



CHARLES GIBSON

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Brian Ross reports.

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TOP BLOTTER ITEMS

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E-mails Show Foley Sought to Rendezvous with Page

October 02, 2006 12:14 PM

Brian Ross and Maddy Sauer Report:



In addition to explicit sexual language, former Congressman Mark Foley's Internet messages also include repeated efforts to get the underage recipient to rendezvous with him at night.

"I would drive a few miles for a hot stud like you," Foley said in one message obtained by ABC News.

The FBI says it has opened a "preliminary investigation" of Foley's e-mails. Federal law enforcement officials say attempts by Foley to meet in person could constitute the necessary evidence for a federal charge of "soliciting for sex" with a minor on the Internet.

THE BLOTTER RECOMMENDS

FBI Opens "Preliminary Investigation" of Foley

READER DISCRETION STRONGLY ADVISED: Foley's Exchange with Underage Page

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In another message, Foley, using the screen name Maf54, appears to describe having been together with the teen in San Diego.

Maf54: I miss you

lots since san diego.

Teen: ya I cant wait til dc

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E-mails Show Foley Sought to Rendezvous with Page

FBI Adds Another Accused Cop Killer to the Top 10 List

Republicans on Capitol Hill Knew of Foley's Behavior

FBI Opens "Preliminary Investigation" of Foley

GOP Staff Warned Pages About Foley in 2001

Exclusive: The Sexually Explicit Internet Messages That Led to Fla. Rep. Foley's Resignation

Foley Resigns Over Sexually Explicit Messages to Minors

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Payola

Speaker of the House

Terror

U.K. Airline Terror Plot

Wen Ho Lee

William Jefferson

Zarqawi

MONTHLY ARCHIVES

October 2006

Maf54: :))

Teen: did you pick a night for dinner

Maf54: not yet...but likely Friday

Teen: ok...ill plan for Friday then

Maf54: that will be fun

The messages also show the teen is, at times, uncomfortable with Foley's aggressive approach.

Maf54: I want to see you

Teen: Like I said not til feb...then we will go to dinner

Maf54: and then what happens

Teen: we eat...we drink...who knows...hang out...late into the night

Maf54: and

Teen: I dunno

Maf54: dunno what

Teen: hmmm I have the feeling that you are fishing here... im not sure what I would be comfortable with...well see

Foley resigned Friday after ABC News questioned him about the Internet messages.

He says he has checked into a rehabilitation facility to deal with alcohol and behavioral issues.



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October 2, 2006 in [Congressman Foley Internet Scandal](#) | [Permalink](#) | [User Comments \(335\)](#)

User Comments

This man, and anyone who even suspected what he was up to, should be prosecuted to the FULL extent of the law.

As a parent, this man is my worst nightmare. It makes me sick.

Posted by: Disillusioned | Oct 2, 2006 12:39:18 PM

pig

Posted by: deb | Oct 2, 2006 12:52:52 PM

We have all seen grown men and women who either tried to have sex with kids or did, get pulled into the spotlight and sent to jail. Apparently, the rule of law does not apply to members of Congress.

They lie incessantly, they steal with impunity and now it appears they can have sex with children and that's OK too.

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There clearly are two sets of rules in this country. One set for Congress and the President and one set for the rest of us.

This needs to change because, as of right now, we do not live in a democracy, we live in an oligarchy where the rich and powerful can steal the bread from our mouths and our kids from our homes. How long are we going to put up with this?

Posted by: mike | Oct 2, 2006 12:54:53 PM

This guy is dumber than the guys on "to catch a predator 23"...

Posted by: Mike D | Oct 2, 2006 1:17:42 PM

What a creep.

Posted by: Steve | Oct 2, 2006 1:28:32 PM

He should be indicted and tried just like every sex offender.

Posted by: charolett Tobias | Oct 2, 2006 1:45:58 PM

It is an utter shame but not a shock. It is not surprising that the level of apathy among citizens is at a all time low. Politics is nothing more than choosing between a lesser of two evils.

Posted by: Dara | Oct 2, 2006 1:50:50 PM

What's this now?? Foley's in a rehab center? for alcoholism? or just a ploy to get the press off his back about being a pedophile? I believe he should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law and those pages who did not report what was happening either to themselves or those who spoke to them about this crime; those state senators and reps who knew what was happening should also be relieved of their duties. They are not worthy to represent their constituents and the pages should know that "not to tell" is a far greater crime in the end.

See this doesn't always happen to religious establishments, pedophilia gets everyone.

Posted by: patricia long | Oct 2, 2006 1:56:00 PM

Republican House leaders knew of Rep. Foley's e mails, or had reason to know, in 2005 and did not refer the matter to the Capital Police or FBI. Is this not contrary to the law in some way?

Posted by: Bob Ramos | Oct 2, 2006 2:02:16 PM

The links to videos related to the Mark Foley story don't work.

Posted by: Dave Creswell | Oct 2, 2006 2:10:34 PM

Mind you, Foley was elected in 1994, the year of the Republican takeover of the U.S. House. In their "Contract with America" Republicans claimed they would "respect the values and share the faith of the American family." If the House leadership truly ignored this problem for a year as is alleged, then they (not the voters) should force themselves out on principle. Not going to happen, I am sure, but enough of this "we're the good guys" politicking please!

Posted by: Jorge | Oct 2, 2006 2:18:32 PM

I am sure that because he is who he is, there is "nothing" will be done about his actions; and politically, it is also sad that the Republicans will of course, win all of their elections.

Posted by: sylvia h. hudson | Oct 2, 2006 2:20:07 PM

I have no idea what the world is coming to, there are freaks and sickos everywhere. Does no one else realize that we need to get this mess cleaned up now, or our children and their children don't stand a chance? It's awful, husbands killing wives and kids, mothers killing kids, kids killing kids...it's totally out of control.

Posted by: disgusted | Oct 2, 2006 2:22:59 PM

What I find so interesting about this is the lack of regard for the safety of the children. Anytime adults display questionable conduct when interacting with a child bells and whistle's should ring out. There are so many people shifting blame, what I want to know is would they like a child in their family to have to put up with this type of behavior. Wouldn't they expect someone to act in a more timely fashion and if not wouldn't they be rather shock to say the least six months after the fact.

Posted by: Douglas | Oct 2, 2006 2:30:18 PM

Hope we spend the same time and money on this that we did on Bill Clintons blow job. Seems like this story went, in a day, from policital bashing to truth telling and now the GOP has its hands full.

Posted by: Nick | Oct 2, 2006 2:36:34 PM

Can you say Democratic House Majority in 2007?

Posted by: CK | Oct 2, 2006 2:36:48 PM

As a victim of childhood sexual abuse, this makes me sick.

What disturbs me even more is that Foley is trying to

blame his SEXUAL PREDATOR problem on alcohol. Liquor doesn't make one a child molestor.

Posted by: liberaldemdave | Oct 2, 2006 2:37:04 PM

This is plain sick and people like that are running the government and even pretend to protect the kids of this country.

Foley needs to be locked up.

I came to the conclusion the Republicans are nothing more than crooks, liars and child molesters.

God help us all!

Posted by: Karen | Oct 2, 2006 2:37:35 PM

Way Too Hilarious.

Posted by: WeToldYouSo | Oct 2, 2006 2:37:47 PM

I feel sick... and with the Republicans knew 8 months ago and didn't do anything, I feel angry and betrayed.

Posted by: marc | Oct 2, 2006 2:38:10 PM

This has been going on for years, and you should not let the Speaker of the house or anyone else get away with their spin "We just found out about this". These are our children and it is time that the news start doing their job and report the full news. Just a shame!

Posted by: Kevin | Oct 2, 2006 2:41:46 PM

OMG!!! ABCNews is really out front on this story. This is quite the bombshell.

Keep up the good work.

Posted by: Pablo Zed | Oct 2, 2006 2:49:31 PM

This is sad. Every American must put aside political affiliation and examine the seriousness of this event and carefully examine your vote come November. If our elected leaders don't have our interest, they should not betray our children in this manner. Foley and all those who knew about this event must resign or be removed in November.

Posted by: Fatima Khella | Oct 2, 2006 2:49:36 PM

What a sick piece of trash this guy is. I sincerely hope he is locked up for his actions. Guys that try to have sex with young boys don't usually fare too well in prison, and I think Foley should be on the receiving end of such types of solicitation.

Also, he thinks he may be an alcoholic? One, if you're an alcoholic, you know. There's no thinking about it. Two,

way to try to blame your behavior on the booze. Be a man and take responsibility for your actions, you sick pervert.

Posted by: Chris | Oct 2, 2006 2:53:38 PM

Do you have proof that the pages were under 'legal' age. If not you are lying as bad as Foley and to a lot more people. I understand the laws were changed by the democrats in their drive to take away all parent's control of their children and to allow abortins to be performed on children as young as 12 without the parents permission or knowledge. Why can't ABC and specifically Brian Ross ever tell the entire truth about anything? That's why ABC is locked out on my TV so no one will ever watch it in my home Print this on your rag page.

Posted by: Scrapiron | Oct 2, 2006 2:54:03 PM

dont u mean instant messages show foley sought to rendezvous with page rather than emails?

Posted by: Bill Bill | Oct 2, 2006 2:56:14 PM

Sounds like Brian Ross has become the go-to guy for people who want to destroy either the GOP or the U.S. (often, its the same people). When was the last brian ross 'leaked' source who said anything bad about a democrat? I can't find it but maybe a brian ross fan can name one. And, did brian ross go to the FBI with this or just to the airwaves? Apparently, it was more important to get the congressional seat than a conviction on a queer pedophile? Personally, I'm glad he's gone and nobody is aplogizing for him or blaming the kid or offering him a presidential pardon like when Mel Reynolds did this (except he actually had sex with the kid).

Posted by: bp | Oct 2, 2006 2:57:35 PM

WHY aren't they saying Foley's been online with OTHER THAN PAGES? If he's THAT bold .. to do this to kids who know who is he, then ... MySpace and others HAD to have had this going on, too. My ONLY REGRET is that DATELINE didn't trap him .. gosh, whatta show that would have been! Hastert and all the others should be charged with contributing to the delinquency of minors .. knowing all of this. AND may I ask why Hastert would "forget" that he was told one of his buddies was a pediphile. I would tend to REMEMBER THAT.

Posted by: Rosemary | Oct 2, 2006 2:58:58 PM

Holier than thou Conservative Republicans always preaching good Christian values....a bunch of hypocrites! This guy belongs in Wilton Manors.

Posted by: Chuck | Oct 2, 2006 3:00:21 PM

If I was the recipient of the email in question, I would be quite offended. I would "drive a few miles" just for a White Castle burger.

Posted by: BC | Oct 2, 2006 3:02:35 PM

Why is not already in custody...Rehab for alcohol won't stop you from being a Pedofile. Arrest him!

Posted by: cindy meyer | Oct 2, 2006 3:03:22 PM

The republicans who covered this sick crap up should resign. If they don't, then they are no better than Foley.

Posted by: buffyb | Oct 2, 2006 3:04:30 PM

He's checked in for behavioral problems? I know what would take care of that problem, A real good beating should help his behavior !!!

Posted by: Vincent | Oct 2, 2006 3:05:27 PM

And now the GOP house leadership is claiming they knew nothing.

Right.

Posted by: chris | Oct 2, 2006 3:09:06 PM

Where is all the integrity and "moral values" republicans love to claim? Oh, wait.....must have been another lie on top of all the other lies.

Posted by: buffyb | Oct 2, 2006 3:09:16 PM

Sounds like Foley was TRYING to do what Studs DID in 1983...let us not even go into Barney Franks Cat House in DC,,,,,but then they were Democrats, Right Brian? Would like to have a peek into some REPORTERS Closets too! At least Republicans kick wrong doers OUT ,,Dems just say "it is a PERSONAL lifestyle"! (and re-elect them). Your double standard is showing. SRF

Posted by: SRF | Oct 2, 2006 3:13:36 PM

I sure would like to know where brian ross got ALL his information, WHO was the one who gave him everything, and WHY NOW???? How long ago, and when did BRIAN ROSS know all this info??/? How long was he preparing for this story, WHO DID THIS PAGE TALK TO AND WHEN?????? I totally agree that foley should have resigned and he is disgusting BUT.....who knew all this before and leaked it to ross???????????? and how long ross knew. at least foley resigned, democrats just get censure, or deny but never resign, WHAT IS BARNEY FRANK DOING???????? BUT ABC NEVER CARES WHEN ITS

A DEMOCRAT, YOU KNOW THIS IS HORRIBLE, BUT WHAT CLINTON DID WAS PRETTY BAD ALSO, DO WE ALL FORGET SHE WAS AN INTERN??????

Posted by: Sandra | Oct 2, 2006 3:13:47 PM

There is more that will come out in the next few days, By the end of the week Hasert will step down as Speaker, BANK on it. Watch the new tomorrow.. Peace.

Posted by: VoterUSA | Oct 2, 2006 3:15:18 PM

THIS IS NOT AN E-MAIL!! THIS IS INSTANT MESSAGES!! THEY ARE NOT THE SAME THING!! STOP INTERCHANGING THE WORDS AND MISLEADING THE PUBLIC!! DO YOU EVEN ATTEMPT TO BE ACCURATE??

Posted by: Lauren | Oct 2, 2006 3:15:43 PM

It would be helpful if ABC, in posting these instant messages, clarified if these messages were all to the same boy or if they are different boys. I think it would help to alleviate some of the confusion about this. The e-mails were sent to Boy 1, the previously revealed IMs to Boy 2, these to Boy 3 or Boy 2, for example.

The way it's stated, it all sounds like it's to the same person, but clarity, either way, is needed on the part of ABC.

Posted by: Athena | Oct 2, 2006 3:16:13 PM

Nice work, Brian. Foley is a degenerate scumbag, shielded by his own political party. Hastert knew, lied, and is now covering his tracks (too late?). Everyone involved in this scandal within the Republican Party will be running for the exits, just like Abrahamoff scandal...Karl Rove?

Posted by: Art Vandalay | Oct 2, 2006 3:17:41 PM

*RE: Foley
Yes, if it's proven he was harrasing young interns, whatever criminal charges should be pursued. However, I find it interesting that the democrats are acting like they wouldn't be doing exactly the same as the republicans, which is cover their asses and saving a seat!!! I'm a registered voter who is never polled so the polls done for any subject mean nothing to me. My voice isn't heard in them. All politicians will do whatever necessary to cover their behinds--democrat or republican!*

Posted by: Dawn Hall | Oct 2, 2006 3:17:45 PM

This shows how vulnerable are the childrens now a days. People those supposed to protect the society and people,

are the sex offender. My question is how many of this kind of incident get reported! In this modern society, in the name of freedom we are making available all our vulnerable population to the disgraceful immoral people. This is becoming a berberic society of power.

Posted by: nasreen | Oct 2, 2006 3:19:55 PM

THIS IS NOT AN E-MAIL!! THIS IS INSTANT MESSAGES!! THEY ARE NOT THE SAME THING!! STOP INTERCHANGING THE WORDS AND MISLEADING THE PUBLIC!! DO YOU EVEN ATTEMPT TO BE ACCURATE??

Posted by: Lauren | Oct 2, 2006 3:20:47 PM

I agree that his homosexual tendencies are disturbing, but why is this stuff just now being leaked? Does any reporter care to ask?

Posted by: semmes | Oct 2, 2006 3:22:05 PM

So who had the IM's? The GOP didn't - ABC News got hold of them.

Who gave them to ABC? Is this an "October surprise?" Did any of the Democrats thumping their chests here see the altered emails ABC is using to base the story on? Who altered them? Who sat on the IM's until now?

Why don't journalists ask these questions repeatedly?

The people have a right to know, after all. Question the timing.

Posted by: Eric | Oct 2, 2006 3:25:13 PM

Lauren: I'm not sure the difference between e-mails and IM's is enough to warrant a screaming post about inaccuracy. To most of the public, the two are virtually the same. Also, the above story identifies the transcript as "messages" and refers to "internet messages" as well as e-mails. Since the story does involve both e-mails and IM's, it seems that the terms might be interchanged without losing the basic accuracy of the story. With everything there is to be upset about in this developing story, and given the content of the messages, the difference between e-mails and IM's just doesn't seem that important.

Posted by: Deb | Oct 2, 2006 3:26:03 PM

Oh yeah, it's ABC and the democrats fault that Foley has a thing for children. These aren't young interns, they're children.

Posted by: mindo | Oct 2, 2006 3:26:08 PM

How sad, how pathetic that this powerful Congressman

came home at night, got drunk, and flirted with teenage subordinates online. The Foley scandal might be seen as an argument for gay marriage. If Foley had been able to have a regular, stable, grown-up relationship with another man, would any of this have happened? Most of the Republican establishment refuses to countenance visible, above-board gay relationships, so this is what happens: with no healthy outlet, the sex impulse becomes furtive and perverted. I'm not defending Foley, whose behavior was incredibly stupid, irresponsible, and pathetic but people shocked by this story might do well to reflect that when you don't permit gays to have "normal" relationships, you shouldn't be too surprised when they're driven out of desperation to have secretive, abnormal ones.

Posted by: Steve | Oct 2, 2006 3:26:24 PM

Oh Sandra...

How dare you compare consensual sex between two adults to the predatory, pedophilic relationship that Mark Foley had with underage Congressional pages?? How dare you - have you no shame?

Posted by: txriotgrll | Oct 2, 2006 3:26:34 PM

Are you serious? Did someone just compare this to Monica Lewinsky?

*Monica was *22* years old. In other words, old enough to buy a gun, get drunk, gamble... and have an affair with a married man.*

In contrast, the teenage boy in question here wasn't even old enough to get a credit card.

Posted by: TheTruth | Oct 2, 2006 3:26:52 PM

Republican or Democrat- it does not matter. This is not a partisan issue- the guy has a problem and needs serious help, and has broken the law. Rather than trying to start a battle here, why can't we find a better way to identify and arrest criminals- regardless of party affiliation?

Posted by: Crusader | Oct 2, 2006 3:27:37 PM

What Foley did was unacceptable, and he should have resigned. But to start branding all Republicans as "scumbags" is a little much. Bill Clinton actually had oral sex with Lewinsky ... and KEPT HIS JOB. Granted she was not a minor, but he was married and the PRESIDENT for crying out loud. There's a good use of my tax money. This didn't mean every Democrat was as morally corrupt as Clinton; let's not brand every Republican as a hypocrite because of one bad apple.

Posted by: K Roe | Oct 2, 2006 3:29:46 PM

Its not like the Democrats Haven't had similar scandals.

Shame on Foley for tarnishing his party his lack of discretion.

Shame on the Democrats for making this a political issue.

Posted by: Mitchell King | Oct 2, 2006 3:29:57 PM

It's so strange that Brian Ross admitted that the pages, involved with the sexual Instant Messages, told him that they never told anyone about it, therefore the GOP couldn't possibly have known about the IMs. Since then, Ross has stooped to calling everything "e-mails" or "internet messages" so he can insinuate that the GOP might have known about it. These are INSTANT MESSAGES!! These are what no one knew about! Stop pretending otherwise! Brian Ross is intentionally confusing and misleading the public! SUCH BULLSHIT!!

Posted by: Christine | Oct 2, 2006 3:30:02 PM

How can people bring up Clinton? First of all, Lewinsky was an ADULT. Not a child. Foley is a pedophile, Clinton is a man. I'm not saying Clinton was right, but what he did with a consenting adult is so far removed from what Foley has done. Foley is a criminal. Just because you're a republican you defend him. If he were a democrat you'd be screaming 'hang 'em high'! This is what's wrong with America. People will defend criminals because of partisanship. Party before country. America will never be truly great until this festering problem is addressed. And now Foley is an alcoholic all of a sudden? Isn't it funny how every Republican in legal trouble blames their crimes on alcohol? What a joke. Does this mean I can rob a bank and not go to prison because my defense is 'I'm a drunk'? Republicans have some house cleaning to do - this is disgusting. I'd say the exact same thing if a Democrat did the same filthy disgusting thing as Foley.

Posted by: real man | Oct 2, 2006 3:30:20 PM

Republican or Democrat- it does not matter. This is not a partisan issue- the guy has a problem and needs serious help, and has broken the law. Rather than trying to start a battle here, why can't we find a better way to identify and arrest criminals- regardless of party affiliation?

Posted by: Crusader | Oct 2, 2006 3:30:22 PM

It's awful that the right-wing will not accept that is illegal conduct. No one should ever harm a child. Republicans, stop trying to defend this stuff. You should be angry about this. This is not Bill Clinton or events of 1983. This

now, and it's horrible. There is more to come out about this crap -- I'm understanding that it was a ring of pedators in Congress. We'll see. And I hope the ring is broken and everyone goes to prison. Stop this and protect children....

Posted by: Douglas Phason | Oct 2, 2006 3:30:51 PM

As far as I am concerned this isn't a party issue. This man did something wrong, the extent of those actions are for the legal system to discern. As for the cover ups, that too could be illegal. But no one should fool themselves that only republicans do this, or that the democrats are "just as bad". This isn't a party issue.....the guy is a creep...pure and simple. The greater concern is will anyone provide counseling for the child or children the man may have injured?

Posted by: George | Oct 2, 2006 3:31:49 PM

A pervert is a pervert. If this guy had done basically the same thing on the internet on the "To Catch a Predator" show, the cops would have arrested him. Doesn't matter what party he belongs to. But now because of his political power he'll get a pass, because he's "ill". BS.

Posted by: VINCE | Oct 2, 2006 3:32:16 PM

Hey SRF:

"At least Republicans kick wrong doers OUT".

The republican leadership has known about this for months and didn't do a darn thing. And last time I checked they didn't kick him out. He resigned. The only thing the republicans have done is run for cover.

And Sandra...I don't think Lewinsky was an underage boy. But I guess the discrepancy doesn't matter to you. You're still sore that Clinton was a competent president. I can see how that would irk you given how incompetent our current admin is.

Posted by: dan | Oct 2, 2006 3:33:05 PM

I'm sure this is not just a Republican or Democate problem. It is an issue of someone in power thinking they are above the law and can act however they like. All of Washington could use a good cleaning out.

Posted by: paddy o | Oct 2, 2006 3:34:15 PM

Sounds like we're living in Rome, doesn't it? The Barbarians are at the gate and our "leaders" are too busy at the orgy to care.

Posted by: Carl | Oct 2, 2006 3:34:43 PM

*Adding insult to injury, he is the chairman of some committee on 'Exploited Children'. I think he did what he did sort of make sure there are exploited children to justify the work of this committee.
I wish he burns in hell.*

Posted by: Joseph | Oct 2, 2006 3:34:56 PM

Ummm, Hey SRF and Sandra... the difference between Barney Frank and Rep. Foley is that Foley was attempting to have sex with a MINOR!

Are you really that dense? Or are you obfuscation for Republicans? hmmm?

LH

Posted by: hector | Oct 2, 2006 3:35:56 PM

I love the conspiracy theories of crazy Republicans. Yep, that's right, Sandra, Brian Ross learned about all of this a year ago (right about the time Denny Hastert did) but kept it a secret until right now. (Wait, aren't Republicans the ones who are always going on and on about the press not being able to keep secrets?) Obviously Democrats and the press are in cahoots to sabotage Republicans - that explains the amazing electoral success of the Democrats over the last few years, doesn't it?

Hey, good Studs reference, SRF. Very timely damnation. Don't get me started on the sexual shenanigans of Eisenhower. Now that cat knew how to get down.

Posted by: ED | Oct 2, 2006 3:36:20 PM

What?

I believe Barney Frank was messing with ADULTS and "Do we all forget" Monica Lewinsky (22) was an ADULT... Interns are usually COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS OR OTHER YOUNG ADULTS. They can also be adults later in life seeking skills for a new career.

The United States House of Representatives Page Program is a program run by the United States House of Representatives in which appointed HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS act as partisan federal employees in the House of Representatives, providing supplemental administrative support to House operations in a variety of capacities in Washington, D.C. at the United States Capitol.

Intern vs. Page... don't getted twisted!

I'm beginning to think GOP stands for Grand Ole Perverts!

Posted by: Kim | Oct 2, 2006 3:36:22 PM

Great work Foley... Is this an October surprise? Waiting for Karl Rove to respond.

Nevertheless, yes there has been some indiscretions within both parties, but come on. Foley helped push through legislation to protect underage kids; and now he's trying to pick one up!!!

Sadly, this is one more thing Republicans haven't dealt with, and Gay Republicans can't come out of the closet for fear of upsetting their base. Watch the Republicans try and spin this thing as something GAY, which isn't what molesters are.

They're straight men attracted to kids!!!

Posted by: David Jordan | Oct 2, 2006 3:38:38 PM

Why is Foley not treated like any other e-net pervert/ I think that he should do jail time like anyone that has done the things he has. I think that there is a big cover up

Posted by: don | Oct 2, 2006 3:41:15 PM

How could anyone in such a high profile, and powerful position do such a STUPID thing?

Posted by: Bob | Oct 2, 2006 3:47:45 PM

Gee, how come when I go to the Foxnews website you have to search to find any stories related to this scandle. The top story on the "politics" page is about the 1st district race. WHAT A JOKE!! CNN is not much better. GO MSNBC and ABC. More facts please!!! I can't wait to hear what Keith Obermann has to say tonight. ;)

Posted by: JPMBZ | Oct 2, 2006 3:47:53 PM

What are we doing allowing vulnerable teens to serve as pages (servants) in a Congress filled with middle-aged lechers? It's tantamount to a master-slave situation, and it's time to end this 20th century form of servitude. Since they are not doing any legislating, members of Congress have nothing but time on their hands to think of ways of getting at these youngsters. Have we not learned any lessons from the Studs and now Foley escapades to stop this silly and useless program, which taxpayers are financing?

Posted by: edward allen | Oct 2, 2006 3:50:04 PM

I honestly don't know what is more disturbing -- what Foley did or the people here who are (a) implying it's OK because Dems do it too or (b)saying it's just election politics because of the timing.

The Republican brainwashing is so pervasive in some

people that they cannot even think clearly anymore. I weep for this country's future if the hard right can't even acknowledge THIS as a failure in the Republican ranks.

Posted by: theScree | Oct 2, 2006 3:55:00 PM

Comparisons to Barney Frank need to stop now. Do you really not grasp the difference between a gay man and a pedophile?

Shame on the Democrats for making this a political issue? Are you kidding? A Congressman is outed as a pedophile and you're surprised that it's a political issue?

Posted by: Frank defender | Oct 2, 2006 3:55:05 PM

now he blames it on alcohol, why give us alcoholics a bad name?

Posted by: the dude | Oct 2, 2006 3:55:43 PM

Disgusting. This guy should be fried as well as the GOP leadership who know about this MONTHS ago and did ... nothing. Ah, shades - AGAIN - of GOP hypocrisy.

Hmmmmmm ... what's that saying? Power corrupts? Me thinks that most of the GOP IS corrupt. Throw the bums out.

Posted by: Valerie | Oct 2, 2006 3:57:02 PM

Matt Drudge is blaming the victims. "these were not innocent babies" and "they were egging him on" I knew it was just a matter of time.

Posted by: Spokevin | Oct 2, 2006 4:01:27 PM

I think it is astonishing that an issue like this has become a battle between so-called "liberal" and "conservative" affiliates. Don't people realize that those labels, and the division of America into two camps, is the result of marketing efforts by our two parties? Doesn't this issue transcend that? Shouldn't we be taking intensified action to protect the pages and all kids? Even worse than mixing up Instant Messaging and Email is the mixing up of pedophilia and homosexuality. I know lots of gay and lesbian people, and couples, who are great parents and who would never, ever victimize a kid. First an imbecile like Foley joins the camp of people who hate gays and now his actions are reflecting badly on them. Unfair, doubly unfair. America, we can do better than this.

Posted by: Mark | Oct 2, 2006 4:01:50 PM

Oh the hypocrisy. I'll leave it to you all to decide who i'm talking about.

Posted by: Jeff | Oct 2, 2006 4:02:40 PM

What the heck is up with all the repubs trying to bring up a 23 year old incident? Is there a moral equivalency meter, so a Republican pedophile (in 2006) is OK since there was once, many years ago, a Democrat who did something similar? That excuses Foley? That excuses Hastert and the Boehner and Shimkus and Reynolds? For shame. It's like a child saying "but Johnny did it too, 23 years ago." Pathetic and sniveling behavior, but what do we expect from Republicans. . . . they are the party of personal responsibility and family values, oh yeah . . .

Posted by: Jason Bleighr | Oct 2, 2006 4:02:42 PM

On the radio this morning Rush Limbaugh stated that Foley only sent a few emails and didn't do anything outwardly sexual, trying to downplay the incident and casting it as a Democratic Party smear campaign launched to gain an advantage in the upcoming election. I don't know why this became public at this time and I really don't care. The fact is that if Foley wrote the emails quoted above, he is a sexual predator and a pedophile; he and those in a leadership position who were aware of his proclivities need to be held accountable. Forget the smoke screen Rush (and other Republicans) and look at this issue for what it is.

Posted by: Mark Hyde | Oct 2, 2006 4:02:47 PM

To the various GOP apologists above:

Listen to yourselves!

Posted by: obsessed | Oct 2, 2006 4:02:59 PM

Hey Chuck: You said "This guy belongs in Wilton Manors." Well, I happen to live in Wilton Manors and take offense to that. Do you paint the towns where some of these female school teachers live (like Deb LaFave) who molest young boys in the same derogatory fashion? Gay does not equal pedophile. In Wilton Manors you'll find respectable adults who are living normal lives just like you claim to be.

Posted by: Marc | Oct 2, 2006 4:04:09 PM

As someone who lives in Foley's district, this disgusts me so much that I am definitely not voting for the name "Foley" or his replacement.

It's obvious the leadership had some knowledge and should have sent it to the FBI a long time ago.

Posted by: Robert | Oct 2, 2006 4:04:25 PM

1.) The republican leadership admits to being aware of

an email a year ago in which foley asks a minor, among other things, to send him a picture. Would you have continued to let this man be chairman of the House Caucus on Exploited and Missing Children? Without further investigation?

2.) IM is NOT as instant as you think. If you think that the IM's that you send back and forth disappear after you log out, read your terms of agreement. The contents of each and every IM is stored on a server, and is considered the property of (for instance) AOL. There is no reason to believe these are "made up".

3.) Bill Clinton was impeached. As far as I know, all of the other instances (Barney Frank, Gerry Studds, et. al) of inappropriate behavior were just that, and between consenting adults. This is looking more like a felony, and against 16 year olds.

4.) Democrat or Republican, if this was YOUR son or daughter, how would you feel about the leadership of the house in these circumstances?

Posted by: Steve | Oct 2, 2006 4:04:27 PM

This isn't a political issue, nor is it a sexual orientation issue..this is a PEDOPHILIA (kids) issue. These pages are minors and he's an adult. It's a PROBLEM...folks go to jail for a long time when they're pedophiles. The Catholic church would be a good source of information, considering the number of alleged incidents they've had to deal with. Sexual predators who go to jail don't have an easy life, even murderers aren't fond of them. Most often when you find a pedophile you find images. Let's see if a search of his computers yield pix. To even begin to believe that others knew that he was molesting/soliciting children and DIDN'T REPORT it is reprehensible...regardless of party affiliation or election cycle. When everyone GETS IT...HE WAS SOLICITING CHILDREN. by his own incinuation.

Posted by: karen | Oct 2, 2006 4:04:29 PM

This is not a Dem or Rep issue..... This is one sick man.... and they can be and probably are in both parties.....

Posted by: Quido | Oct 2, 2006 4:17:46 PM

As a Republican (and a House Page), I implore the House/Senate leadership and the Justice Dept. to investigate and punish Foley and any of his perverse, disgusting, subhuman compatriates to the fullest extent possible.

Posted by: James | Oct 2, 2006 4:18:03 PM

Let's look at the facts here folks. There's no evidence that Foley ever engaged in any sex acts with a minor,

although that remains to be seen. The fact is that the age of consent in most states is 16. Although it varies widely. What this guy did was unethical and wrong, but it was not illegal. This is all just overblown sensationalism in an election year.

Posted by: Jim | Oct 2, 2006 4:18:19 PM

People people people ...

While the age difference between Foley and the page is disturbing, this incident does not qualify as pedophilia.

The legal age of consent in DC is 16.

I don't like the man, and this whole thing is bit skeevy, but it is what it is. if you don't like the law, then change it.

Posted by: reality check | Oct 2, 2006 4:18:21 PM

To those justifying the Foley situation by pointing to Clinton and Frank:there are apples and there are oranges.Clinton and Lewinsky involved consenting adults.While she was an intern,she was not a 16 year old page,rather a woman in her 20's.As to Frank,I am unaware of any published reports which indicate he solicited congressional pages or other underage boys.He had some scandal involving one of his lovers,but that person was an adult.While conservatives can hate Frank for being an out of the closet gay,there appears to be a large difference between his choice of companions versus Foley's choice.

Posted by: noname | Oct 2, 2006 4:19:04 PM

I feel I should point out again that the media is widely reporting these as emails. They are not. They are instant messages from AOL Instant Messenger.

Posted by: Corey Spring | Oct 2, 2006 4:20:28 PM

I can't get over the ones who want to "shoot the messenger" - Brian Ross - as if he is somehow out to get the Republican Party. My God people look at yourselves! We have a potential child molester here and the Republican leadership COVERED THIS UP! They are the same ones who COVERED for BUSH on Iraq. They covered for big oil and they covered for no-bid contracts and YOU ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO LET THEM HAVE A FREE HAND AGAIN????? Oh - that's right - they will protect stem cells from murder and protect us from gays getting married.

Posted by: Frank Fletcher | Oct 2, 2006 4:22:08 PM

This is not what I have in mind when I think about

protecting family values

Posted by: Disgusted | Oct 2, 2006 4:24:21 PM

Funny thing is that in europe (and probably most of the world), this wouldn't be a problem, because age of consent is 16 (or 15 or even 14). The US probably has the highest age of consent in the world. This scandal may be scandalous in America, but the rest of the world is shrugging and laughing again at American prudishness.

Posted by: josephine | Oct 2, 2006 4:24:48 PM

I realize it's not gonna happen because it's too enticing for the media to resist, but we really should be using more accurate terminology here. Foley may be many things, but he is not a pedophile, at least not as far as we know. 16 and 17 year olds--no matter how many times the media refer to them as "children" for the sake of sensationalism--are sexually mature humans. It doesn't change the deplorable nature of what Foley did--particularly and especially as he was in a supervisory and mentor role with these youths--he should no doubt get what's coming to him and, yes, these boys were underage. But they were not "children." Foley's is very different than that of pedophile behavior, which skews considerably younger. But I suspect hysteria and sensationalism will win out, as usual.

Posted by: Rascal | Oct 2, 2006 4:26:39 PM

I was sexually abused as a child and the nightmare never ends..it continues on and on..an emotional roller-coaster. I hope, for the sake of other children, Foley is sent to jail, where he belongs !!

Posted by: Michelle | Oct 2, 2006 4:26:52 PM

As a parent, I find Foley's behavior to be disgusting. As a Republican, I find the actions of the party to be woefully inadequate. Hopefully, Foley will be treated as a predator by law enforcement.

That being said, it doesn't change my political viewpoint at all as my social and moral convictions don't change with the weather. I'm just sick that both political parties try to use whatever occasion to their own advantage, instead of standing on their own political ideas (or lack thereof).

Posted by: Brian Levine | Oct 2, 2006 4:27:04 PM

*-Pedophiles like children not teens, just to be accurate.
-Also, these teens were active participants in these*

explicit conversations.

-The "e-mails" that we know about had no sexual content.

-The "Instant Messages" are what had all of the sexually graphic stuff.

-Some of the GOP leaders knew about the non-sexual e-mails but not the explicit Instant Messages.

-The e-mails were with the page from Louisiana and contained no sexual content.

-The Instant Messages were with other pages and were explicit. Those pages told Brian Ross that they never told anyone about it.

-This is why the terms "e-mails" and "Instant Messages" matter. Because the e-mails were known about (and not sexual at all) whereas the Instant Messages were not known about, b/c the pages never told, and were very graphic.

-This report, by Brian Ross, is about the graphic Instant Messages but he calls it "e-mails" as if to insinuate that these are the e-mails that the GOP knew about when clearly they aren't b/c these are, in fact, the same graphic Instant Messages from this weekend.

-Clearly Ross is trying to smear it all together to confuse people and to smear the GOP even more than he's already done.

-No one is responsible for Foley's behavior but Foley. The pages that took part in these pornographic conversations must also take some of the blame for not telling anyone for 3 years and therefore putting others at risk.

-No one else is to blame. Foley's seat, my district, is extremely Republican so to pretend that there was some coverup to save a seat that is never going democrat is a rather odd theory.

-The worst that can be said about the House's GOP leadership is that they were not paying attention and were not suspicious of someone that everyone found to be "weird".

Posted by: Mary | Oct 2, 2006 4:28:06 PM

It's ironic that everyone here tries to blame one mans sick personal dispositions on the Republicans. How about a little personal responsibility? Could it possibly be that the Republicans didn't actually do this, but Foley himself did? Oh, I'm sorry, Democrats don't fully grasp the ideals of "personal responsibility" as evidenced through Bill Clinton and many of your other leaders indiscretions. At leaste the Republican leadership is encouraging an investigation and possible prosecution here which is more than liberals can say. Can we say Republicans in '06?

Posted by: shua | Oct 2, 2006 4:28:20 PM

Food for thought: If this was your child being emailed and IM'ed how would you feel? Both parties, Democratic and especially the Republicans who are in denial and making excuses, I challenge you to look at your children and just imagine how it would feel if it was your child being violated?

Mr. Foley should not be in rehab but in prison.

Posted by: Fuzen | Oct 2, 2006 4:34:38 PM

I hereby demand that ex-Congressman Foley donate his considerable war chest (\$2 million +) to the Center for Missing and Exploited Children to fund investigations of pedophilic predators. I'm certain his many campaign contributors would not mind their donations going to such a worthy cause. Further, I call on Speaker Hastert and the House leadership to step down from their positions. If they cannot protect our children with speed and due diligence, then how can we expect them to protection of nation? Terrorism? I don't know of any greater terror than a member of Congress lusting after our children.

Posted by: Sheila | Oct 2, 2006 4:35:11 PM

Careful on predicting "more to come"...

In today's world only ONE thing matters as to whether the American public cares, and therefore whether accountability happens:

The "one thing" is whether it stays the "top story".

Today the tragedy in PA hit, and chances are CNN and others will "move on".

And their decisions as to "what matters" is all that matters to Americans with low attention span.

Look at Bill O'Reilly running nothing but "white girl from Alabama missing in Aruba" during the tragic tsunami.

Two things could happen: One, this could stay on top, and the non-Fox networks will be called "biased".

Two: Two, other stories will blanch this one, and nobody will be held accountable.

Posted by: Cliff | Oct 2, 2006 4:40:49 PM

Remove all political labels and focus on the behavior: what he did is illegal. Abuse of power. Inappropriate communication with minors. This has nothing to do with gay issues. The man is ill. He is unable to relate to other gay men his age. As parents and members of our society, we must protect our children. We never know which wolves come in sheep's clothing.

Posted by: Me | Oct 2, 2006 4:42:37 PM

WOW...now its a "ring of pedatators in congress" What about in the senate..is there a ring there? Maybe over at

DHS too! Geeze we all in trouble.

Posted by: Mort | Oct 2, 2006 4:43:00 PM

How can you compare Foley to Clinton - you ask ... well Clinton finally got caught cheating on his wife after such a long period and he LIED & LIED & LIED and didnt resign & is still Lying .. Foley got caught being a pervert, and he quit... I guess he figured that lying would not be good enough.... both of them have lost sight of moral values - if they ever had any as well as common decency and one other little important thing --they lost sight of their obligation of responsibility of office... No wonder the Dark side of the World thinks we are nothing but a modern version of Sodom and Gomorra and it seems that every time you open the pages of the news paper .. we prove them right !

Posted by: Joe | Oct 2, 2006 4:43:31 PM

Keep up the good work Brian. You are going to be attacked by Karl's Krew as a reporter with some Liberal agenda. Just remember, the only agenda you have is getting the truth out to the American people. Then again, the truth does seem to have a Liberal bias these days, doesn't it?

Posted by: Kevin | Oct 2, 2006 4:43:31 PM

What I'm wondering here is that since this has been known about for years and most likely involves most politicians, is it that Foley didn't do something that Israel told him to do and that's why ABC is know "ratting him out". I mean it is well known that Israel and it's spy agency Mossad is heavily involved in running the United States Federal government and that they routinely gather damaging information about U.S. Govt politicians in order to blackmail them in to voting in favor of Israel's agenda. This seems as if this more likely the reason that the media is releasing this. Otherwise why would they care since most of the media is morally bankrupt as well.

Posted by: The Truth Squad | Oct 2, 2006 4:46:23 PM

Hey Christine, you want to talk about Alcohol being used as an excuse by the Republican party? Ever heard of the Kennedy family?

Posted by: Rex | Oct 2, 2006 4:48:06 PM

leave the man alone ... geez he's gay and he got outed .. nothing more

Posted by: GLENN S | Oct 2, 2006 4:48:07 PM

This is a disgusting revelation, both the act and the

"apparent" cover-up. It is sad that the party which owns the market place of ideas also, unfortunately, has a minor majority on scandal too. We should all starting voting in independant candidates, enough so that eventually Washingtonians start to get it and represent the public's interest versus their own.

Posted by: Disgusted Repub | Oct 2, 2006 4:48:35 PM

First, this guy is sick and makes me want to throw up. He needs jail time and I hope it's under the laws he helped create.

Second, to be a republican and be called a crook, liar, and child molester also makes me sick. It's synonymous with saying that all liberals hate the US and blame the US for everything that is wrong in the world. Neither is true.

Wake up people, this ain't a republican or democrat issue, it's "our" issue. Stop the bashing for once and get real. Stop making everything a political issue!

Posted by: Chris | Oct 2, 2006 4:48:45 PM

well, unless im mistaken, this guy is the head person of the movement that is trying to protect kids from this kind of thing happening to them. then the leader of the program goes and does just what he is trying to prevent!!! our government should keep better tabs on their employees.

Posted by: Joshua | Oct 2, 2006 4:49:15 PM

I find it hillarious that the wingnut who saya ABC is locked out of his TV so no one will see its' evil death rays is posting on a message board on the ABC website, and reading the ads. I bet his kids are upstairs right now downloading illicit "Grey's Anatomy" episodes....

Posted by: jdb | Oct 2, 2006 4:49:29 PM

Sandra, don't you know Monica Lewinsky was at least of age to consent. Mark Foley is going after kids...

Posted by: Our Heavenly Father | Oct 2, 2006 4:49:52 PM

ok, what's the fuss? pedophilia refers to children. 16 yo's are physically mature and in some jurisdictions of the world, adults. that foley has psychological problems seems apparent, but let's put this in proportion. the kid was playing along and from the tone of the messages a willing player. this is not about protecting children, this is part of a national obsession with sex. if we had a more mature approach to sex among adults then maybe there wouldn't be so many tortured soul, looking for sex with inappropriate people. the whole thing is sad, why are we

projecting our individual fears and problems here? it "ain't right" on any level.

Posted by: potrerohillman | Oct 2, 2006 4:50:35 PM

I can't believe people are turning this into a political thing. Isn't the #1 issue supposed to be the safety of the minors involved? How dare you all turn this into a political bashing! You should all be ashamed of yourselves for turning this into a petty argument...

Posted by: kat | Oct 2, 2006 4:50:56 PM

How is alcohol rehab going to cure this guy from being a pederast? Surely the whole of the country isnt THAT dumb. It's flat out insulting. Foley MUST be properly investigated and with luck, tried, convicted and added to the sexual predators registry. And if in fact GOP honchos knew and covered up, they should be held to account as well. This is NOT good for the GOP. They need to live up to their own credo and prosecute this man to the full extent of federal law. Failure to do so will only serve to show the Republican party as nothing more than an elitist old-boys club with no real concern for the welfare and security of regular Americans.

Posted by: Brooklyn | Oct 2, 2006 4:51:02 PM

I am so revolted by this gay man's behavior upon teen boys AND running to rehab so he doesn't have to face the public scrutiny let alone responsibility for his deviant behavior. Sick. I just see it as another example of predators hiding behind their authority and guise as a noble community member - when all along they prey upon children! Disgusting. Makes me question, are there other predators involved with in the leadership of Missing and Exploited Children? Despicable!

Posted by: KV | Oct 2, 2006 4:51:18 PM

Foley's actions particularly the instant messages which are distinguishable from the emails are deplorable and unconscionable. He should be prosecuted to the fullest extent possible. There should be a full investigation into every aspect of this scandal. Every single aspect, including who knew what, when, and how with particular regard and attention focused on the instant messages. Those who knew about this and allowed it to go on should be held responsible. This includes anyone who withheld this information for political gain or held it to be released at the most opportune time for maximum political benefit. To think that anyone with children, republican or democrat, who did not release this information to protect the children of others for their own gain is despicable. If the republican leadership withheld the information contained in Foley's instant

messages then that is simple disgraceful. If the democrats withheld it for their own political benefit to be released during an election, then that is more that disgraceful. It is reprehensible and the utmost breach in public trust.

Posted by: Richard Fiato Esq. | Oct 2, 2006 4:52:50 PM

These emails were characterized as "naughty" by White House representatives! This is utterly astounding and has nothing to do with alcoholism. A continuing, predatory pattern of behavior like this is on another whole plane from alcohol addiction. Moreover, that the whole things was trivialized AND he was allowed to continue is a sickening value statement from the Republicans who had knowledge of these facts.

Posted by: Valerie Miller | Oct 2, 2006 4:54:08 PM

The sad part about this is someone who was heading the committee for missing and exploited children was one of those exploiting them.

Republicans were supposed to bring "honor and integrity" back to Washington, what a joke! this is the worst of my lifetime, the lot of them up there should be replaced from the white house on down. Foley is just an example of the holier than thou mask a lot of these crooks wear. If they're not selling us out to oil and gas interests, they're trying to rape children while pretending to protect them. Disgusting and despicable...

Posted by: dee | Oct 2, 2006 4:55:04 PM

*As a Republican this discusts me.
A sick freak like this should not have been elected.
Be you Democrat or Republican....If you like young children you do not deserve to breathe the air outside of a federal prison.*

Posted by: Larry Sims | Oct 2, 2006 4:57:16 PM

This should not resonate as a "political story" so much as it should as a "crime story." This is not a time to play petty politics and claim victory for Democrats. What occurred was a horrific crime, and it should be viewed as one. Any Democrat who views this as some kind of "Democratic victory" as Election 2006 approaches is sick. Even thinking politics about something like this is shameful.

Posted by: Brandon | Oct 2, 2006 4:58:46 PM

This is really a wake up call for America. I don't see Foley as Republican or Democrat (well, except for the little bit of GOP gay-bashing hypocrisy), just another Congressman elected to do the people's business... another high elected official who is an acoholic and a

pedophile. Just how many acoholics and sex perverts do we have in high places in Government? Is this the best America has to offer? Is this what we entrust all the power and wealth of this nation to?

Is there no leadership in our Government, Republican or Democrat, Executive or Legislature, that will set some minimum standards? and we want to tell the world how to run their governments?

M Duffy

Posted by: M Duffy | Oct 2, 2006 5:00:33 PM

What's worse than Foley's crime is the fact that the Republican leadership has known about his proclivities for about a year and did nothing about it. Note that Speaker Hastert in his remarks today was careful to say that no one in the leadership "saw the notes." That may be literally accurate, but it's plainly deceptive. Hastert had been told of Foley's disgusting practices and, faced with the choice of confronting Foley and the political storm that would surely follow, Hastert, the leader of the House, chose political expediency over common decency. Foley may claim he's mentally ill. What's Hastert's excuse? There can be none. At the very least Hastert should be removed from any leadership role. Better still, is it not a crime to fail to report a crime?

Posted by: Jim | Oct 2, 2006 5:00:47 PM

Hang em all high. Sick and tired of all predators.

Posted by: carol | Oct 2, 2006 5:01:09 PM

I say let the GOP enablers and sympathizers defend this piece of trash. They do so at their peril, and only make things worse for their dysfunctional party. Besides, their proclaimed "values" are only intended for liberals to abide by. If you're an ethically-challenged conservative (such as Limbaugh, Bennett, Swaggart, Gingrich, Hyde, Ney, Abramoff, DeLay, Cunningham, Foley), all is forgiven since God is, after all, a Republican!

Posted by: Judy | Oct 2, 2006 5:02:27 PM

Would we really be talking about Bill Clinton here if Foley was a car salesman? Clinton may have dishonored the office but come to your senses - he had an affair and lied about it. That is so commonplace.

This guy had a sexual agenda with a minor. Come on people. This is not political. This is criminal. Get over your political agendas for a few minutes and try to keep the ball in the right court - CRI-MI-NAL.

Posted by: Ben | Oct 2, 2006 5:02:34 PM

I would like to know what the Democrats knew and when they knew it and who in the Democratic party gave these Instant messages to you. Foley is a disgrace and hopefully he will serve some jail time. thanks.

Posted by: bill | Oct 2, 2006 5:03:51 PM

How can anyone say that all of these people have known about this for so long? What proof exists to back this?

Let me guess.....

Posted by: Chris | Oct 2, 2006 5:05:19 PM

What's the fuss about whether this is an email or an instant message?

Is this a right-wing nutjob smokescreen to suggest that none of its leadership could have known about it because they were instant messages?

Obviously that is not true. Instant messages are able to be saved.. and forwarded... we got these transcripts somehow..

It's a conversation.. for which there is proof... people appeared to know the guy was a perv.. and did nothing... it's just like the Catholic Church...

Posted by: Michael | Oct 2, 2006 5:06:08 PM

Republicans should stop throwing stone at their own glass houses. And the people have the nerve to think what Clinton did was so wrong.. he was an adult with an adult....let's get these Republicans out of this office!!!

Posted by: jude | Oct 2, 2006 5:06:55 PM

I so think that he should serve life in Prison lets make him an example. I can not believe that he is not in jail at this moment. Why has he not be arrested???

Posted by: Juanita | Oct 2, 2006 5:07:18 PM

Seems to me someone held this information since 2003 for the specific reason of exposing it right before the midterm (2006) elections. Which democrat is responsible for contributing to the inappropriate emails with a minor? What Foley did was wrong but what some democrat did by withholding the information until now is just as wrong.

Posted by: DeeDeeMarie | Oct 2, 2006 5:07:21 PM

the fbi should go wherever the everdince leads. no coverup this time!

Posted by: james | Oct 2, 2006 5:15:26 PM

why don't they treat Foley like it was a date line undercover sting and arrest him?

Posted by: michael j. howard | Oct 2, 2006 5:15:29 PM

Stop confusing gay with predator pedophilia. There's a big difference.

And while you are at it, the Pope and Catholic Church have been covering up Pedophilia for centuries. Time to extradite him and let them face the music.

Posted by: carol | Oct 2, 2006 5:16:01 PM

Its hard to understand how all the republicans commenting could be protecting this child molester. It sickens me to know this bunch actually call themselves stong on family values? Family values means protecting our children, not child molesters.

Posted by: Ksesc | Oct 2, 2006 5:16:50 PM

Foley needs to be punished just like any other child predator. There is one good thing to come out of this though, seems like the Democrats finally got a reason to be tough on child predators. I bet no one wants the house to be controlled by Democrats more than Foley at this point in time.

Posted by: Nick | Oct 2, 2006 5:23:25 PM

Thank God this guy will be put away, and that the Democrats will regain power with the next election. Cause they are all perfect.

Republicans = Democrats = politicians = lying scum

Posted by: Smartguy | Oct 2, 2006 5:23:32 PM

Boy the Republican spin machine is in full swing questioning Brian Ross and his motives. Even Jowl Boy Hastert in his press conference had to mention that ABC released the news. Some of these posts from Republican sympathizers are sickening. I thought Clinton should resign and I vote primarily Democratic. Why can't the other side sit back and assess their failures instead of protecting their turf and protecting a pedophile. By the way, all of those things I have done wrong in the past..it was because of the alcohol I drank.

Posted by: john | Oct 2, 2006 5:29:21 PM

OK, you double standard democrats... you attack Foley and defend Clinton after doing what he did with an intern? And he lied about it to a grand jury. At least Foley is admitting to it. You are a bunch of lying hypocrites. Don't give me this bull about you caring

about the kids Foley has victimized. All you really care about is getting the 'evil' republicans out of power and regaining it for yourself so you can wave the white flag in Iraq and pull our troops out in disgrace. Shame on you for pretending that it's the kids you care about here.

Posted by: Paul | Oct 2, 2006 5:35:11 PM

This guy is SICK! I think if someone is in office their E-Mail's need to be public record. Both home and office. Demorcats this is our smoking gun! Let's vote them all out! Is't funny how all these sick pedofiles are right wing, wholley than thou, pervetes. I can't wit until this adminstration is out!

Posted by: sara | Oct 2, 2006 5:36:50 PM

Foley exhibits the classic grooming phase of sexual predators. One wonders how many of them lurk in the House and Senate. More than a few, I suspect.

Kathy

Posted by: Kathy | Oct 2, 2006 5:37:38 PM

I am sick and tired of the liberal media trying to steal Republican issues. Foley has done more good trying to stop child predators than the entire Democrat Party. He obviously has a problem and he is trying to deal with it in rehab. If the kid didn't have a problem with the IM relationship and his parents didn't have a problem why all of a sudden do we rake the entire Republican party through the muck. If Democrats spent more time on family values and less time on same sex marriage we wouldn't have this problem. Clinton is much worse and HE must be stopped. Foley may have had a long distance relationship with the kid, Clinton was obviously close enough to spit. The Democrats just disgust me dragging everyone including Rick Santorum and George Allen through this sordid affair. What about Hillary?

Posted by: rr | Oct 2, 2006 5:38:23 PM

Do you think it is just Foley? Wake up America, there is even worse to come.

Posted by: Pat | Oct 2, 2006 5:46:31 PM

Funny stuff...amazing how stupid these guys (congressmen) are when it comes to this garbage...like NOBODY would ever turn over emails/chatlogs to anybody when a SITTING OFFICIAL is trying to cyber with a TEENAGER? Geez, it's like those idiots on Dateline NBC who seemed so surprised when they see cameras instead of a 15 year old hottie waiting for them. This guy shouldn't bother with the rehab thing...he should've done a Bud Dwyer and get it all over with.

Posted by: BG | Oct 2, 2006 5:46:46 PM

If Bush said on 9/25/01

"if you harbor a terrorist, you're just as guilty as the terrorist."

Does this mean on 10/2/06

"if you harbor a pedophile, you're just as guilty as the pedophile?"

Posted by: Karen | Oct 2, 2006 5:47:25 PM

Pathetic that the rightwingers begin, on this blog, and per usual (Karl Rove would be proud..) attacking the messenger.

Posted by: JSA | Oct 2, 2006 5:49:32 PM

Yes the Republicans are in charge right now. Whoever in the Republican leadership enabled this kind of behavior should face the appropriate retribution. In the end though the problem is in the system. I dare say the Democratic party has similar stains on their reputation. How do we fix the system so that our representatives represent us in all ways.

It is an interesting to consider the situation from an employer perspective. If I, as an employer were to look the other way to an employee behaving in this way I would be legally liable. So, who has created this hostile work place for the pages? The voters? Congressional leadership? Republican leadership?

Posted by: BooMan | Oct 2, 2006 5:49:34 PM

It cracks me up that the only thing republicans have to bring up is Clinton. Yes she was an intern, but, oh wait, thats right she was what 22, 23 when that happened? Far cry from 16 years old and same sex.

Posted by: Jason | Oct 2, 2006 5:49:58 PM

There was no way for the Republican leadership to have access to IM material. Sure, Foley is a bad guy but trying to pull others into this mess is pure and simple dirty politics.

Elections are around the corner!

Next issue--Gerry Studds!!!!!!!

Posted by: Maureen | Oct 2, 2006 5:52:05 PM

And Tony Snow called it a few naughty emails, what will he say about it tomorrow.

Posted by: lwghr | Oct 2, 2006 5:57:05 PM

Besides the dishonesty of the situation, the false front Foley puts up is degrading for a congressman and so

called preacher of truth and righteousness as representative of the Republican party.

Republican party displays a sense of God on its side while denouncing the Democratic party as having the same values. Interesting and very scary.

Posted by: Angie | Oct 2, 2006 5:58:38 PM

Politics aside, he's a pig and should be treated like one!

Posted by: Jason | Oct 2, 2006 6:00:22 PM

They will find a way to somehow blame also this on Bill Clinton, you will see.

Posted by: Fernando | Oct 2, 2006 6:04:27 PM

Ok. So the Republicans knew nothing about these instant messages. They did know about e-mails but the e-mails evidently were nothing like the instant messages so they just gave Foley a verbal warning. So my question is, WHO HAD THESE IM RECORDS FOR THE LAST 3 YEARS AND WHY DID THEY RELEASE THEM NOW BEFORE AN ELECTION? Sounds like a left wing conspiracy to me...I also seem to remember back in 1983 a democrat who actually had SEX with a 17 year old page and he REFUSED to resign and was supported by the democrats...Double Standard?

Posted by: Dan | Oct 2, 2006 6:05:56 PM

Seriously, why ARE you calling them "Emails" and "internet messages"? These are IMs, and the distinction is critical (the emails are what we know the GOP knew of). Not even trying to explain the difference or make a distinction is extremely weird in this situation, because most voters don't know the difference. And why is this coming out in such a sensational stream?? PLEASE explain, and show some credible sources - another RATHERGATE is not what we need.

Posted by: NYCdemocrat | Oct 2, 2006 6:06:09 PM

This is just sick!

Posted by: ddt | Oct 2, 2006 6:29:01 PM

I am neither surprised nor shocked at the knee-jerk reaction of the neo-con apologists who now accuse ABC of partisanship for reporting this story. Did they already forget the insanely inaccurate, biased 911 film the network just broadcast? It's the Mouse, you morons; they support your crooks. God forbid they actually

deliver the real news for a change. If you were actually what you claim to be morally, you'd be thanking God for Brian Ross and praying your country can be snatched from the gaping maws of the greedy filth you've helped place in office.

Posted by: steve | Oct 2, 2006 6:30:22 PM

Hey, don't knock rehab. It worked for Rush . . .

Posted by: Jack Park | Oct 2, 2006 6:36:11 PM

*This could be the tip of the iceberg.. who knows ??
The right wing is trying to run the country but the republicans keep kickin in the door with anti christian behavior.*

Who knows some day the neo cons may eventually find a society that agrees with their philosophy.. but that will be impossible unless the silent majority stayed silent...

Posted by: makesenseofit | Oct 2, 2006 6:37:14 PM

I was a page around the same time as these kids and never did I see or hear anything remotely like this. The kids who are selected to move to Washington and work for Congress at 16 and 17 are some of the most responsible young men and women in the country and they understand their duty to minimize their visibility and distance themselves from members. These guys should have reported Foley immediately and without hesitation. Their claims that they feared "retribution" are either blatant lies aimed at concealing their sexual identity or honest concerns that only would have stemmed from a direct threat from the Congressman himself. It needs to be determined if Foley used his position to intimidate the kids and Foley is a sick child molestor, but our society needs to come to the realization that 16 and 17 year olds are not vulnerable and helpless little kids.

Posted by: drew | Oct 2, 2006 6:38:17 PM

Everyone stop and consider. This is not a Republican/Democrat issue. It is a moral issue. This man is sick, and obviously preys on children. There are sick people in all walks of life - social, spiritual, all economic classes. Why is every issue of morals pinned on Political persuasion? No wonder this Country is so divided. That makes me more depressed than knowing a man like this... is someone who was voted into office!!

Posted by: Lisa | Oct 2, 2006 6:39:16 PM

Bush said on 9/25/01

"if you harbor a terrorist, you're just as guilty as the terrorist."

Does this mean on 10/2/06

if you harbor a pedophile, you're just as guilty as the pedophile?

Posted by: karen | Oct 2, 2006 6:41:57 PM

It was apparently known for a long time that this guy is a homosexual and above reproach (ala Barney Frank et al) but it's not politically correct to point out that this is a typical way that many gays attempt to recruit kids to their disgusting life style. Hastert told the right people but the Dems would rather try to make this a Republican problem while they protect their own gay predators.

Posted by: rmm | Oct 2, 2006 6:44:19 PM

I was very impressed by the way the young man handled the exchange. He seemed to obviously know what Foley was after and was very diplomatic and direct. I'd even go so far as to say the kid didn't seem all that offended. Kids/Teens/young adults are getting a lot more savvy. I hope that even if the exchange had resulted in dinner that Foley would have taken "No" for an answer. Let's hope the issue here is not the involved sexuality but the age of the participants.

Posted by: Ranch | Oct 2, 2006 6:44:23 PM

I was very impressed by the way the young man handled the exchange. He seemed to obviously know what Foley was after and was very diplomatic and direct. I'd even go so far as to say the kid didn't seem all that offended. Kids/Teens/young adults are getting a lot more savvy. I hope that even if the exchange had resulted in dinner that Foley would have taken "No" for an answer. Let's hope the issue here is not the involved sexuality but the age of the participants.

Posted by: Ranch | Oct 2, 2006 6:45:34 PM

*This screams again term limits--two terms in each house/WH...and
NO such thing as a pension for a "politician" KEEP the rascals out*

LRS

Posted by: LRS | Oct 2, 2006 6:45:44 PM

Despite his press release, Foley's still not taking 'full responsibility'. He's blaming it on a 'disease'. These guys wriggle like worms until the end. When the Repubs demolished church/state separation, they made a deal with the devil. Now they have to live and die by the sword of 'family values'. Pedophilia is a long shot from morally scrupulous behavior --in anyones book.

I'm also intrigued by our 'future leaders of America' who

opted not to come forward earlier so as not to damage their budding political careers. Oh well, why should we expect the children to exude more character than their elders?

Posted by: nbbbb | Oct 2, 2006 6:47:05 PM

Whenever a story like this emerges, rather than speak to the actual issue or the apparent facts, the other side will sometimes obscure the issue by impugning the motives of the reporter. It's like a child whining about how unfair life is. They accuse the messenger of being unfair and motivated by ideology. Or, they say the messenger is unfairly holding their guy to a higher standard than a guy on the messenger's side "who did the exact same thing or worse" a few years ago - even though the analogy is ridiculous. Take for example Brit Hume's argument that Foley's apparent pedophilia is like Clinton's sexual activities with a consenting adult.

Folks on both sides of the aisle are guilty of using these obscuring tactics, but those on the right are way ahead of the lefties.

Posted by: Toes | Oct 2, 2006 6:48:05 PM

rr--

you ARE kidding, right?

Clinton was sooooo much worse for having an affair with an intern--a female intern well over the age of consent--Foley was basically sexually harrassing several underage male interns, but it's OK because he checked himself into rehab? (did someone say "enabler"?)

As for Democrats spending all of this time on same sex marriage--do some research--I believe that you will find that it is Republicans who are constantly chomping on that old bone--just to keep folks like you riled up. (they call it the "Same-Sex Marriage Amendment")

They know darned well they'll never get anywhere with that one--they can't pass it even WITH majority.

Wake up, pal--you're being played like a fiddle.

Posted by: loretta | Oct 2, 2006 6:48:12 PM

Foley should be treated like any other child predator. The cops should wait for him to exit his office, or wherever he's sending these disgusting emails and IM's from, throw him to the ground (face down) and cuff him and throw him in jail. There would be one less child predator on the streets. It doesn't matter who he is or what office he holds; he's a pervert that needs to be off the streets, not hiding in rehab.

Posted by: Sandy | Oct 2, 2006 6:49:39 PM

Republican Congressmen, please start packing by

November. Your trust was a lie. Your ideas to move America forward were a lie. Americans have had it! I know I have.

Posted by: Alexis | Oct 2, 2006 6:50:20 PM

Since Friday all I have read is the whining of the freeps all over the web on how Foley was railroaded. Dennis Hastert and others know about this problem months ago and have held it close so as to not lose another seat in the house. One of these boys was sponsored by my own Congressman Rodney Alexander, the boy is underage, in this state and many others. Consensual sex between adults... DUH the last time I checked an "adult" has to be at least 18, able to go to Iraq and get killed to further the Republican cause of preemptive terrorism on the innocent and stir up more trouble with terrorist groups, the only thing an 18 year old can do in any state other than that is vote legally. Well let's add marriage to that another Republican moral value that will fail at that tender age. Now I am not the first to admit that my congress man is a complete idiot...gee the man accepted a 1.5 million dollar bribe from the RNC to change parties after the bribes he received to vote for the Medicare Part D disaster. Makes one wonder about the morals and ethics of the Republican Party and the White House. Stop whining and get your head straight as far the facts go. The Republican Party is in deep trouble.

Posted by: Jeanie Williams-West | Oct 2, 2006 6:50:27 PM

Folks,

They won't vote allow term limits, so the only answer is:

DON'T RE-ELECT ANYBODY.

Vote for whoever is not the incumbent.

Posted by: Jim | Oct 2, 2006 6:56:36 PM

So who is Mike Rogers, ABC?

Why did he have copies of the IMs before you got hold of them? How long did he know about this before you latched onto it?

What is his involvement with the DCCC?

The questions continue to mount. ABC's got some 'splainin' to do.

Get on it, Mr. Ross.

Posted by: Eric | Oct 2, 2006 6:57:10 PM

rr, are you for real? You say we should ignore an adult

soliciting a teenage boy for sex (or sexual gratification) because the boy or his parents don't seem to have a problem with it? What kind of stupid rational is that? This isn't about Clinton or anyone except the CHILD who needs to be protected. It's a cheap shot to make this a political issue and ignore the boys right to protection from a child predator. Unbelievable!

Posted by: Sandy E. MN | Oct 2, 2006 6:57:20 PM

This is just awful.

Posted by: Carol Clouden | Oct 2, 2006 6:58:19 PM

rr,

George Allen is a racist and there's video to prove it. Foley on 'family values'? That'ss like calling Karl Rove a Communist. How come the Speaker's Office found out about this 5 YEARS! ago and did nothing? The Republicans would rather attack the messenger and retain control than solve the problem. Democrats, look after your children because the pedophile Elephants are going after them.

Posted by: crc | Oct 2, 2006 6:59:03 PM

Most of you have probably forgotten, so a reminder is in order:

"January 2001: Just before leaving office, President Clinton (at the urging of Jesse Jackson, among others) commuted the sentence of former Illinois congressman Mel Reynolds, who had spent 30 months in a state prison for having sex with a 16-year-old campaign volunteer and was serving a five-year sentence in federal prison for lying to obtain loans and illegally diverting campaign money for personal use."

Was Brian Ross upset about this? Of course not.

Posted by: Pete | Oct 2, 2006 7:12:25 PM

Oh my!!!! Stop the press! An adult trying to take advantage of a teenager??? I don't believe this has ever happened before, nor do I believe it is currently going on in schools and businesses across the country. If a law was broken, he will be prosecuted. If not, he has resigned and been shamed. Move on. Go volunteer somewhere and make better use of your time than dwelling on some insignificant story.

Posted by: Matthew | Oct 2, 2006 7:13:02 PM

RR....are you actually serious about tryig to defend Foley. There is no bigger crime than someone that commits a crime against our children. I don't care if the guy was Dr. Suess. I love how that for 14 years now "What about Bill Clinton" has been the reply that every

Republican screams from the rooftops every time one of their own gets in trouble. Foley is a criminal and needs to be dealt with in a very public manner when he gets over his 'alcoholism', that is...to defend Foley and bash Clinton over this is a joke. By the way, I am a registered Independent

Posted by: nkb | Oct 2, 2006 7:13:37 PM

NO, Glenn S.. this is NOT about a gay man being outed. Adjusted and normal gay men.. have adult relationships with other gay men..just as adjusted heteros have relationships with other adults of the opposite gender. Foley was NOT relating with other adults.. but was hitting on kids.. children.. BIG BIG difference. This is called PEDOPHILIA and has not a damned thing to do with being straight or gay. It is predatory, and it is illegal, .. whether it's the Foley case, the female 35 year old teacher having a baby by a 12 year old student, or the male minister hitting on a 15 year old girl in the choir. It is an abuse of power and a twisting of the power role with young people who may not be in a position to defend themselves against it.

So get your facts straight...or gay.. Just get them correct.

Posted by: joe S | Oct 2, 2006 7:13:56 PM

*Stop me if I hurl here but:
Hope we spend the same time and money on this that we did on Bill Clintons blow job*

No, we spent the time and money on Clinton's lies to a grand jury.

For the bahzillionth time, the blow job was his business, and bad enough that he should have resigned.

The lies to a grand jury were actionable and impeachable.

Posted by: paul a'barge | Oct 2, 2006 7:22:36 PM

Another reminder re: Brian Ross. Remember the GM gas tank problems?

"On 18 February 1993 Dateline NBC aired an investigative report about General Motors pickup trucks allegedly exploding upon impact during accidents, because fuel tanks were badly designed. Dateline's film showed a sample of a staged low speed accident with the fuel tank exploding. Dateline NBC did not disclose the fact that this accident was staged, or the fact that the only reason there was an explosion was that the vehicle contained planted explosives. The viewers were never told about it. It appeared to be a major discovery of

investigative reporters.

GM investigators discovered a mistake by a study of the Dateline film. GM subsequently filed an anti-defamation lawsuit against NBC. The lawsuit in question was quickly settled by NBC and as a result Brian Ross and a few persons responsible for the incident were fired from NBC, and Ross found employment with ABC News, where he continues to work to this day."

Tells ya how much the network media care about integrity. Ross was hired soon after by ABC, in spite of his fraudulent hit job on GM. Of course, no one ever mentions this anymore.

Posted by: Pete | Oct 2, 2006 7:22:41 PM

No more values, no more integrity nor compassion. It is very sad that a top republican who will be soon charged as sex offender has been covered by his peers!!!take all the republicans starting from the top ones out of their seats and clean up the House. January 07, the Dems are definitely the Majority. I hope they do not repeat the same mistakes.

Out GOP, Go Dems!!!!!!!!!!

Posted by: Lorraine | Oct 2, 2006 7:23:53 PM

Congressman Foley's homosexuality is as much a topic as the fact that he tried to have sex with a page. Soliciting sex with a young girl is bad enough but to do it with a boy is irreprehensible and disgusting.

Posted by: Tyler | Oct 2, 2006 7:23:57 PM

"cage-aux-foley" should be added to the National Sex Offender Registry at once. He is a perverted self hating homosexual, who uses his position to predate on underage kids.

He and others of his kind and position should be the focus in a next "To Catch a Predator" show, live from Washington DC. NBC should go for the big fish, instead of catching 'bottle rocket losers".

People should organize protests in front of his house and demand this child molester out of his town, like he proposes in the laws he crafted and signed.

Posted by: myhumbleopinion | Oct 2, 2006 7:24:18 PM

Ok, bear with me. Facts can be confusing in the Bush World. 1. He's a politician. Therefore, it is a political issue. 2. Foley didn't immediately resign, he denied anything improper happened. When he was shown the IM's, then he resigned. 3. Clinton's actions were morally suspect; Foley broke a law HE CREATED. 4. Watching Republicans defend this guy despite all the concrete evidence would be hilarious if it wasn't so scary.

Posted by: proudliberal | Oct 2, 2006 7:26:22 PM

Foley should be in prison ASAP, but let's remember that laws were probably NOT broken since the boy in the IMs was 17 and Democrats have successfully fought all across America to lower the age of consent to 16 and even lower in some places. So the 52 year-old could LEGALLY pursue his teen meat. Thanks, Dems, for making our children unsafe!!

Posted by: Ed | Oct 2, 2006 7:30:23 PM

NO, I am sick of all those so called right wing christian concervatives who put up a front as if they are morally correct in their life. and then come out after the truth about them get's out and blame it on an addiction. If MR Foley has a problem with drinking, and this has caused him to make a bad judgement, well I think that he has been making bad judgements all the long, personaly, and professionally in congress throughout the years.

Child pediphiles like working around children looking for that right moment. (daycares, schools, boyscouts, girlscouts, congressional pages,)Well you get the picture I hope. This guy is a wolf in sheep's clothing claiming he's against child porn, and predators.

this is just another in a long list of republican scandels in this administration. You right wing zombies just want to take america's eyes off the fact, just like you are with this industrialized enriching WAR! 1-weapons of mass destruction, 2-liberating the those people, 3-center front of terror, stay the course, or democrats want to cut and run, the same old song over and over again. stop hiding the truth from the american people...

What about the kid that this freak undercover punk tried to take advantage of. You people on thr right care more about your party than the american people! I have yet to here one republican say that what he did was wrong without putting baggage with it. (Clinton, George Allen, etc.)YES! all wrong with adult issues, NOT CHILD ISSUES!

Posted by: chris | Oct 2, 2006 7:31:07 PM

I am not surprised that Foley played the 'Alcohol Teatment' card. An alcoholic he may be, but first and foremost he is interested in underage boys!

Posted by: nick32714 | Oct 2, 2006 7:31:07 PM

Lot of rhetoric about how much the Republicans knew and when they knew it. What were the charges against Senator Kennedy? Oh yeah, there never were any.

Posted by: Steve | Oct 2, 2006 7:31:14 PM

Mark Foley is a very sick pervert and is trying to excuse his deviant behavior by claiming he's an alcoholic. He and his republican buddies knew about his hunger for underage boys and did nothing to protect innocent youth. What happened to family values and protecting children from predators? These rogues must go. November will rid America of these criminals who think only of their greed and power.

Posted by: Hollie | Oct 2, 2006 7:35:44 PM

I've read a lot of wacky comments here today. How about sticking to the facts: Mr. Foley is not "gay," he is a pedophile. If he has broken any laws, he should be brought to trial. The courts will decide if he is guilty. At the very least he has shown very poor judgement and should not be allowed to have anything to do with children any more. 16 is not the age of consent. Mr. Clinton used poor judgement, though it was with a consenting adult (22), and tried to cover it up. He has paid dearly for that, including being publicly embarrassed and censured by congress. I believe that any politician who breaks the law - or covers it up - should pay the consequences.

Posted by: jodybie | Oct 2, 2006 7:36:00 PM

This is nothing new for this administration which will do ANYTHING to keep control of the house. Lie, cheat, cover-up, steal. I TRUST Saddam over Bush and his crew - at least he told the truth when he said he had no WMDs. This FOLEY SCANDAL FINISHES THE whole bunch of losers off, I hope!!!

Posted by: clarice | Oct 2, 2006 7:42:12 PM

Some people are saying the police should seize Foley's computers and search them for child porn. Can't be done - he's got immunity as a high government official. And rightfully so. He could have national secrets on his computer. Let's all take a deep breath and realize this is just a minor infraction.

Posted by: Craig | Oct 2, 2006 8:04:39 PM

This is not a GAY issue. This is pedophilia, which is sick! And for the GOPer who said Foley "admitted it" and didn't "lie" are you kidding? Do you know how to read? Foley WAS questioned about this and he said they were just "friendly emails"! What about the emails the kid sent asking for help to the child molester online alert line? And this guy would NEVER have resigned unless ordered to. They knew about him in 2001. He dropped out of the Senate race because of sexual allegations, which he denied. And as far as congressman go, the Republicans

also have an openly gay congressman, Jim Kolbe of Arizona. Why single out Dems when you act outraged about an elected official being gay? Actually there are more gay Republican elected officials than Democrats but being gay does NOT make them pedophiles. Foley is a pedophile hiding behind alcohol!

Posted by: Celeste | Oct 2, 2006 8:05:03 PM

Clearly, the House Republican Leadership pursues their general policy of IOKIYAR even on matters of criminal pedophilia. And apparently most Republican operatives agree.

Posted by: James | Oct 2, 2006 8:05:21 PM

REHAB! Put Foley in JAIL and given the same rehabilitation services that thousands of alcoholics and addicts are given in jail. That's the claim, is it not, jail is to rehabilitate and keep dangerous people off the street. I'm all for a full investigation, if this creep is found guilty he needs to be treated like any other citizen!

Posted by: j.daniel | Oct 2, 2006 8:06:28 PM

As appalled as I am with this "man," I am even more appalled that he is blaming alcoholism as to the reason he is a pedophile!!! I hope he is punished to the fullest extent of the laws that he helped create!!!!

Posted by: Karen | Oct 2, 2006 8:07:15 PM

*Checking himself into rehab for alcoholism isn't going to cut it. He is a pedophile.
A pedophile is a pedophile is a pedophile. There's no cure for it. The creepiest thing about him is he was passing legislation to protect kids from himself.*

Posted by: Sandyh | Oct 2, 2006 8:07:52 PM

Boy how did the Republicans go after Clinton.

Now it's the Democrats turn to get at the "high moral" Republicans who like to think that they're the party of family values....which is a LOAD of caca...

The Republican party is imploding at the moment.....week after week, scandal after scandal...

Posted by: WhatComesAroundGoesAround | Oct 2, 2006 8:15:52 PM

I heard Rush and Hannity today setting this up as some type of Democrate hit job almost defending Foley. The guy is a pedophile, Republican or Democrat leave your party affiliation at home and let's get rid of those who hurt our kids.

If any other Democrat or Republican knew about Foley and did nothing - they need to be swiftly kicked out of congress and prosecuted as well.

Posted by: Jim Beam | Oct 2, 2006 8:17:00 PM

Keep your friends close and your enemies closer.....

Posted by: barbara | Oct 2, 2006 8:18:01 PM

Who cares? I would rather have a Gay sexual harassing Republican than a baby killing Democrat in power.

Posted by: Quentin | Oct 2, 2006 8:20:03 PM

*REPUBLICANS- wholesome christian values, who hate anyone different from them!
foley is a child predator- who knows how many boys he molested- hmmm but for some reason you all seem to find excuses for his behavior... double standard! this man is sick and needs to be locked up- not go to rehab!!!*

Posted by: FLUGER | Oct 2, 2006 8:23:02 PM

If they want an abortion at 16 they're considered adults, when they're having a relationship with a Republican, they're children. Please. :/

Posted by: Dave B | Oct 2, 2006 8:23:30 PM

You know if I was 16 and a 52 or any grown man IM'd or e-mailed me hinting at sex I would of either turned off the computer or told someone. I'm not defending pedophiles but some of these kids know they are jailbait and act the part, go to any chatroom and your bound to find some actual kids willing to let you cam with them for cybersex.

What he did was reprehensible but the guy was 16 not 10. I'd say this kid needs a nice swift kick and be barred from the computer for some time. But then again when a teen wants to get to a computer they'll get to one.

Frankly I couldn't care less whether he was a democrat or a republican.

Posted by: Klaus | Oct 2, 2006 8:24:35 PM

*I've got news for you...this has nothing to do with being a democrat or a republican...it's about a sick predator. Just as Bill Clinton's disgusting behavior was a disgrace to our country, so is Foley's. Turns out republicans and democrats alike can be equal opportunity ***holes. As much as the left wing would like to make this a "right-wing" issue - sorry - just doesn't fly.*

Posted by: Leslie | Oct 2, 2006 8:27:44 PM

Typical - right-wing nutjobs trying to tie what Foley does to homosexuality. It just isn't the same thing, brainiacs.

If Franks or Studds actually had sex with UNDERAGE kids, then they should've been prosecuted, too. If not, then it's consensual sex between two adults.

Anyone in 2006 still thinking "gay=pedo" is just stupid.

Posted by: Paul | Oct 2, 2006 8:37:33 PM

Can anyone tell me what the age of consent is in D.C. or Florida? I am not trying to imply that what Foley did was ok, because it is far from not, but I hate throwing the word pedophile around. Come on these boys were at least 16 years old, they knew what they were doing. I find it hard to believe that Foley has so much power that he could get a 16 year old straight male to have these type of conversations with.

Posted by: Chrissy | Oct 2, 2006 8:37:40 PM

Way to go Brian and ABC! We always suspected these congressman were criminals. Thanks for catching one in the act. ABC, you're going to be my new homepage!

Posted by: Andrew | Oct 2, 2006 8:38:23 PM

As at least one other commented has already pointed out, the headline of this story is wrong and significantly misleading. It says "E-mails show..." but based on content of the story it should say "Messages show..."

Foley's a criminal sicko either way, but that wording mistake in headline is a significant difference with regard to who else knew and when, since the E-mails were known by others months ago but the messages were revealed only in the past few days.

Posted by: ABC Headline is Wrong | Oct 2, 2006 8:40:36 PM

Isn't 16 over the age of consent? If so it seems the real issue here is that Foley abused his position of power to solicit sex from a subordinate. Isn't that exactly what Bill Clinton did with Monica? But he didn't have the decency to resign.

Posted by: Troy | Oct 2, 2006 8:41:17 PM

What Republican lawmakers HAVEN'T done: let anyone drown; given anyone preferential treatment compared to other WH interns; pardoned exiled arms traffickers; entertained Yasser Arafat, inventor of civilian bus bombings, REPEATEDLY at the White House. Investigate those deplorable events, why don't you?

Posted by: daisyamelia | Oct 2, 2006 8:47:15 PM

maybe the people protecting Foley are pedophiles too!! i think those who protect people who abuse children should be locked up. how could someone live with himself or herself when they know this is going on. how typical to blame his actions on alcohol. what a coward. there is no help for him!! will he go to jail? or will he buy his way out.....

Posted by: hg | Oct 2, 2006 8:47:53 PM

If you look into Tip O'Neil you will find the same problem.

Big Bill

Posted by: B!g Bill | Oct 2, 2006 8:49:13 PM

If Foley is convicted of soliciting an underage person, what would you liberals think if Bush pardons him? BEFORE YOU ANSWER, read the following: "January 2001: Just before leaving office, President Clinton (at the urging of Jesse Jackson, among others) commuted the sentence of former Illinois congressman Mel Reynolds, who had spent 30 months in a state prison for having sex with a 16-year-old campaign volunteer." Oops.

Posted by: Pete | Oct 2, 2006 8:50:37 PM

NEVER CONFUSE PEDOPHILIA with consensual adult sex. This has ZERO to do with the Democrats and 100% to do with Foley. Most children harmed by pedophiles go through decades of therapy and some never recover. that Republicans can confuse this issue with politics and an election is sick, and the big F&\$%ing elephant in the room is that Foley was co-chair of the Committe charged with protecting our children against porno and electronic predation. The republicans are simply weak on victim's rights and pedophiles.*

Posted by: difference | Oct 2, 2006 8:51:51 PM

16 is not a child. Please. In most ates if emancipated, they are treated as adults. It was mutual and not anyone's business.

Posted by: ss | Oct 2, 2006 8:53:51 PM

Quentin: the person who does not care.....who referred to foley as a Gay sexual harasser rather than a pedolphile needs to take another look. let's protect the unborn fetus but when the child is born let's allow them to be abused????? these are the insane contradictions affecting our society today.

Posted by: hg | Oct 2, 2006 8:55:10 PM

The man is a scumbag.

Folks, this transcends any party. Wake up; both sides of the aisle do not have any of the common folks interests at heart.

The government is corrupt on both sides. I hate both parties. It really is a time in the history of our nation that a real alternative party comes forward with a group of REAL public servants that want to do good for the country not tear it apart.

Posted by: HRTM | Oct 2, 2006 8:58:08 PM

What a sick dude, must be a closet democrat as well as a closet homosexual.

Posted by: sponkos | Oct 2, 2006 9:07:34 PM

I believe in family values and that means protecting children from sexual predators--anything else is hypocrisy.

I have voted Republican all of my life, but House leadership hushing this up to protect their own hides has put me over the edge.

Posted by: Mildred Pulaski | Oct 2, 2006 9:09:12 PM

mutual!!! how old is Foley? we are not talking about sex talk between two 16 year olds!!!!!!

Posted by: hg | Oct 2, 2006 9:09:32 PM

What a strange situation: One branch of the Federal government is telling us that traditional morals and ethics cannot be taught in the school system to minors, and then a congressman is booted out of office for doing what the school system is telling children to do? Makes Jerry Falwell look better and better to me!

Posted by: john | Oct 2, 2006 9:11:33 PM

I'm all for removing this sick guy AND EVERYONE (Republicans and Democrats) who knew about this and did nothing however, this is clearly a double standard by the Democrats.....where was this "fire everyone who knew but did nothing" when THEIR MAN (Clinton) was abusing interns and other females (non interns)? And where were these "caring democrats" who did nothing when in about 1985, a Democtat Representative (Rep Studds) abused a male intern.... not only did the Democrats and the media protect him but he got REELECTED!!!!!! And where were the "caring Democrats"

when a democrat, Barney Frank had his homosexual liasions.....???

Posted by: Jim | Oct 2, 2006 9:18:02 PM

Funny how different a song the democrats are singing now. Rep Gary Studds has a homosexual relationship with a 17 year old page...he is censured, but stayed in Congress until 1997 as I recall. Rep Mel Reynold is caught having habitual sex with a 16 year old girl and was trying to get her to set up a menage a trois with a 15 year old. He is tried and jailed, Bill Clinton commutes his sentence in his last days....I don't recall the outrage from the lefties then. Foley should be hit with the hammers of Hades, no argument. But the behavior and screeching of the Democrats smacks of the usual hypocrisy and political opportunism. But there again they still have Robert "Sheets" Byrd of the KKK from West VA in the Senate and Ted Kennedy of Mass who killed Mary Jo Kopecne. Democratic standards are very low.

Posted by: Tim | Oct 2, 2006 9:18:55 PM

Foley's problem is not an alcohol problem, but a homosexual problem. This problem aside, when a Republican commits such an unfortunate event, it can surely be regarded as anecdotal. However, this type of conduct is promoted by liberals and even applauded. After all, looney libs believe this depraved behavior is genetic....right? Oh, and regarding this downturn for Republicans in November - Keep dreaming Defeatocrats!

Posted by: Steve | Oct 2, 2006 9:19:47 PM

Foley has to be treated like Child a Predator . What is it with the Republican Party they don't care ,and BU\$H what is he doing about it. they all cover up for each otherFoley how would you like this to happen to your kid.YOU PIG

Posted by: Fausta | Oct 2, 2006 9:20:51 PM

Hoo boy.

As a conservative republican, I am ashamed of any conservative trying to whitewash or minimize this in any way. Absolutely disgusting. I am sickened by this "congressman" and all who facilitated or enabled him.

Unfortunate net result: Dems win the congress back in Nov. and let the impeachment nonsense begin.

Ugh.

Posted by: fugazi | Oct 2, 2006 9:23:16 PM

Foley has to be treated like Child a Predator . What is it

with the Republican Party they don't care ,and BU\$H what is he doing about it. they all cover up for each otherFoley how would you like this to happen to your kid.YOU PIG

Posted by: Fausta | Oct 2, 2006 9:24:18 PM

Noone who reads these exchanges can possibly say that it is a misinterpretation to call them sexual in nature. From the start, I thought there might be sexual overtones that were being jumped on by the Dems.

Thanks for getting this out there so we can see it for ourselves.

Posted by: BobJ | Oct 2, 2006 9:26:40 PM

Too bad this broke so soon. Chris Hansen of Dateline could have arranged a rendezvous and had a heck of a scoop! I'm not an attorney, but what is Foley exactly guilty of? Hyprocrisy, certainly. Contributing to the delinquency of a minor? Perhaps. If nothing physical happened, what's the uproar about? Enough to lose a House seat? Yes....but criminal charges???? Just because the Republicans crucified Clinton & Lewinski, will the Democrats salivate and play tit for tat? We've got a war going on...can this country ever get past sex and concentrate on running the country effectively?

Posted by: ag | Oct 2, 2006 9:30:53 PM

come on here we go with the moral values and law police again just bringing back diginty and compassion to the great institution of america all over a gain i mean you all only spent millions of tax payer dollars to investigate and destroy bill clinton and impeach him for his whole entire presidency for one gate or another to find out he cheated on his wife what man or woman tells the truth when they cheat now that the party of delay who begot abramhoff nice majority leader who begots hastert speaker of the house another speaker bites the dust we all know this is politics a seat to be kept to keep the republicrooks in power is worth keeping a granddaddy around to chase around the cute little boys so they can continue to bring democracy to the american people and the world a the republicans are the party of smoke and mirrors lies and deciet and the great cover up i was almost ashamed of being a democrat because they have become whipping boards and turn the other cheek but there is a special magic happening now an implosion of the self righteous who it did not take us millions of dollars to instigate or investigate to bring them down see thats the funny thing about those glass houses and smoke win the air clears and time passes the truth will be revealed is that not divine but lets watch the party of the rich and pedophillia spin this one in five

weeks like a said another speaker bites the dust we must do it for the party

Posted by: thats right | Oct 2, 2006 9:41:27 PM

Foley needs to go down, that is obvious. If the Republicans covered it up, they need to go down also. That being said, these are not e-mails, they are IM's. They are supposedly private and not easily attained. As a matter of fact, these same liberals were outraged that the NSA was tapping cell phones and IM's of suspected terrorists for National Security purposes. The Democrats would rather bring down Republicans than protect Americans against terrorist attacks. In the case of catching Repuboicans, the Dems are all for the tapping.

Posted by: Joel Weymouth | Oct 2, 2006 9:50:13 PM

We should not be surprised that our governmental institutions are rife with this type behavior. The same has been going on in churches for many decades. The fact is, that the more conservative the organization where the abuse occurs is, the more elaborate the coverup and the greater the organizational involvement in the coverup. This goes on in all our social organizations. None are immune. A few years ago, he would have just lied his way out of it, like he attempted to do at first. He would have then attacked the boys. Goons would have been summoned to frame them with some trumped up charge and this would have all gone away. In our world of electronic communications, these offenders leave an indelible trail when they use their gadgets to help them snare their victims. That's what caught this guy. They asked him about it; he denied it, and then they showed him the goods. His superiors already knew about it. The Republican Party should change their party mascot from an Elephant to a Hippopotamus: they are Hippo-crites.

Posted by: Mike | Oct 2, 2006 10:02:26 PM

Don't blame the victim on this!

And I don't care WHAT dog-wagging Foley and his cronies do, being an "alcoholic" does not make you want to touch younger boys -- unless you really need a stiff drink to gather the courage (stupidity) to pursue like a pedophile.

Good job, GOP, you're just as bad as the worst of the Catholic priest scandals.

Posted by: Derek | Oct 2, 2006 10:08:33 PM

Shut up! Pedophilia has nothing to do with Democrat or Republican. Get a grip on reality.

Posted by: carol511 | Oct 2, 2006 10:16:18 PM

Don't they get it? This predator created a hostile sexual environment using his congressional power to fish for sexual favors. Hasn't anyone noticed that one page called it "sick," another said he wasn't 18, and still a minor, and still another was obviously in discomfort. That is sexual harassment, and a violation of the civil rights acts of both the United States and Florida.

Posted by: JCJC | Oct 2, 2006 10:16:46 PM

MAN!!! why does everything always have to be a democrat or a republican thing!!! maybe both parties should be dissolved...everyone is an independent then..and then stick to the matters at hand..if the man is gay, then he's gay..big deal...no one should even care...whats important here is he's obviously guilty of a crime against a minor. male or female..thats what should be important...not whether he is a democrat or a republican. why can't people just stick to the matters at hand instead of always making everything that happens a "party" war. PEOPLE get your priorities in order!!

Posted by: chad | Oct 2, 2006 10:52:57 PM

Ya'll are throwing around the pedophile claim pretty freely here. I agree sexual harassment is gross, no matter the age, but let's be clear about this story. These young men were not 8 years old, or 12, 13, 14 or 15 for that matter. Sexual harassment vs. pedophilia, there is DEFINITELY a difference. Of course the "child molester" tag is A LOT uglier and perfectly timed for an election year, right? Timing is everything in politics and yet, here you all are, ranting and raving as if the sky has fallen. I'm always amused by the easily lead (on both sides of the fence). Lemmings. Look it up.

Posted by: sah | Oct 2, 2006 10:53:10 PM

"Foley resigned Friday after ABC News questioned him about the Internet messages."

ABC News - ^^Did YOU question Foley or did you hand the emails over to the proper authorities?

Or did you mean to say that Foley resigned after he heard your report, or rumors thereof, about the "internet" messages?

Posted by: Just curious | Oct 2, 2006 10:53:40 PM

so much for family values, long touted by the GOP, the sadducee's and pharisee's thought they had the GOP in the bag, but they have spawned a bunch of crooks, some

who have been indicted some who were forced to resign, some who are in jail for there thievery,now their leaders are trying to cover for their pedifile,be interesting what john walsh has to say about his co-chair,for missing and exploited children,family values indeed,where are you Pat/james/jerry/ralph who has his own problems up in georga,

Posted by: Jim | Oct 2, 2006 11:01:27 PM

AG - Foley has undoubtedly been behaving in a similar manner for years--and got himself in a position to have access to national databases of at risk kids to boot. The news media is finally showing the courage to investigate the supreme hypocrisy of Karl Rove style Republicans, who win elections by bashing gays, but get special privileges for their male prostitute friends to attend White House press briefings and slander Democrats. Good job at helping start up the Republican smoke screen machine. This time I don't think American voters will fall for it--even in the Red States.

Posted by: Misha | Oct 2, 2006 11:03:12 PM

Deb,

It was explained why the distintion matters ebtween IMs and email. It's not the technology, there were different content and most importantly, different timing of when the info was revealed. No evidence to this point that any other congressmen new about the IMs which had the damning content ebyond creepy. The emails were not criminal, the IMs were criminal - based on CONTENT!

Posted by: Reply to Deb | Oct 2, 2006 11:06:53 PM

California Democrats want to lower the age of consent to get this issue off the table.

Posted by: Marty | Oct 2, 2006 11:11:07 PM

Any chance on clarifying the headline here, folks? "E-mails Show Foley Sought to Rendezvous with Page"

But in the story, it's all about Instant Messaging. Does anyone with a working knowledge of technology work at ABC News? It may sound nitpicky, but the two technologies are fundamentally different.

Posted by: patrick | Oct 2, 2006 11:18:47 PM

Foley's hitting on teenage pages is certainly wrong but this is about abuse of power (same as Clinton and Monica), not sexual abuse of "children." Sixteen and 17 year olds can legally consent to sex in DC. If Foley just had sex with these pages, his conduct would be perfectly legal (though not something to applaud). The only reason there's a question of criminality is because of the

over-broad statute that Foley himself sponsored. Hoisted by his own petard. 17-year-old who are working as pages in Washington are vulnerable, to be sure, but they are not completely helpless "children" either. Foley's a creep, but if he's a criminal it's only because of the silly law he helped get enacted. The law should define "children" as under 16, not 18.

Posted by: PJ | Oct 2, 2006 11:22:23 PM

What did Ross know and when did he know it?

From all that's come out so far this is all old news, from last year, so why is this stuff coming out now?

Why was there no interest in protecting the pages earlier? Why is no one asking those questions?

I don't see republicans defending Foley, he's gone good riddance.

If he's broken laws (and mind you since he's written so many of them he would know the line) then by all means I hope he goes to jail just as I hope all those who cross the line with our nations children do.

Posted by: John Doe | Oct 2, 2006 11:25:36 PM

If any Democrates covered anything up, they all need to go down with Foley.

Posted by: Pete | Oct 2, 2006 11:49:01 PM

I don't care if the oy is 15 or 16. That's basically old enough for sex. The abuse of power should be the issue.

Posted by: Bill | Oct 2, 2006 11:51:41 PM

Can't say what I think--It is moral and truth but not politically correct in today's world.....

Posted by: Dave | Oct 3, 2006 12:06:49 AM

I'm not a fan of this administration and I'm not too thrilled with the Democrats, either, but putting the political spin on this situation is crazy. No American should stand for this type of behavior from ANYONE. I don't care what party they are in. To bring partisan politics into this matter is just about as disgusting as the texts!

Posted by: SIvy | Oct 3, 2006 12:11:04 AM

Lets not turn this sick problem into a political problem, this is one individual. Don't tie all republicans or all democrats to the actions of a few. Let us show our intelligence by condemning the act, not large stereotypes

of people. Every one of us could benefit from actions of tolerance and withhold judgment, while condemning the behavior. Anyone that uses the instances, whatever their party, to further an agenda has to reexamine their agenda.

Posted by: Peace For all not the few | Oct 3, 2006 12:15:35 AM

Many of you said that this guy immediately resigned. He did no such thing. He resigned after his actions were made public. So all those that knew and did nothing about it, should also come clean and resign as well because they have been derelict in their sworn duties.

Posted by: RBM | Oct 3, 2006 12:18:12 AM

Why is this any different from all the female teachers soliciting sex from their adolescent male students? And why is there suddenly so much outrage over this, while hardly a peep was heard about these teachers and their heinous acts? It's ALL wrong, as were Bill Clinton's Oval Office rolls in the hay. The timing of this is pure politics, just like every other smear story now making it's way to the drive-by media.

Posted by: Tom | Oct 3, 2006 12:18:53 AM

Foley is a hypocrite, a liar, a pedophile, and a great actor. (Oh my, it must have been the alcohol! Even when colleagues say he subtly flirted with pages at 10am - he must have been....drunk! Every day! Come on...) Forget what party you belong to - would you want this guy talking to your son's high school graduating class? GOP - stop covering up, and start owning up. None of us are perfect it's true, but suck up to the inevitable -

Posted by: Blair | Oct 3, 2006 12:19:03 AM

While of course the Democrats will seek to press this scandal to their advantage, the loudest screams for Foley's head will come from the Republican leadership. After they were too lazy, or uninterested, or just plain stupid to understand the significance of the "overly friendly" e-mails from Foley, and took no substantive action, and asked no questions, they will now seek to cast themselves as the righteous and deceived victims of Foley's lies and malfeasance. "Hang him high!" they will shout, in hopes that you will forget their own utter negligence and lack of judgment.

Others may be no better, but these men, at least -- the Republican leadership in the House of Representatives -- these men have failed utterly and should resign from office, or be kicked out in November.

Pathetic.

Posted by: Jon | Oct 3, 2006 12:21:06 AM

bias towards one party or the other is not the issue here, whether democrat or republican, people should most certainly be appaled by this criminal act that foley has committed. If the Republicans knew about these kind of lewd actions taking place and didnt do anything about it then shame on them, but this isnt what this case should be about. Democrats are just as likely to do it too. Thats the thing. Doesn't dateline nbc's show, "to catch a predator" tell anyone anything? Its people from all walks of life, democrat or republican and we should be worried about the individuals doing these sick things and not the parties that they affiliate with. Please wake up.

Posted by: NIcholas De Blouw | Oct 3, 2006 12:22:15 AM

I don't see enough in any of the eamils to condemn this guy. IM's can easily be manipulated and never to be trusted as strong evidence of anything. I wonder where Ross got these.I wonder about the timing. I wonder how much of this really happened as it's been depicted. Something must be wrong or he wouldn't have given up his seat.....but all this junk doesn't prove much in my view...at least what's been released so far. Now we're hearing other pages not agreeing with the "page" who seems to be the source of this report. DO news sources ever enhance things for some ratings? Let's see some verified firm evidence before passing judgement please...Abe

Posted by: Abe | Oct 3, 2006 12:22:41 AM

WOW!!! Foley is a nut job! Wonder how many more are on Capital Hill? And dont get it twisted, there are many more; why else would they cover it up.

Joel (and others), stop being a follower, learn to think for yourself. The Republicans and Democrats don't give a damn about you or me. Its all a game to them. Its about winning, making money, and power. Stop being so damn stupid America and wake the hell up! TAKE BACK YOUR COUNTRY!!!

Posted by: Amazed | Oct 3, 2006 12:23:58 AM

I don't understand why people are defending Foley. Have you read the IMs? They are very graphic and revealing in the sense that they are very sexual and telling in the sense that at the end one of the boys talks about his AP homework. That is just so disturbing. This is a man in power taking advantage of that power to solicit sex with minors. That is sick. Just because he is in politics doesn't make this political just moral.

Posted by: Cat | Oct 3, 2006 12:25:10 AM

This can't be the truth. Our Republican Party stands for values - good moral Christian values. That's why we got elected. All that accusations about us being corrupted, taking bribes, being pedophiles, war-mongering,... are all lies.

Posted by: Joe Weistein | Oct 3, 2006 12:55:00 AM

Wow! this really brightened up my day, funny stuff, keep it up.

Posted by: G.TONG | Oct 3, 2006 2:04:55 AM

After reading all these postings I cannot believe how many people are defending him. It is a REAL worry, maybe the FBI should investigate some of these people. I certainly wouldn't want them at my kids school.

Posted by: Chris | Oct 3, 2006 3:52:14 AM

This kid clearly spells out almost every parent's problem:

Xxxxxxxx (8:10:54 PM): brb...my mom is yelling

Maf54 (8:11:06 PM): ok

Xxxxxxxx (8:14:02 PM): back

Maf54 (8:14:37 PM): cool hope se didnt see any thing

Xxxxxxxx (8:14:54 PM): no no

Xxxxxxxx (8:14:59 PM): she is computer dumb though

Parents need to know how chatrooms work, what text messaging is and how easy it is for their kids to become victims of pedophiles.

Wake up people! Your kids are taking advantage of the fact that you are "computer dumb."

Posted by: Blanca | Oct 3, 2006 4:11:13 AM

Several people posting were "blaming the victim" -- that some teens and this 16 year old in particular, was playing along with Foley, so that shouldn't warrant prosecution. Sorry, but the law is the law--a child in the US is just that, anyone under 18 is a minor and sexual contact or solicitation for sex is illegal. The laws haven't changed, just the way we think about behavior. That is what is sick, that some people are finding that this is somehow "acceptable" in a relative way. Hopefully the FBI has gotten its hands on Foley's congressional computer (if he, his staff, or Hastert hasn't scrubbed the hard drive) and home computer.

I am also venturing a guess that this is the tip of the iceberg. There's more that will come out of this.

Posted by: MN | Oct 3, 2006 4:12:49 AM

Please correct me if I'm wrong (really) ... yes even if the

age of consent in this or that state is 16, that 16 year-old is still a minor ... and soliciting sex from a minor via the internet across state lines is a Federal Offence, is it not?

Further, several have stated the emails and/or IMs were 'consensual' though the email [in the article above] shows a boy who exhibits discomfort with the "fishing" of Foley [i.e. "im not sure what I would be comfortable with"].

I'll admit, when I was 16 I was pretty savvy. Now that my daughter has turned 16 I most certainly would not want her to exhibit such savvy. Hence I monitor her computer usage heavily, and have installed programs to limit her internet access and other safeguards ... these days you simply cannot be too careful.

Posted by: Amberlynn | Oct 3, 2006 5:22:49 AM

Sick sick sick.. how do these kind of people stay in office ...this is family values for sure just like the rest of the hippocrits in the religous right....

Posted by: suzanne | Oct 3, 2006 6:32:55 AM

This whole thing is ridiculous... 16-year old boys can take care of themselves... in the instant message, it sounds like the kid handled himself Foley well... if Foley is guilty of anything, it's being stupid enough to send instant messages to pages... so, he's stupid... so what, they are all stupid... Barney Frank was stupid when he let his boyfriend ran a prostitution ring out of his townhouse... Studs was stupid when he had sex with a page... and Clinton was stupid when he accepted a bj from Monica... it's called thinking with the little head instead of the big head... all you hysterical people need to get a grip... Foley is lucky one of those 16-year kids didn't kick his ass... now, that would have been the proper response... now, will please go away... this story sucks....

Posted by: yabbadabbadoo | Oct 3, 2006 6:38:34 AM

This man is a freak.

That being said the title of this article is misleading...is that on purpose to confuse? There is a HUGE difference between an e-mail and an IM (instant message).

Posted by: Beignet | Oct 3, 2006 7:10:42 AM

Even today, many GOP are siding with him...I suppose that means soliciting sex from a minor is OK with the GOP. I could not believe what I was hearing on talk radio/TV trying to spin this story last night. This guy is slime and others covered for him.

Posted by: Jane Garnett | Oct 3, 2006 7:17:20 AM

Foley was a co-chair of the caucus on missing & EXPLOITED children. Hastert should have kicked him off of that caucus a year ago at the first whiff of a problem. No evidence so far points to Democratic malfeasance here except Republican suppositions about timing. Dems we cannot allow ourselves to be tarred with that brush. It is more likely that Foley continued to offend, and that some of the victims & families didn't want to see a pedophile get reelected. While Hastert looks for the criminals who covered it up, maybe he will find out who killed OJ's wife. PS isn't West Palm Beach Rush's voting district, how will he vote?

Posted by: Tom | Oct 3, 2006 7:18:25 AM

I've met Mark Foley on many occasions and thought him to be a good man and a strong asset to his Florida Constituents. I still have a hard time with this because I have only good memories of how nice and gracious he was to me and all the staff at all the Palm Beach benefits and events he would attend. If anything we should see from this is not to lambast Foley, not to hate Foley, not to find Foley inherently evil or wicked. I think Foley was a good person that fell a slave to his "lifestyle." No matter what the pro - homosexual community says and thinks about its lifestyle, the fact is that this is what it may lead to... Don't hate Mark Foley, hate his actions. Society needs to understand that when we make allowances, and I don't mean legal or government mandated allowances for behaviours and lifestyles, I mean allowances in our hearts to let certain desires become acted upon... these types of things can happen. I am not only pointing this figure at homosexual society, but heterosexual society. The liberties this great nation has afforded us in education, free speech, and a free market economy where everyone has the opportunity to flourish is not met with proper usage. Are we using our freedoms to create music, theatre, art and other expressions that most of the world cannot? Are we using our freedoms to create great improvements in health, science and medicine? Are we using our freedoms to create wealth that no one else can to better help those less fortunate? I think we do these things on the most minor of levels and rather we use our freedoms for endeavors that only serve the singular, momentary good. We create pornography rather than literature, Brittany Spears rather than Bach, and try to seduce White House pages rather than purchase flowers for our wives.

Posted by: tony | Oct 3, 2006 7:30:42 AM

What does all this have to do with politics? It doesnt matter what party he belongs to, what he did was sick

and he deserves to be punished. I hope they put him under the jail. To say that there was a cover up by party leaders..I dont think so. To say there were "red flags"...maybe. Should he have been caught earlier...he could have been, but remember, if there is nothing to raise suspicion, there is no reason to investigate. I am sure that if the emails were published by the newspapers when they received them, there would have been an investigation and this would have been resolved then.

Posted by: matthewcn | Oct 3, 2006 7:43:23 AM

I love this feeding frenzy but why did we not get so upset when it was democrats doing the young pages.Remember Stubbs and Jefferson and don't forget William Jefferson Clinton. Why is it that Republicans are supposed to jump off the nearest building and the dems just keep getting re- elected. Foley is gone, let it be.

Posted by: Thomas Paul | Oct 3, 2006 8:02:02 AM

This all seems like a witch hunt to me. I'm glad that it happend to the GOP and not the dems, but i'm not sure if it is deserving of so much media and law enforcement attention. I personally will not caste the first stone. Anybody who sat there and read the Instant Message document is just as "sick" as Rep. Foley.

Posted by: John C. | Oct 3, 2006 8:03:28 AM

*This country is run by pedophiles.
"The Franklin Cover-up" by John DeCamp (the only one left alive.....)*

*Who cares about WHY Foley did it or that he is in rehab.
LOCK HIM UP for good!*

Dateline Chris Hansen, maybe you want to add members of Congress and other levels of our government to your online PREDATOR investigative list and start picking them off in groups!

Then do a piece on the excessive number of BROTHELS housing CHILDREN (young teens) in the general white house vicinity for their enjoyment during a house voting break!

Posted by: D | Oct 3, 2006 8:08:22 AM

This reminds me of when Nancy Reagan used alcohol as an excuse why Mr. Deaver lied to a jury. A classic republican strategy from the past still being used in 2006. I think it's getting old.

Posted by: Stu Katz | Oct 3, 2006 8:16:29 AM

This is pretty simple;

1) *He IS a predator.*

2) *This IS an October "surprise."*

The rest is just personal/political banter to make all of you feel better about your political choices.

Posted by: Jim | Oct 3, 2006 8:36:52 AM

Just as it appears that the delay in reprimanding Foley for his "indiscretion" is to hold onto political power by maintaining Republican seats in the House, so it appears that having Foley check into a rehabilitation clinic for treatment is for the sole purpose of attempting to avoid being confronted by the press and the public (i.e. to delay this until after the election). This entire sequence of "abuse" and possible "cover up" is eerily familiar to the way the Catholic Church sheltered and protected its child molesters.

Posted by: Dez | Oct 3, 2006 8:42:26 AM

What the heck? We knew they were all sick puppies a long time ago.

Posted by: 8 ohms | Oct 3, 2006 8:49:39 AM

This is not a matter of right vs. left but what is wrong with our society. If one has to point fingers then both sides should run for cover. Example, B. Frank Senator from MA. His live in partner was arrested for child porn. Police raid his house and found evidence in the basement but the Senator had no knowledge of this???? Let's get real and look strongly at the people we elect. Anyone that votes strictly on party lines and not evaluating the candidate is dangerous. God bless America the greatest country in the World!

Posted by: bob | Oct 3, 2006 9:02:53 AM

the Dems better be careful when throwing stones... from what I understand is the Page board is bipartisan (3 Dem, 3 Rep) -- if everyone knew, how come they didn't?

Posted by: Peter | Oct 3, 2006 9:09:57 AM

I just want to know when will we stop all of this political home team mentality that has been shaping our policies, our morals, even our religion! What has become of our intellect? Why do we continue to blind follow someone or some group because they are the "home" team? I honestly cannot believe my eyes when I read some of the responses posted. People actually want to blame the reporter, the children, the October surprise? Obviously, some of the respondents have never seen what child abuse does to an individual, obviously they do not know the power a predator has over their victims. Victims

often feel it is "their" fault they were singled out. I'm ashamed of how our country has polarized itself to my team vs. your team. How can so many people be so blind sighted?

Posted by: confused | Oct 3, 2006 9:17:50 AM

I haven't heard anyone "blame" this on Foley's "addiction". His entry into a rehab is merely the most convenient escape hatch he could find. He wanted to disappear for awhile, what better way to do it?

Posted by: PRP | Oct 3, 2006 9:19:15 AM

I've said it before and I'll say it again. Our government has become a runaway juggernaut whose sole purpose is self-preservation and expansion. It is a government of the people by the rich and for the rich. We are all in the declining stages of this nation. It's going to get worse.

Posted by: Peter | Oct 3, 2006 9:28:08 AM

This situation is appalling. Worse is to think that these people control our budgetary powers, our judicial system and our powers of war and peace. Never have we had a more unbalanced leader with his finger on the nuclear trigger.

Posted by: Jeff Dern | Oct 3, 2006 9:28:23 AM

I am a republican, and Foley should go to jail. Kids have got to be protected. Predators of kids should get life sentences- look at how many have gone after kids again when they get out of jail, or some even kill them. We have to send a message to these sub-humans they are no longer welcome in society.

Posted by: richard rosen | Oct 3, 2006 9:45:18 AM

This is some of the most reprehensible behavior by a person in such standing that I have ever heard of. This is a man in the public spotlight, charged with creating and moving for legislations which fight, among other things, exactly this type of aggregious disregard for the public well-being. Though it is commendable that he has sought help for his illness, one cannot turn a blind eye to the damage he has done not only to the lives of those he stalked, but also to the reputation of his post. I for one hope that he receives some type of punishment in conjunction with, or in addition to, his current course of treatment.

Posted by: Sheila | Oct 3, 2006 9:55:10 AM

Granted, the actions by this man are SICK!! However, there has been no proof that sex ever took place

between Foley and this teen or any other teen - only his desire to meet for sex. Luckily the teen was smart enough not to go through with a meeting. Before the Liberals start labeling all Republicans as Sexual Predators and protectors of such, you'd better take a look into your own closets to see what skeletons are lurking in the dark. I agree with "Bob" from the post above that this is a societal problem and needs to be approached as such.

Posted by: Dav | Oct 3, 2006 10:44:54 AM

Too many people are quick to paint with a broad stereotyping brush. This is not a Dem vs. Rep or Lib vs. Con or even a straight vs. gay issue. It's a criminal issue, and regardless of the labels stuck on the perpetrator that person should be prosecuted. If anyone preys on minors, they should be prosecuted, but please let's stop with the attacks on groups of people. Everyone is responsible for their own actions, enough of this guilt by association garbage...

Posted by: Greg | Oct 3, 2006 10:48:26 AM

Gosh what a creepy weird little man. Eew I'd totally flip if a gross guy like that spoke to me. What a perv.

Posted by: Kristen | Oct 3, 2006 10:51:39 AM

Every day, we resemble more and more the moral decay of the pre-Christian Roman Empire. So, is Bush Caligula or Nero?

Posted by: Jim | Oct 3, 2006 10:53:27 AM

Sandra, Did you forget that Monica was 21 - considered a consenting adult. You just can't help spinning - it's what Republicans do. Did you learn that in Church Camp? Notice I didn't say Christian church camp. No matter what this guys politics he exploited children whom he was supposed to be there to protect. There isn't much lower than that. Clinton wasn't a pedophile. Give it up!

Posted by: Marge | Oct 3, 2006 10:54:46 AM

Here they go wagging the dog again. If the outed and admitted story is this attention grabbing and controversial, what we need to watch out for is the tail coming around to bite us. The real truth is probably of mind-blowing proportions.

Posted by: newsgirl | Oct 3, 2006 10:57:47 AM

1. Isn't failure to report a crime a crime? Whose who knew should be arrested and charged -- regardless of WHO they are. An elected official SWEARS to uphold the

*law. Add violation of that oath to the other charges.
2. Shouldn't Foley be in jail awaiting trial instead of rehab? Does our court system routinely grant bail to pedophiles?
3. The cure rate for pedophilia is so low as to be non-existent. A few days/weeks in an alcohol rehab program will not make things "all better."
4. Oversight seems to be a problem with the US gov't. Where were the adults responsible for overseeing the wellbeing of minors in their employ?
5. Re Foley going after other children who are not pages: while I think it probable (if there is any real interest in the Truth, they will be examining his computers), it may well be that he only pursued (or had) these urges with people over whom he had power ... frequently part of the illness.*

Posted by: concerned and outraged | Oct 3, 2006 11:00:06 AM

I consider what congress does to the American public on a daily basis much more disgusting and immoral than this.

Posted by: chris | Oct 3, 2006 1:01:46 PM

Does one think that the Attorney General who is in Bush's pocket is going to really investigate this fully?

Posted by: Edwin | Oct 3, 2006 1:08:07 PM

It's time for the news to report EVERYTHING, not just the politically correct or what the reporters/journalists have been given bribes to print. We have the right to a free press, and our press denies us the truth. It's time to talk about the good our troops are doing in Iraq, building schools and feeding children, instead of only reporting on those who have committed crimes. In every sector of society there are good and bad people. The military is no different. Print more of the truth. It's time to talk about what is really going on in America, instead of telling Americans what they want to hear.

Posted by: amy | Oct 3, 2006 1:08:36 PM

This is to Glob and any other "Glob thinkers"

The fact that pedophiles are mostly men is accurate. The fact that they are homosexual is nonsense. Pedophiles (from the Greek)love children. They do not love same-sex or opposite-sex adults. Pedophiles tend to prefer a given gender and age but most are men who prefer little girls. Let us focus on what is important about the Foley matter. Foley is a pedophile who is now trying to say that booze made him do it. People in power sought to cover up his despicable behavior in order to keep the

balance of power. The price they were willing to pay was further exploitation of our youth.

Posted by: JEANNE | Oct 3, 2006 1:17:56 PM

Look up the definition of pedophile please, intrest in children under 13.

Posted by: What | Oct 3, 2006 1:24:11 PM

To Bob: I 100% agree with you. People are people, no matter what party they are affiliated. This should not be about Democrats or Republicans, but about a sicko after our children. Cut the crap already with the party bashing.

Posted by: Keri | Oct 3, 2006 1:31:29 PM

*Just not right!!! this guy is a freak more interested in satisfying his sexual desires that performing as a politician. Remember Bill Clinton, how old was Monica Lewinsky when he had her performing under the desk in the oval office? What a disgusting display of political pedofilia this is!!! The guy was good, he hid it from his constituents and fellow workers.
Piece of work!!!*

Posted by: fran | Oct 3, 2006 1:33:57 PM

*this is just a thought...I cannot defend abuse of power, but I see react to that abuse after the original stun wore off. One of the things we lack a bit is the moral turpitude to "be the adult". We want and demand the respect that responsibilty brings, but are a bit squeamish when it comes to the accountable aspects of that demand. Our world likes even women to look like 15 year old boys. So how crazy is it for Foley, who is gay, to like 15-16 year old boys. Marketers know what the public wants to look at so they give them what they want so as to get them to focus on the product. In the hetero world, a woman who looks like a woman with a full figure is rarely used in advertising, especially when sex is being used to sell a product. I think mostly of upscale designers..
So lets look at perhaps a more real issue, abuse of power. Lets not let them make it about Foley's sexual preference. I've no doubt that if FOley were hetero, he'd have been emailing 15 year old female pages.*

Posted by: PDV | Oct 3, 2006 1:42:10 PM

Politicians will always dig up a nice and juicy scandal about other politicians

Posted by: superman | Oct 3, 2006 1:42:19 PM

Why must every issue that comes along be reduced to

mud slinging and muck raking by republicans and democrats. When the American public is able to step back from the canyon that the two parties have carved between us maybe we will be able to better judge which individual will serve as the better candidate in both the presidency and congress. Party support is fine until it results in the ruination of our country. Pedophiles (for lack of a better word) come in all shapes and sizes, come from both parties, all religions, and neighborhoods. To imply that either party is interested in the destruction of America is ridiculous Srapiron. By the way democrats don't support abortins.I believe you meant ABORTIONS. If you can't even spell it don't talk about it.

Posted by: patricia malone | Oct 3, 2006 1:42:53 PM

AMEN, Jeanne!...pedophiles ARE NOT typically gay! Like that has anything to do with this story, anyway.

Our country is crashing down, folks! SOMEONE has to step up and take care of all these problems our elected officials have created! Gay people, abortion, and atheists DID NOT cause these problems...the people that were ELECTED did!

Posted by: Todd B | Oct 3, 2006 1:45:36 PM

Re: your lame post: Posted by: Quentin | Oct 2, 2006 8:20:03 PM

Quentin, what Dem is a baby killer? Can you site examples then a stupid generality on those who vote Pro-Choice? Why is that such an issue? If your 11 yr old daughter was raped by Uncle Bob and came up pregnant, should you put her little body through the difficult process of pregnancy? (Let alone an imbreed issues, chance for getting cut open by C-section cuz she is too small to give birth naturally.) "Yeah your 11 with breasts full of milk, and stretched stomach, go to school and just tell the kids you got a bee sting") I mean get realistic before calling Dems baby killers. There is no BABY before the first month just an embryo. Why does an embryo's life take priority of the child its in?

Foley is pedophile, this was not 16 yrd old to someone under 20, but someone old enough to be their GRANDFATHER. That is not "natural" attraction.

Posted by: Izzy | Oct 3, 2006 1:47:22 PM

I remember when I was 16 I was involved in heavy petting (physical touch) with a 14 year old girlfriend. As I recall we both enjoyed the activity immensely. My question is this: were we both exploiting each other? Were we engaging in crimminal activity? Were we sinners in god's eyes? I also had my license to drive my

car. Do we give a license to operate a potentially deadly vehicle to a "child"? Hmmmmm. Just food for thought.

Posted by: marcus | Oct 3, 2006 1:48:44 PM

"Payback... this time, its for real" . I do hope the democrats have as much fun with the Republicans as the GOP had with Clinton.

Posted by: Andrew | Oct 3, 2006 2:28:35 PM

This story is just once again underlining the huge hypocrisy reigning in the American society: advocating traditional and familial values in public, while ostensibly mocking them in private conduct...

Posted by: frenchygyu | Oct 3, 2006 3:52:37 PM

Fortunately for him this will all blow over in a couple weeks and he'll be back at it. Does this REALLY suprise anybody ? I mean come on people, does anybody trust a rich powerful white guy ?

Posted by: rikrotorhead | Oct 3, 2006 4:17:49 PM

A problem is a problem; however, a coverup by the Speaker of the House for purposes of correcting a problem--is in itself the problem.

The guy is sexual dysfunctional. The Speaker is lawless and clueless

Posted by: Denis | Oct 3, 2006 4:42:09 PM

*I am enjoying this. The Party of Family Values!! Ha Ha!
What's next? Ann Coulter?
Rep. Dennis Hastert?*

Posted by: c_dobrzynski | Oct 3, 2006 5:21:01 PM

Typical Republican SCUMBAG. Had enough, Vote Democrat 2006

Posted by: ohgee | Oct 3, 2006 5:46:55 PM

I left a comment yesterday... which wasn't posted for some reason...but after giving this more thought, I have to retract. Sixteen is not a child. I full well remember when I was 15 and 16 and all the things that I was doing then. I had boyfriends who were 24+ and they were not sick perverted pedophiles, but very kind and loving and NORMAL men. And I was no innocent little girl child. Far from it. I Remember well what my 16 yr old male friends were doing at that age too. 16 may be young (and immature) in the eyes of older adults, and it's sometimes shocking to parents what our kids are doing, but it is still not a child.

These boys are not little kids. They are intelligent (congressional pages) young men who knew exactly what they were doing. If they didn't want to be doing it, they would've stopped.

Posted by: shannon | Oct 3, 2006 5:47:57 PM

so, in light of this, Clinton's marital infidelity seems shockingly minor.

Posted by: Lindsay | Oct 3, 2006 6:12:06 PM

What Clinton did in office was complete moral failure but when he lied under oath he committed a crime. Let's not confuse the issues. Foley's behavior is also a moral failure and disgusting but is it a crime?

Posted by: Carol | Oct 3, 2006 6:24:46 PM

Let's cut the guy some slack. It's not like he killed anybody, and those kids are fine. At least he didn't start an unending war and kill thousands upon thousands of innocent people, right? Our social mores have shifted, so why is this even considered wrong anymore?

Posted by: Rodney | Oct 3, 2006 6:50:12 PM

I have a question for everyone who's saying that the "young men" were in fact young men, not children.

If this is the case, then why do we get so upset everytime a teacher sleeps with a high school student?

Posted by: Clay | Oct 3, 2006 7:06:32 PM

Joe Scarborough, a then fellow Florida congressman never saw Foley take a single drink at any social function or meetings with lobbyists etc, but Foley goes hiding in a rehab center to buy himself 30 days not having to face the music.

*Then he blames everyone's favorite whipping boy, the Catholic church claiming he was molested for years but never discussed this with anyone for all these years. SO poor Mr Foley is a victim, not a child perpetrator. We had it all wrong! HA HA HA
How Funny! :-)) How American!! ;-)) How SAD!! :-((*

Posted by: GReg | Oct 3, 2006 7:29:56 PM

In the investigative reports by "Dateline", internet predators were apprehended and immediately booked after soliciting sex with minors. Why does this man get a 'free pass'?

Posted by: Christine | Oct 3, 2006 7:31:10 PM

I don't think we should rush to judgement here. Let he who is without sin cast the first stone. And, just

remember what the Republicans have done to promote family values and to urge stiffer sentences for drug users and dealers, pederasts, and the like. I am sure that Congressman Foley himself has supported strong sentencing for such malfactors, as child abusers, welfare cheats, vagrants and other dregs of our society. The Republican Party have always been the most sanctimonious upholders of law & order in order to protect our way of life. I say lets not be so harsh on those who have worked so hard to keep our taxes down to help the deserving and to punish the dregs of our society and teach the undeserving a valuable moral lesson (that their poverty and misfortune are their own fault, and that their suffering is the proper reward for their failure as human beings) I say lets give a big hand for Congressman Foley and all the good that he and his fellow Republicans and done and continue to do all the way to the bank!

Posted by: Anthony Gumbrell | Oct 3, 2006 8:46:44 PM

He should have already been arrested. Why should he be treated any way other than the child predator he is? It is sickening. Shame on him!

Posted by: Carmen | Oct 3, 2006 8:55:51 PM

I can't help but laugh. This all just comes off as so amusing to me. He's a sick man, but he was stupid enough to get caught. I'm glad that all that will stop now though. I kind of feel bad for the boys.

Posted by: Kate | Oct 3, 2006 8:58:09 PM

Ya this guy is a really gross and all, but as a teenager i say this never should have happened. it would have never happened if the kid hadn't talked to him. he just goes along with the guy. if he creeped him out he couldve blocked him or ignored him

Posted by: gBizzle | Oct 4, 2006 12:13:13 AM

Hey Tony, I am without sin and I will be glad to throw the first stone!

Posted by: mleverage | Oct 4, 2006 2:07:28 AM

IT'S TIME THAT WOMEN STARTED RUNNING THIS COUNTRY BECAUSE THE MEN HAVE FINALLY SCREWED IT UP.

Posted by: RAIN DANCE | Oct 4, 2006 4:09:51 AM

These type of people don't just start going after children. He's been going after his "age range of child" his entire life.

Someone needs to investagate every interaction/visit this perv. had with a child over the last 30 years. Let's find out who knew this guy was a perv. and covered it up.

Posted by: Laura W. | Oct 4, 2006 1:15:53 PM

As a recovering alcoholic and sexually abuse child I find Foley's behavior totally unacceptable and unforgivable. How can we believe anything this man says. I believe the only thing he regrets is being caught in the act.

Posted by: Billy W. | Oct 4, 2006 1:25:44 PM

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