

I read the Peterborough Examiner daily. I am glad that you cover stories about individuals being charged for accessing child sexual abuse material, as this type of coverage can (I hope) act as a deterrent. I have noticed that the Examiner uses the phrase "child pornography" when reporting on this issue. I would like to suggest that you use the phrase "child sexual abuse material" or "child sexual exploitation material" as this more accurately describes what is being accessed/traded/bought/sold and it more accurately describes why accessing this material is so harmful. I am a therapist who specializes in working with survivors of sexual and other forms of abuse. I have worked with many survivors whose sexual abuse in childhood was photographed and/or recorded and then traded or sold. Calling the images/videos of their abuse pornography does a great disservice and contributes to the ongoing trauma that they experience.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Heather Howe