United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 29, 2025

Mr. Mark Zuckerberg Chief Executive Officer Meta Platforms, Inc. 1 Hacker Way Menlo Park, CA 94025

Dear Mr. Zuckerberg,

We are appalled by the recent Wall Street Journal report detailing how Meta's AI-powered chatbots on Facebook and Instagram have engaged in sexually explicit conversations with users, including minors, often using the voices and personas of celebrities and fictional characters. This is not merely an innocent oversight; it is a flagrant violation of the trust that parents and families place on your platforms.

Despite repeated warnings and apparent internal concerns, Meta has once again prioritized profit over the safety and well-being of children. Your company's decision to loosen content guidelines to allow "romantic role-play," even for user-generated bots portraying minors, is deeply troubling. This pattern of behavior underscores a disturbing trend: Meta consistently chooses growth and engagement metrics over the protection of its most vulnerable users.

As the Senate sponsors of the bipartisan Kids Online Safety Act, we have consistently advocated for stronger safeguards to protect children online. Meta's repeated failures highlight the urgent need for this legislation. It is clear that voluntary measures and internal policies are insufficient when it comes to holding big tech companies like yours accountable.

We call on you to take immediate action to address these egregious lapses. Meta should immediately cease the deployment of AI chatbots that can engage in any form of sexual or romantic conversation with minors. Further, we request that you provide documentation, no later than May 13, 2025, demonstrating the decision-making processes related to the development and oversight of these AI systems. This documentation should include all relevant internal and external communications on this issue.

The safety of our children should never be compromised for the sake of market competition. It is time for Meta to take responsibility and implement meaningful changes to protect young users from harm.

Sincerely,

Harsha Mackburn

Marsha Blackburn United States Senator

Richard Blemin Phal

Richard Blumenthal United States Senator