

Action sought on porn magazines

A RELIGIOUS organisation has proposed the establishment of a public panel to define the meaning of objectionableness in the Objectionable Publication Ordinances.

Deputy Director of the Hongkong Christian Service (HCS), Mr Ng Shui-lai, yesterday stressed there should be more local participation in such a panel to put this legislation into a local context.

Believing that the verdict of objectionableness should not rest with the court, as currently stipulated by the laws, Mr Ng said the public should have a say too.

Mr Ng's call came on the heels of the organisation's recent petition to Umelco for tighter control on Chinese language hard-core porno magazines.

Earlier this month, the HCS mailed copies of these magazines, together with their petition and two case studies to each of the Umelco members and various district board members.

Mr Ng said Miss Maria Tam and Mr Chan Ying-lun had responded to their petition and expressed concern.

He attacked three magazines, which were published every 10 days, for their "exploitation of so-called biological knowledge and fictiona-

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lisation of sensational news items."

One of the trio fashions details to current crime news and publishes them under the title "Edited version of a Hongkong Tragedy."

These stories glorified, for instance, the Hongkong Butcher case and the death of a Filipina maid, who had seduced her architect employer.

Photo features include a schoolgirl's wilful submission to a rapist, various kinds of sexual assaults, physical

make-up of a woman's genital and the entire process of giving birth to a baby.

Mr Ng said the HCS's Youth Task Force had been monitoring the situation ever since a teacher reported that young schoolboys were found reading them in class.

And later two cases were uncovered by the HCS case workers.

Mr Ng, nonetheless, felt only two case studies, though indepth, were not enough to gauge the influence of these porno materials.

An extensive survey, covering at most 30-odd schools, will be conducted in the next school year.