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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MCLEOD CALLS FOR BAN ON SLASHER FILMS

QUEEN'S PARK --- Ontario Liberal Leader Lyn McLeod today urged the NDP government to ban violent slasher films.

"These films are abhorrent and the viewing of these films cannot be condoned in any way," McLeod told the Legislature.

McLeod urged the government to act immediately on the recommendations in a resolution tabled by Liberal Women's Issue Critic Dianne Poole, which was unanimously passed by the Legislature on April 22, 1993.

Poole's resolution calls on the government to take swift action to stem the spread of slasher films, which graphically depict the torture, mutilation and death of young women. McLeod said the government should:

- * complete the review of Ontario Film Review Board (OFRB) and strengthen the existing rating system to ensure strict compliance with the Theatres Act, which regulates the level of violence in films and videos;
- * step up inspection of videos that are sold or rented to ensure they have been reviewed, classified and approved by the OFRB;
- * impose penalties on unlicensed distributors and retailers who carry videos that have not been approved by the OFRB;
- * attach classification levels to all video cassettes and their covers for sale or rent, and require that an explanation of the classifications be displayed wherever videos are rented or sold.

"We need more than words on this matter, we need action," McLeod said. "Even those who are opposed to censorship would agree that slasher films are intolerable."

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CONTACT:

Frank Switzer
Liberal Communications
(416) 325-7273

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