Child Abuse Prevention
www.abusewatch.net

September 9, 2009

Open letter to:

Mr. John S. Hendricks,
Chairman
Discovery Communications

Re: **The Learning Channel programmng: Jon and Kate plus 8** (#4 letter)

Dear Mr. Hendricks,

Admit it, it's over. Even you and your management must now understand what your viewing public has been telling you in increasing numbers, that Jon & Kate + 8 should be wrapped up to protect the eight children.

The interview with Jon Gosselin last night on ABC, the glam – sham - interviews with Kate Gosselin, the pictures, the reports in the tabloids, all lead to the undeniable conclusion that the children of the *Jon&Kate+8* show are subject to abuse and neglect.

They are subject to this because of the show; because of the illusion of celebrity that the show has bestowed on the parents. These children are subject to an unrealistic lifestyle and the ensuing dramatic events of their parents failing marriage, all recorded for posterity and their viewing as they grow older. What was once a 'reality show' in the purest sense has now become a regular show – a production that revolves almost exclusively around a group of young children who don't receive a nickel for their efforts.

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As a result of your unwillingness to acknowledge responsibility to (and for) the Gosselin children, we have written to your advertisers, at their highest management levels, as part of an ongoing campaign asking them to stop advertising on your channel completely.

We have asked them to do this until such time as you responsibly address the issue of the use of children in reality TV shows. You and TLC should either stop using children entirely or accept that they are indeed child actors subject to payment, oversight and fair conditions of employment according to the regulations set by the Fair Labor Standards Act (1938) including the child actor exemption filled by the regulations provided by the States of California and New York. You've done so with Octomom's children – you've had to - because she is based in California and the children subject to California Child Labor Regulations. Octomom's children each receive a wage per episode unlike the Gosselin children who do not receive a cent.

Ronald Reagan once challenged that Mikhail Gorbachev 'tear down this wall.' I do the same to you Mr. Hendricks - given that you are aware of all of the circumstances of the debacle called entertainment that your channel provides - that you 'cancel this show, immediately.'

It's the decent thing to do for eight little children: Cara, Madelyn, Alexis, Aaden, Collin, Leah, Hannah, Joel Gosselin.

Sincerely yours,

Evin M. Daly
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Via email

Copy to: Discovery Corporate Management - David M. Zaslav, Mark Hollinger, Adria Alpert Romm, Joe Abruzzese, Bruce Campbell, Bill Goodwyn, Joseph A. LaSala, Jr., Brad Singer,
also General Media Release (NA)

Delivery via Investor Relations email with request to forward to addressees c/o
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