Stop Trafficking!

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter

December 2007 Vol. 5 No. 12

This issue highlights web links to use in educating oneself regarding human trafficking.

Web Sites: Human Trafficking

The images of the various websites featured are not meant to be readable, but only to give you an impression of how the site is structured. Use the URL addresses to access the actual sites and browse at your own convenience.

UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

The site contains reports, news, and testimonies from international trafficking cases. There are awareness raising campaigns and projects. Here one may access the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons.

UNODC Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (GIFT)
http://www.ungift.org

In preparation for the UN-Gift Forum to be held in Vienna February 13-15, 2008 there will be thematic discussions on issues including: children in armed conflict; bonded and forced labour; the role of religious communities in fighting human trafficking; depiction of human trafficking in the media, including movies; the role of the private sector in fighting human trafficking.

The Vienna Forum will focus on three themes:
- Vulnerability: what factors put people at risk?
- Impact: human faces and humanitarian costs.
- Initiatives: to be generated and implemented globally after the Vienna Forum. Projects that prevent and fight human trafficking will be chosen and evaluated on their ability to make a real difference in the lives of those most vulnerable to, and affected by, human trafficking.

International Office for Migration (IOM)
http://www.iom.int/jahia/jsp/index.jsp

IOM is an intergovernmental organization established in 1951. IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. It comprises 120 member states and 91 observers including NGOs. There are more than 340 field locations, 5,500 staff working on more than 1,600 projects.

The site has extensive information on global issues related to migration including: law, research, media, activities and publications.

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The purpose of this website is to bring government and NGOs in the East Asia and Pacific together to cooperate and learn from each other’s experiences in their efforts to combat human trafficking. The site has country-specific information, such as national laws and action plans and contact information on useful governmental agencies. It also describes NGO activities in different countries with their contact information.

In the Asian Regional Initiative Against Trafficking (ARIAT) meeting in 2000, and in other international initiatives, the participants proposed to promote cooperation and partnership among their governments, NGOs, international organizations, private sector, and civil society organizations in prevention, protection, reintegration and prosecution aspects of trafficking in persons. It was suggested that countries should build regional cooperation networks, including cooperation through the Internet, to combat the issue of human trafficking. The HumanTrafficking.org project is being implemented by the Academy for Educational Development with funding provided by the U.S. State Department.

You may sign up on the site to receive the newsletter, as well as view links to Asian countries and to lists of resources.
Awareness

http://www.captivedaughters.org

Captive Daughters was the first anti-trafficking group established in California. It focuses solely on ending the sexual bondage of female adolescents and children. The organization began when the founding director learned firsthand of sex trafficking in Nepal. Upon returning to the U.S. in 1995 she discovered a fragile network of groups struggling to educate the public on trafficking both here and abroad. In an effort to strengthen the movement, she and a committed group of individuals established Captive Daughters as a non-profit organization in 1997.

The site has a list of interesting articles, books, and films on the issues, as well as UN declarations and U.S. laws that pertain. There is an entire section dedicated to the issue of 'demand'.

Captive Daughters presented two conferences on the subject of demand: one in 2003 (Demand Dynamics: The Forces of Demand in International Sex Trafficking) and one in 2005 (Pornography: Driving the Demand for International Sex Trafficking). The site contains information about each of these conferences.

http://www.prostitutionresearch.com

Prostitution Research and Education (PRE), founded in 1995, is a nonprofit organization that conducts research on prostitution, pornography and trafficking, and offers education and consultation to researchers, survivors, the public and policymakers. PRE's goal is to abolish the institution of prostitution while at the same time advocating for alternatives to trafficking and prostitution - including emotional and physical healthcare for women in prostitution.

The root of the problem of trafficking for prostitution is men's demand for prostitution. Emphasizing the roots of prostitution and trafficking in racism and poverty as well as lethal sexism, PRE collaborates with other organizations in all projects.

The web site contains information related to: how prostitution works, laws, trafficking, services for victims, ways to get involved and an ongoing blog by Dr. Melissa Farley PhD, the founder.

http://www.vitalvoices.org

Vital Voices works to raise awareness about trafficking in women and girls, assists victims sold into slavery in the US, and trains women leaders around the world to fight trafficking in their own countries.

Through the Vital Voices Global Leadership Institute at Georgetown University, emerging leaders come together to receive instruction from top anti-trafficking experts, gain critical field experience, and return home with new skills, alliances, and ongoing support for their work. Members of the Vital Voices Network partner with government agencies, social service centers, counselors, the legal community, and other NGOs to help women and girls who are caught into modern-day slavery.

In 2004, Vital Voices worked with government officials and nongovernmental leaders from Japan, Hungary, Russia, Belarus, India and Cambodia as they strengthened outreach networks and drafted anti-trafficking legislation for their countries. Vital Voices includes at least one segment on trafficking of women and girls in each of its leadership programs, so that participants gain understanding about this horrific form of exploitation and ways to combat it.

Vital Voices publishes a bi-monthly electronic newsletter, the Trafficking Alert, to keep anti-trafficking advocates informed of important developments from around the world in the fight against trafficking, and to help raise global awareness of the issue.

Vital Voices has also established an annual award honoring those individuals who are making a difference on trafficking, thereby calling attention to the heroic work being done, and the challenges that remain. It reaches out to news organizations, media producers, members of Congress, U.S. government agencies, and others to focus attention on trafficking. In addition, Vital Voices is working closely with several UN agencies to help distribute a public service announcement in the US to educate the public about the international trade in human beings and warn potential victims about the dangers of trafficking.

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The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women-International (CATW)
http://www.catwinternational.org/

CATW is a non-governmental organization that promotes women’s human rights by working internationally to combat sexual exploitation in all its forms. Founded in 1988, CATW was the first international non-governmental organization to focus on human trafficking, especially sex trafficking of women and girls. CATW obtained Category II Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council in 1989.

It is a fundamental human right to be free of sexual exploitation in all its forms. Women and girls have the right to sexual integrity and autonomy.

The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women supports campaigns, programs and projects in many different parts of the world and its web site is available in nine languages. Among the campaigns are:

- Measures to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: Addressing gaps in current anti-trafficking programs and policies that avoid focusing on gender equality, the demand, and the links between trafficking and prostitution.
- The Prevention Project: A multi-tiered project to prevent sex trafficking and sexual exploitation by developing best practices in several areas of the world.
- Prostitution Law Reform: To challenge acceptance of the sex industry, normalization of prostitution as work, and to de-romanticize legalization initiatives in various countries.
- Human Rights Advocacy: International presentations, trial testimony, congressional and parliamentary hearings, UN forums and international visitors’ programs.
- Project to Curb Male Demand for Prostitution: To combat sex trafficking and prostitution by discouraging the demand.
- Human Rights Documentation Project: To conduct training sessions to inform and educate women’s organizations on feminist research methodologies, counseling and para-legal skills, and the developing of profiles on trafficking and prostitution in Asian countries.
- Online Documentation Center: To distribute information on sex trafficking and prostitution from different parts of the world, including country-specific information.

National MultiCultural Institute http://www.nmci.org

The National MultiCultural Institute works with individuals, organizations and communities in creating a society that is strengthened and empowered by its diversity. Fighting human trafficking is one of NMCI’s major goals. The NMCI web site has a portal through which one may search for many articles that appear online regarding sex trafficking, child labor, labor trafficking, etc.
http://www.humantraffickingsearch.net/
Home to the second largest child population globally, India is the world’s sixth most dangerous place for children. They also constitute 40% of human trafficking victims.

The Global March Against Child Labour is a movement to mobilize worldwide efforts to protect and promote the rights of all children, especially the right to receive a free, meaningful education and to be free from economic exploitation and from performing any work that would be harmful to the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

The Global March movement began on January 17, 1998 when thousands of people worldwide marched together to put forth the message against child labour. The march built immense awareness and led to high level of participation from the people. This march finally culminated at the International Labour Organization (ILO) Conference in Geneva. The voice of the marchers was heard and reflected in the draft of the ILO Convention Against the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The following year, the Convention was unanimously adopted at the ILO Conference in Geneva. Today, with 150 countries having ratified the Convention so far, it has become the fastest ratified convention in the history of ILO.

With ILO conventions 138 and 182 as well as the UN Convention on Rights of the Child forming the base of its movement, the Global March also perceives education, and the right to free and compulsory education of good quality for all children, as non-negotiable.

Direct efforts to end child labour have always been a part of the Global March partner programs. The Global March seeks to eliminate child labour by questioning, attacking and changing the very systems that compel children to work at the global, regional and national levels.

The Global March works on a three-pronged strategy: the elimination of child labour, education for all and poverty alleviation. The Global March International Secretariat is located in New Delhi, India.

World Vision works primarily to alleviate poverty with resultant vulnerability to exploitation; raising awareness to protect children from all forms of abuse and prevent them from being drawn or forced into the sex trade; providing skills training and income generation programs to reduce the prevalence of children being sold or lured into the sex trade.

Aid to child victims includes: protecting child victims from criminalization and enabling them and their families access to legal and social services; urging the prosecution of exploiters; assessing the physical and emotional condition of child victims and providing adequate medical attention and psychosocial support; sensitizing communities for child reintegration and follow-up on children who have been reintegrated; providing educational and skills training opportunities.

World Vision conducts the Child Sex Tourism Prevention Project, using a three-pronged method: prevention programs, deterrent messages, and law enforcement assistance.

World Vision developed a targeted media campaign to deter would-be sex tourist in Cambodia, Costa Rica, Thailand, Mexico, Brazil and the U.S.

These messages have been placed in locations such as U.S. airports; on television, billboards and street signs overseas; in taxis and hotels; as airline in-flight videos; in magazines, on the Internet.

World Vision works with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to help identify child sex tourists and provide information that could lead to their prosecution and conviction. With an extensive staff (23,000 employees in 100 countries) and community networks World Vision lends valuable assistance to local and U.S. law enforcement agencies.

The site also has many ways to get involved or donate to the various projects. One can browse articles, radio interviews, or receive the newsletter or magazine.
End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT)

http://www.ecpat.net/eng/index.asp

Stop Demand

http://www.stopdemand.org

If our hope is to end the child sex trade, we must stop demand.

Stop Demand’s vision is to live in a world free of sexual violence and sexual exploitation. Its mission is to promote a world free of all forms of sexual violence against, and sexual exploitation of, children with a particular focus on challenging the demand for sex with children. It does this by:

• Raising public awareness on the extent of all forms of sexual violence against children;
• Calling for global action to stop all forms of sexual violence against children;
• Addressing demand issues within the child sex trade and other forms of sexual violence against children;
• Working with government, inter-governmental and non-governmental agencies to stop sexual violence against children;
• Mobilizing the community, in particular the male community, to stop all forms of sexual violence against children.

Stop Demand’s mandate is taken from the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, Articles 34-35, which state:

“States Parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. For these purposes, States Parties shall in particular take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent:

(a) The inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity;
(b) The exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices;
(c) The exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials.” (Art. 34)

States Parties shall take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the abduction of, the sale of or traffic in children for any purpose or in any form. (Art. 35)

Other international instruments include:

• the Optional Protocol on

ECPAT is a network of organizations and individuals working together to eliminate the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

It seeks to encourage the world community to ensure that children everywhere enjoy their fundamental rights free from all forms of commercial sexual exploitation.

ECPAT has Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN (ECOSOC).

The site has Ecpat News and Updates regarding children.
Stop Demand cont. from pg. 6
the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (2002);
• the Declaration and Agenda for Action against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (2001 & 1996);
• the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the Convention on Trans-national Organised Crime (2000);
• the ILO (International Labor Organisation) 182 for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (1999);

Stop Demand is a non-profit, incorporated charitable trust and is registered in New Zealand. Stop Demand is administered by four trustees, who have wide-ranging professional backgrounds spanning law, health, mental health, domestic violence, sexual violence, counselling, social work, international law enforcement, and computer forensic investigation and analysis. The trustees have extensive professional backgrounds in combating the commercial sexual exploitation of children at an international level.

For articles in the news, see: http://www.stopdemand.org/afaw-cs0112877/in-news-updates.html

CSRwire http://www.csrwire.com/

Corporate social responsibility seeks to integrate business operations and values, whereby the interests of all stakeholders including investors, customers, employees, the community and the environment are reflected in the company’s policies and actions.

CSRwire is the leading source of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainability news, reports and information. CSRwire members are companies and NGOs, agencies and organizations interested in communicating their corporate citizenship, sustainability, and socially responsible initiatives to a global audience through CSRwire’s syndication network and weekly News Alerts.


The Center for Women Policy Studies (CWPS) http://www.centerwomenpolicy.org

CWPS was founded in 1972 as the nation’s first feminist policy analysis, research and advocacy institution. Its mission is to shape public policy to improve women’s lives.

The Center brings the voices and needs of women and girls to major public policy debates on issues of equal credit opportunity, educational equity, violence against women and girls, welfare reform, work/family balancing and workplace diversity policies, reproductive rights and health, the women’s HIV/AIDS epidemic, access to health care for low income women.

The Center, a unique resource for progressive public policy and social change, is respected by policy makers, academics, and advocates worldwide for its reliable research, in-depth policy analysis, and astute advocacy.

A hallmark of its work is the multi-ethnic feminist lens through which it views all issues affecting women and girls. Programs consider the combined impact of gender, race, ethnicity, class, age, disability, and sexual orientation.

The Center’s leadership enables state legislators throughout the US to craft state anti-trafficking laws and policies. The US Policy Advocacy to Combat Trafficking (US PACT) Clearinghouse includes:
• An interactive map of the US with information on state policies and federal prosecutions on international human trafficking into the US;
• A searchable annotated bibliography that includes an extensive collection of government publications, academic journals, non-governmental reports and books.
Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline
National Human Trafficking Resource Center
1.888.3737.888

Thank You
We wish to gratefully acknowledge those who provided generous monetary support for the Salvatorian Sisters Anti-Human Trafficking Project during 2007:

- Our SPONSORS, listed on pg. 1
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  - Ms. Jacqueline Meaker
    Holmes Beach FL

Vital Voices cont. from pg. 3

The site has an extensive Resource Section that includes links to: political participation, business, human rights, microcredit, corporate social responsibility, NGOs, globalization, literacy, HIV/AIDS, youth education and media.

On November 7, 2007, Vital Voices Global Partnership, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) co-sponsored the premiere of the film ‘Holly’ by Priority Films. Held at the UN Headquarters, the event brought attention to the global challenge of human trafficking for sexual exploitation.

The film is shot on location in the red light district of Phnom Penh, Cambodia. When a card shark and dealer in stolen goods meets a 12-year old Vietnamese girl, sold into a brothel, he attempts to rescue the child. It is both a harsh and poetic depiction of the sex slave trade. The film’s producers have founded the Redlight Children Campaign to fight child sexploitation. (http://www.priorityfilms.com)

‘The Price of Sugar’

Visiting the Dominican Republic (DR), tourists are unaware that nearby thousands of dispossessed Haitians are under armed guard on plantations harvesting sugarcane, most of which ends up in the U.S.

Cutting cane by machete, they work 14 hour days, 7 days a week, frequently without access to decent housing, electricity, clean water, education, health-care or adequate nutrition.

The documentary film ‘Price of Sugar’ features a charismatic Spanish priest, Father Christopher Hartley, who organized these poor people and challenged the powerful interests profiting from their work.

The Vicini family, DR’s second-largest sugar producer, refused to be interviewed for the film. After the film came out they brought a lawsuit against the filmmakers. The priest was forced to leave the DR and is currently serving in Ethiopia. He worries that, once the pressure is off the Vicini Group, reforms will be reversed and the unjust labor conditions will resume.

The ‘Price of Sugar’ raises key questions about where the products we consume originate, at what human cost they are produced and where our responsibility rests. The film, 90 minutes in length, is in English and Spanish with English subtitles.

Contact New Yorker Films at 877-247-6200 or nontheatrical@newyorkerfilms.com

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: jeansds2008@yahoo.com

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