

# Stop Trafficking !

*Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter*



*Awareness*

*Advocacy*

*Action*

February 2008 Vol. 6 No. 2

This issue continues examining the trafficking of children, primarily in the U.S. and Canada, as well as ways to prevent child trafficking.

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## Supply and Demand for Sexual Exploitation of Children

In September 2006 *Shared Hope International*, *ECPAT-USA*, and the *Protection Project* (Johns Hopkins Univ. School of Advanced International Studies) published the *U.S. Mid-Term Review on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children - CSEC*.

The Report examined child trafficking, prostitution, pornography, child sex tourism, the 'supply-demand' factors underlying these abuses and effective programs to address 'demand'.

Raising awareness of the problem is crucial, especially to expose the more hidden issues, such as *growing cultural acceptance* and *increased numbers of female perpetrators*.

Through the *slow, cultural acceptance of demand for child victims*, the commercial sexual exploitation of children is becoming normalized and accepted. One indication of this trend is the large number of 'respectable' men who consume the sexual services of commercially exploited youth in child pornography and prostitution. Many of these men engage in acts which, if performed with the child of a friend or neighbor, would clearly be considered child sexual abuse. However, because these actions are part of a commercial transaction, the child becomes criminalized rather than the consumer.

*Language* contributes to normaliza-

tion through use of the words 'john' or 'client' instead of 'perpetrator' or 'sex abuser.' Such normalization should not exist in the illegal market of child exploitation.

The *spread of child pornography* was identified as being a catalyst for increased demand for more images of child exploitation and therefore for more victims of child trafficking, prostitution and sex tourism.

Only by increasing the social and legal cost to the child pornography *producer, buyer, seller, or viewer* is it possible to prevent pornographic images from fueling the sex trade.

There is growing involvement of *female perpetrators recruiting children* into prostitution and running their own pimping businesses. Law enforcement must identify, investigate, and prosecute the female perpetrators as well as their male counterparts. Similarly, there is a call for greater political will to prosecute offenders who commercially sexually abuse teenagers, not just very young children.

It is important to educate potential victims, but also to analyze and identify the victimizers. There has been a significant call to address demand from *consumers and purchasers of CSEC* and to view them as child sex abusers and exploiters. (pgs. 25-28)

## Canadian Teen Missing

Some months ago one of the *Stop Trafficking* sponsors wrote, saying the 17-year old daughter of a friend left Halifax for another Canadian city, or so the family suspected, since money had been wired to and received by her.

The *Halifax Task Force on Prostitution* gathered info about her from family, friends, doctors and teachers but were not hopeful since there was nothing to actually trace her.

She had gone to a friend's house overnight. She left there supposedly for another friend's but disappeared. There was one call home from her, saying she was away, but it gave no details of where or how to reach her.

In the early 1990s, police in Ontario broke up a large pimping ring moving girls from the Halifax area to Montreal, Toronto, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Calgary, Victoria B.C. and New York City. (<http://www.hfxnews.com/index.cfm?sid=45875&sc=89>)

## Child Porn Found

A Moorhead, MN man was arrested after police found tens of thousands of images of child porn in his home. He is also charged with distribution of porn, trading images of children as young as 5 years old. If convicted he will face up to 180 years in prison. ([http://www.kare11.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=492430](http://www.kare11.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=492430))



## Awareness

### Causes of Child Trafficking

In impoverished countries child labor and child 'fostering' by relatives and friends frequently result in the enslavement of a child.

In the U.S. children are at risk due to family breakdown, the proliferation of Internet porn, and the lure of consumer goods and independence by youth.

## The Plight of Teens

Between 100,000 - 300,000 U.S. children under age 18 are at risk of being trafficked within the U.S. for commercial sexual exploitation. Runaways are particularly vulnerable, often being approached within 48 hours of leaving home.

Research by Richard Estes and Neil Alan Weiner of the University of Pennsylvania indicated that 75 percent of sex-trafficked children come from middle-class backgrounds. Rural children are often more naive than inner-city children, making them easier targets.

According to *Shared Hope International* (SHI) the Midwest is becoming a pipeline for human trafficking. Interstate highway I-35 bisects the country from Laredo TX to Duluth MN with access to highways leading east and west. "Truckers can load women and children into their cabs and transfer them to other trucks at truck stops along the way," explained Melissa Snow of SHI. "They park so close together that children can be moved without their feet even touching the ground - invisibly." Once a trafficker moves a child to a strange place, forcing her into prostitution is simple.

At age 15, *Samantha Walker* was lured into prostitution on the streets of Toledo - then taken against her will to Atlanta. A married man with two children, a white-collar job and a home in Atlanta's suburbs, offered Samantha's pimp \$50 for oral sex with her. The man forced her to have intercourse at a highway rest stop. Then he took her against her will to a motel, from which she escaped and called the police. Samantha testified against her attacker, who was convicted of false imprisonment and soliciting sex with a minor and sentenced to six years in prison. But just weeks after the trial, back in Toledo, Samantha took an overdose of anti-depression medication and died.

Many of the sexually exploited children end up in Atlanta. Its busy airport makes Atlanta a destination for men seeking sex and therefore a hub for prostitution. In the past pimps advertised on the walls of men's rest rooms or on street corners. Today they use online bulletin boards like *Craigslist* (<http://www.craigslist.org/>). Customers set up liaisons after seeing girls on the sites and then pay the girl or the pimp directly on the street, according to Atlanta police.

Because of *Samantha Walker*, the Atlanta Mayor led a drive against child prostitution under the banner of a "No more, not in my city." She wrote the founder and executive director of *Craigslist* urging him to remove postings of women engaged in activity that broke Georgia law and called on other mayors to file similar protests. Prosecutors now bring felony rather than misdemeanor charges against men who use child prostitutes. "When a child is involved, we can no longer politely call these men 'johns.' They are panderers, child molesters and felons," said a district attorney.

Former prostituted children face serious problems, such as sexually transmitted diseases, drug and alcohol addiction, low self-esteem and lack of education. Few go on to lead productive lives. Many return to the streets or wind up in prison.

One exception is 'Anna', not her real name, who testified against her pimp in Atlanta in a 2002 federal trial. 'Anna' told the court another pimp sold her when she was 12 years old. The man, who bought her, tied her spread-eagled to a bed in his home for two weeks before a relative rescued her. The man was convicted and sentenced to 40 years in prison.

([http://ca.news.yahoo.com/s/reuters/071128/us/usreport\\_usa\\_prostitution\\_children\\_dc](http://ca.news.yahoo.com/s/reuters/071128/us/usreport_usa_prostitution_children_dc))

## Addiction to Internet Porn

- A wealthy Houston businessman in the oil and gas industry
- A third-grade teacher and accomplished pilot
- A small-town police officer
- A major homebuilder's purchasing department employee

These seemingly successful men lost everything because of their sexual affinity for children, evident through the pornographic images they possessed. All are now in prison except one, who committed suicide while in custody.

The crime often surfaces among people with good jobs, solid education and otherwise ordinary family lives. Many predators are white men, half of them middle-aged or older. Most accessed pornography through the Internet, and some were accused of producing images themselves. Many of those arrested had technical jobs with computers, granting them frequent access to the Web. Some were current or former law enforcement officers.

Tracking Abusers cont. pg. 3



## Advocacy

### Angela's House: Atlanta

- Average age of girls at Angela's House: 14
- Average length of stay: 125 days
- Kidnapped and forced into prostitution: 33%
- Admitted to having a pimp: 50%
- Reported a history of childhood sexual abuse: 79%  
(<http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/metro/stories/2007/03/10/0311metangela.html>)

## Getting Tough on Child Porn

- An international Internet consultant arrested at the airport with child sex photos on his laptop;
- The father of three young girls, who recorded himself raping and sodomizing them;
- A man with more than 350,000 photos of pornography, some of which included sexual penetration of toddlers;
- A pharmacy assistant who sent child porn over the Internet saying he could drug young girls so they wouldn't remember being assaulted and photographed.

These are some of the cases in Minnesota courts, where federal prosecutors are pushing for and getting maximum sentences. *"In six months we have obtained three sentences of*

*terms that are 30 years, 30 years and 10 years, respectively,"* a prosecutor said. *"We think those are righteous sentences."*

Congress enacted the first law dealing specifically with child pornography in 1978. Ten years later, it made it illegal to use a computer to create or promote it. The PROTECT Act, passed in 2003, set stiff mandatory minimum sentences. The *Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act*, enacted in 2006, stiffened sentences even more and, among other things, established the *Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender* public website.

Extraordinary prison sentences for first-time offenders and a willingness by prosecutors to throw the book at

them are evidence of an expanding crackdown by the federal government on anyone caught producing, possessing or distributing child pornography. Mandatory minimum sentences have been lengthened twice in the past three years, and a year ago the Department of Justice launched *Project Safe Childhood*, a no-holds-barred enforcement initiative that has made prosecution of child porn a top priority. Federal prison sentences for child porn producers more than doubled between 1994 and 2005, and defense attorneys expect them to get even longer as a result of recent congressional action. (<http://www.startribune.com/462/story/1032190.html>) (<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/5345105.html>)

### Tracking Abusers *cont. from pg. 2*

Several worked in jobs around children. Among those prosecuted federally were a railroad engineer, a chiropractor, an attorney, a veterinarian, a major oil company supervisor and an airline flight attendant.

Finding child pornography on the Internet is easy. Most Web sites devoted to such pictures are storage sites or server sites based in foreign countries, according to the *U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Child Exploitation Section*. ICE estimates 150 to 200 commercial child exploitation Web sites exist globally. Violence, sadism and torture are frequently common themes. *"These are crime scene photos of kids being raped. We see knives. We see plastic bags over children's heads,"* agents said. Though offenders frequently

argue that sexual images of children are *"just pictures,"* prosecutors say the reality is far more sinister. Each time a person downloads or looks at a picture, prosecutors argue, the child in the image is being victimized again. That, in turn, fuels the demand and ensures the continuing sexual abuse, they say. Adding to the danger, looking at such images raises risks that viewers will act on their fantasies.

Authorities are now enlisting help from credit card companies and Internet service providers to crack down on child porn Web sites with hopes of blocking access to exploitative images. The *Financial Coalition Against Child Pornography*, a group of 30 major financial institutions, credit card companies and Internet companies, is working to eradicate the commercial

child pornography industry by identifying such illegal Web sites, then working to stop payments and shut them down. Companies participating in the financial coalition represent more than 90 percent of the U.S. payments industry.

As a result, prices to access these Web sites have risen four or five times because of the risks that entrepreneurs face, said Ernie Allen, president and CEO of the *National Center for Missing and Exploited Children*.

Another effort, the *Technology Coalition*, involving AOL, Yahoo, Microsoft, Google, Earthlink, United Online and the *National Center for Missing and Exploited Children* is exploring how to identify and intercept such illegal images so they don't reach consumers' computers. That technology has not yet been implemented.





## Advocacy

# New York Magazine Cancels Sex Ads

In November 2007 *New York Magazine* agreed to stop accepting sex ads after the local Chapter of the *National Organization for Women* (NOW) threatened protests outside the popular weekly publication.

NOW had accused *New York* of being a “marketing arm of the organized crime world of prostitution and human trafficking” because of classified ads at the back of the magazine with such tag lines as “Asians Gone Wild” and “Asian Dreamgirls.” Sonia Ossorio, president of the local NOW chapter, said she was “delighted” at the magazine’s decision.

NOW-NYC had sent out a news release announcing plans to stage a protest outside the magazine’s offices over the sex ads. The chapter has been asking other local media to stop taking the salacious ads and said it has won agreements to do so from 14 other publications including *Time Out New York* and *New York Press*.

Ossorio said she met with *New York*’s publisher and learned the magazine would stop running the ads, which span two pages in the latest issue.

Magazine spokeswoman Serena Torrey confirmed the decision but declined to say whether NOW’s pressure tactics had influenced *New York*’s decision. “It’s just the right the thing to do,” she said. Torrey said the magazine had been looking to eliminate the ads for some time. “The magazine is really prospering now and it’s finally time

to get out of a business that we were never comfortable being in,” she said.

According to the Audit Bureau of Circulations, *New York*’s circulation for the six months ending June 30 was approximately 429,000.

Ossorio says *The Village Voice* and ethnic newspapers such as the *World Journal* have resisted her group’s efforts to put a stop to the sex ads. *The Village Voice* has nearly a dozen pages of lascivious ads covering everything from “Beautiful Latin Babes” to “Asian Party Girls.”

Taina Bien-Aimé, executive director of *Equality Now*, an international women’s rights organization, said her group has joined NOW’s campaign.

“What we believe and know is that a lot of these advertisements are covers for what can be dens for human trafficking,” she said. “Turning a blind eye to that is a danger, and a reputable corporation should not be part of illegal enterprises.”

NOW-NYC claims that *New York* makes \$10,000 (€6,874) a week running the ads; *New York* declined to comment on its ad revenue.

*New York* magazine is part of *New York Media Holdings LLC*, which is owned by Lazard Ltd. chief executive Bruce Wasserstein. (<http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/11/06/business/NA-GEN-US-Magazine-Sex-Ads.php>)

## ‘Personal Services’ Ads Discontinued

The United Kingdom *Manchester Evening News*, *Reading Evening Post* and *Surrey Advertiser* ceased publication of all health club, escort and personal services advertising from their papers. The move by parent company, *MEN Media* with more than 20 daily and weekly paid and free newspapers, comes as public concern mounts over the possibility that the advertisements for such premises and services, if proven to be used for criminal activity, could be classed as profiting from the proceeds of crime.

The managing director said, “We have been in contact with the police, trade bodies and a number of readers about their concerns over the nature and changes within the personal services advertisement section. Following from these discussions, it is in the best interests of our readers if we decline such advertising in the future. All of our customers in these categories have been notified about the changes which affect the *Manchester Evening News*, *The Surrey Advertiser*, *the Reading Evening Post* and all associated titles.”

Fears over massage parlor ads in the classifieds section of newspapers led to a government pledge earlier in 2007 to work in partnership with the local newspaper industry as part of a range of measures to clampdown on sex trafficking.

Another newspaper was accused of hypocrisy after running ads for massage parlors that had been exposed in the front of the paper as allegedly being part of sex-trafficking industry.

CHECK: [www.holdthefrontpage.co.uk](http://www.holdthefrontpage.co.uk)



## Advocacy

5

### Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: (CSEC)

#### What do we know and what do we do about it?

This December 2007 Report from the U.S. Dept. of Justice looks at the current situation (CSEC) affecting children. One in five girls and one in ten boys are sexually abused before reaching adulthood.

For example, statistics show that in 1998 the *National Center for Exploited and Missing Children* established a hotline and received 4578 calls. By 2004 that number increased to 112,017.

To prevent CSEC the Report recommends keeping pace with technology; educating potential victims; educating the public; improving parental supervision; and enhancing the role of women and children in society.

For a summary or to obtain the full Report: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs-sum/215733.htm>



A 2006 review by the *International Center for Missing and Exploited Children* revealed 95 of Interpol's 186 member countries had no laws addressing child pornography, while 136 nations don't consider possession of such material to be a crime. Only 28 countries have comprehensive laws on the issue, the review found.

### The Sacred Bath: An American Teen's Story of Modern Day Slavery

The author, Theresa L. Flores, shares her story of slavery while living in an upper-middle class suburb of Detroit.

At age 15 she was drugged, raped and tortured by members of a large underground criminal ring. They manipulated, coerced and threatened her, forcing her to pay back an impossible debt. By day she attended school alongside her abusers, while trying to keep her family safe. By night she was called 'into service' while her family slept soundly.

*The Sacred Bath* discusses how Theresa Flores healed the wounds of sexual servitude. She offers advice to parents and professionals on preventing this from happening. She is currently in social work and does public speaking. The book, available at Amazon.com, has mixed reviews.

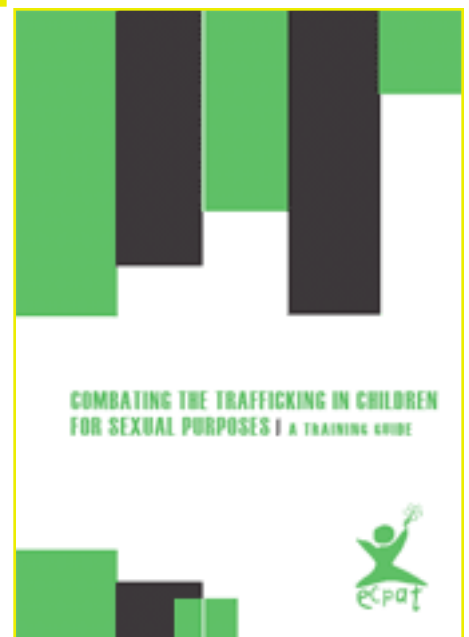
### Combating the Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes: A Training Guide

The European ECPAT (*End Child Prostitution Pornography and Trafficking*) group prepared this resource guide for the use of trainers who are seeking to train professionals who want to learn about the issue of child trafficking, to know how to protect children from being trafficked for sexual purposes, and to give appropriate protection and assistance to those children who come within their sphere of professional responsibility as victims of trafficking. The target audience is mainly police officers, social workers, and state agency employees concerned with child protection.

The 140-page Manual covers the full range of topics related to helping trafficked children. It also provides information, techniques and tools to make training effective. There are suggestions about:

- The role of the trainer
- Understanding the target group
- How to manage challenging situations
- How to use diverse learning activities and technology
- Intercultural skills
- Time allocation and prioritization
- How to ensure favorable training conditions.

The Manual may be obtained at: [http://www.ecpat.net/eng/pdf/Trafficking\\_Report.pdf](http://www.ecpat.net/eng/pdf/Trafficking_Report.pdf)





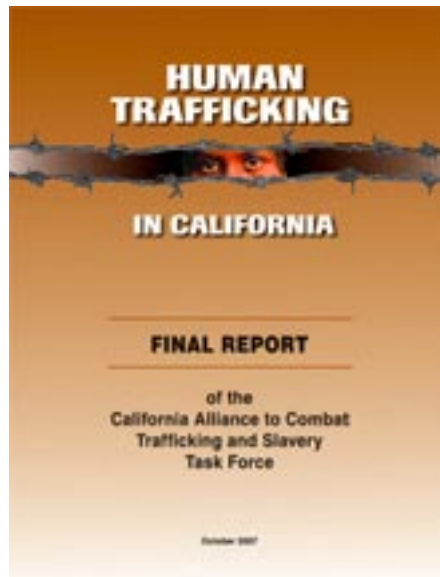
Advocacy

## California Task Force Calls for Better Anti-Trafficking Measures

Following the enactment of the California law against human trafficking in January 2006 the *California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery (CA ACTS) Task Force* was also established and mandated to conduct a thorough review of California's response to human trafficking and report its findings and recommendations to the Governor, Attorney General and Legislature. Hearings were held between March 2006 and July 2007.

"Based on the result of these efforts, the Task Force prepared the report, *Human Trafficking in California*. Among its many findings and recommendations, the Task Force believed strongly that the following issues were the most critical in combating this human rights abuse:

- *Societal attitudes that perpetuate human trafficking should be examined and consciousness-raising measures should affirm that everyone in the U.S. is entitled to basic human rights, no matter where they came from or what their circumstances.*
- *To help human trafficking victims escape, victims must trust that they will not be deported; and that their immediate health, safety and housing needs will be met.*
- *NGOs need sufficient funds to provide services to human trafficking victims, including caseworker, shelter, legal support, health care, interpreter and other services, as well as for community outreach and measures to help victims become self sufficient.*
- *The perception that most human trafficking is sex trafficking must be dispelled, and other forms of forced labor recognized."* (pg. 3)



**The Task Force found that CA lacked comprehensive data on human trafficking.** Among its recommendations was an appeal to the *U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)* and other agencies to develop culturally sensitive questions for trained interviewers to ask deportees during exit interviews to check whether they had been trafficked.

The public should also learn to report human trafficking to the U.S. Department of Justice Hotline, 1-888-428-7581; to locally established hotlines; to local anti-trafficking organizations; or to local law enforcement.

In regard to **protecting and assisting victims of human trafficking**, the *Task Force* stated that members of law enforcement, health and social services providers, labor agencies and other first responders may miss precious opportunities to help victims escape to freedom because they fail to recognize the signs of human trafficking.

Among the recommendations the *Task Force* suggested:

- amending the *Business and Professions Code* to require mandatory training on human trafficking for all physicians, psychologists and social workers practicing in California;
- having the *U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS)* reinstate the former grant funding process (rather than the *per capita* contractor-vendor arrangement). This would allow hiring core caseworkers to provide essential direct client services;
- funding anti-trafficking resources also for rural areas, rather than primarily to large urban areas.

The *Task Force* indicated that California **does not have enough appropriate shelter space** to support the needs of human trafficking victims. They recommend increased funding for this need as well as allocation of HUD housing and a second *Unaccompanied Refugee Minor Program* for southern California.

The high rate of denial of federal T visa applications prevents human trafficking victims from obtaining the benefits and services they need to rebuild their lives and law enforcement and prosecutors from identifying and prosecuting traffickers. The *Task Force* recommended examining how to: (a) expedite the processing of T visa applications; and, (b) expedite the issuing of regulations for adjustment of status of T visa and U visa holders by government agencies. In addition the *American Immigration Lawyers Association* should encourage more attorneys to obtain training to work on a *pro bono* basis to help victims with





## Action

### CA Task Force cont. pg. 6

needed legal services. NGOs, battered women's shelters, rape crisis centers and immigration rights groups, in coordination with local law enforcement agencies, should consider alternative solutions to help trafficking victims who cannot be officially certified (i.e. VAWA, sexual assault and domestic violence services, relocation, restraining orders, etc.). More needs to be done to address a trafficked victim's right to civil relief and civil litigation.

The *Task Force* stated that **California's human trafficking law needs to be strengthened to make it a more powerful tool to prosecute traffickers**. Penalties need to be increased, provisions for victims that are underage must be addressed. Because of the lack of trained law enforcement officers, district attorneys and judges opportunities to arrest, prosecute and sentence traffickers under CA's law are greatly impeded.

**To prevent trafficking**, CA government, corporations and business owners bear a moral responsibility to exert leadership to insist on humane and lawful labor standards in their purchasing and, for business owners, throughout their supply chain. Remedies could include having the *California Public Employees Retirement System* (CalPERS), the *California State Teachers Retirement System* (CalSTRS) and other public and private investment organizations examine their investment strategies to address potential forced labor practices, and favor companies that adhere to respected labor standards.

In addition, California cities, counties, public school districts and public universities should examine their

purchasing practices to assure that no purchased goods or equipment be produced as a result of forced labor, and, if needed, establish *Sweatfree Codes of Conduct*.

Lack of awareness about human trafficking and societal attitudes that perpetuate this problem result in lost opportunities to help victims escape from their traffickers.

The state needs an educational campaign against human trafficking that changes social norms and promotes public awareness.

Such a campaign should:

- Emphasize that all individuals, regardless of immigration status, are entitled to basic human rights;
- Encourage consumers to identify products from industries that have established appropriate codes of conduct against forced labor and that promote fair trade practices;
- Target the most vulnerable populations and utilize messages that each particular community understands.

California public schools should teach students about the human rights abuse of human trafficking, about positive attitudes toward victims of such abuse and about measures to prevent abuse.

Corporations should partner with NGOs to inaugurate social responsibility and awareness campaigns to help eradicate human trafficking.

Finally the *Task Force* recommended **further study** be done on various issues including:

- The unique needs of child victims of human trafficking and child sexual exploitation.
- The possibility of amending California's *Welfare and Institutions Code*, to extend temporary state-funded benefits and services beyond the current period until victims receive federal certification.
- The feasibility of amending California's *Labor Code* to provide

protections to domestic workers, who are especially vulnerable to human trafficking, and to other economic sectors that may lack adequate labor protections.

- The possibility of relaxing the standards for human trafficking victims' cooperation with law enforcement in criminal investigations to receive immigration relief and other benefits.
- The possibility of establishing a "mandated reporter" category for responders in order to identify victims of human trafficking, to include law enforcement, health care providers and social services professionals.
- Encouraging workers' rights organizations to assist human trafficking victims in grass roots campaigns to raise awareness about forced labor, and thus influence corporate change.

## Global Networking

*Caritas Internationalis* has identified four major areas for action against trafficking, which are suited to its modes of action: *prevention, assistance, advocacy* and *networking*. It declares its commitment to work in these areas in its publication, "*The Caritas Internationalis Commitment on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings*", and initiated the ecumenical COATNET network (*Christian Organisations Against Trafficking*), which has taken a global dimension.

In the spirit of the *Congress on Consecrated Life* (2004), the *Justice Peace Integrity of Creation Commission Working Group against Trafficking in Women and Children*, acts on "the care we have for one another that leads us to engage with the pain and suffering of our world with all its peoples and all of creation". The *Unions of Superiors General* (USG/UISG - leaders of men/women religious globally) are committed to bring to this partnership its special skills in education of the public through publications and public meetings, sharing its experience through the formation of field workers, and through pastoral care and rehabilitation of the victims. (Rome, November 2007)



## Action

### 'Not For Sale' Campaign

The campaign, established by David Batstone, a *University of San Francisco* (USF) ethics professor, is becoming a global network of abolitionists, involving faith organizations and high schools as well as colleges.

Students at USF are monitoring massage parlors in San Francisco for potential trafficking. Newspaper and Internet ads for these venues, often located on upper floors with boarded windows, were marketing groups of women, whom students observed, rarely left the buildings. Some establishments did not have massage or business licenses. Yet, local law enforcement did not often respond to the students' findings.

A USF spokesperson said, "*trafficking flourishes because it is a low-risk, high-profit business and its victims are poor, voiceless and disposable. Human rights organizations and outraged citizens, like our students, must take on much of the responsibility for exposing the problem through education and outreach to the victims.*"

*"All of us wonder how we would have acted in the epic struggles of human history. Imagine we lived in rural Tennessee in 1855 and Harriet Tubman came to our door, asking us to join the Underground Railroad. Would we have stood up and been counted among the just?"*

*There are times to read history, and there are times to make history. We live right now at one of those epic moments in the fight for human freedom. We no longer have to wonder how we might respond to our moment of truth. Future generations will look back and judge our choices, and be inspired or disappointed."* David Batstone, author of *Not For Sale: The Return of the Global Slave Trade -- and How We Can Fight It*

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

### Informative Web Sites:

(Each contains information related to human trafficking)

**To track the progress of TVPA Bill (HR 3887) and list of co-sponsors**

<http://thomas.loc.gov>

**TVPA now in the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary**

<http://judiciary.senate.gov/members.cfm>

**Contact your senator!**

### Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Patrick J. Leahy  
CHAIRMAN, D-VERMONT

Edward M. Kennedy  
D-MASSACHUSETTS  
Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
D-DELAWARE  
Herb Kohl  
D-WISCONSIN  
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Russell D. Feingold  
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D-MARYLAND  
Sheldon Whitehouse  
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Charles E. Grassley  
R-IOWA  
Jon Kyl  
R-ARIZONA  
Jeff Sessions  
R-ALABAMA  
Lindsey Graham  
R-SOUTH CAROLINA  
John Cornyn  
R-TEXAS  
Sam Brownback  
R-KANSAS  
Tom Coburn  
R-OKLAHOMA

## Upcoming Montreal Conference

**SLAVERY IN THE 21ST CENTURY: HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

**April 10-13, 2008**

The Jewish community and its Interfaith Coalition have organized a free and fully-packed agenda for their Conference. The keynote speaker is *MP Joy Smith*, the Parliamentary expert on human trafficking. Other main speakers include: *Dr. Laura Lederer*, Senior Director for Global Projects Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons of the U.S. Department of State; *Michael Cory Davis*, activist and film maker of *Svetlana's Journey* and *Cargo: Innocence Lost*; *Rev. Dr. Carrie Pemberton* of CHASTE; and author *Victor Malarek* who will speak about demand at a men's-only meeting. The program includes a day-long study for students interacting with the speakers and representatives of law enforcement, health care and social work.

For information, contact:

Peggy Sakow at 514-937-3575 or at: [human@templemontreal.ca](mailto:human@templemontreal.ca)

### 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://homepage.mac.com/srjeanschafer/sds/stoptraffic/index.html>

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please use this e-mail address: [jeansds2008@yahoo.com](mailto:jeansds2008@yahoo.com)

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