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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National March Against Revenge Porn Comes to Pittsburgh to Speak Out Against Cyber Sex Crimes

Supporters converge on the steps of the historic Pittsburgh City County Building in solidarity for the millions of victims and survivors of cyber bullying, cyber sexual assault and harassment

Pittsburgh, PA – Today cyber civil rights movement 50 Shades of Silence partnered with The March Against Revenge Porn and The BADASS (Battling Against Demeaning and Abusive Selfie Sharing) Army to host the *March Against Revenge Porn: Pittsburgh*, to combat the image-abuse epidemic victimizing millions of Americans: revenge porn. Cyber sexual assault activists and justice seekers gathered on the historic Pittsburgh's Grant Street and at Point Park University for a rally to show support and solidarity for the millions of victims and survivors of cyber sexual assault and to pressure Congress to enact federal legislation criminalizing revenge porn nationwide.

Representatives from Women's March Pittsburgh, Living in Liberty, She Deserves, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Pride Connections, Kink Community, #NotMyMarineCorps, and a number of other cyber bullying, sexual assault and domestic violence organizations were present. City County and State Officials including Washington County Commissioner Diana Irey Vaughan were also in attendance. Commissioner Irey Vaughan expressed her commitment to tackling this issue, as it is one that impacts Pittsburgh and its surrounding communities.

The March Against Revenge Porn movement began with a successful march across the Brooklyn Bridge on April 1, 2017 that helped to spark revenge porn legislation in New York City. This march, which is the second and largest of its kind, encouraged participants to support the ENOUGH Act written by Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA) that criminalizes revenge porn on a federal level, to protect victims without borders across the United States.

"I am honored to be a part of this historic event that has gathered together some of the strongest, most courageous people who are passionate about ending what I've come to know as digital domestic violence," stated Darieth Chisolm, founder of 50 Shades of Silence and an organizer of March Against Revenge Porn: Pittsburgh. "As a victim and survivor, I know what it's like to be silenced and shamed, and it has become a personal mission to seek justice for and restore dignity and respect to the millions of people who've suffered from these horrible crimes."

In 2017, Emmy award-winning television personality and veteran journalist, business coach, author and speaker, Darieth Chisolm, found herself at the center of an online assault that triggered the launch of **50**



Shades of Silence. She was cyber stalked and cyber raped by an ex-boyfriend, who constructed a website with harassing memes, nude photos and videos that were taken while she was asleep, while living with him in Jamaica. He also threatened to kill her if she didn't return to the controlling relationship.

After months of isolation, suffering in shame and silence, Darieth rose from a very humiliating, painful and potentially professionally damaging incident to tell her story of revenge porn and launched **50 Shades of Silence** to shed the light on the lack of civil and criminal justice for perpetrators of these crimes and bring voice and dignity to the victims of cyber harassment and abuse. The multimedia project includes a feature length documentary, mobile app and integrative website that offers victims and survivors a platform to share stories, get access to resources that provide education around Internet safety, and benefit from motivational and empowerment training materials.

Following the march, organizers are encouraging anyone who wants to assist in the effort to sign a petition encouraging members of Congress to support the Enough Act and enact legislation that criminalizes revenge porn on a federal level. Supporters can TEXT the number 44222 and enter USEYOURVOICE to sign the petition, which is also available at www.50ShadesofSilence.com and the 50 Shades of Silence Mobile App on the Google Play and Apple Stores.

For interview requests or more information please email: press@50shadesofsilence.com or call 202-670-5729.

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50 Shades of Silence is a global social justice movement and feature length documentary. This multimedia project also includes a website with resources, services, and motivational and empowerment training materials to help victims find their *Everyday Courage*. The project is designed to educate, advocate, and bring awareness to the needs for stricter law enforcement and stiffer penalties for perpetrators, encourage social responsibility among online companies and Internet users, and restore dignity and respect to victims and survivors.

For more information on the campaign, resources and to hear more of Darieth's story please visit www.50shadesofsilence.com