November 2, 2019

To Whom It May Concern;

I have known Eric Francis Coppolino since early 2002. I was the area's only maternity care provider and a health consultant at the local health food store in a small close-knit community of 10-12,000 residents, depending on the season.

We have shared many experiences over the years, both personal and professional. Eric has called on me for my knowledge in his own health and healing, and he has helped me in my personal grief work. We have collaborated on many clients with complicated health issues at very vulnerable times in their lives.

Eric has dedicated a great part of his career to supporting and educating women to have clear, safe boundaries and fully informed choices regarding their sexual health. He is deeply respectful of women.

Eric can be bluntly honest. His wry wit and sense of humor are sometimes not understood. His belief in polyamory is not widely shared in this country. While some might find Eric's writings on sexual matters uncomfortable, his compassion, insight, teaching and photography help women safely explore their sexuality. As a women's sexual and reproductive health professional for over 20 years, I believe Eric's encouragement of self-love and masturbation as a part of sexual health is very healthy.

The suggestion that Eric would be sexually inappropriate in any way is ludicrous. His employers' refusal to support him against these claims, and indeed his dismissal without question or just cause lacks integrity and demonstrates a "guilty until proven innocent" mentality which is unethical and especially disgraceful to the media profession.

If I had to choose one word to describe Eric Francis Coppolino, it would be "safe." I highly respect him. His work in sexual exploration and education shows the same respect to women as does Betty Dodson, Simone De Beauvoir, and Natalie Angier.

I find Eric's word and his respect of personal boundaries to be impeccable -- in his personal relationships, his teaching, and his investigative journalism, where he is thorough and objective. He is honorable and trustworthy in every way.

With great respect,

Gail Murphy, L.M., C.P.M Vashon Midwifery Service