

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

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Action

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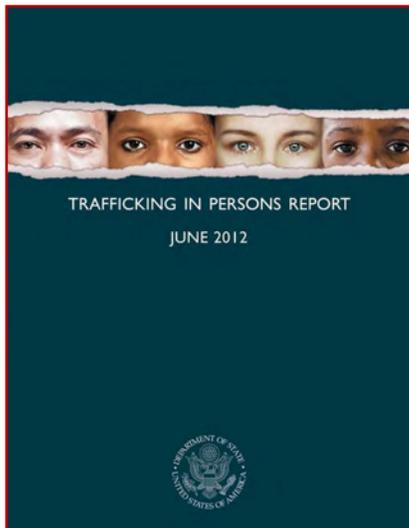
This issue highlights excerpts from the 2012 TIP Report, with emphasis on how to make victim protection most effective for helping survivors get their lives back on track.

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- Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union USA

U.S. State Department Trafficking in Persons 'TIP' Report 2012



“The Report contains specific guides and examples of what victim protection looks like when it succeeds, as well as when it fails. But if a single notion should guide the way governments and caregivers come to the aid of victims, it is the goal of restoring what was lost and providing meaningful choices for the path forward. And that requires listening to their experiences and incorporating their perspectives, to make a reality of the concept ‘nothing about them without them.’” (Ambassador Luis CdeBaca)

“Over the coming months we will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, which Abraham Lincoln announced on September 22, 1862 and issued by Executive Order on January 1, 1863. In 1865, as the guns of the Civil War fell silent, the Congress passed and the states ratified as the 13th Amendment to the Constitution President Lincoln’s commitment that ‘neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist in the U.S.’

“Yet, despite the adoption of treaties and laws prohibiting slavery, the evidence nevertheless shows that many men, women, and children continue to live in modern-day slavery through the scourge of trafficking in persons.”



“We should aim not only to put an end to this crime, but also to ensure that survivors can move beyond their exploitation and live the lives they choose for themselves.”

(Hillary Rodham Clinton,
U.S. Secretary of State,
June 19, 2012)



Awareness

Victims of Trafficking

Because trafficking in persons is manifested in a wide range of forms, anti-trafficking laws must consider the many different types of victims who are exploited. Narrow definitions of trafficking could potentially exclude some victims from receiving the justice, protection, or benefits they deserve. If a law fails to protect all victims of trafficking under its provisions—excluding, for example, men, laborers, adults, or those who have not crossed a border before being enslaved—certain victims may find themselves accused of violating other, non-trafficking laws for actions that are connected to their victimization.

Unfortunately, the arrest, incarceration, and/or deportation of trafficking victims occurs far too often. These actions undermine the goals of a victim-centered response and constrain law enforcement efforts to bring traffickers to justice. Research reveals, for example, that a considerable number of prostituted minors and other trafficking victims are arrested every year in many countries, including the U.S.. According to the Palermo Protocol, however, all prostituted minors are considered victims of trafficking in persons. Without domestic laws consistent with this international standard nor proper efforts to screen for victims—such as training the law enforcement and justice officials likely to encounter these individuals—they can be swept into a system that views all persons in prostitution or undocumented immigrants as criminals and treats them accordingly.

A law must ensure to provide a victim-centered framework for fighting modern slavery in which everyone victimized by trafficking, whether for labor or commercial sexual exploitation, whether a citizen or immigrant, whether a man, woman or child, is considered a victim under the law. (TIP pg. 13-14)

Global Law Enforcement Data

Data began to be collected in 2004. The 2007 TIP Report showed for the first time a breakout of the number of total prosecutions and convictions that related to labor trafficking, placed in parentheses. (TIP, pg. 44)

Year	Prosecutions	Convictions	Victims Identified	New/Amended Legislation
2004	6,885	3,026		
2005	6,178	4,379		40
2006	5,808	3,160		21
2007	5,682 (490)	3,427 (326)		28
2008	5,212 (312)	2,983 (104)	30,961	26
2009	5,606 (432)	4,166 (335)	49,105	33
2010	6,017 (607)	3,619 (237)	33,113	17
2011	7,909 (456)	3,969 (278)	42,291 (15,205)	15

Persons in Forced Labor

(TIP, pg. 45)

In June 2012, the *International Labour Organization* reported almost 21 million people are now in forced labor, up from a “minimum estimate” of 12.3 million reported in 2005. The increase is due to better research methods. Of the 20.9 million globally in forced labor, 4.5 million were sexually exploited and 14.2 million were exploited in industries such as construction and agriculture. (http://thecnnfreedomproject.blogs.cnn.com/2012/06/01/rights-group-21-million-now-in-forced-labor/?hpt=hp_t3)





Awareness

Abuse and Rescue in Brazil

In the middle of the night, two men slipped away quietly from a ranch. They walked 14 miles through forests and fields to escape. What is extraordinary is that a younger slavery survivor, Joel, age 30, was risking his life to help Ronival, age 69, and a stranger, who could never have walked to freedom on his own. Joel's mother told him about Ronival's situation, so he decided to act. He thought of calling authorities, but feared it would be too dangerous. *"I didn't want to expose myself. Somebody might identify me; it might be dangerous for my life,"* Joel said. *"So I opted to do the rescue immediately on my own."*

When they arrived at the *Pastoral Land Commission* (CPT), a frontline partner of *'Free the Slaves'*, the two men were exhausted. Ronival had a broken shoulder and was blind in one eye. He had lost 55 pounds during 10 years of slavery. He wept while describing his living conditions. For six years he slept outside the rancher's house. He eventually moved to a wood hut, but there was no electricity, drinking water or sanitation. He bathed in a polluted stream also used by cattle.

CPT had helped Joel file legal claims against different slaveholders and restart his life free from threats from the men who had enslaved him. Joel had been tricked several times by farmers who promised good jobs but never delivered. *"This is not human job, this is slave job,"* Joel recalls saying to himself. *"But I always attempted once more. Who knows: this time, it might be better?"*

Now free, Ronival's vision is recovering thanks to cataract surgery. CPT helped him win compensation from the slaveholder in court. (TIP, pg. 21)

(The work of CPT is documented in a 11-minute *'Free the Slaves'* online documentary: *'Partners in Action'*.)



Suffering in Lebanon

Amina left her home in **Bangladesh** to take a job in Lebanon as a maid. Despite the promise of opportunity, she found herself exploited at the hands of an abusive employer. She was tortured, molested, and confined to the house for three months. "I was hardly given any food," she later said. "In solitary confinement in a room, I had no idea what Lebanon looked like." Amina managed to escape and was repatriated at the expense of the recruitment agency that had sent her abroad. She still suffers pain from injuries to her eyes sustained at the hands of her employer, but because the broker confiscated her passport and job contract, she cannot file a complaint with the authorities or receive compensation. (TIP, pg. 11)

The 'Cost' of a Job

- The cost of a job for a 15-year-old **Indian** girl could be three years of her life spent working in a garment or textile factory, forced to work excessive hours in dangerous conditions, and often subject to verbal or sexual abuse. At the end of this three-year period, she might receive a payment of approximately \$645 - \$860, which would be used as a dowry to give to the family of her future husband.
- In the **Middle East**, the cost might be imprisonment because the employer fails to properly renew a worker's visa.
- For a **Guatemalan**, the cost of a job could include becoming an undocumented worker in the **U.S.** when he or she is forced by traffickers to perform labor that is not covered by the visa provided by his or her labor broker. He or she would then have to repay the broker and travel fees, all while working nearly 80 hours a week for less than minimum wage.
- The cost of a job for **Vietnamese** migrant workers seeking work abroad may be the equivalent of \$4,250 or three times Vietnam's *per capita* income. When they go abroad, some of these workers have debts that exceed the earnings they expect in the first year of typical three-year contracts. As the *International Labor Organization's* (ILO) global report on forced labor, *Cost of Coercion*, showed, the cost of this exploitation worldwide is an estimated \$20 billion annually. This is the amount of wages and other benefits denied to migrant workers by fraudulent labor recruiters in their home countries, labor brokers in the country of work, and employers who refuse pay wages. (TIP, pg. 11)



Awareness

Abuse on the Seas

Raju, a migrant worker from Burma, traveled to Thailand when he was falsely promised 6,000 baht per month as a restaurant or factory worker—if he could first pay a 12,000 baht brokerage fee. Out of options, he agreed to borrow money for the fee and use his future earnings to repay it. Raju was instead forced and threatened at gun-point to board a fishing boat. Onboard the Thai vessel, Raju and the other workers were forced to work day and night, lived in cramped quarters, and were beaten if they took fish to cook and eat. Already saddled by debt, Raju never received his promised wages. Each time the fishing boat docked, the workers were taken to a house and locked in a room so that they could not escape. Raju recalled one worker who attempted to run away but was caught: *“The man was tied to a post...the man was electrocuted and tortured with cigarette butts...later he was shot through the head.”* Raju was finally able to escape the Thai fishing vessel by tying himself to a buoy, jumping overboard, and swimming six hours to shore. (TIP, pg. 28)

Limitations of ‘Fair Trade’ & ‘Codes of Conduct’ in Combating Trafficking

Collaboration among stakeholders across government, private-sector, and civil society is essential to combating human trafficking. Businesses are increasingly aware of the role they can play in prevention efforts by decreasing the demand for products made by modern slaves. This is usually seen through ‘fair trade’ schemes or labor ‘codes of conduct’ that seek to voluntarily regulate the social and environmental impact in the production of goods. They reflect consumers’ growing awareness of the risk of labor exploitation and their willingness to factor ethical questions into their purchasing habits, despite paying a price premium for doing so.

Several instances highlighted by the media over the last year, however, brought to light some corporate buyers who in the past advertised their fair trade credentials loudly but were found to have not made a strong effort to know their supply chains and monitor them regularly to ensure they were free of forced labor. Whether dealing in products from Africa and Latin America or in clothes made with cotton in West Africa or Central Asia, companies must be responsible for the full length of their extended supply chains.

Because market-based initiatives rely on the market to correct itself, and lack sufficient mechanisms to ensure meaningful accountability, these initiatives are not a substitute for vigorous government efforts to end impunity through prosecuting and punishing those who subject others to compelled service. (TIP, pg. 20)

Trapped in Spain

Ivoline was at the top of her class in nursing studies at her hometown university in Cameroon. A woman from her village offered to help Ivoline complete her university degree in Europe. Ivoline and her father thought the offer was genuine and Ivoline’s father spent his entire savings to help her get to Spain. The woman had Ivoline pose as her daughter, using false passports while they traveled together to Europe. Once in Spain, instead of being sent to school, Ivoline was forced into prostitution on the streets. Ivoline eventually escaped from the woman and was homeless for a few weeks before she built up enough courage to go to the police. Although her trafficker was not brought to justice, Ivoline’s strength has given her new optimism and confidence; on her birthday this year, she toasted to hopes of finding work and creating a new life in Spain with her own family. (TIP, pg. 38)

Costs of Myths and Misconceptions

Myths and misperceptions about trafficking in persons and its complexities continue to hinder governments’ ability to identify victims, provide them the services they need, and bring their traffickers to justice. These challenges are made worse by the unfortunate tendency to conflate human trafficking and human smuggling. Persistent practices, including the following, contribute to this conflation:

Prevailing concerns about illegal immigration continue to guide governments’ initial responses to potential trafficking victims. Trafficking indicators are missed and victims are wrongly classified as illegal migrants and criminals.

Narrow definitions and continued stereotypes of trafficking as a problem confined to women and girls in prostitution result in the mistreatment of other victims of trafficking. For example, instead of receiving protective services they need, migrant men

Myths cont. pg. 8



5

Advocacy

TIP Report Tier Placements

Tier 1 Countries whose governments fully comply with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's (TVPA) minimum standards.
 Legend: (n) new country in ranking as of 2012; (+/-) indicates the number of tiers a country moved up (+)/down (-) since 2011; (s) special case.

Australia	Denmark	Israel (+)	Netherlands	Slovenia
Austria	Finland	Italy	Zealand	Spain
Belgium	France	Korea, South	Nicaragua (+)	Sweden
Canada	Georgia	Lithuania	Norway	Taiwan
Colombia	Germany	Luxembourg	Poland	United Kingdom
Croatia	Iceland (+)	Macedonia	Slovak Republic	USA
Czech Republic (+)	Ireland	Mauritius		

Tier 2 Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

Albania	Costa Rica (+)	Indonesia	Nepal	St. Lucia
Antigua & Barbuda	Cote d'Ivoire	Japan	Nigeria (-)	St. Vincent & the Gren (+)
Argentina	Curacao (+)	Jordan	Oman	Swaziland
Armenia	Dominican Republic (+)	Kazakhstan	Pakistan	Switzerland
Aruba	Egypt	Kiribati (+)	Palau	Tajikistan
Bangladesh (+)	El Salvador	Kosovo	Panama (+)	Tanzania (+)
Belize	Estonia (+)	Republic	Paraguay	Timor-este
Benin	Ethiopia	Laos	Peru	Togo
Bolivia	Fiji	Latvia	Philippines	Tonga
Bosnia & Herzegovina (-)	Gabon	Lesotho	Portugal (-)	Trinidad & Tobago
Botswana	Ghana	Mali (+)	Qatar (+)	Tunisia (+)
Brazil	Greece	Malta (+)	Romania	Turkey
Brunei (+)	Guatemala	Marshall Islands	Rwanda	Uganda
Bulgaria	Guinea (+)	Mexico	Serbia	Ukraine
Burkina Faso	Guyana	Moldova	Singapore	United Arab Emirates
Cambodia	Honduras	Mongolia	Solomon Islands (+)	Uruguay
Cameroon (+)	Hong Kong	Montenegro	South Africa	Vietnam (+)
Cape Verde (n)	Hungary	Morocco	Sri Lanka	Zambia
Chile	India	Mozambique		

Tier 2 Watch List Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards and:

- a) The absolute number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing;
- b) There is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year; or
- c) The determination that a country is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with minimum standards was based on commitments by the country to take additional future steps over the next year.

Afghanistan	Chad	Iraq	Maldives	Sierra Leone (-)
Angola	China (PRC)	Jamaica (-)	Mauritania (+)	Suriname (-)
Azerbaijan	Congo (ROC)	Kenya (-)	Micronesia (+)	Thailand
Bahrain (-)	Cyprus	Lebanon (+)	Namibia (-)	Bahamas
Barbados	Djibouti (-)	Liberia	Niger	The Gambia
Belarus	Ecuador	Macau (-)	Russia	Turkmenistan (+)
Burma (+)	Bissau (+)	Malawi (-)	Senegal (-)	Uzbekistan
Burundi	Haiti	Malaysia	Seychelles (-)	Venezuela (+)

Tier 3 Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the minimum standards, nor make significant efforts to do so.

Algeria	Equatorial Guinea	Kuwait	Papua New Guinea	Syria (-)
Cent. African Rep.	Eritrea	Libya	Saudi Arabia	Yemen
Congo (DRC)	Iran	Madagascar	Sudan	Zimbabwe
Cuba	Korea, North			Somalia (s)



Advocacy

Helping Victims When Funding Is Low

In a number of countries around the world where funds are very limited committed people have nevertheless developed innovative methods to protect victims. Where high levels of community awareness exist, governments have effectively partnered with organizations to improve services to human trafficking victims.

For example, in **Aruba** where there is no shelter tailored specifically for trafficking victims, the government has initiated a public-private partnership with several hotels for free or deeply discounted rooms for use as emergency shelters when urgently needed. This program has worked well to provide temporary shelter until long-term arrangements can be made.

Addressing another area of victim protection, the Government of **Antigua** has developed a close working relationship with the local airports and airline companies to train staff to recognize trafficking indicators and obtain deep discounts on tickets for foreign victims voluntarily wishing to return to their home country.

In **Rwanda**, the government supports an NGO that provides counseling to women in prostitution by offering a government-run community center as an operating space. Innovative and low- or no-cost measures like these present the potential for all governments to provide victim services when large budgets are not available.

2012 'TIP' Heroes

Gary Haugen, United States

As President and CEO of International Justice Mission (IJM), the human rights organization he founded in 1997, Gary Haugen has built a global team of hundreds of lawyers, investigators, and social workers. Directed by their faith and commitment to global justice, IJM staff partner with local governments to rescue and provide aftercare for victims and to hold traffickers accountable under local law.



Under Mr. Haugen's leadership, IJM has assisted nearly 4,000 victims of sex trafficking and forced labor since 2006 alone, leading to more than 220 criminal convictions and hundreds of ongoing trials. In addition to IJM's work against modern slavery, the organization is bringing its innovative model to address sexual violence, property seizure, illegal detention, and police brutality.

Mr. Haugen's vision has transformed the landscape of human rights advocacy and is empowering a new generation of activists to help local governments transform justice systems to protect the poor from violence. This powerful model is working: independent evaluation has demonstrated that after four years of IJM partnership with local law enforcement in Cebu, Philippines, the availability of minors for sex decreased by a stunning 79%.

Azezet Habtezghi Kidane, Israel

Also known as Sister Aziza, Azezet is an Eritrean nun with the Comboni Missionary Sisters who volunteers as a nurse for the NGO Physicians for Human Rights-Israel (PHR-I). During the past two years she has led PHR-I's efforts to call attention to human trafficking in Sinai, Egypt, including sexual slavery and the torture of hundreds of African asylum seekers. PHR-I developed a groundbreaking research project that has interviewed hundreds of victims living in Israel. This painstaking work was accomplished by the devotion of Sister Aziza who helped identify men, women, and children who had been kidnapped, repeatedly raped, or subjected to forced labor and sexual servitude, in addition to being tortured, in the Sinai.



Her perseverance, heartfelt concern, and willingness to listen to countless hours of interviews enabled many victims to open up about their experiences of rape, torture, kidnapping, forced labor, and sexual servitude. Whereas previously little was known of the specific atrocities in Egypt, these documented first-hand accounts have led to widespread international media reporting and attention to human trafficking in the region. The State Department has relied on the work of Sister Aziza and PHR-I to promote awareness of this important issue.

Heroes, cont. pg. 7



Advocacy

Heroes *cont. from pg. 6*

Vannak Anan Prum, Cambodia



Vannak Anan Prum was lured to Thailand by the promise of a lucrative job, but instead was deceived by a labor broker. He was forced to work on a Thai fishing boat from 2005 to 2009 in slave-like conditions, never receiving a salary. During this time he was mistreated, starved, and tortured. Mr. Prum escaped with another fisherman by jumping off the boat and swimming four kilometers to shore when the boat was anchored off Malaysian Borneo. According to his account, upon attempting unsuccessfully to obtain help returning to Cambodia, he was

sold by corrupt officials to a palm oil plantation. After several months of forced labor on the plantation, an altercation with another worker landed him in detention. While in detention, he was able to establish contact with Malaysian and Cambodian human rights NGOs, which collaborated to have Mr. Prum repatriated to Cambodia, though not until he had spent several additional months in detention.

Since then, Mr. Prum has been committed to ending human trafficking and has worked to raise awareness on human trafficking for labor exploitation in the Thai fishing industry through a series of drawings that recreate his experience. Mr. Prum has been interviewed about his experience and anti-human trafficking efforts by *Radio Free Asia* and has appeared in a Human Trafficking awareness video produced by MTV Exit.

To read about other 'heroes' see TIP, pgs. 46-49.



Trafficking survivors in a Mauritanian training center receive needed skills. They learn to sew, braid hair, dye fabric and cook. (TIP, pg. 23)

Victims' Empowerment and Access

The essence of the trafficking experience is the denial of freedom – including the freedom to choose where and how you live, the freedom to work or choose not to work, the freedom from threats, and the freedom of bodily integrity. Unless carefully crafted and adopted with flexibility, victim assistance programs can sometimes replicate the trafficking experience by removing victims' prerogative from questions of housing, employment, residency, and disclosure. For example, in order to stay in many government shelters throughout the world, victims surrender their right of movement – they are restricted to the shelter grounds or may only leave with the permission of shelter staff. In some countries, the disclosure of victims' identities by government authorities results in victims' stories and name being revealed to the press or to their families. A fundamental premise of victim assistance programs should be to place choices back into the hands of the trafficking victims.

The following "good practices" set the stage for a victim-centered approach to care that allows victims the opportunity to make choices in their care. These approaches can help victims put distance between the trafficking experience and the rest of their lives.

Open Shelters

Victims should not be detained in shelters in any form. Victims should be allowed to leave the shelter at will and without chaperones. Staying in a shelter should be an option; many victims may have access to other accommodation and should be allowed to choose those alternatives.

Full Information to Victims

Victims should be informed of their rights as early as possible in a language they understand. Victims should be informed about what will and will not be expected of them during a criminal trial. Victims should be educated about their options in the

Empowerment *cont. pg. 8*



Action

Empowerment *cont. from pg. 7*

immigration context and told that they have a right to consular or diplomatic access. Countries can accomplish this in a variety of ways, including appointing counsel for trafficking victims, appointing victim advocates for victims, or involving NGOs. Some countries develop brochures and other literature in many languages to facilitate early disclosures. Victims of trafficking crimes should also be put in touch with their country's embassy or consulate for additional assistance.

Confidentiality

Victims should be given the choice of how much of their information is shared. They should not be exposed to media without their full and informed consent. It should be their choice whether their families are told about their trafficking.

Residency

Generous benefits for trafficking victims, including permanent residency, facilitate the law enforcement process. Immigration regulations that offer victims permanent residence, rather than mandating forced return, are best practices. Residency schemes should allow some flexibility for victims of trafficking to have time to determine if they wish to participate in the criminal

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

process, with special exemptions for victims who are minors or who have experienced severe trauma. There are many reasons a victim of trafficking may initially refuse to cooperate with an investigation. Sometimes victims do not trust the police to protect their rights; sometimes law enforcement has participated in a victim's exploitation; and sometimes victims are simply too traumatized by their experiences to discuss them with law enforcement.

Right to Work

Countries should consider granting foreign national trafficking victims the right to work. In many countries, even formal entry to a victim assistance program does not give a victim the right to a work permit. Accordingly, without material aid, victims are again placed in vulnerable situations. (TIP, pg. 22)

Research the 2012 TIP Report

- Read the victim stories.
- In the 'Tier Rankings' learn why certain countries moved up a tier and others were down-graded.
- Research the impact of the CA *Transparency in Supply Chains Act* on global business practices and how members of the socially responsible investment community are pushing businesses to incorporate 'social responsibility' in their business models.
- Find out which seven countries continue the practice of using children as soldiers. Write to their governments.

Informative Web Sites:

(Each contains information related to human trafficking)

Trafficking in Persons 2012 Report

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2012/index.htm>

Office to Monitor & Combat Trafficking in Persons

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/index.htm>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

<http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/humantrafficking.shtm>

Human Trafficking Awareness Training

http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/training/dhs_awareness_training_fy12/launchPage.htm

Myths *cont. from pg. 4*

in forced labor may face immigration charges or deportation if not identified as trafficking victims.

A focus solely on initial recruitment of migrant workers and prostituted individuals – whether or not they consented to their situation – can impede the proper identification of subsequent trafficking. Authorities often fail to look beneath the surface for possible indicators of forced labor, debt bondage or sex trafficking.

The risk of conflation leading to the treatment of victims as criminals increases when responsibilities of anti-trafficking enforcement and victim identification lie solely with immigration, as opposed to criminal justice, authorities. As the anti-trafficking community continues to debunk these misperceptions, governments have an obligation to move away from flawed and outdated interpretations of human trafficking that focus on the process of bringing someone into exploitation, as opposed to the compelled service that often results after a migrant arrives in a country. Domestic law enforcement, not border interdiction, is usually what catches traffickers and frees victims from modern slavery. (TIP, pg 25.)

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 Schaffer, SDS*