



CRS Report for Congress: Obscenity and Indecency: Constitutional Principles and Federal Statutes: January 3, 2005 - 95-804

Congressional Research Service: The Library of Congress, Henry Cohen



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By Henry Cohen

Bibliogov, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The First Amendment provides: Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press. In general, the First Amendment protects pornography, with this term being used to mean any erotic material. The Supreme Court, however, has held that the First Amendment does not protect two types of pornography: obscenity and child pornography. Consequently, they may be banned on the basis of their content, and federal law prohibits the mailing of obscenity, as well as its transport or receipt in interstate or foreign commerce. Most pornography is not legally obscene; to be obscene, pornography must, at a minimum, depict or describe patently offensive hard core sexual conduct. The Supreme Court has created a three-part test, known as the Miller test, to determine whether a work is obscene. Pornography that is not obscene may not be banned, but may be regulated as to the time, place, and manner of its distribution, particularly in order to keep it from children. Thus, the courts have upheld the zoning and licensing of pornography dealers, as well...



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