

## Yesmap

## Dear Friend,

We are writing to you today as members of the MAP (Minor Attracted Person) movement, which has been gaining media attention in recent years. This letter is just one of many messages we have sent out to MAPs and Youth Lovers who have "sexually offended" across a number of America's carceral states.

You may feel isolated and alone due to the current laws and social stigmas surrounding MAPs and "sex offenders" in our country. You may feel like a criminal, a monster, or worse. You may feel like you are reviled by nearly everyone, and that being true to yourself is a dangerous and punishable act. But you need to know that you are not alone, and that there are people out there who understand and care about what you are actually going through.

Despite what society may tell you, being a MAP is not a choice or wrong. It is simply a part of who we are, and it is nothing to be ashamed of. Throughout history, children, teens, and adults have made each other mutually happy through loving relationships in societies which accepted them. Only relatively recently in human history has such love and affection been criminalized, punishing both youth and their lovers.

It may seem like there is no hope for change, but you need to know that we have started to <u>fight back</u> against our oppressors. Gone is the time where we will allow ourselves to sit idly and be slowly arrested, abused, castrated, and beaten down. This is not simply a fight for freedom, it is a fight for our lives. Our most violent haters would murder us if they had the chance. <u>We are all being pushed</u> to cease our existence, but we refuse. Our very existence is radical, and we must make it known.

We would like to direct you to a few resources that may be helpful to you to fight for your freedom with us. The first is <a href="Newgon.net">Newgon.net</a> This site is a wiki-style platform that contains research, past and current activism efforts, memes, and articles on famous MAPs. It is designed to be a resource for both MAPs and non-MAPs who want to learn more about our community and be more sympathetic to our struggles. The position of Newgon Organization, is the same as that of the writers of this letter; we must abstain from engaging in any criminalized behaviors and work to change the laws that persecute us in the mean time. For your peace of mind, this site is entirely non-pornographic and contains no illegal material.

The second is **B4UACT.org** Established in 2003, B4U-ACT is a 501(c)(3) organization run in collaboration between mental health professionals, researchers, and people who are attracted to minors. Their mission is to promote a science-informed understanding about people with an attraction to children or adolescents, and to support them living in truth and dignity.

Being on the registry does not define you as a person. The only good thing that has come out of this registry is how easy it is now for us to reach out to allies in the fight for liberation. You are so much more than a label or a criminal record. You are a human being with thoughts, feelings, and dreams, just like everyone else. It may be difficult to feel hopeful in the face of such oppression, but change is possible. In past fights for liberation, like the gay rights movement, love was also criminalized and oppressed. Through years of persistence and agitation, gay people went from being criminalized and marginalized, to culturally pervasive. It may not happen overnight, but with each person who speaks out against discrimination and fights for equality, even behind an online pseudonym, we come one step closer to a world where everyone is accepted for who they are.

We encourage you to reach out to others in the MAP community, by joining the Yesmap.net Matrix Server (an instant-messaging system), if it is possible for you: Newgon.net/wiki/Help:Joining\_PCMA\_chat

You may be surprised at how many people share your experiences and your struggles, and who are willing to offer support and encouragement, in these and other communities we are willing to familiarize you with. Additionally, we are constantly working and planning how to effect change in our society against our oppression. Before joining MAP communities, please familiarize yourself with the safety considerations of being a MAP online at Blsafety.net

You are not alone, and you are not forgotten. There are people who care about you, and who are working tirelessly to create a world where you can live without fear of persecution. Keep fighting and know that you are loved.