

## The Mark Foley Scandal

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In reading the article covering the Mark Foley scandal published by Wikipedia.org, I see many morally unlawful events that have taken place. The first being Mark Foley's unethical actions involving underage boys. He definitely contradicted himself with his own actions. On one hand Foley helped enact the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, which covers certain Internet communications with children under 18, while on the other hand he himself did exactly what this particular child protection and safety act was against and trying to stop. This to me proves that he had no good moral ethics at all when it comes to children. Also, I believe that many members of the Republican Party ignored it and covered it up for as long as they could to protect their own organization. This also shows unethical morals on the Republican Party's part. I do believe that Mark Foley committed a crime. He may not have had physical sexual contact with the pages, but he was trying to lead them up to it. The members of the Democratic Party, I'm sure wanted to see it publicized, but for what reasons? Was their reason for wanting it publicized because of the wrong mark Foley committed or was it to make the Republican Party look bad, which in turn would benefit them? As for both the members of the Republican and Democratic Parties, it is hard to say who is telling the truth about what they really knew about it and when they were advised about the matter.

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark\\_Foley\\_scandal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Foley_scandal)

The article I read published by the Washington Post tells about the good Mark Foley did, but still he ended up doing wrong. It also states that the Democratic Party could take control over the House. This would be gained because of possible resignations of many Republican Party members for their part in covering up the scandal. I do believe that a lot of the members of the Republican Party kept the information under their hats for as long as they could. In their eyes they had to do so as to protect the Republican Party. What they should have done was stand up and correct the wrong that was being done by one of their own members by telling the truth as soon as it was proven. This makes me question the ethical morals of the Republicans. Are they more concerned with the way they look than whether or not children are protected? Our government is here to protect the American citizen including our children. I also question the Democratic Party as to where their ethical morals lie. Are they more concerned with making the Republican Party look bad so that they can gain control of the house or are they really concerned with safety and protection of American children? It is evident that Mark Foley was wrong in his actions. What it boils down to now is who is telling the truth about what they knew. With the war on terrorism in effect, the Democratic Party has a lot to gain, considering that the American people are split in their ideas as to whether or not this war should even be going on. I really believe that most American people want this war over so that their sons and daughters in the military can come home. The war has been going on for quite some time now. I believe that if a Democrat is elected as President once Mr. Bush's term is over, the war will stop. Mark Foley was wrong in his actions and so is the Republican Party for covering it up for so

long if that is what they did, but the whole incident may be the ending of the war in the middle east if the Republican are out and the Democrats are in once Bush is out of office.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/09/29/AR2006092901574.html>

I recently read an article in the East Liverpool Evening Review that Mark Foley is entering rehabilitation for his alcohol problem. It is pointed out that his unethical chatting with young boys over the Internet was caused by alcoholism and the fact that he is gay. It is stated that all the incidents concerning his Internet conversations with young boys was committed while being drunk! I hope the rehabilitation helps him! What about all the other Internet predators? If we let a government official get away with it for so long, how can we stop regular citizens from doing it? Mark Foley got away with it for so long because of his position in the government. I do believe that a regular working citizen will get caught faster. I just recently watched a "Dateline" episode where they were actually setting up online sexual predators. Dan Hauter, Chief of Police for the city of New Waterford, Oh has done an excellent job in catching online sexual predators.

Source: The Evening Review, Tuesday, October 3, 2006