

Dear Activist Colleague,

The Nation is a good, solid, liberal magazine. A refreshing change from mainstream media, filled with progressive articles you won't find elsewhere.

That's what we thought, too, until we noticed a small ad in its classified section for a sex tourism company specializing in trips to Thailand and Costa Rica.

The ad, which has run weekly since April 5th, reads: "Erotic Vacations with private introductions to friendly, beautiful women. Bendricks International Men's Vacation Club. www.bendricks.com"

A quick trip to the website confirmed that for a few grand, Bendricks will hook you up with "vibrant young adult women," renowned for their "special brand of sexuality," who will cheerfully provide "pleasurable massage and adult entertainment in the privacy of your hotel suite." Should your assigned prostitute prove insufficiently vibrant, you can "change companions daily."

Disturbed, we have contacted The Nation several times, receiving zero response. The ad continues to run week after week.

We are amazed that the staff at The Nation cannot see their own hypocrisy.

Gays and lesbians can't marry? The Nation empathizes.
Wal-Mart employees can't unionize? The Nation decries it.
Anti-globalism protestors mistreated? The Nation is outraged.
Third-world prostitutes servicing rich American men? Whatever.

You are receiving this email because of your efforts to stop violence against women. As you know, prostituted women experience more violence than almost any other group of people on earth. Promoting prostitution and sex tourism is a blatant violation of the progressive principles The Nation claims to hold.

Since The Nation will not respond to our polite requests to drop the Bendricks ad, we are taking our case directly to its other loyal advertisers. We invite you to contact them and explain that they've been buying ad space alongside a sex tourism company that exploits disadvantaged women for profit. Ask for their help in convincing The Nation to refuse advertising dollars from companies that sponsor prostitution among the world's poorest women. And if they don't get it either, gently suggest that you may not be doing much business with them in the future.

Below is contact information for some of the most frequent advertisers in The Nation since April 5th, 2004. As you can guess, most of them are progressive organizations who will (hopefully) be troubled to learn of the Bendricks ad inclusion.

<info deleted because this action has concluded>

The more letters the better, but if you have limited time, contact only the advertisers with ** next to their names. They advertise the most. Please send any responses you get to this address, and feel free to forward this information to appropriate colleagues.

With appreciation for your help,
Anti-Porn Activist Network