Profit from Cheap Labor

- We sell 600,000 shirts a year. Every shirt costs £50, but the shirts cost only £5 to make in Asia. -- Doug Hall, chairman Newcastle United FC
- We get 11p an hour for an 11-hour day, six or seven days a week. -- Melanie, Filipino worker
- If they knew I was in a trade union I’d be sacked, maybe beaten up. -- Hasina, Bangladeshi worker
- We have a factory in China where we have 250 people. We own them; it’s our factory. We pay them $40 a month and they work 28 days a month. They work from 7 am to 11 pm with two breaks for lunch and dinner. They all sleep together, 16 people to a room, stacked on four bunks to a corner. Generally, they’re young girls that come from the hills. -- Irwan Gordon, President AvaLine
- Clothes sold in Britain by some of fashion’s biggest names are made in sweatshops where female workers are tricked into bonded labor and banned from becoming pregnant. Some were forced to have abortions if they did. -- Fran Abrams
- Hasina, a textile worker in Bangladesh works normal hours (8 am to 5 pm), then continues on until 9 or 10 pm. Occasionally she has to work all night. Headaches, exhaustion, needles through fingers are some of the health hazards. Her end-of-month take-home pay is £19 ($10.).

Canada: What Causes Men to Buy Sex?

Sex isn’t the main factor behind men buying prostitutes, even though there’s obviously a sexual act involved. “It’s more about power ... about control and violence,” said an Edmonton police detective.

When a man is violent to his wife, girlfriend or even a woman he picked up at the bar, it is often reported to police. The chance of law enforcement being involved when a prostitute is assaulted is considerably lower.

With street activity reportedly increasing, discovering the root causes of why men buy sex is necessary. The executive director of the Prostitution Awareness and Action Foundation of Edmonton (PAAFE) said, “They’re buying someone to make them do what they want them to do. It’s hard to find a common denominator, but there are a number of men, who buy sex, who are violent and abusive. Violence is part of prostitution.”

Much of the violence goes unreported. Of the 28 prostitutes who were murdered [in 2005] in the Edmonton area, only one man had been jailed [as of a year later].

The johns come from all different ages, professions and socio-economic
Atlanta: Hub for Prostitution of Children

The overall market for sex with children is booming in many parts of the U.S. But Atlanta, GA has become a hub of child prostitution and other forms of commercial child sexual exploitation because it has a thriving hotel and convention center with a sophisticated airport and ground transportation network.

The juvenile sex trade in Atlanta is “a huge, huge industry,” said the project director of a federally-sponsored intervention program. A policy adviser on women’s issues for Atlanta’s mayor agreed. “Sex tourism is coming south. There is advertising on the Internet and other places that actually targets the New York market, urging men to come to Atlanta for the day and fly back home that night.”

A study released by the Atlanta Women’s Agenda noted that the girls are highly vulnerable to rape, assault, robbery and murder, not to mention arrest, incarceration and profound psychological risks.

The risks for pimps, and other exploiters of children, are low and the payoff is enormous. Demand is increasing for younger and younger prostitutes, partly because of the cultural emphasis on the sexual appeal of very young women and girls, and partly because of the widely held belief among men that there is less risk of contracting a disease from younger women. (Adapted: http://select.nytimes.com/2006/10/19/opinion/19herbert.html?hp)

Forced Labor Unaddressed

According to the research and advocacy group Free the Slaves, forced labor is largely concentrated in illegal or minimally regulated industries: nearly half of trafficking cases involve forced prostitution, about 27 percent involve domestic service, and manufacturing and farm work collectively account for approximately 15 percent.

For anti-slavery activists, the discrepancy between official records and the vague estimates indicates that the slave labor market continues to defy both the law and efforts to quantify the problem.

Contemporary abolitionists say that modern-day slavery represents the convergence of inequality, poverty and globalization. Those who trade human beings are capitalizing on market demands created by social and government systems that permit this most extreme brand of exploitation.

Human rights and labor groups stress that rather than hard-line law enforcement policies against undocumented immigrants, what is needed is a broad-based, humanitarian approach, placing slavery on a continuum of exploitation in the global labor system. To effectively uproot the market forces that breed slavery, the government should improve worker protections, reform the immigration system to allow more immigrants to access the mainstream workforce, and foster the independent efforts of organizations that work directly with affected communities. (http://newstandardnews.net/content/index.cfm/items/2032; http://newstandardnews.net/content/index.cfm/items/2113)

Canada cont. from pg. 1

and racial backgrounds. “It’s a United Nations of misbehavior,” said a detective, who has caught aboriginal chiefs, lawyers, plumbers, salespeople and even fellow officers buying sex.

“It could be any man. I’ve arrested a priest soliciting near his church.”

‘Johns’ tend to have problems similar to those faced by the women they solicit, including drug and alcohol addiction, poverty and mental health issues. Many ‘johns’ have grown up in abusive homes. Up to 15 per cent of ‘johns’ are pedophiles looking to have sex with underage girls who are ‘fresh’ - a commercial sex term.

Some men may buy sex because they are unhappy with their personal relationships. Detective Morrissey stated, “It’s the way they get a little bit of power back—it makes them feel good. But that’s someone’s mom or daughter. It’s sad—I’m very disappointed in my gender some days.”

The prostitution offender program, or ‘john school,’ is an important deterrent program coordinated by PAAFE. Eligible men caught buying sex, who choose to participate in the day course, learn about the health risks of buying sex and hear stories from people and communities victimized by the sex trade.

Noting how sorry graduates feel about buying sex, Morrissey commented, “In one day, they learn that prostitution is not a victimless crime. If only we could educate all of our adolescent men and adults.” (http://www.vueweekly.com/articles/default.aspx?i=4645)
Integration of the Human Rights of Women and a Gender Perspective:

Report by Sigma Huda, Special Rapporteur on the human rights aspects of the victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children

On September 20, 2006 the U.N. Human Rights Council heard a presentation by Sigma Huda. Her report, covering the period January-December 2005, was divided into three sections. Section one outlines the Rapporteur’s activities during the reporting period, while sections two and three are devoted to a thematic study on the relationship between trafficking and the demand for commercial sexual exploitation, followed by conclusions and recommendations. Among the recommendations are a human rights approach to trafficking and criminalizing the use of prostituted persons. The Rapporteur also recommended information, education and advocacy campaigns.

What follows is excerpted from the Report.

B. What does “demand” mean?

50. Article 9, paragraph 5, of the Protocol states as follows: “States Parties shall adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to trafficking.”

51. Three issues deserve particular emphasis:

(a) Demand must be understood in relation to exploitation, irrespective of whether that exploitation also constitutes trafficking;
(b) Demand must be understood as that which fosters exploitation, not necessarily as a demand directly for that exploitation;
(c) It is not necessary for demand itself to lead to trafficking; rather, it is sufficient that the exploitation fostered by the demand leads to trafficking.

52. The demand side of trafficking is not, therefore, properly understood as the demand for a trafficking victim’s prostitution, labour or services. Rather, demand must be understood expansively, as any act that fosters any form of exploitation that, in turn, leads to trafficking.

53. To foster is to “support ... encourage or help to grow [or] to promote the growth of”. For example, the use of digitally created pornography, in which no actual person is used to make the images, may nonetheless be deemed to foster sexual exploitation.

54. These comments should not be construed as minimizing the role of actors who are typically understood to constitute the demand side of trafficking (e.g., prostitute-users, slave-holders, etc.), but merely to clarify that direct involvement in the exploitative market is not a prerequisite for locating a person as part of the demand side of trafficking.

On Demand and Trafficking Generally

57. Paradigmatically, the demand side of trafficking consists of actors such as prostitute users, slave-holders and people who purchase products created through trafficked labour. Many of these same actors also fall within the definition of “traffickers”. However, the overlap between these two categories is not complete; for while every trafficker constitutes part of the demand side of trafficking (because they foster the exploitation that leads to trafficking), not everyone on the demand side of trafficking necessarily satisfies the definition of “trafficker”.

58. For example, consumers who purchase goods produced through trafficked labour are properly understood as part of the demand side of that trafficking market, but they are not themselves traffickers, since they have not committed any of the five actions specified in the act element of the Protocol definition of trafficking (i.e., they have not recruited, transported, transferred, harboured or received any person; rather, they have merely received goods - albeit goods produced through trafficked labour).

59. With respect to many trafficking markets, States parties need not eradicate demand simply because that demand is occasionally met by goods produced by trafficked labour. For example, the consumer market for athletic shoes could be met occasionally by shoes produced by people who have been subjected to one or more of the means of trafficking listed in subparagraph (a) of the Protocol.
The Gendered Demand for Commercial Sex
64. Buying sex is a particularly gendered act. It is something men do as men. It is an act in which the actor conforms to a social role that involves certain male-gendered ways of behaving, thinking, knowing and possessing social power.
65. The act of prostitution by definition joins together two forms of social power (sex and money) in one interaction. In both realms (sexuality and economics) men hold substantial and systematic power over women. In prostitution, these power disparities are merged in an act which both assigns and reaffirms the dominant social status of men over the subordinated social status of women.

Racism and Demand for Commercial Sex
66. The demand for commercial sex is often further grounded in social power disparities of race, nationality, caste and colour.
67. Some prostitute-users actively seek prostituted women and children of different nationalities, races or ethnic groups for the purpose of exploiting these power disparities, engaging in a “highly sexualised form of racism”, by which they rationalize to themselves that woman and children of different races, nationalities or ethnic groups are not harmed by sexual exploitation.
68. In addition to creating conditions which facilitate trafficking per se, racism and prejudice against ethnic minorities create conditions which place prostituted women and children at greater risk from additional harm from both traffickers and prostitute-users.
69. In a world which continues to bear the hallmarks of white supremacy and male dominance, women and girls oppressed on the basis of race, nationality, caste and/or colour are especially vulnerable to sexual exploitation. Prostitute-users often abuse this vulnerability and, in so doing, abuse their own position of relative social power over trafficked persons.

Supply and Demand: Which Factor Drives the Market?
70. Does supply or demand drive the sex-trafficking market? While some claim that demand for the use of prostituted persons is the “most immediate and proximate cause of the expansion of the sex industry”, others claim that it may equally be true that “supply generates demand rather than the other way around”. This debate can be understood in one of two ways, and the distinction lies in one’s understanding of the term “supply”.
71. If supply is understood to include all aspects of the supply side of the sex-trafficking market, then this debate presents a false choice. For, if supply includes the economic, social, legal, political, institutional and cultural conditions which make women and children vulnerable to being trafficked, then it is clear that both supply and demand drive the sex-trafficking market.
72. In this sense, it is true that “markets cannot be understood in abstraction from the broader social, economic, political and institutional context in which they operate”, and “governments are heavily implicated in the construction of the [sex trafficking] market through their (often gender discriminatory) policies on immigration and asylum, employment, economic development, welfare, education and so on”.

Huda cont. pg. 5
Awareness

“We have failed miserably as a country in rooting out trafficking victims and traffickers. We know that people... are not asking hard questions of what’s going on in their own communities. They’re not demanding that there be investigations, because they don’t know that it could happen in their community.”

Jolene Smith, Executive Director, Free the Slaves.

Huda cont. from pg. 4

73. If, however, supply is understood to include only trafficking victims themselves (and not the unjust conditions which create their vulnerability) - then it must be made clear that supply does not drive the market; for the question of whether supply or demand drives the sex trafficking market necessarily calls for a normative judgement to be made in determining who should be deemed responsible for the existence and expansion of this market.

74. As a normative matter, it is clear that responsibility for the sex-trafficking market lies with prostitute-users, traffickers, and the economic, social, legal, political, institutional and cultural conditions which oppress women and children throughout the world. It would be a grave injustice to impute responsibility for driving the sex market to its victims themselves. Such a claim is tantamount to victim blaming, and constitutes a further violation of the human rights of trafficking victims.

Globalization and Demand: Global Wrongs, Local Harms

75. In response to the joint thematic study questionnaire, many governments noted that a globalized, free market economy has increased the demand for cheap labour and services, including prostitution.

76. Undoubtedly, globalization, along with the continuing oppression of women, has created a gendered context for migration, and punitive immigration policies undoubtedly violate the human rights of trafficking victims.

77. However, it is misleading to conceptualize the demand side of trafficking as principally an issue of globalization. For, whilst trafficking occurs systematically throughout the world and is intricately linked with the processes of globalization, the use and abuse of trafficking victims by those who constitute the demand side of trafficking occurs as a local phenomenon as well.

78. Thus, the Special Rapporteur wishes to highlight the importance of understanding demand as both a global and a local problem. It is global in the sense that it drives international sex trafficking and violates fundamental human rights (which in itself raises issues of global concern). Yet it is local in the sense that it is happening everywhere - in our own local villages, towns, cities - mostly carried out by men who are part of the core fabric of our local communities.”

(Ed.: The Report continues.
See pg. 9 for the link.)

‘Passion and Power’

Written by Irish Columban missionary, Fr. Shay Cullen, ‘Passion and Power’ made the non-fiction best selling list in Ireland in just ten days. It tells a dramatic story of his 37 years fighting the sex trade victimizing children in the Philippines. It describes the struggle to defend workers’ rights and provide positive life giving alternatives to victims and people marginalized and abandoned. This book tells a remarkable story of the development of Fair Trade in the Philippines as a life giving solution to thousands of craftspeople and farmers.

It is meant to inspire and encourage readers to work for the protection of children and speak out against all kinds of abuse everywhere.

Mary Robinson, the former President of Ireland and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, wrote in the book’s introduction:

“Passion and Power is an apt way of describing the author’s conviction and commitment, shared by his team, in defending human rights which come across with inspirational force. The heartwarming stories of the children rescued from sex slavery and terrible prison conditions give us all encouragement to work on for the realization of universal respect for human rights and non-violence as the most influential way to bring peace to our divided and anxious world. I strongly encourage everyone to read this inspiring book.”

Marking the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery in December 2006, outgoing UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan called on governments,

“to step up measures to eliminate the entrenched poverty which continues to render our fellow human beings vulnerable to enslavement. And I encourage people everywhere to hold their Governments accountable.”
Advocacy

Victim Advocates Respond

Signers of the following excerpted statement, expressing gratitude for the Report by Sigma Huda, are groups that provide services to victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation, or who themselves are survivors of trafficking and prostitution or represent women who have been victims/survivors.

"1. The report of the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking has targeted the most invisible aspect of the trafficking chain, which is the demand.

Prompted by Article 9.5 of the Palermo Protocol that encourages States Parties “to adopt or strengthen measures...to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children that leads to trafficking,” the Special Rapporteur has written a rich report addressing key aspects of the demand. In addressing the demand, she has reminded us that the 3 pillars supporting trafficking are the buyers, the bought and the business, and that all three need to be emphasized in considering the human rights aspects of victims of trafficking.

2. ... The Special Rapporteur’s report underlines the responsibility of demand countries, or countries of destination, to discourage the demand -- including by legislative means – that promotes trafficking. ....

4. The Special Rapporteur’s report draws attention to the fact that the largest numbers of victims of trafficking are subjected to trafficking for sexual exploitation.... Indeed, those who work with women and girls trafficked for domestic labor report that a large number of them have been sexually exploited as well. .....With great clarity, the Special Rapporteur has addressed the issue of demand and placed it at the center of a human rights analysis of trafficking. She has elucidated the links between trafficking and prostitution. And she has written her report within the framework of gender equality and with guidance from the three human rights conventions that address trafficking: the 1949 Convention, CEDAW and the Palermo Protocol. We are grateful for and enlightened by her contribution.”

Prevent Child Victims By Addressing ‘Demand’

There is little reliable information on the number of British child sex tourists who come to Vietnam. “We estimate that 3% of the UK’s registered sex offenders travel,” said the deputy director-general of Britain’s national crime squad, referring to the 18,000 people on the government’s register. “But I can’t say where they all go.”

Investigators do know a flourishing prostitution industry exists in Vietnam, just as in Thailand, suggesting that the supply is a response to the demand. The Blue Dragon Children’s Foundation based in Vietnam said that much of society there pretends that the sex tourism industry does not exist. A man who has sex with a boy is considered gay rather than a pedophile. In Vietnam, where the age of consent is 16, penalties for sexual contact with a minor vary, but potentially a maximum penalty is death before a firing squad.

In a report published by the International Labor Organization several thousand children work as prostitutes in Vietnam. The number of people traveling to the region has increased, due partly to cheaper airfares. Now governments, non-governmental organizations and the tourism industry cooperate much more closely to tackle the problem.

Child sex tourists’ are targeted by training programs like the one run by Childwise, the Australian branch of ECPAT - an international organization campaigning to end child sex prostitution. Working with everyone from government officials and tourism authorities to taxi drivers and hotel cleaners, the training encourages people to speak up. Childwise also launched a campaign across nine southeast Asian nations in 2005 to target both locals and the sex tourists. They used road signs stating, ‘Don’t turn away; turn them in’ and ‘If you’re going away for sex tourism you’re going away for 20 years’.

Countries across the world increasingly recognize that responsibility for stamping out child sex tourism is not just a matter for the authorities where abuse is taking place, but for countries from where the tourists come. Countries must enact legislation, which enables their citizens to be prosecuted for acts committed overseas. In Britain the Sex Offenders Act was passed in 2004; but a year later there were no successful prosecutions. Australia passed similar legislation a decade ago and is reaping results. Over 25 people were convicted for extra-territorial offenses, including a man sentenced to 18 months for abusing a girl in Vietnam. Three men were charged with pedophile offenses in the Philippines.

Recognition that protecting vulnerable children and providing them with education and ways out of poverty is also crucial. In some areas of Vietnam businesses donate to a project, which provides street children with safe accommodation. “There’s no getting around the fact that poverty is the number one reason for this,” said a regional campaigner with ECPAT. “Pedophiles know this and exploit it.”

(http://www.guardian.co.uk/child/story/0,7369,1051301,00.html)
“The State Department’s first Ambassador-at-Large Against International Slavery, John R. Miller, recently ended four years of service to President George W. Bush and Secretary Condoleezza Rice. As he reflected on his experience helping to nurture a modern abolitionist movement, he drafted a recommendation on the importance of using clear, accurate language when describing the conditions of slave life.”

Paula R. Goode, Acting Director

A Statement from Ambassador John R. Miller

“Language is as important in fighting modern-day slavery, also known as human trafficking, as it was in fighting historic slavery.

In earlier centuries to avoid facing up to the suffering of slaves, words such as ‘houseboy,’ ‘field hand,’ and ‘servant’ were used. Today, words such as ‘forced laborer,’ ‘sex worker,’ ‘child soldier,’ and ‘child sex worker’ are commonly used.

These words require scrutiny. Laborers forced to work on a plantation, or in a factory, may be ‘forced laborers’ but they are also victims of slavery. Children kidnapped and forced to be killing machines may be ‘child soldiers’ but they are also victims of slavery. At least there is some legal foundation for the previous words, although, they verbally anesthetize the abuse to the victim of slavery.

The most egregious use of language, however, is ‘sex worker’ and ‘child sex worker.’ People called ‘sex workers’ did not choose prostitution the way most of us choose work occupations as pointed out by President Bush’s Directive issued four years ago. After all, who would freely choose an ‘occupation’ in which the death rate from murder and disease is scores of times (above) the norm? Clinical research shows vast majorities of people in prostitution are subject to trauma, violence, rape and 89 percent want to escape. These 89 percent are victims of slavery. As for ‘child sex workers,’ under international laws as well as the laws of almost every nation, children are not old enough to consent to or choose prostitution. And children, many not even teenagers, by some estimates, make up almost 50 percent of those in prostitution in the world.

Of course one can rationalize words such as ‘sex worker’ and ‘child sex worker’ in an effort to avoid a demeaning label such as ‘prostitute’; however, there are other substitutes such as ‘women used in prostitution’ or ‘sexually exploited children’ that are neither pejorative nor pretend that violence to women and children is ‘work’!

What is occurring is the use of language to justify modern-day slavery, to dignify the perpetrators and the industries that enslave. Governments, non-governmental organizations, and citizens who care about fighting human trafficking and want to break the cycle of stigmatization and victimization should not use words such as ‘sex worker’ or ‘child sex worker.’ For these reasons, I am directing the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons to encourage grantees and contractors to avoid use of the terms ‘sex worker’ and ‘child sex worker’ and I am advising all U.S. agencies issuing anti-trafficking in person contracts and grants to do the same.

To abolish modern-day slavery we must not be afraid to call slavery by its real, despicable name.”

Director, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons
Chairman, Interagency Senior Policy Operating Group on Trafficking in Persons
**Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter**

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**National Human Trafficking Resource Center**

The HHS 24/7 hotline (1-888-3737-888) has been renamed (NHTRC) and upgraded. Its aim is to connect potential victims in need of rescue to first responders or NGO victim service providers. The hotline also serves as an information referral service in response to any human trafficking inquiry.

- Operators are answering phone calls 24/7, year-round, in multiple languages
- Staff members are regularly briefed on all available resources and new information, (e.g., local service providers, assisting child victims of trafficking, etc.)
- Access for anyone to the Resource Center staff via e-mail. All e-mails will receive a response within 48 hours or sooner and are available in multiple languages at the following addresses:
  - humantraffickingenglish
  - humantraffickingspanish
  - humantraffickingchinese
  - humantraffickingpolish
  - humantraffickingrussian
  (each followed by: @covenanthouse.org)
- FAQ’s on human trafficking are posted to the ACF website by Resource Center staff. Staff regularly monitors and responds to other questions posed through the FAQ mailbox address found at: http://faq.acf.hhs.gov/cgi-bin/acfrightnow.cfg/php/enduser/std_alp.php

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**Informative Web Sites:**

Each contains information related to human trafficking

- **Report of the Special Rapporteur, Sigma Huda**
  (E/CN.4/2006/62, Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3)

- **Passion and Power**

- **‘TRADE’ Trailer**

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**Educational Materials for Parishes**

Sheila Novak SDS has compiled a practical guide for parish staff to use in educating their faith community about human trafficking and providing for them realistic actions to address the issue. For a free copy of the 33-page packet contact Sheila at: stoptraffick@aol.com

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**Thank You**

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- Mr. and Mrs. van Tiflin
  Saginaw, MI

- Sheila and Andrew List
  Ada, MI

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**Stop Trafficking!**

is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of Stop Trafficking!


To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please use this e-mail address: jeansdls2006@yahoo.com

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**Action**

**‘TRADE: Welcome to America’**

This movie, scheduled for early 2007, tells the trafficking story of a 13-year old girl, trapped in the nightmare world of sexual slavery and befriended by a young Polish woman. They are forced to move through an unspeakable terrain of sex trade ‘tunnels’ between Mexico and the U.S.

Kevin Kline plays a Texas cop who joins a Mexico City teenager on a desperate quest to find the boy’s sister.

As these four people forge friendships in the darkest of circumstances, TRADE emerges as an emotional tale of survival in the wake of tragedy and loss of faith.

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**HHS Materials**

Orders for HHS materials will only be accepted through: www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/form.htm

Most will be shipped within three business days.

For questions or comments concerning the NHTRC (see col. 2) or materials please contact Andrea Lange, Project Director, Lockheed Martin Aspen Systems Corporation at 301-519-5205 or Gil Ortiz, Project Manager, Covenant House of New York City at 212-727-4021.

To direct any questions or comments regarding Rescue & Restore contact: traffickings@acf.hhs.gov or 1-866-401-5510

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**Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline**

National Human Trafficking Resource Center
1.888.3737.888

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**National Human Trafficking Resource Center**

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Jean Schafer, SDS