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MOM WANTS ORLAND PARK LIBRARY TO BLOCK PORN

A southwest suburban mother wants the Orland Park library to stop people from accessing pornography on library computers.

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By Evelyn Holmes

November 4, 2013 (ORLAND PARK, I1l.) -- A southwest suburban mother wants the Orland Park library to stop people from accessing pornography on library computers.

It's an issue that's drawing debate about decency in public places and First Amendment rights. Megan Fox says what's happening at the Orland Park Public Library is wrong.

"They have never responded," she said. "They need to respond."

The southwest suburban mom became enraged after she says she recently visited the library with her children and saw several people on different computers viewing pornography. Her friend Kevin DuJan says he saw it, too.

"I saw three different [people] viewing three different screens of porn," DuJan said.

Police officers were called to the library Monday afternoon as the duo protested the

Country Inn & Suites
Madison, WI
library's policy. Officials at the library cite the First Amendment as the reason they allow patrons to look up anything, including pornography on its adults-only computers as long as the material isn't illegal or obscene.

Computer pods in both the library's children-only section and family area have filters that prohibit access to porn. But Fox says the issue goes beyond First Amendment rights, saying the access creates a dangerous environment for kids and teens. She provided copies of both police and incident reports dating back to 2006.

"We've had seven incidents in 12 years," said Bridget Bittman, Orland Park Public Library.

Nearby public libraries, including those in Mokena and Tinley Park forbid the viewing of pornography on library computers, while others don't.