From: Posted At: Tuesday, April 06, 2004 12:06 AM Posted To: spywareworkshop2004 Conversation: Spyware Workshop - Comment, P044509 Subject: Spyware Workshop - Comment, P044509

Dear Sirs,

Spyware and Adware is definitely a problem!! I am very careful NOT to download anything and I have firewalls, virus protectors, etc. Nevertheless, one of these "ad - Browser Helper Objects" installed itself on my computer with a drive by install (one that I did not approve or ask for) The program was by a company called 1 800 Solutions - NCase.

There is simply no easy way to rid yourself of this program!! And when you try, it just reinstalls itself. I followed all the directions to uninstall it, had various programs try to uninstall it - and it just keeps coming back.

But the VERY worst thing is what it did to my computer. It keeps popping up ads - so many that you cannot even close them fast enough. They just take over. And when I go to a web site, it replaces banners with PORN banners. You can actually see it happening - first there is the regular banner and then the PORN one. How do I know it is doing it? It was on my own personal website and I can assure you that I have placed no porn banners on my site.

No one needs porn placed on their PC when they didn't ask for it. This is a growing problem for everyone concerned. It is embarrassing to me that someone might go to my website that also has this thing and think I deal in porn. Plus - people cannot get rid of it easily. These things are a menace to society.

I would like to add that I am a stay at home mother who makes extra money by working on the computer. I have a website and I write about things that other mothers would be interested in. I also have ads on my site from Merchants that I am partner with. When these kinds of things pop up on a persons PC, they overwrite my content on my site. They also steal sales from me. This is not fair.

I also believe it would fall under the "unfair trade" laws. Just because it is on the Internet, does not mean you can do anything you want to. There needs to be laws to protect people from this filth that they promote. There needs to be laws to protect the people who are trying to make money honestly.

These people lie, cheat and steal from everyone.

Please - I am asking you to ban these things from the Internet.

Thank you for listening!

Vicki Hatfield Texas