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Statement of Charlotte Lewis re Roman Polanski

I came forward because I heard that Roman Polanski is fighting his return to the United States to face sentencing for his previous crime against a 13 year old victim and that his legal team is portraying his previous offense against a minor as an isolated instance.

I am also a victim of Roman Polanski. He sexually abused me in the worst possible way when I was just 16 years old, four years after he fled the United States to avoid sentencing for his crime. In addition to the fact that both myself and his previous victim were underage I believe that there are other similarities in the crimes that he committed.

It is very important that the District Attorney and the Swiss authorities be armed with this information as they decide Mr. Polanski's fate. I have traveled to the United States at my expense to make sure that justice is finally done and that Mr. Polanski gets what he deserves. Mr. Polanski knew that I was only 16 years old when he met me and forced himself upon me in his apartment in Paris. He took advantage of me and I have lived with the effects of his behavior ever since it occurred. All I want is justice.

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