

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

November 2012 Vol. 10 No. 11

This issue highlights the challenges at the Canadian-U.S.-Mexican borders, as well as offers a few educational resources in the fight against human trafficking.

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- Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union USA

Border Sharing: Canada — U.S.A. — Mexico

'U.S. & Canada: Joint Border Threat & Risk Assessment'

The July 2010 assessment Report covered many issues that involve border crossing including the smuggling and trafficking of persons.

The Report was prepared by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Canada Border Services Agency, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

"The U.S. and Canada share a 5,525-mile international boundary separating Alaska from British Columbia and the Yukon, and running from Washington/British Columbia through Maine/New Brunswick. On average, the U.S. and Canada each process over 70 million international travelers and 35 million vehicles each year along the border. The international boundary between the U.S. and Canada is often described as the largest open border in the world."

"Victims of human trafficking in the U.S. and Canada come from nations worldwide, often from the poorest countries and the poorest strata of the national populations. Investigations in Canada and the

'The New Mafia': Human Trafficking Along U.S./Mexican Border Produces 'Startling Pattern of Torture, Rape and Murder'

A brutal new crime wave from Mexico is hitting America's suburbs. Drug cartels and their heavily-armed henchmen are moving into the house next door, torturing and imprisoning victims for profit in middle-class neighborhoods. Law enforcement agencies from TX to Northern CA report being overwhelmed by the surge of violence.

One of the most disturbing and least discussed aspects of this new crime wave is the 'drop houses' — rented homes that function as makeshift prisons where criminal gangs and human smugglers hold large numbers of victims for ransom. The phenomenon is centered in the Southwest, often in foreclosure-devastated suburbs, but is spreading across America. "What we're talking about is the stuff of nightmares," said LA-based special agent Jorge Guzman of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

"Mexican drug cartels are in well over 200 cities here in the U.S.," said a White House spokesperson. Pres. Obama and Pres. Calderón of Mexico had this as a top agenda topic in their recent meetings. (<http://www.theblaze.com/stories/the-new-mafia-human-trafficking-along-u-s-mexican-border-produces-startling-pattern-of-torture-rape-and-murder/>)

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Canada *cont. from pg. 1*

U.S. have revealed that victims of human trafficking were mostly found in marginalized populations, including migrant women, new immigrants, at-risk youth, and socially- or economically-challenged persons. The U.S. is a destination country for thousands of men, women, and children trafficked largely from Mexico and East Asia, as well as countries in South Asia, Central America, Africa, and Europe for the purposes of sexual and labor exploitation. In Canada, investigations have found that persons who may have been trafficked through or into Canada for sexual exploitation originated in Romania, Ukraine, Moldova, South Korea, China, and Hong Kong.”

“Organized crime groups involved in the trafficking of persons across the U.S.–Canada border range from large, internationally-connected organizations to small networks and opportunistic individuals. In both countries, trafficking organizations often share the same ethnicity and/or language with their victims. Chinese, Mexican, Russian, and Eurasian gangs are among the primary groups involved in trafficking persons into the U.S.. In Canada, Asian and Eastern European organized crime groups are involved. The groups suspected of this activity in Canada are primarily based in major urban centers such as Vancouver, Montréal and the Greater Toronto Area.”

“Human smuggling contributes to an increasing number of foreign nationals illegally residing in the U.S. and Canada. Human smuggling is a blatant form of ‘queue jumping’ that erodes the integrity of both countries’ im-

migration systems. Smuggled persons residing in the U.S. and Canada strain social and economic resources. Smuggled persons may be required to work off large debts to their smugglers and, in some cases, can become trafficked persons.” (Quotes from: <http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/us-canada-jbtra.pdf>)

Canada: ‘Sex Trade Employers’ Cannot Hire Foreigners

The Canadian federal government announced in July 2012 that it would no longer allow employers linked to the sex trade to hire strippers, escorts and massage parlor workers from outside the country.

“Frankly this should have been done a long time ago,” Immigration Minister Jason Kenney said. *“Why would we grant visas to girls that we have a strong suspicion are going to end up under the thumb of a criminal gang being exploited and trafficked? We’re not going after the women — we’re protecting them from what they might not know will happen to them when they get to Canada.”*

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada began issuing negative labor market opinions for all applications from employers linked to the sex trade, effectively preventing them from hiring temporary foreign workers. Also, *Citizenship and Immigration Canada* no longer processes new work permit applications from temporary foreign workers intending to work for sex-trade-related businesses.

Kenney said those at highest risk of being exploited are young women, with poor language skills, who are likely to come from Asia or Eastern Europe expecting they will make their fortune when they come to Canada. He said Canada issued about 180,000 permits for foreign workers last year and estimates a “very small percent-

age” of those ended up working in the sex trade.

Kenney said that’s a far cry from the hundreds of exotic dancers that were allowed in during the previous Liberal administration — *“many of whom ended up in the sex trade, controlled by organized crime. It was known as the Liberal stripper program.”*

In 2004, then-immigration minister Judy Sgro was criticized for granting a temporary residence permit to an exotic dancer who had volunteered for her election campaign.

Kenney said there will be some exceptions. Properly certified therapeutic masseuses who are working in clinics will not be affected. The new restrictions will apply to other businesses if there is a heightened risk of abuse or exploitation of workers.

“We know that human trafficking is a growing aspect of organized crime worldwide, including in Canada,” Kenney said.

“The victims of human trafficking, who are mostly women and children, are denied a normal life and compelled to provide labor or sexual services through a variety of coercive practices, for the profit of their controllers.” The measure is part of the government’s plan to combat human trafficking. (<http://www.citytv.com/toronto/citynews/news/national/article/213518--no-more-foreign-workers-for-employers-linked-to-sex-trade-immigration-minister>)

Time to Correct Canadian Legislation

The Canadian courts struck down a prostitution law for the Ontario Province because of a clever appeal for safety measures by women claiming prostitution as their profession. Advocates for elimination of prostitution have begun a national postcard campaign requesting the government to consider adopting the Nordic model of law, which criminalizes the ‘johns’.

“If the Government does not respond with appropriate responses, Ontario could set the example for the rest of Canada, which would mean more prostituted women and an increase of human trafficking within the country. The USA and Canada need to collaborate to diminish the cross-border injustices.”

S. Nancy Brown, Sisters of Charity, Halifax



Awareness

One Mexican Woman's Story

"He (her trafficker) told me I should marry him and go with him to work in the United States. He said we could work together in the U.S. and then return to Mexico with enough money to complete the construction of his house, where we would live together with my children. He told me his sister was in charge of a restaurant in the U.S. and I could work there. I thought that we would be working together in his sister's restaurant."

"I really liked him and wanted to be with him. I also wanted to earn some money for my children because I was not making enough to provide for my family. Therefore, I agreed to go to the U.S. with him."

"About a month after I moved to the U.S., he told me that he thought I would be able to make more money by being a prostitute. I was very surprised to hear him say that, and I didn't think he could be serious. When I told him that I could never do that, he said that I had to do it for our children. He threatened that they would be harmed if I didn't work. I was scared but I felt like I had no choice but to do it in order to protect my kids."

(From "The Road North")

'The Road North'

The Road North: The Role of Gender, Poverty and Violence in Trafficking from Mexico to the US is a 2012 study that highlights factors causing 37 women to fall victim to traffickers, who then brought them to New York, exploiting them in sex trafficking, and in some cases, labor trafficking as well. (<http://www.sexworkersproject.org/publications/reports/the-road-north/>)

Sex Trafficking in Tijuana, Mexico

'Sex Trafficking in a Border Community: A Field Study of Sex Trafficking in Tijuana, Mexico' is a 2011 study, which confirmed that women from a wide variety of social and economic backgrounds entered into commercial sex. The men using women to advance their financial gain also comprised a diverse group. Law enforcement agencies and advocacy groups exhibited great concern about women being forced into prostitution. But, given the size of the problem, it was questioned as to whether anti-trafficking efforts and strategies are adequate and appropriate to counter the patterns of sexual exploitation of women.

Data for this study were primarily gathered in Tijuana, Mexico. It was hypothesized that human traffickers and sex industry operators might find Tijuana's socio-political environment conducive to trafficking activities. Tijuana, the largest city on Mexico's northern border, has long been a major tourism and weekend destination for Southern Californians. Its red light district draws a large number of visitors from both sides of the border. With more than 60 million people crossing the busiest international border annually, there is no shortage of demand for sexual services.

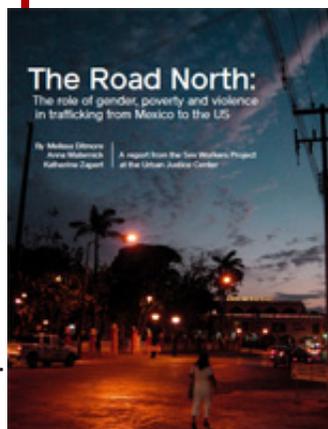
The vast majority of the women interviewed 'chose' prostitution under tremendous financial pressure to keep their children fed and clothed or to assist their families in interior Mexico. With limited education and few employable skills, these women applied the only resource readily available (namely their bodies) to achieve the best financial outcome they thought possible. Each story, as told by these subjects, represented a woman's struggle to exercise agency, to negotiate the best possible deal in life, or simply to survive in her circumstances.

At least 12% of the interviewees were clearly forced into prostitution, at least initially, by their 'boyfriends,' 'husbands,' or pimps. These men employed a wide range of techniques to manipulate or physically force the women into the sex trade. Nine of the subjects said they were unable to go places without permission from or being accompanied by their pimps. These women were socially isolated and deprived of support from or connections with their families. They distrusted the authorities and felt too ashamed to call their families for help.

Law enforcement agencies on both sides of the border expressed concern about sex trafficking. Most believed much more could be done to curtail sex trafficking activities. On the U.S. side, legal ambiguity and the lack of victim cooperation remain the two biggest challenges for successful prosecution of sex traffickers. Until these obstacles can be adequately addressed, most U.S. law enforcement officials interviewed in this study believed that the number of sex trafficking cases would remain relatively small. With few workable cases being brought to the justice system, any hope for increased resources or even on-going anti-trafficking efforts may be difficult to sustain.

Social service providers and advocacy groups were the most vocal respondents in this study. According to these agencies, sex trafficking in Tijuana was rampant and victims were numerous. Their moral certainty and passionate belief in their rescue missions were palpable, and they serve a vital function in alerting society to the plight of a segment of the prostituted population, however small and invisible, who otherwise would never be heard.

Tijuana cont. pg. 5





Advocacy

Collaboration Fills Gaps in Fighting Human Trafficking

The *Sisters of the Holy Family* (SHF, Fremont, CA) have been actively involved in addressing the issue of human trafficking since 2008. The members saw this as a next step to the corporate stance they made in 2004 regarding the 'Earth Charter'. It was viewed as deepening their commitment of caring for the earth and all its peoples.

Caritas Foster, SHF works full time to educate the members, their donors and ministry partners, as well as provide opportunities to take action against human trafficking.

Outreach and collaboration are hallmarks of the SHF efforts. Since 2009 this has led to partnering with faith based organizations, non-profits, law enforcement, the civic and business community. In 2011, the SHFs became a partner in the *Cross Bay Collaborative to Combat Human Trafficking* (CBC), which is funded by the U.S. *Office of Refugee Resettlement, Department of Health and Human Services*.

The goal of CBC is to create an infrastructure for a sustainable, community-based anti-trafficking identification and response protocol among and within San Francisco, Alameda and San Mateo Counties. Through broad, tailored outreach and training to key stakeholder groups (e.g. faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, healing and health practitioners, legal advocates, law enforcement, city/county agencies, international organizations and neighborhood busi-

nesses) CBC seeks to create a tightly-knit collaborative that addresses human trafficking via every possible stakeholder and geographic location based on existing gaps in the Bay Area.

CBC members include SAGE Project (Standing Against Global Exploitation), Bay Area Women Against Rape, Newcomers Health Program, Sisters of the Holy Family, Alameda County District Attorney's Office, and the Asian Anti-Trafficking Collaborative.

Australians Broaden Efforts to Advocate for Trafficked Victims

The *Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans* (ACRATH) completed a September 2012 'advocacy week' in Canberra, the Australian capital. Fifteen women, advocating on human trafficking issues, met with 117 Members of Parliament, Ministers, Ministerial advisors, government officers, and church leaders. Among the topics they raised were: forced marriages, housing, immigration, special benefits allowances, access to quality English classes for trafficked people, slave-free supply chains, and overseas

development assistance. Their two-page Canberra advocacy report can be downloaded at: <http://acrath.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/ACRATH-Canberra-Newsletter-Sept-2012.pdf>

While there ACRATH members witnessed the passage by the House of Representatives of an amendment to the criminal code that would potentially strengthen laws against those who exploit migrant workers. Unlike people smugglers, human traffickers usually bring individuals to Australia legally before taking their documents and exploiting them, for both sex and labor. The horticulture industry has been highlighted as one area where trafficked laborers end up.

Sr. Noelene Simmons, a member of ACRATH, said she hopes the amendment will also pass in the Senate. Yet, she pointed out, legislation is really only the beginning. It is up to individual farmers to make sure migrant workers on their farms have not been trafficked. "You need to know, as an employer, that these people are here legally. If they can't provide documentation then they are probably suffering exploitation by someone. In addition, it would be the responsibility of the farmer to make sure that he knows what the rights of the workers are; that those rights are protected; that they pay just wages and so on."

(<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201208/s3575205.htm>)



Members of ACRATH meet with the Chief Government Whip, the Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon MP, Member of the Australian Labor Party from New South Wales.



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Tijuana *cont. from pg. 3*

The author recommended the following counter-trafficking strategies:

First, governments of the U.S. and Mexico need to focus on disruption-oriented law enforcement policies and strategies that target ‘entrepreneurs,’ who engage in sex trafficking activities. At the tactical level, law enforcement agencies need to focus on disruption, rather than prolonged and in-depth investigation, to produce an intended market impact that is not only immediate, but perhaps just as effective.

Second, to increase the cost of doing business for these ‘entrepreneurs,’ legislative changes are needed, which specifically target the final outcome of human trafficking, i.e., asset forfeiture. Some state legislatures, such as CA and MD, are already moving to devise laws to make it easier for authorities to seize ill-gained properties from convicted traffickers.

Third, significant resources are needed for bilateral collaborations to educate and train law enforcement agencies, as well as medical and social service providers, on how to recognize and respond to sex trafficking activities and victims.

Fourth, among the most effective ways to reduce sex trafficking is public awareness campaigns — flyers, billboards, and radio/TV announcements. Anti-trafficking messages need to be disseminated via public and commercial airwaves, billboard spaces, and included in brochures to be handed out by medical and social service agencies and at major transportation stations (e.g., airports, bus and train stations). The idea is to create and maintain a hostile socio-legal environment for sex traffickers and increase victim awareness of available services.

Fifth, a major anti-trafficking strategy missing from current movement is the lack of political will and resource allocations to secure and offer long-term solutions that can persuade women to exit the sex trade. Mental health and social service professionals should welcome the challenge to compete against the pimps in offering these women viable alternatives.

‘The Code’ Gains Advocates Thanks to New Travel Industry Signers

On September 27th, *World Tourism Day*, companies involved in global tourism stepped up to highlight the benefits of the ‘Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism’ as an effective industry-driven response to child sex trafficking.

In New York City, ECPAT-USA, UNICEF and the NGO *Committee Against Human Trafficking* hosted a panel discussion on tourism and the crime of child sex trafficking. Topics included the ‘responsible investor’ perspective on combating human trafficking and the impact of major international events, such as sports, on human trafficking patterns.

‘Meaningful Trip’ (www.meanginfultrip.com), a company specializing in responsible adventure and volunteer travel spanning 75 countries worldwide, signed *The Code*. Joe Staiano, after working in community-based and responsible tourism, founded ‘Meaningful Trip’ to offer socially-responsible travelers a chance to make a difference and support global development issues. Upon learning about *The Code* Staiano became a member to support child protection in tourism. ‘Meaningful Trip’ is one of fewer than a dozen USA tourism-industry signatories of *The Code*. Staiano hopes to see more leaders in responsible travel and tourism sign the Code as well. ‘Meaningful Trip’ is the tenth US-based company and second tour operator to become a member.

In Dallas, *Sabre Inc.* (www.sabre.com), a global travel technology company, signed *The Code*, becoming the first global travel technology company to sign. Sabre hosted a full day of activities in support of their new commitment to *The Code*, including a press conference, luncheon, and a panel discussion about human trafficking. The culminating signing event was attended by representatives of travel companies, government agencies and anti-trafficking activist, Jada Pinkett Smith. Sabre’s plan to implement *The Code* includes training its 10,000 global employees to be informed on the issues; raising awareness among Sabre’s airline, hotel, travel agency and corporate customers; and educating travelers so they can identify and report potential trafficking incidents.

(Left to right: Sabre CEO, Sam Gilliland, ECPAT-USA Exec. Dir., Carol Smolenski and actress/advocate, Jada Pinkett Smith)





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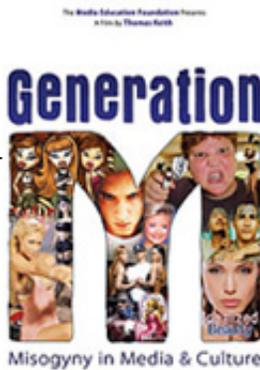
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Educational Films

The *Media Education Foundation* produces and distributes documentary films and other educational resources to inspire critical thinking about the social, political, and cultural impact of American mass media.

‘Generation M: Misogyny in Media & Culture’

Despite the achievements of the women’s movement over the past four decades, misogyny remains a persistent force in American culture. In this documentary, Thomas Keith, philosophy professor at CA State Univ.-Long Beach, looks specifically at misogyny and sexism in mainstream American media, exploring how negative definitions of femininity and hateful attitudes toward women get constructed and perpetuated at the very heart of our popular culture.



The 60-minute film tracks the destructive dynamics of misogyny across a broad and disturbing range of media phenomena: including the hypersexualization of commercial products aimed at girls, the explosion of violence in video games aimed at boys, the near-hysterical sexist rants of hip-hop artists and talk radio shock jocks, and the harsh, patronizing caricatures of femininity and feminism that reverberate throughout the mainstream of American popular culture.

‘*Generation M*’ forces us to confront the dangerous real-life consequences of misogyny in all its forms, making a compelling case that when we devalue more than half the population based on gender, we harm boys and men as well as women and girls. The film

features interviews with gender violence prevention educators Byron Hurt, Jackson Katz, and Jean Kilbourne. Sections: Introduction | Female Empowerment? | The Doll Wars | Idealized Beauty | The Pink-Blue Dichotomy | Misogyny and Double Standards | Bonus Section: Media Literacy, Education, and Choice

‘Sext Up Kids: How Children Are Becoming Hypersexualized’



The powder keg that is porn culture has exploded in the lives of North American children. From thongs and padded bras for 9-year-old girls to ‘sexting,’ 24-7 Internet

porn, and unfiltered social media, kids today are bombarded with commercial sexual appeals like never before. In this astonishing new 43-minute documentary, award-winning documentary filmmaker Maureen Palmer (*Leaving Bountiful*, *How to Divorce and Not Wreck the Kids*) explores what this radical transformation of the culture means for young people, parents, and our very notions of childhood. Palmer interviews researchers who have been tracking how the accelerating pressure to be sexy and sexual is changing kids’ behavior and undermining their health. She sits down with parents and educators struggling to help kids navigate puberty in a hyper-mediated cultural environment that no longer seems to recognize or respect the developmental needs of children. And

she talks to teens and pre-teens who share eerily casual insights into the routine role sex plays in their lives. The result is a stunning exploration of the sexualization of childhood and a startling wake-up call for parents who still think their own children are immune to the excesses and influences of today’s sexed-up youth culture.

“*Straightforward, powerful, and chilling, this precise and factual film gets to the point immediately: what I called ‘the triple bind’, which includes the huge sexualization of young teen girls, is happening ever earlier, with devastating consequences. ‘Sext Up Kids’ is a needed slap in the face, which needs to be seen by the entire culture.*” Dr. Steven Hinshaw, Psychology Prof. UC Berkeley and author of *The Triple Bind: Saving Our Teenage Girls from Today’s Pressures*

‘Flirting with Danger: Power & Choice in Heterosexual Relationships’

Social and developmental psychologist and author Lynn Phillips explores the line between consent and coercion in this thought-provoking look at popular culture and the



ways real girls and women navigate their heterosexual relationships and hookups. Featuring dramatizations of interviews that Phillips conducted

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'The State of Sunshine'

While attending film school at Florida State Univ., Eric Zhang received a letter from his mother in China, containing an article about a young brother and sister who ran away from their parents.

The brother had to pimp his younger sister in order to stay in America. The story did not have a happy ending.

As tragic as the news was, it inspired Zhang to write and direct a film about the hardships and hurdles immigrants face when coming to America. An immigrant himself, Zhang was moved by the article and knew how this scenario could play out with illegal immigrants. He undertook endless research and interviewed emigre friends to develop *'The State of Sunshine'*.

Zhang explained, "I felt a lot of sympathy for them and what kind of despair they are in. I can identify with them to a certain extent because I am an immigrant myself and I knew a lot of immigrants."

'State of Sunshine' won a Student Academy Award and a Women and Minority Student Film Award at the Directors Guild of America. Yet, Zhang has had a hard time staying in America. "It was very difficult for me to stay in the country and work in the film industry because you can't get a Visa with film jobs", noted Zhang. He is now teaching at the Univ. of Central Arkansas and writing a feature screenplay about his personal experience.



'Trade of Innocents'

UNODC Executive Director, Yury Fedotov, attended a preview screening of *'Trade of Innocents'*, a film that exposes the grim reality of children trafficked for sexual exploitation. Mira Sorvino, UNODC Goodwill Ambassador against human trafficking, has a starring role in the film.

'Trade of Innocents' is set in the seedy brothels of Cambodia and follows the story of an American couple, Alex and Claire, who struggle to overcome the pain of their past loss of a child against the stark realities they encounter of child exploitation in Phnom Penh, Cambodia where they lived and worked.

The film, which also stars Dermot Mulroney, was inspired by the real-life experiences of an American couple. In 2007, Bill and Laurie Bolthouse traveled to Cambodia. Bill, a family physician, had volunteered to travel for a non-profit that was sending specialty surgical teams to the area. During their stay, the family hosted a dinner for an anti-trafficking team and seven young girls, who had been recently rescued from a brothel. The evening proved momentous and the Bolthouse family went away feeling deeply angry that such an atrocity as sex slavery existed in the world.

In 2009, they connected with filmmaker Christopher Bessette to discuss the possibility of making a movie together. Their shared goal was not only to make a compelling film about a difficult subject matter, but also to raise awareness about human trafficking and move people to action.

'Trade of Innocents' was released to theaters in October 2012. (<http://anthem-magazine.com/qa-with-dermot-mulroney/>)

'Rape for Profit'

Typically known for coffeehouses and cloud cover, Seattle, WA has also gained another title - third most child prostitutes in the nation. Experts estimate that there are up to 300,000 homeless youth at risk to be sexually trafficked nationally every year. Most are girls (many as young as 12 years old), who are bought and sold for the pleasure of men all over the country. This is not just happening in third world countries; it is happening throughout the USA. It has been said that prostitution and rape are two sides of the same coin. None of these little girls want to be out in the freezing cold night after night to get into cars with strange men. They are trapped inside a system of coercion and fear that gives them no hope for a normal childhood - much less a healthy future.

This feature-length documentary from *Mew Films* is the product of hundreds of hours of ride-along footage with the *Seattle Police Department's Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Unit*, including undercover sting operations and interviews with some of Seattle's leading politicians and leaders. This powerful film hopes to shed light on this growing problem and uncover the solution to the atrocities happening to Seattle's daughters, nieces, and friends.

'Rape For Profit' partners with local law enforcement, teen shelters, and non-profit organizations to help educate the city of Seattle on what is going on right in front of them.

According to the documentary's trailer, demand for porn is actually a demand for more prostitution. Porn feeds the demand for more 'prostituted women'. (<http://rapeforprofitfilm.com/>)

Twiss Butler from *Equality for Women* wrote, "... as long as women are subjected to commercial sexual exploitation, demand for girls will also continue -- with rape by family members and friends serving as the training ground for the trade."



Action

Grameen Bank In Danger

Avaaz, meaning 'voice' or 'song' in many languages, is a 16-million-person global campaign network that works to ensure that the views and values of the world's people shape global decision-making.

One of its current campaigns is to save the Grameen Bank, which is very different from the giants of Wall Street. Grameen loans money to 8.4 million people, mostly women from the poorest villages in Bangladesh, so they can buy assets like cows or sewing machines and start earning money. These women borrowers also run the bank. They are its majority shareholders, with nine out of twelve seats on the Board held by village women.

But Bangladesh's jealous Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, has fired Grameen's Nobel Prize winning founder, Muhammad Yunus, and wants to seize control of the bank, all to silence a political rival. She first stripped Dr. Yunus' position as the Bank's Managing Director. Then she passed the Grameen Bank Ordinance amendment that would allow the government to bypass the people-elected board and handpick his successor. Many believe she is punishing Yunus for highlighting corruption at the highest levels of her bribe scandal-filled government. She even seems jealous that he won the Nobel Prize. Hasina has been mired in a series of scandals. Now it is time to shame her into ending this vengeful attack. Grameen's downfall would be a disaster.

Sources:

- <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/09/30/opinion/sunday/kristof-women-hurting-women.html>
- <http://www.moneylife.in/business-wire-news/george-shultz-madeleine-albright-join-growing-groundswell-of-concern-over-possible-government-takeover-of-grameen-bank/32559.html>
- http://www.huffingtonpost.com/eliot-daley/microfinance-pioneer-grameen-bank_b_1793025.html

Sign the petition now:

http://www.avaaz.org/en/save_the_world_best_bank_fba/

Films *cont. from pg. 6*

with hundreds of young women, the 55-minute film examines how the wider culture's frequently contradictory messages about pleasure, danger, agency, and victimization enter into women's most intimate relationships with men. The result is a refreshingly candid and nuanced look at how young women are forced to grapple with deeply ambivalent cultural attitudes about female sexuality. The film is helpful for courses that look at popular culture, gender norms, sexuality, and sexual violence. A high school version, edited for profanity, is available on the same DVD.



'Boys to Men?'

In this moving follow-up to the critically-acclaimed 'Hoop Dreams', award-winning filmmaker Frederick Marx continues

his exploration of the lives of ordinary young men and the extraordinary challenges they face. 'Boys to Men?' (the

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

Interactive Canada-USA-Mexico Crime Incidence Map
<http://border.globalincidentmap.com/>

Media Education Foundation
<http://www.mediaed.org/>

Fighting Porn Addiction
<http://www.fightthenewdrug.org>

Avaaz Campaigns
<http://www.avaaz.org/>

'Boys to Men?' *cont. from col. 2* second in a proposed trilogy about masculinity in America) trains its focus on the pressures and expectations faced by a diverse group of young urban males.

The DVD consists of four films. 'Are You Listening?' features several teenage boys from different ethnic, racial, and class backgrounds offering fascinating insights into their own experiences and the meaning of manhood in America. Three additional pieces – 'Spencer', 'Cisco' and 'Al-Tran' - give insight into the lives of three 15-year-old boys as they navigate the daily challenges of school, family, and American society.

Education About Porn Addiction

The website provides a wealth of valuable resources, including articles describing how the brain reacts to porn and exploring the connection between sex crimes and pornography. The website is a great tool for parents. (<http://www.fightthenewdrug.org>)

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
Editing and Layout: *Jean Schaefer, SDS*