

# Donna Rice Hughes

*Social Entrepreneur, Internet Safety Expert, Advocate, Author, Speaker,  
Media Commentator, Filmmaker*

**Donna Rice Hughes** is the CEO and President, Enough Is Enough® (EIE), a national non-partisan, secular, non-profit organization whose mission is to make the Internet safer for children and families.

Since 1994, Ms. Hughes has been on the frontline fighting to defend the innocence and dignity of children in the digital world. While serving as the Communications Director for EIE, she launched the Internet safety effort to protect children from Internet pornography and sexual predators. She was a key figure in birthing the Internet Safety movement in America in 1995 and emerged as the national voice for the prevention of Internet-initiated sexual exploitation of children worldwide.

During an era in which imminent dangers emerging from the Internet were unknown, she had the foresight to develop preventative efforts to keep children safe online, the tenets all of which are still in place today. She initiated a 3-pronged strategy approach adopted by industry and governments worldwide that included the public, the technology industry and legal community in sharing responsibility to protect children online from pornography, child pornography and sexual predators.



It was during that same era that Ms. Hughes advocated for key bi-partisan legislation to protect children from Internet pornography, sexual predators and other dangers including the Communications Decency Act, Child Online Protection Act, Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Child Pornography Prevention Act.

In 2007, under her leadership and vision, EIE, with congressional support and in partnership with D.O.J. developed and rolled out **The Internet Safety 101 Program** in three states then nationally. It was the first comprehensive Internet safety curriculum designed for parents and caregivers to educate, equip, and empower parents, educators and caregivers to protect youth from pornography, sexual predators and cyberbullies, and to keep them safe on social networking sites, gaming and mobile devices.

Ms. Hughes served also the Executive Producer and Host of the Internet Safety 101® DVD series (winning 3 Telly Awards), and Creator/Author /Producer of EIE's Internet Safety 101® Multimedia Program (DVD series/Workbook & Resource Guide/ Rules 'N Tools® booklet) in partnership with the D.O.J. The Program was lauded by the PTA as "a tailor-made response to the Internet child safety crisis facing our nation." She then negotiated with Verizon Foundation and PBS to reformat the DVD series into a three-part television series which ran on PBS stations nationally. The program won an Emmy award, and Ms. Hughes was nominated for an Emmy as the show's host.

Her pioneering efforts have continued with the launch of multiple campaigns and initiatives designed to preserve and defend child dignity in the digital world, including:

***The National Safe WiFi Campaign (aka Porn-Free WiFi)*** calling on Corporate America to filter porn and child porn on public WiFi, which resulted in McDonald's filtering WiFi in 14,000 stores nationwide; Subway filtering in its company-owned stores, and Starbucks announced it would implement national WiFi filtering and a global policy.

***The Children's Internet Safety Presidential Pledge*** signed by President Trump agreeing to enforce the existing federal obscenity, child pornography, sexual predation, and child trafficking laws and advance public policies to prevent the sexual exploitation of children online. This is the first time in history a U.S. President has pledged to make the safety of children in the digital world a top priority.

***Public Health Pornography Pandemic Campaign*** which includes initiatives designed to end the Internet-enabled exploitation of children, foster a kinder and safer Internet, and to restore a culture of dignity and respect. The campaign, modeled after English social reformer William Wilberforce, ignited a national movement to shed light on the social costs and corroding influence of Internet pornography as a public health pandemic. As a result, six states have since passed or proposed resolutions declaring Internet pornography a public health crisis.

***The High Road Campaign*** designed to confront the global epidemic of hate and cyberbullying by promoting civility, common decency and kindness. Throughout this effort, Ms. Hughes calls on citizens to "stand together and focus on what unites us and not on what divides us...to build the bridges of reconciliation...take the High Road...and join together to protect children online." The campaign's efforts included Ms. Hughes' C-SPAN hour-long interview and her op-ed on CNN.com in support of Melania Trump's cyberbullying platform which had one million readers and 850 comments in the first 24 hours. The First Lady's speech in the U.K. condemning online bullying included similar messaging utilized by the High Road campaign.

Most recently, Ms. Hughes was chosen as one of 150 leaders to participate in the invitation-only World Congress on "Child Dignity in the Digital World" in Rome which concluded with a Papal audience and the presentation of "The Declaration of Rome" to Pope Francis. She continues to defend child dignity in the digital world by working with World Congress leaders to implement many of the action items she recommended in the U.S. and globally.

She is the founder and President of DRH Enterprises, which was established as a vehicle for her speaking, media, publishing and consulting endeavors. DRH Enterprises has partnered with Friendly WiFi and RDI to bring the Friendly WiFi certification program to the United States.

**Recent Awards-** Founders Award (2015), National Center on Sexual Exploitation; The Professional Women in Advocacy 2014 Excellence In Advocacy Award for "Veteran Practitioner"; The Women in Technology (WIT) 2013 Leadership Award for "Social Impact"; Emmy Award as Executive Producer/Producer of The PBS/EIE Internet Safety 101® Television Series (2012); Emmy nomination in the Program Host/Moderator category.

## **MEDIA & PUBLISHING**

Since 1994, Ms. Hughes has given thousands of media interviews on Internet harms to children regarding pornography, sexual predators, online gaming, cyberbullying, sexting, social media and other dangers. Major news outlets featuring Ms. Hughes include: Barbara Walters Presents, The Today Show, Good Morning America, FOX News, CNN Headline News, The O'Reilly Factor, Oprah, 20/20, Dateline, BBC, Trinity Broadcasting Network, Christian Broadcasting Network, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The Washington Post, USA Today,

The San Francisco Chronicle, The San Jose Mercury News, People Magazine, McCalls Magazine, Time Magazine, Newsweek, Today's Christian Woman, World Magazine, Parenting Magazine, Family Life Today and Focus on the Family

Ms. Hughes authored numerous commentaries in major news publications including USA Today, LA Times, Washington Times, Foxnews.com, Politico, CNN.com, the Miami Herald and the Christian Post.

She also authored *Kids Online, Protecting Your Children In Cyberspace* (Baker Books, 1998) and was a story co-writer for *Touched By an Angel* TV Series (2000 Season Finale) which brought the message of online sexual predators and Internet safety to primetime television and won Neilson ratings in its time slot during May sweeps.

She is the creator of the following websites: Enough.org, InternetSafety101.org, protectkids.com; donnaricehughes.com and FriendlyWiFi.org.

### **Public Speaking**

Having delivered more than 400 speeches and/or training seminars since 1994, Ms. Hughes has spoken extensively on the subject of Internet dangers, safety, and cybersecurity in educational, professional forums to parents, educators, media, churches, policy makers, and law enforcement in communities across the country including: keynotes at the White House, University of Houston Law School, MIT, Johns Hopkins University, the Media Institute, The Freedom Forum, Newseum, Department of Justice, Department of Defense, Department of State, Federal Food and Drug Administration, The National Salvation Army, PTA National Conference, National Set Free Summit and The National Children's Internet Summit. She also conducted a seminar, at the request of AG John Ashcroft, at the Department of Justice's Federal Prosecutors' Obscenity Symposium. She has also shared her faith journey at churches and conferences across America including Willow Creek Church, Second Baptist Church of Houston, McLean Bible Church and The Call at the Rose Bowl.

### **CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY AND TASK FORCES**

Ms. Hughes serves on the Enough Is Enough Board of Directors (2002-Present) (Board Chairman 2003- 2010), and has served in the following groups: the MySpace Advisory Board (2006-2009), Internet Safety Technical Task Force in cooperation with the U.S. Attorneys General (2008), Virginia Attorney General's Youth Internet Safety Task Force (2006); National House of Hope Board of Directors (1998-99); and the Child Online Protection Act as Commissioner (1998). She also served on the Executive Committee of the first Children's Internet Safety Summit in 1997 and led the adoption of the Internet industry's "ZERO Tolerance" policy against child pornography, endorsed by the White House and D.O.J.

She has testified numerous times before various committees of the United States House of Representatives and Senate.

**Education-** B.S. Biology (Pre-med) with a minor focus in Business Administration. Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board, Outstanding Senior Award, University of South Carolina (USC), 1980. USC Varsity cheerleader captain 1978-80.

## PROFESSIONAL ENDORSEMENTS

- “By continuing to speak out and partner with the rest of the Internet, Donna Rice Hughes is helping all of us build a medium we can be proud of.”— **Steve Case, former Chairman, American Online, Inc.**
- “Donna is one of the leaders in the fight against pornography aimed at children on the Internet.” — **Oprah Winfrey** “
- Donna continues to fight for the cause.... Speaking out for new laws and diligent enforcement of them.” — **Barbara Walters, 20/20**
- “Donna Rice Hughes has been warning about the dangers for years. Dateline first spoke with her 11 years ago. But now, she says the problem has grown with the Internet giving predators accessibility, affordability, and the anonymity to feed their criminal acts.” — **Dateline NBC**
- “We feel strongly that the Internet Safety 101 program is a tailored-made response to the Internet child safety crisis facing our state and the nation” — President, Virginia PTA  
“Donna Rice Hughes is a strong and effective advocate for children’s online safety.” — **John Ashcroft, U.S. Attorney General (2001-2005)**
- “As parents, we have the responsibility to monitor our children’s use of the Internet. Ms. Hughes has presented us with a resource to ensure that our children’s experience using the Internet is a safe one.” — **The Honorable Senator John McCain (AZ)**
- “Through years of work empowering parents nationwide, EIE has developed highly effective resources and techniques for educating, motivating, and empowering parents to be the first line of defense in their children’s online lives. EIE, headed by Donna Rice Hughes, has been a leading force in raising national recognition of the critically serious problem of Internet child pornography and sexual predation.” — **Andrew G. Oosterbaan, Chief, U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, C.E.O.S.**
- “The Enough Is Enough curriculum for parents, teachers, and caring adults is the most thorough information and training of its type available to those who want to protect their families from predators and pornographers.” — **Robert J. Flores, Esq., Former Administrator of the O.J.D.D.P, D.O.J.**
- “Enough Is Enough<sup>SM</sup> (EIE) has developed a unique approach to reach parents and adult childcare providers with the best resources and information on Internet safety, and we are aligned with EIE through our partnership for the Internet Safety 101: Empowering Parents program, which will ensure that parents receive the best information available about Internet safety concerns, resources and information.”— **Brent M. Olson,**

**Assistant Vice President, Regulatory Policy, AT&T**

- "Through the foresight and leadership of EIE, Internet Safety 101SM has established itself as the benchmark for all other Internet safety programs." — **Steve F. Clementi, Director, Verizon External Affairs**