



Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress  
c/o A. J. Pappanikou Center in Developmental Disabilities  
University of Connecticut  
263 Farmington Avenue, MC 6222  
Farmington, CT 06030  
Toll free: 888.486.8537  
[www.ctdownsyndrome.org](http://www.ctdownsyndrome.org)

## **NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!**

### ***The Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress calls for boycott of film and related merchandise.***

August 12, 2008, Farmington, CT – The Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress (CDSC) has joined with a coalition of disability-rights organizations to condemn the new film "Tropic Thunder," which the group says contains damaging and hurtful hate speech about individuals who have intellectual disabilities. The group is asking their neighbors here in Connecticut to boycott this film and not purchase any of the related merchandise that will soon be available in stores.

According to the CDSC, one of the most unfortunate consequences of this movie will be the distribution of merchandise that displays offensive lines like "never go full retard" on clothing and other items that students may bring to school.

Walter Glomb, the group's president, said, "We believe that exhibiting such merchandise to our children in school interferes with their public education and we respectfully request that schools prohibit the presence of all such items in accordance with Connecticut's laws and regulations regarding bullying in schools. Furthermore, we believe that any intimidating speech directed at specific students in face-to-face confrontations must be punished."

"Our neighbors who have intellectual or cognitive disabilities deserve our respect and support, not the demeaning slurs that are featured in this film," added Mr. Glomb.

The Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress ([www.ctdownsyndrome.org](http://www.ctdownsyndrome.org)) is a private, non-profit, parent organization founded in 1986 and staffed by parent volunteers that promotes opportunity, equity and inclusion for individuals with Down syndrome and their families. The CDSC provides information for new parents of babies with Down syndrome, a quarterly newsletter, a web site and a message board. Activities include local playgroups, "Parents' Nights Out," local social events, a summer picnic and an annual convention for parents and professionals. The group's activities are funded entirely by member contributions and charitable donations from individuals and businesses.

#### Contact:

Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress:  
Walter Glomb, President  
Telephone: 888.486.8537  
Email: [manager@ctdownsyndrome.org](mailto:manager@ctdownsyndrome.org)

Mailing address:  
c/o University of Connecticut  
263 Farmington Avenue, MC 6222  
Farmington, CT 06030