

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH **METRO** FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2003

Man who videotaped sex with daughter gets life

FBI is reviewing another porn tape showing babies

BY VALERIE SCHREMP
Of the Post-Dispatch

A St. Charles County man was sentenced to six life terms in prison for having sex with his 11-year-old daughter and making a two-hour videotape of the acts.

The man, 38, was sentenced as a "prior and persistent offender" and is considered a "predatory sex offender." He has admitted molesting his 7-year-old niece in Indiana, assaulting another young girl in Arizona and breaking into an elementary school in Arizona.

He served prison time for those crimes.

He was sentenced Thursday in St. Charles County Circuit Court by Judge Lucy Rauch. She heard his case in a bench trial in September and found him guilty of two counts of statutory rape, four

counts of sodomy, two counts of incest and two counts of child abuse. The Post-Dispatch is not reporting the man's name in order to protect the identity of the girl, now 12. He will be at least 74 before he is eligible for parole.

Prior to sentencing, prosecutor Ross Buehler called the videotape "vile and despicable." The tape shows the man giving marijuana to the girl, adjusting the camera to get specific shots, and encouraging her.

"I've been waiting so long for this," he says at one point.

Testimony Thursday revealed that police discovered the man had a second videotape showing images of child pornography, some involving children who appeared to be about

1 year old. The FBI is reviewing that tape.

Buehler said the man should spend the rest of his life in prison, if only to be sure he doesn't touch another girl again.

Public Defender Tracy Ambs said he should be punished only for crimes he has committed.

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Videotape

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"I don't think (he) should be punished for acts he may or may not commit in the future," she said.

Police first began investigating the man in April after his mother — the girl's grandmother — discovered the videotape.

The girl is now seeing a psychologist every week and says she does not remember any of the incidents, the girl's mother said after the sentencing.

"She's good, she's being a kid," her mother said. "She's playing basketball, she's wanting to do cheerleading. She's getting into this teenage mode. There's a lot of underlying problems we may not see until later."

Still, the mother said that the girl will be upset when she hears her father will spend the rest of his life in prison.

"That's the sad part," the mother said. "She loved him so much, and he did this to her."

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"She loved him so much, and he did this to her."

- Mother of the victim