a group lobby for a law already passed and funded by the federal government? The PROTECT Act established and funded the Internet Crimes Against Children task force in the fall of 2008.
3. **ADAM WALSH ACT:** Again, the SPC lists a law already passed and funded by the federal government. However, only three states have implemented the law because of a myriad of legal issues and other complications plaguing the bill. Many states would save money by taking the 10% JAG/ Byrne grant funding than implementing the law. Ohio, one of the only states to implement the law, lost a legal battle to apply it retroactively after reclassifying thousands of low risk offenders as Tier 3 lifetime registrants. The AWA also registers kids as young as 14.

4. **It Takes a Community; Not One More Child – A Child Safety Education Initiative:** There are a number of existing programs that offer common sense solutions to sexual offending, such as the Stop It Now! Program or the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center. Funding for such programs is also mandated in the Adam Walsh Act.

The main issue with this event is where is the money going? Why is the SPC asking for a million plus dollars to lobby for programs that already exist and funded by the US government?



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