

# Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

December 2011 Vol. 9 No. 12

This issue highlights the negative ripple effects of the many forms of human trafficking.

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## Trafficking Harms People

### Argentina: Sweatshops

Maria Velasquez, a Bolivian, was in need of work. She was offered a bus ticket to Argentina and assured of steady work, \$200 a month in pay, and a home there. She, her husband and son traveled using false documents provided by the smugglers. But she quickly became a victim - trapped inside a vast network of workers, lured from Bolivia to Argentina on empty promises. She was sent to a hot, crowded factory and forced to sew 18 hours a day, seven days a week. She was rarely allowed outside and had to sleep in a hallway alongside 20 other workers. For all her work, she made \$25 dollars a month. After a year, because the mistreatment became too much, the family fled.

Argentina cont. pg. 2

### Prostitution Violates International Law

The *National Lawyers Guild* recently published a scholarly paper by Dianne Post. The paper covers topics that reveal how prostitution promotes crime and human trafficking, is essentially physical

Law cont. pg. 2



## January

### National Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Use pg. 7 of the newsletter as an educational tool during January. Other one-page handouts are available at: <http://www.stopenslavement.org/>

### African Youth Lured

Around 5% of the victims of human trafficking identified in Western and Central Europe are of African origin, mainly coming from West African communities — especially Nigerian women and girls, according to a report released in June 2010 by the *U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime*. Studies of Nigerian victims reported that acquaintances, close friends or family members play a major role in victims' recruitment.

The vast majority of West African women and girls are exploited in street prostitution. These victims are also exploited in the pornographic sector. "When a child is caught in a network, the human trafficker exploits the child in every possible way," said a representative of the French branch of ECPAT, an international network fighting child sexual exploitation. "You can find cases of rape; prostitution, which is much more visible; and porn production. In this last case, it is almost exclusively cyber porn (photos, movies)."

Human traffickers do not hesitate to force some victims into extreme forms of pornography, such as bestiality. Drugged and forced into hours of intercourse with dogs, a girl may earn \$325. The use of condoms is often not allowed during shoots and HIV testing is not always compulsory. This compounds the AIDS crisis, where 22.5 million from sub-Saharan countries are already infected.



## Awareness

### Argentina *cont. from pg. 1*

In Argentina, slave labor boomed during the past decade, a consequence of the country's devastating economic crisis in 2001, when it defaulted on its \$100 billion dollar debt. Currency was devalued and importing products was prohibitive. Argentina's textile industry exploded. *"The clothing business grew very quickly but without serious fiscal, political or labor controls,"* said a leading advocate for labor rights in Argentina. *"Now, in Buenos Aires city there are 3,000 clandestine clothing factories with some 25,000 workers. Nearly 80% of the clothing produced in Argentina is made in clandestine factories,"* he said.

Buenos Aires city officials identified 1,200 locations in 2010 where forced labor was suspected. They acknowledge it is a challenge to shut down these sweatshops and others they still have not discovered. (<http://thecnnfreedomproject.blogs.cnn.com/2011/04/18/victims-break-chains-of-slavery/?hpt=C2>)

### 'Shattered Families'

Paula, age 30, was one of almost 1000 detainees held inside the *Willacy Detention Center* in Texas. For more than a dozen years, Paula lived with a man 20 years her senior, who brought her to the U.S. after he met her in Mexico. The man presented himself to the outside world as her partner, but behaved more like her owner, keeping her under his control and forcing her to work without pay, cleaning the homes of his family and contacts. He forbade her from having contact with her family in Mexico. She had not spoken with them for more than a decade. She had seven children with him while in the U.S. One of her daughters was ill and at times required a machine to breathe.

Paula tearfully recalled the night that, while the man slept, she piled her children into his vehicle and drove away. Because of the hasty escape, Paula could not take her daughter's breathing machine. The next day, knowing that her girl could not survive without this machine, she drove to the closest Child Protective Services office and chose to voluntarily place her daughter in foster care until she could arrange to get the breathing machine or buy a new one. She took her other children to a domestic violence shelter.

But several months later, a sheriff's deputy arrived and arrested Paula, charging her with neglect because she'd failed to provide her ill child with necessary care. She was brought to the local jail and the rest of her children were placed in

*Shattered Families cont. pg. 5*

### Law *cont. from pg. 1*

and psychological violence against women, and maintains women in poverty and inequality.

Post begins, *"Legalized prostitution cannot exist alongside true equality for women. The idea that women should be available for men's sexual access is founded on a structural inequality of gender, class, and race. Moreover, it is a violation of international law that cannot go unchallenged. The failure to challenge legalized prostitution undermines every human rights norm mandating the dignity of the person and equality for all."* (pg. 65)

Prostitution, she writes, has taken on an aura of morality. *"The sex industry is a powerful educator itself, creating its own morality through pornography. Pornography consists of photographs and moving images of women being paid to perform sexual acts, i.e., prostitution. It conveys important messages that legitimize men's prostitution abuse. It teaches that women like and crave to be sexually used, despite the fact that the women are in fact simulating desire or are even enslaved and clearly abused. It teaches the practices of prostitution as what sex is. Pornography is, as Kathleen Barry argues, the 'propaganda of women hatred,' but it is also the force which propels the prostitution industry to expand and teaches new generations of men a morality where the abuse of women in a sexual context is appropriate."*

(pg. 92)

She concludes, *"Research clearly has shown that women, who are exploited via prostitution, suffer through the same kinds of acts suffered by torture victims, have the same kinds of injuries, and retain the same harms. The victims of prostitution suffer the injuries acutely and chronically. In locations where prostitution is legalized, women suffer these injuries with the permission of the State. The State, by its acquiescence in the legalization and its support of the direct actors, bears responsibility and must be held accountable. States have an obligation to respect human rights. States cannot uphold human rights by supporting a regime to sell women as commodities in the market place. States also have an obligation to fulfill the substantive requirements of human rights. It can only be done by focusing on ending the demand for prostituted women and creating the conditions whereby women and children cannot be coerced into prostitution. This begins with ending violence against children in the home, marital rape, domestic violence, inequality in the work place, sexual harassment, lack of political representation and the feminization of poverty — not by further legitimizing the ultimate inequality- prostitution."* (pg. 97)

(<http://www.nlg.org/nlgreview/volume-68-no-2-2/>)



## Awareness

### Some Young Africans Aspire to Be Porn Stars

*'I have been dreaming of becoming a porn actor since a very young age. I live in the Ivory Coast and I am looking for a producer or a director to sign a contract and to be in a movie ... I am relying on you to make my dream come true.'*

This is the ad that André (not his real name), a 21-year-old computer science student from the Ivory Coast, posted on the Internet with his e-mail address and cell phone numbers. Hundreds of young people from Cameroon, the Dem. Rep. of Congo, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Nigeria, and South Africa are trying to join the pornographic film industry in Africa or abroad.

The world porn market (adult video networks, pay-per-view movies on cable and satellite, websites, in-room hotel movies, phone sex, sex toys, magazines and DVDs) is estimated to be worth tens of billions of dollars. Exact numbers are difficult to quote because the vast majority of companies are privately owned.

*"America's market is by far the largest in scope and revenue. It far exceeds the market in Europe. Based on the information we have, I would estimate the market in the U.S. to be in the neighborhood of \$7 billion."*

stated the managing editor of an adult entertainment trade publication.

By contrast, the largely Web-oriented African market is small but emerging. *"The size of the entire adult industry in South Africa is said to be worth 60 million rand (\$8.9 million), but that cannot be independently verified. It is probably the biggest in Africa. Nigeria should be worth about half of that,"* stated the co-founder of an African adult online network with more than 39,000 members (almost half of them South African) and an average of 7,000 unique visitors daily.

Producing, and sometimes even possessing, pornographic material is illegal in several African countries. Yet porn content is increasingly available in Africa, mainly because of greater access to the Internet and to foreign channels that broadcast adult movies.

There is also international demand. *"Nigeria, home to one of the world's largest domestic film production industries, exports videos and makes different types of content it later puts online on Internet portals,"* said Philippe Di Folco, the French author of the *Dictionnaire de la Pornographie*.

Some African youth see porn actors as examples of success, all the more because some manage to earn far more money with one film than the average African does in a month.

What these young people do not always know however is that big money is rare in this sector, while the threat of human trafficking is a great risk.

*"Movies with African actors and good production quality are produced by the French, Dutch and Germans,"* ECPAT reported. *"After having flooded the Internet, these movies are finding a place in the DVD market. African-produced movies are of poor quality."* But according to Di Folco, *"The amateur quality is what buyers want. Today, consumers value the effect of realism because it is like they are voyeurs of private scenes, present in the bedroom or in the spot where the sexual intercourse is taking place."* (<http://www.theroot.com/views/young-africans-who-want-be-porn-stars>)

## Torture, Trafficking and Detention

In October 2011, survivors of torture from the *Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition International* (TASSC) testified at a conference on Human Trafficking held at the Catholic Univ. of America in Washington, D.C. The conference was sponsored by the *Franciscan Action Network* and the *Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies*.

Demissie Abebe, director of TASSC, introduced several fellow Ethiopian survivors of torture and sexual abuse, who had successfully escaped to the U.S. and are currently seeking asylum. Abebe said he was imprisoned twice in Ethiopia — first for four months and then for two months — and beaten and tortured there, for filing reports on government corruption, before he escaped and eventually made his way to the United States.

The Ethiopian panelists who followed, who did not want to be photographed or identified by their last names for fear of serious repercussions for family members still living in Ethiopia, included two women and a man who said their asylum pleas have been met with extreme skepticism and dehumanizing treatment by the U.S. *Immigration and Customs Enforcement* (ICE) administration.

All four of the survivors, in order to escape their torturers, had to rely on human smugglers who helped them escape to Sudan, and on a dangerous journey that took them through the Middle East and Latin America until they could cross the U.S. — Mexico border several months and thousands of dollars later.

*"There is a direct link between torture and human trafficking,"* Abebe said. *"Where there is war, there is torture. And where there is torture, there is human trafficking. That's the only way many people can survive, by placing themselves at the mercy of these human smugglers."*

Torture Victims cont. pg. 4



## Awareness

### Latin America: Sex Trafficking

The 'War on Drugs' as viewed in Mexico and the U.S. has changed. Pres. Calderón, while fighting drugs, inadvertently allowed for the growth of human trafficking, lucrative and largely unregulated by Mexican law. Human trafficking in Mexico accounts for US \$6.6 billion a year and continues to increase. Mexico has had a federal anti-human trafficking law since 2007, but the government has no national program to implement it. Of 32 Mexican states, eight have no human trafficking laws.

A 2010 report by the *Coalition Against Trafficking in Women* (CATW) estimates the number of trafficking victims in Latin America, with Mexico ranking fifth, after the Dom. Republic, Haiti, Brazil and Argentina.

Because less than one percent of rape cases lead to a conviction, women who experience sexual violence often choose to remain silent. Extreme poverty can leave these same women prey to coyotes' offers of money in exchange for 'running' drugs across the border. That arrangement often leads into being sexually trafficked.

In Juárez, Mexico women go missing daily and are never heard from again. These women lack the rights and protections of men because they are seen as 'replaceable' laborers. If one girl goes missing from a sweatshop, there is little effort spent to find out why, since border towns between Mexico and the U.S. are increasingly occupied with drug violence. Women and girls trafficked into the U.S. are dispersed across the country. It is not "just a border problem" for U.S. officials.

Immigration-related laws, like Arizona's SB 1070, are causing increasing harm to many victims of human traf-

ficking. *Change.org* asserted that the law will "up the chances that undocumented trafficking victims will end up detained or deported and documented traffickers will walk free." Immigrants will not come forward to law enforcement officials out of fear that they will simply be deported back to Mexico. Any change in the classification of "illegal immigrants" has to realize that not all of those criminalized by existing U.S. laws are here by choice.

Sex trafficking has different manifestations in other regions of Central America, depending on local dynamics. In *Honduras*, young women are increasingly falling prey to false "modeling agencies", which serve as fronts for sex trafficking rings. Seeing an opportunity to fulfill aspirations of fame, young women contact organizations and are told to come alone to an in-person "audition". From there, these women are often kidnapped or tricked into working in brothels in other Central American countries, where a cycle of psychological and physical abuse continues. In *Costa Rica*, a major tourist destination, human trafficking is more closely associated with 'sex tourism.' Wealthy North American or European men travel to these tourist destinations with the explicit purpose of purchasing sex, often with minors.

Latin America leaders must start attacking the drug cartels' human trafficking activities. Meanwhile, the U.S. has the responsibility to help victims of human trafficking, who are not being helped by their own governments.

(<http://insightcrime.org/insight-latest-news/item/1595-the-many-forms-of-sex-trafficking-in-central-america>)

(<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=52940>)  
(<http://cohaforum.blogspot.com/2010/10/mexicos-new-war-sex-trafficking.html>)

### Torture Victims

cont. from pg. 3

Many of the survivors also focused on their detention experience once they crossed the U.S. – Mexico border. "After all I had been through, when I finally crossed the border into the United States, I breathed a sigh of relief. I thought now I will be treated with dignity," said Saba, a 28 year old woman from Ethiopia. "Instead, I was placed in a cold room and left there for many hours. Days later, my hands, my waist, and my feet were shackled and I was driven by ICE from a detention center in California to another detention center in Arizona. I spent months there, treated like a criminal, until I could post bond and come to Washington DC to petition for political asylum." One survivor described his experience of four years in Texas detention centers as he tried to press his case for political asylum.

There are about a half-million torture survivors in the U.S. with 63,000 in the D.C. area. Among these are many human trafficking victims. When people suffer any kind of hardship – poverty, political threats, religious or racial prejudice, natural disasters, etc. – they are ripe for victimization by traffickers.

According to *Amnesty International*, "refugees and asylum seekers must be remembered and considered in the larger debate on immigration reform. Specifically, as legislators and lay people think about border issues, they must remember that U.S. borders often present the only viable avenue for protection to asylum seekers from around the world, that asylum seekers have the right under international and domestic law to seek protection in the United States, and that any increased enforcement measures must not take place in a manner that violates the human rights of asylum seekers." (<http://tassc.org/blog/2011/11/the-survivor-journey-4/>)



## Awareness

### Shattered Families

cont. from pg. 2

foster care. Rather than being released on bond or spending a short time in jail, Paula was soon moved to *Willacy*. When ARC interviewed her, she had already been there for seven months, with no word of when she might be released or deported.

An attorney who represents her said she is a victim of human trafficking. He explained, “*Trafficking victims are by definition isolated. They have no support network at all. A lot of immigrants have extended networks, but trafficking victims don’t. Because of that, there’s nobody to take the kids to.*” (pg. 33-34 <http://arc.org/shatteredfamilies>)

Immigration policies and laws are based on the assumption that families will, and should, be united, whether or not parents are deported. Similarly, child welfare policy aims to reunify families whenever possible.

In practice, however, when mothers and fathers are detained and deported and their children are relegated to foster care, family separation can last for extended periods. If a juvenile dependency court terminates parental rights, these children lose the opportunity to see their parents again.

The *Applied Research Center* (ARC) published the first national investigation into these issues. Entitled ‘*Shattered Families: The Perilous Intersection of Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System*’, the research findings include:

- In fiscal year 2011, the U.S. deported 397,000 people and detained nearly that many.
- In the first six months of 2011, the federal government removed more

than 46,000 mothers and fathers of U.S.-citizen children.

- 5,100 children are currently living in foster care, whose parents have been either detained or deported.
- At this rate, in the next five years, at least 15,000 more children will face losing a connection with their detained and deported mothers and fathers.
- In counties where local police signed agreements with *Immigration and Customs Enforcement* (ICE), children in foster care were, on average, about 29% more likely to have a detained or deported parent than in other counties.
- Immigrant victims of domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence, such as human trafficking, are at particular risk of losing their children. As a result of ICE’s increased use of local police and jails to enforce immigration laws, when victims of violence are arrested, ICE too often detains them. Their children enter foster care. Hence, many immigrant victims face an impossible choice: remain with an abuser or risk detention and loss of their children.
- ARC identified at least 22 states where such cases have emerged in the last two years. This growing national problem is not confined to border jurisdictions or border states. Across the 400 counties included in ARC projections, more than one in four (28.8%) of the foster care children with detained or deported parents were from non-border states. (pg. 5-6)



Immigrant victims of gender-based violence are at particular risk of losing their children to foster care for several reasons. *First*, victims of domestic violence and human trafficking are often isolated from their networks because traffickers and abusers cut them off from families and friends. As a result, if they are detained by ICE, their children may have no other family or close family friends, who are available to care for them. *Second*, police often call *Child Protective Services* (CPS) automatically when children are present in homes where family violence occurs. As a result, children are sometimes automatically removed from their homes. In some instances, victims of the violence are also arrested and ICE detains them because of their immigration status.

Many of these women should have been protected from detention in the first place, because victims of crimes can apply for visas in the U.S.

Federal law maintains specific categories of visas for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking in particular. Additionally, in his June 2011 memo on ICE discretion, ICE director John Morton explicitly included “*victim[s] of domestic violence, human trafficking, or other crime,*” in the long list of factors that “*ICE officers, agents, and attorneys should consider*” when deciding whom to detain and deport.

Nonetheless, victims appear to be detained in immigration detention centers with disturbing regularity and for extended periods. Victims of trafficking may be at particular risk of having their children placed in foster care if they are detained. As more non-citizens are detained, the number of children in foster care with parents removed by ICE is expected to grow. Without explicit policies and guidelines to protect families, children will continue to lose their families at alarming rates.



## Advocacy



### Massachusetts Adopts Anti-Human Trafficking Law

*"It has been many, many years trying to bring a more modern, more focused, more effective element to our criminal justice laws to be able to deal with a devastating issue, one that disrupts families, turns lives upside down, affects communities and has ripple effects through a host of corners of our Commonwealth and our character as a Commonwealth," Gov. Deval Patrick said as he signed Massachusetts first anti-human trafficking bill into law in late November 2011.*

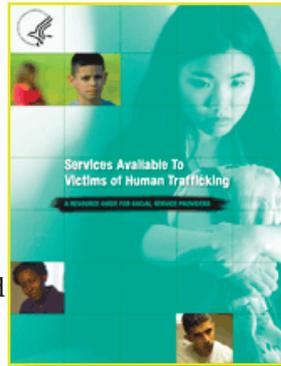
The bill gives prosecutors new tools to target prostitution and forced labor networks, features new mandatory minimum sentences for human trafficking, creates new crimes for organ trafficking, and increases penalties for so-called "Johns" convicted of a first-time offense.

The bill also includes "safe harbor" provisions that would allow those under 18 to avoid prosecution in certain cases if a judge determines they were victimized by trafficking, and provides services for exploited children.

Sen. Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford) called the moment "bittersweet," noting the bill he first filed six years ago was one of the first in the country to target human trafficking and 47 other states passed laws before Massachusetts. Still, Montigny noted the Massachusetts law is stronger because it drew from the experiences of other states. *Sent by S. Carol Proietti SSA*

### Resource Guide for Social Service Providers

The *Guide* lists resources available for pre-certified victims needing local, state or federal assistance. It provides information on the certification of foreign victims and the benefits and services



available through seven departments of the federal government: *Health and Human Services (HHS), Dept. of Agriculture (USDA), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Dept. of Justice (USDOJ), Dept. of Labor (DOL), Social Security Administration (SSA), and Dept. of Education (ED).*

The *Guide* contains resources for initiating services for certified victims, as well as for U.S. citizen and lawful permanent resident victims.

The Resource Guide is available at:  
[http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/Trafficking\\_Svcs\\_9\\_30\\_11.pdf](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/Trafficking_Svcs_9_30_11.pdf)

### Corporate Stance

The *Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny*, Province of the United States and Canada, as faithful followers of our Foundress, Blessed Anne-Marie Javouhey, desire to pledge our efforts and prayer to the eradication of the evil of human trafficking in our world today.

Realizing that this evil is but another manifestation of slavery and bondage, we choose to combat it in whatever ways possible, as Anne-Marie Javouhey worked for the abolition of slavery in the society of her day. To this end we will endeavor to direct our spiritual, financial and human resources to the best of our ability to educating ourselves and others on this evil and will do whatever is in our power to work for an end to this moral depravity. (Adopted May 2011)

### Freed from the Sweatshop

Maria Velasquez (story pg. 1), her husband and son, having fled the slavery under which they had worked, arrived at 'La Alameda', a community collective that serves Argentina's burgeoning Bolivian community.

Inside, Velasquez and a dozen other men and women, nearly all of whom are former victims of slave labor, produce sweat-free clothing in a non-threatening environment. Each member works an eight-hour shift, and earns around \$4 dollars an hour. The cooperative's rules are simple: there is no boss, all issues are voted upon, and profits are split.

In 2009, 'La Alameda' went global, partnering with 'Dignity Returns', a similar workers' collective in Thailand. They jointly produce colorful T-shirts under the label name 'No Chains.' The T-shirts feature designs by artists from all corners of the globe, and are sold online and in shops in Buenos Aires and Bangkok for \$15 dollars each. The 'No Chains' initiative has been credited with helping bring attention to slave labor in Argentina and Thailand, while also promoting ethical consumption practices. (<http://www.asiafashionclothing.com/index.php?id=2017>)

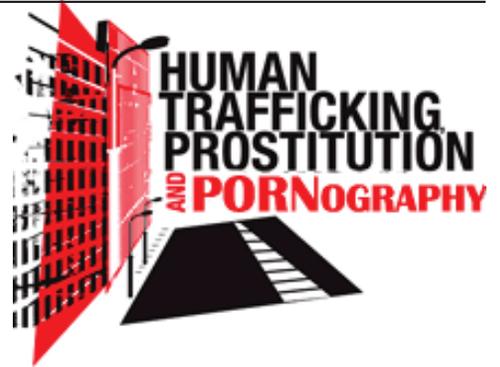


# January 11th

## National Awareness Day:

### Human Trafficking — Modern Slavery

A 2010 panel, 'Slavery Today: Sex Labor & Pornography', revealed that porn has become the foundation of the human trafficking business. Porn justifies the buying and selling of women and children. Human trafficking victims are forced to watch porn and imitate it as a form of training. Once they are deemed 'ready', victims are forced to perform sexual acts on camera, then viewed by millions without their permission.



#### The Money

- Human trafficking is a \$10 billion a year business; most of that money comes from forced sexual activity.
- There are 4.2 million pornographic websites, 420 million pornographic web pages, and 68 million daily search engine requests.
- An Internet search of the word 'porn' returns 200,000 sites.
- \$3,000 is spent every second on porn in the U.S. alone.
- 30,000 people view porn every second.
- Every 30 minutes a new porn movie is made.
- 1 out of 5 pornographic images is of a child.
- Porn is a \$97 billion a year business, \$13 billion of which is in the U.S..
- Time Warner, CBS, Verizon, Comcast, and other telecommunication and media corporations earn over \$1 billion a year from porn, through services like 'video on demand'.

#### The Demographics

- 58% of divorces are the result of a spouse looking at excessive amounts of porn online.
- Child pornography is one of the fastest growing online businesses. In 2008, Internet Watch Foundation found 1,536 individual child abuse domains.
- Of all known child abuse domains, 48% are housed in the U.S..
- Of 1351 pastors surveyed, 54% had viewed Internet porn within the last year.
- Of church attendees surveyed, 50% of men and 20% of women regularly viewed porn.
- More than 11 million teens regularly view porn online.
- The average age of children viewing porn: age 11.



#### The Bottom Line

Minors may be dressed to look 18, but looking older does not make them older. A movie caption stating all performers are over 18 does not make it true.

Smiling women, letting strangers do what they want sexually, are not enjoying what is happening. They are 'acting'.

Human trafficking victims are trained to look and act a certain way while posing for photographs, performing on camera, or servicing customers. No matter the circumstances — pornography hurts innocent people.

Porn makes human trafficking a 'supply-demand' business. Viewers demand to watch sex and human traffickers supply it.

Pornography and human trafficking have become an unholy alliance that enslaves, degrades, and destroys lives. ([http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/5697986/the\\_relationship\\_between\\_pornography.html](http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/5697986/the_relationship_between_pornography.html))

**"I recently interviewed a number of men in prison, who had committed rape against children. All were habitual users of child porn.**



**What they said to me was they got bored with 'regular' porn and wanted something fresh. They were horrified at the idea of sex with a prepubescent child initially but within six months they had all raped a child."** Gail Dines, Prof. of Sociology, Wheelock College Boston. (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeand-style/2010/jul/02/gail-dines-pornography>)

#### Stages of Porn Use

**Addiction:** You keep coming back to porn. It becomes a regular part of your life. You're hooked and can't quit.

**Escalation:** You look for more graphic porn. You start using porn that disgusted you earlier, but is now enticing to you.

**Desensitization:** You begin feeling numb towards the images you see. Even the most graphic porn no longer arouses. You become desperate to feel the same thrill again, but you can't find it.

**Acting out sexually:** Now you make a critical change — acting out the images you've seen and rehearsed in your mind.

**Shame:** No matter how great the pleasure, the guilt quickly replaces the short-term adrenaline high with shame.

Dr. Victor B. Cline, "Pornography's Effect on Adults and Children," *Morality in Media*. 'How Pornography Drugs and Changes Your Brain' D. L. Hilton, Jr. (<http://www.salvomag.com/new/articles/salvo13/13hilton.php>)

**What was once called 'softcore' porn is now part of mainstream media. The sexual objectification of women is obvious on cable & reality TV shows, MTV, in fashion, advertising, men & women's magazines, music videos, Hollywood films, video games, etc. At the same time, 'hard-core' porn has become increasingly more violent, aggressive and misogynistic.**

**"Porn is the most serious threat to psychological health today. The Internet is a perfect 'drug delivery system' — it is anonymous, accessible, and addictive. The 'drug' can be pumped into your house 24/7 free. Since children are more adept at Internet use than adults, it is a perfect delivery system if we want to have a whole generation of young addicts, who may never get that 'drug' out of their minds."** Dr. Mary Anne Layden, Co-Director, Sexual Trauma & Psychopathology Prog., Univ. of PA's Center for Cognitive Therapy (<http://www.examiner.com/crime-in-san-jose/porn-stars-are-abused-and-are-human-trafficking-victims>)



## Action

### Celebration without Exploitation: Toolkit for Planning Trafficking-Free Sporting (and Other) Events

Recognizing that high profile events attracting out-of-town visitors are often at higher risk for human trafficking violations, members of the *Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)* have assembled a compendium of resources in a toolkit designed to assist in the promotion of trafficking-free local events.

The toolkit offers ideas and resources for investors to leverage against this pervasive but often clandestine practice.

- a) the top down power of the private sector;
- b) the inside power of event organizers and participants, and;
- c) the bottom up power of local community groups, including law enforcement and faith organizations

The most effective campaigns will focus on a combination of all three important audiences, customizing strategies for each.

These tools are meant to serve as templates that can be customized for local events and to spur ideas for ongoing anti-trafficking campaigns.

ICCR welcomes any new resources you might wish to add to this toolkit and any feedback you suggest for improving its effectiveness. To contact ICCR, go to:  
<http://www.iccr.org/contact.php>



### 'Slavery Footprint'

*Fair Trade Fund*, (FTF) a California-based nonprofit group that uses media to promote advocacy on issues, particularly human slavery, unveiled a new website, *Slavery Footprint*, a twist on the more commonly known 'carbon footprint'. It defines a slave as "anyone who is forced to work without pay, being economically exploited and is unable to walk away."

Using a \$200,000 grant from the U.S. State Dept., the FTF spokesperson said the *Slavery Footprint* site did not make specific companies its targets. Instead, it shows consumers which products they use are most likely to involve forced labor. Ideally, companies would hire third-party auditors to determine if their supply chains employed slave labor.

A mobile application will allow consumers to find information on products at the point of purchase and send electronic letters asking companies about their policies on slave labor. Those letters will also be sent to all of the consumers' Facebook friends, so as to apply consumer pressure toward changing practice. "The goal is to amplify the conversation between the consumer and the producer. We are out for the slave traders, not the multinationals." said a FTF representative.

The *Slavery Footprint* application started nearly a year after California passed a law that requires companies with global sales in excess of \$100 million, who do business in CA, to disclose what efforts they have made to eliminate forced labor from their

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### Conference on Immigration

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) 'Justice for Immigrants Campaign' will host a national conference on immigration entitled "A 50-State Issue: A Focus on State and Local Immigration Initiatives."

The conference will look at state and local immigration issues across the country and discuss methods for opposing enforcement initiatives and supporting comprehensive immigration reform. An update on progress regarding immigration reform on the federal level will be included.

The Conference will be held from January 11-13, 2012, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Topics that will be addressed include: Secure Communities enforcement program; 287 (g) enforcement program; Employer Verification bills; Arizona copy-cat legislation; building a local coalition and network; parish organizing; and laws which impact the Church's mission.

To register for the conference, visit: <http://www.cvent.com/d/wcqmsm>  
For more information, please contact Antonio Cube at: [acube@usccb.org](mailto:acube@usccb.org)



## Action

Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline  
National Human Trafficking  
Resource Center  
1.888.3737.888

## Thank You!

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Vista, CA

### Informative Web Sites: (Each contains information related to human trafficking)

**CNN Freedom Project:  
Ending Modern-Day Slavery**  
<http://thecnnfreedomproject.blogs.cnn.com/>

**Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW) Campaigns**  
<http://www.catwinternational.org/campaigns.php>

**'End Torture Now' Campaign**  
<http://tassc.org/blog/campaign-to-end-torture/petition-to-end-torture/>

**Applied Research Center (ARC)**  
<http://www.arc.org/>

**'Slavery Footprint'**  
<http://slaveryfootprint.org/>

**'No Chains'**  
<http://www.nochains.org/>

### Slavery Footprint

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supply chains. Some businesses opposed the measure, saying it unfairly tagged companies for "failing" on an issue they were powerless to change.

Among *Fair Trade Fund's* other projects are "Call + Response," a film on the slave trade, and *chainstorereaction.com*, a website that encourages consumers to send electronic letters to companies challenging them to define their policies on human trafficking. The companies' responses, or lack thereof, are posted on the website. (<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/22/business/22slaves.html>)

**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!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm>

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please contact: [jeansds2010@yahoo.com](mailto:jeansds2010@yahoo.com)

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