

# Stop Trafficking !

## Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

January 2013 Vol. 11 No. 1

This issue highlights several reports that expose human trafficking trends and ways to combat them.

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- Society of the Holy Child Jesus, Amer. Prov.
- Society of Jesus, CA Prov.
- Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union USA

### January: Anti-Human Trafficking Month

*"To put the scale of this problem in its historical context: today more people are trafficked each year than the total number of those trafficked in the 350 years of the transatlantic slave trade. People talk about the abolition of slavery. But slavery has not been abolished. It continues on an unprecedented scale and with unparalleled barbarity."* Hugo Swire, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Minister.

### Selling Our Children

According to the *U.S. Department of Justice*, human trafficking is the second fastest growing criminal industry — just behind drug trafficking. Approximately half of all victims are children.

The *National Human Trafficking Resource Center* estimates it is a \$32 billion industry, with about 50% of this revenue coming from industrialized countries. This surpasses the sale of illegal arms.

Sex-trafficking is essentially systemic rape for profit. Force, fraud and coercion are used to control the victim's behavior, which may secure the appearance of consent to please the buyer (or John). Behind every transaction is violence or the threat of violence.

Often when children are discovered by the police they are arrested on prostitution charges, put in jail and treated like criminals, even though they are minors.

Instead of receiving counseling in a safe, supportive residential facility, many are forced to endure the additional trauma of juvenile detention. One reason for this is the lack of training to help law enforcement recognize and assist victims.

In 2008, New York was the first state to establish a 'Safe Harbor Law' to decriminalize underage vic-

Selling Children cont. pg. 2

### UNODC Report: Cause for Concern



The *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)* released a report in December 2012 that revealed 27% of all victims of human trafficking officially detected globally between 2007 and 2010 were children, a 7% increase from the period 2003 to 2006.

Also worrying is the increase in the number of girl victims, who make up two thirds of all trafficked children. Girls now constitute 15-20% of the total number of all detected victims, including adults, whereas boys comprise about 10%. The Report is based on official data supplied by 132 countries.

UN Report cont. pg. 2



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### Selling Children *cont. from pg. 1*

tims of sexual exploitation. Since then, nine states have followed suit, but in the remaining states, children who are bought and sold for sex are still sent to jail.

Legally, children cannot consent to sex with an adult, so the reference to “child prostitution” in the media is misleading. In any other context, this would be considered statutory rape.

Fewer than 100 shelter beds are available in the U.S. for sex-trafficking victims, and most facilities are not equipped to address their needs. This is a staggering contrast to the FBI estimate that about 100,000 children are sold for sex in our nation. (N.B. Polaris Project put out a report in 2012 indicating there are 1000 beds for minors.)

Pimps often recruit children into sex-trafficking by posing as a boyfriend, caretaker and protector. Many girls are runaways from abusive or dysfunctional homes, some are kidnapped and others are exploited by someone they know. On average, the trafficking begins when the victim is 13.

At this time, the vast majority are sold through classified ads on websites. This has been the source of great controversy over ‘Backpage’. The Attorney General’s office documented that underage girls were sold through these ads in at least 22 states.

The recent split between *Village Voice Media* and *Backpage* indicates a new social pressure to defend the rights of trafficked girls, but critics claim that closing down ads just forces sales underground and removes a viable way to follow the activities of traffickers. (<http://www.forbes.com/sites/shenegotiates/2012/12/03/selling-american-girls-the-truth-about-domestic-minor-sex-trafficking/>)

### UN Report *cont. from pg. 1*

“Human trafficking requires a forceful response founded on the assistance and protection for victims, rigorous enforcement by the criminal justice system, a sound migration policy and firm regulation of the labor markets,” stressed Yury Fedotov, UNODC Exec. Dir. Mr. Fedotov acknowledged the current gaps in knowledge about this crime and the need for comprehensive data about offenders, victims and trafficking flows. Still, the number of trafficking victims is estimated to run into the millions. (<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2012/December/increase-in-global-child-trafficking-gives-cause-for-concern-says-new-unodc-report.html>)

### UN Report: Key Findings

- Women account for 55-60% of all trafficking victims detected globally; women and girls together account for about 75%.
- 27% of all victims detected globally are children. Of every three child victims, two are girls and one is a boy.
- In general, traffickers tend to be adult males and nationals of the country in which they operate, but more women and foreign nationals are involved in trafficking in persons than in most other crimes.
- Women traffickers are often involved in the trafficking of girls and tend to be used for low-ranking activities that have a higher risk of detection.
- Trafficking for sexual exploitation is more common in Europe, Central Asia and the Americas. Trafficking for forced labor is more frequently detected in Africa and the Middle East, as well as in South and East Asia and the Pacific.
- Trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation accounts for 58% of all trafficking cases detected globally, while trafficking for forced labor accounts for 36%. The share of detected cases of trafficking for forced labor has doubled over the past four years.
- Victims trafficked for begging account for about 1.5% of the victims detected globally. Trafficking for the removal of organs has been detected in 16 countries in all regions of the world.
- Victims of 136 different nationalities were detected in 118 countries worldwide between 2007 and 2010.
- Approximately 460 different trafficking flows were identified between 2007 and 2010.
- Between 2007 and 2010, almost half of victims detected worldwide were trafficked across borders within their region of origin. Some 24% were trafficked interregionally (i.e. to a different region).
- Domestic trafficking accounts for 27% of all detected cases of trafficking in persons worldwide.
- The Middle East is the region reporting the greatest proportion of victims trafficked from other regions (70%).
- Victims from the largest number of origin countries were detected in Western and Central Europe.
- The trafficking flow originating in East Asia remains the most prominent transnational flow globally. East Asian victims were detected in large numbers in many countries worldwide.
- Victims from Eastern Europe, Central Asia and South America were detected in a wide range of countries within and outside their region of origin, although in comparatively lower numbers outside their region of origin.
- Almost all human trafficking flows originating in Africa are either intra-regional (with Africa and the Middle East as their destination) or directed towards Western Europe.
- One hundred and thirty-four countries and territories worldwide have criminalized trafficking by means of a specific offense in line with the Trafficking in Persons Protocol.
- The number of convictions for trafficking in persons is in general very low. Notably, of the 132 countries covered, 16% did not record a single conviction between 2007 and 2010.



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### Comparison Chart of Primary Sex Trafficking Networks in the U.S.

www.PolarisProject.org © 2011

	Asian Networks	Latino Networks	Domestic Networks
Locations of operation	Asian Massage Parlors (AMPs), room salons/hostess clubs, residential brothels, karaoke bars, escort services	Residential brothels, escort "delivery" services, hostess clubs/"cantinas," and some massage parlors	Street, hotels, residential brothels, strip clubs, some massage parlors, internet, truck stops, private parties
Trafficker profile	Older Asian female management in AMPs, male owners, enforcers, and transporters	Latino male controllers, recruiters, enforcers, transporters; pimps known as "padrotes" (fathers)	U.S. domestic male pimps, male and female recruiters and enforcers, male transporters
Victim profile	Predominantly South Korean women, and some Chinese and Thai women, often between ages of 18 and 55; rare minors	Predominantly Mexican, Central American, and South American adult women and some minors	U.S. Citizen adults and minors; some Native Americans; avg. age of recruitment estimated at 12-14
Demand profile (Johns) Open: All men Closed: Only some men	Middle to upper class working professionals; Asian men in 'closed' networks; some foreign business men	Entirely 'closed' network catering to Latino males	Open network that includes men of all backgrounds
Methods of recruitment	False promises of legitimate employment, internet chat rooms, in saunas/baths	False promise of marriage and opportunity; false promise of legitimate jobs	False promise of love and support; sometimes kidnapping or abduction
Methods of control	Physical isolation, language barriers, debt bondage, threats, threats of reports to immigration, psychological control, intimidation, controlled transportation	Physical abuse, rape, assault with weapons, debt bondage, threats of force, threats to family, threats of reports to immigration, sexual abuse of minors	Physical abuse, rape, assault with weapons, debt bondage, threats of force, sexual abuse of minors, threats to family or to children, control of drug supply, psychological control
Affiliation to gangs	Some have affiliation with Asian street gangs and/or organized crime	Some have affiliations with MS-13 and other Latino gangs	Some have affiliations with street gangs; some gangs directly engage in trafficking
Advertising mechanisms to attract customers	Classified ads, Asian newspapers, Internet classifieds, phone directories, word of mouth, billboards	Fake business cards distributed person-to-person, word of mouth	Online sex ads, Internet classifieds, local newspapers, phone directories, word of mouth, text messaging
Pricing structure/ Cost per sex act	\$60 per hour plus tips for AMPs; inflated prices for food and alcohol in room salons; average of 5 to 15 men a day	\$30 for 15 minute sex act; avg. of 20 to 35 men a day; money usually taken by managers and 'padrotes'	Nightly quotas of \$200 to \$1,000; average of 7 to 15 men per day; all money kept by pimps/traffickers
Transnational and internal transportation structure	Smuggling through Canada and Mexico; overstaying legitimate visas; use of Korean "taxi" services	Smuggling through Mexico; transported via cargo vans or commercial buses between cities	Direct transportation by pimps; use of individual cars and/or commercial transportation lines
Support structure that facilitates operations	Advertisers, landlords, active online john community	Advertisers, landlords	Advertisers, landlords, media, operators of hotels used heavily by pimps, taxis

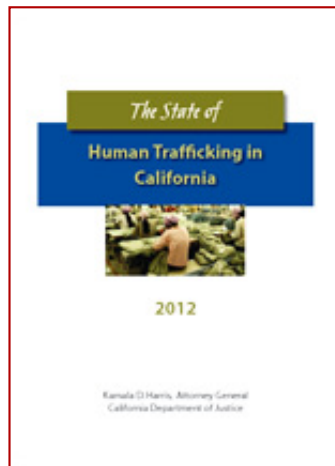




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### California Report 2012: Highlights

- From mid-2010 to mid-2012, California's nine regional human trafficking task forces (RHTTF) identified 1,277 victims, initiated 2,552 investigations, arrested 1,798 individuals, and provided training to 25,591 law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, victim service providers, and other first responders. Other organizations trained judicial officers, airport personnel, social service providers, *pro bono* attorneys, and retail businesses.
- 72% of the human trafficking victims identified were American.
- Labor trafficking is under-reported and under-investigated as compared to sex trafficking. 56% of victims who received services through CA task forces were sex trafficking victims, but other sources indicate labor trafficking is 3.5 times as prevalent as sex trafficking worldwide.
- Local and transnational gangs are increasingly trafficking in human beings because it is a low-risk and high, renewable profit crime. It is critical for federal, state, and local law enforcement and labor regulators to collaborate across jurisdictions to disrupt and dismantle these increasingly sophisticated, organized criminal networks.
- Fostering expertise about human trafficking within a law enforcement agency and handling these cases outside routine vice operations can prevent erroneously viewing trafficking victims as perpetrators, better protect victims, and improve prosecutions.
- Early and frequent collaboration between law enforcement and victim service providers enables victims to receive immediate and comprehensive assistance. Once helped victims



- are more likely to cooperate in bringing their traffickers to justice.
- Traffickers are reaching more victims and customers by recruiting and advertising online. They use online advertising and Internet-enabled cell phones to access a larger clientele with a greater sense of anonymity. Law enforcement needs training and tools to investigate trafficking online.
  - Technology is available to better identify, reach, and serve victims. Tools like search-term-triggered messages, website widgets, and text short codes enable groups to find victims online, connect them with services, and encourage the general public to report human trafficking.
  - Consumers need more tools to leverage purchasing power and reduce the demand for trafficking. Public and private organizations are just beginning to create web-based and mobile tools to increase public awareness and educate consumers about how to help combat human trafficking. (Adapted from the Report, pgs. 4-5)

### Domestic Servitude

In November 2010, a woman received a 37-month prison sentence for forcing a Chinese woman to work without pay as a domestic servant in her Fremont home. The trafficker forced the victim to cook, clean, and perform childcare services. The trafficker, who was 62 at the time of her sentencing, physically abused the victim and confiscated her passport, visa, and other documents. She also admitted to telling the victim that she needed to remain inside the house because she was an illegal alien. (<http://fbi.gov/sanfrancisco/press-releases/2010/sf11710.htm>) (Report, pg. 17)

### Labor Trafficking

Working with a co-conspirator in the Philippines, a Paso Robles couple lured victims to the United States with the promise of good jobs. After arriving in this country, the victims worked in one of the couple's four elder care facilities – often on 24-hour-shifts. They were paid less than minimum wage and told they needed to pay off their “debt” to the traffickers. The victims slept on sofas, and in closets and an unheated garage, and were kept in line with threats of phone calls to the police or immigration authorities. After an observant and concerned member of the community reached out to law enforcement, the victims were rescued. In 2012, the labor traffickers were sentenced to 18 months in federal prison. (<http://justice.gov/usao/cac/Pressroom/2012/028.html>) (Report, pg. 18)

### Domestic Sex Trafficking

For more than a year, a Sacramento man recruited teenage girls to work as prostitutes by promising them drugs, money, and a family-like environment. The man and his wife used websites to advertise the victims and controlled them through physical force and threats of violence. He was arrested in August 2011 when police responded to a call at a motel near the San Francisco airport and found him with a 19-year-old and two 16-year-olds. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to nine years in federal prison. ([http://justice.gov/usao/can/news/2012/2012\\_04\\_19\\_singh.sentenced.press.html](http://justice.gov/usao/can/news/2012/2012_04_19_singh.sentenced.press.html)) (Report, pg. 22)



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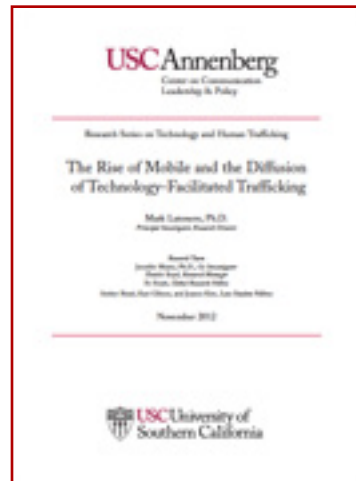
### Role of Technology in Human Trafficking

On September 25, 2012, President Obama identified human trafficking as one of the great human rights issues of our time, representing a “debasement of our common humanity that tears at the social fabric of our communities, endangers public health, distorts markets, and fuels violence and organized crime.” Obama added, “We are turning the tables on the traffickers. Just as they are now using technology and the Internet to exploit their victims, we are going to harness technology to stop them.”

Researchers at the *University of Southern California’s Annenberg Center on Communication Leadership & Policy (CCLP)*, under research director and principal investigator Mark Latonero, Ph.D., examined the role technology plays in the shifting dynamics of human trafficking and showed how those involved in human trafficking have been quick to adapt to the 21st century global landscape.

The CCLP investigation indicated that mobile devices and networks have risen in prominence and are now of central importance to the sex trafficking of minors in the United States. The report used mobile phone data collected from online classified sites; a series of first-hand interviews with law enforcement; and made key recommendations to policymakers and stakeholders.

While online platforms such as online classifieds and social networking sites remain a potential venue for exploitation, the research suggests that technology-facilitated trafficking is more diffuse and adaptive than



initially thought. While the sex trafficking of minors continues to expand across multiple media platforms, the rise of the mobile may fundamentally transform the trafficking landscape. No other communication technology in history, including the Internet, has been adopted so rapidly around the world. The World Bank estimates that 75% of the global population has access to a mobile phone and mobile communications.

The mobile’s ability to facilitate real-time communication and coordination, unbound by physical location, is also being exploited by traffickers to extend the reach of their illicit activities. Traffickers are able to recruit, advertise, organize and communicate primarily – or even exclusively – via mobile phones, effectively streamlining their activities and expanding their criminal networks. In short, human traffickers and criminal networks are taking advantage of technology to reach larger audiences and to do illicit business more quickly and efficiently across greater distances.

Mobile communication may also represent a breakthrough for intervention by law enforcement and the anti-trafficking community. Data gleaned from cell phones and mobile networks constitute a trail of information and evidence that can be a powerful tool in identifying, tracking, and prosecuting traffickers. Mobile technologies can also be used to reach vulnerable communities and raise public awareness. The rise of the mobile has major implications both for the spread of human trafficking and for anti-trafficking efforts, and should be carefully considered by law enforcement, policymakers, and activists as they develop strategies to combat human trafficking in the U.S. and worldwide. Tools such as data mining, mapping, computational linguistics, and advanced analytics could be used by governmental and non-governmental organizations, law enforcement, academia, and the private sector to further anti-trafficking goals of prevention, protection, and prosecution.

Furthermore, the respect for privacy and civil liberties, and potential unintended consequences of technological interventions on victims and survivors, are crucial considerations in developing mobile-based solutions.

International fieldwork conducted by the CCLP research team in Cambodia, Haiti, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, and Vietnam, has provided further evidence of the potential to harness information technology for counter-trafficking efforts. (Excerpted from the Report) (<http://technologyandtrafficking.usc.edu/2012-report/#.UOCZJ7bDWt8>)



## Advocacy

### 2012 Norma Hotaling Anti-Trafficking Awardees

The national anti-trafficking organization, *Global Centurion Foundation* (GCF), announced the 2012 winners of the third annual *Norma Hotaling Anti-Trafficking Awards*. *Global Centurion* is a non-profit organization dedicated to playing a vital role in eradicating world slavery by focusing on the demand side of the equation – the perpetrators, exploiters, buyers, and end-users of human beings, seeking to prevent modern slavery at its source.

*Norma Hotaling*, who died Dec. 17, 2008, was trafficked into prostitution as a child. She remained trapped in the sex industry for 18 years. Through sheer personal will she was able to free herself from the vicious cycle of abuse and exploitation. For the next two decades, she dedicated her life to help reach and rescue victims of prostitution and sex trafficking, along with focusing on the demand-side of sex trafficking by developing new programs and policies for men and boys.

*"It is an honor to pay tribute to Norma Hotaling's tremendous legacy by recognizing organizations and individuals who have continued in her life's work, and we are thankful for the generous donations from so many of our supporters that allow us to recognize these champions in the fight for freedom"*, commented GCF President, Laura J. Lederer, J.D.. *"Together, we can continue to reach those who have suffered the violence and oppression of modern slavery, we can reduce demand through developing innovative programs and campaigns, and we can focus on developing policy that better protects victims and provides resources to prosecute offenders and prevent human trafficking."*

#### **Survivor-Centered Service Provider 2012 Awardee: Tina Frundt, Founder & Exec. Director, Courtney's House**

*Tina Frundt* is a leading figure in the crusade to help children sexually exploited for commercial purposes. Ms. Frundt is a survivor of domestic sex trafficking, who now dedicates her life to helping women and children heal from domestic sex trafficking and commercial sex exploitation. After realizing there was no specialized housing available for sex trafficked children in Washington, D.C., Ms. Frundt founded *Courtney's House* in 2008. Since its inception, *Courtney's House* and Ms. Frundt have helped over 500 victims escape from being trafficked. Ms. Frundt has testified before Congress about her own experiences and also trains law enforcement and other non-profit groups to rescue and provide resources to victims.

#### **Innovative Demand Reduction 2012 Awardee: Kylla Leeburg, Kendis Paris & Lyn Thompson, Co-founders, 'Truckers against Trafficking'**

*Truckers Against Trafficking* (TAT) is a non-profit organization that exists to empower and mobilize members of the trucking and travel plaza industry to combat domestic sex trafficking by providing educational training resources to prevent modern slavery to travel plaza employees, all students of private and public truck-driving schools, and all truck drivers employed via major carriers and owners/operators. TAT also partners with law enforcement to facilitate the investigation of human trafficking and modern slavery.

#### **2012 Josephine Butler Abolitionist Award for Policy Development: Kathryn Xian, Founder & Dir., Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery**

The *Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery* (PASS), is a Hawaiian-based not-for-profit whose mission is to stop human trafficking in Hawaii and the Pacific. PASS provides services and advocacy for survivors of human trafficking, education and training on the identification of victims of human trafficking, and public awareness and prevention education for the greater community. Under the leadership of Ms. Xian, PASS has also strived to build alliances with public interest legal services, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), churches, non-profit community organizations, domestic violence shelters, educational institutions, and law enforcement to advocate for effective policy to combat human trafficking and protect victims of modern slavery. Ms. Xian coordinated a coalition of NGOs to help educate and advocate for a series of legal reforms including new Hawaiian laws prohibiting promoting prostitution and labor trafficking. This year, PASS is advocating for safe harbor for children along with demand-focused prostitution laws.

To learn more, go to: <http://www.globalcenturion.org>





## Action

### Thank You!

Stop Trafficking wishes to gratefully acknowledge those who provided generous monetary support for the Salvatorian Sisters Anti-Human Trafficking Project during 2012:

*'Stop Trafficking' Co-Sponsors*

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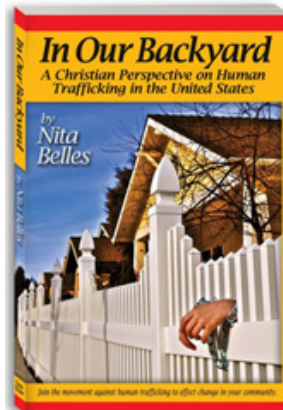
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### 'In Our Backyard'

*"The aptly titled 'In Our Backyard' is superb, driving home that human trafficking occurs across town, not just across oceans. Nita Belles compellingly calls for action based on the truth that every human life is of equal, enormous value—all created in the Creator's image. Belles shows how trafficking victims aren't 'illegal aliens'; they are ensnared migrants and, often, pimped U.S. citizens.*



*"Belles carefully documents how sex trafficking is inextricably linked to prostitution and pornography as fly paper preventing victim's flight. This book does as much as any to shed light on how economic forces—greed and demand, and even advertising—propel trafficking.*

*"In Our Backyard' also demonstrates how business must do more than stop being an enabler in commercialized sex and supply chains; it must be an agent of slavery's abolition. Finally, Belles shows conclusively how the fight against today's slavery wouldn't have been started without Christian good works and won't be completed without them." Mark Lagon, Former U.S. Ambassador, and Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (TIP)*

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

#### Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2012

<http://www.unodc.org/glotip.html>

#### Polaris Project Chart

<http://www.polarisproject.org/resources/resources-by-topic/sex-trafficking>

#### OVC/BJA Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force Strategy & Operations e-Guide

<https://www.ovcttac.gov/TTADirectory/>

### OVC/BIA Directory

The 'Directory of Training and Technical Assistance Resources for Anti-Human Trafficking Task Forces and Service Providers', developed by the Office for Victims of Crime and the Bureau of Justice Assistance, is an excellent resource for practitioners and task forces seeking to expand and enhance their knowledge of anti-human trafficking practices. This new tool provides:

- A listing of training and technical assistance resources for practitioners and task forces actively working in the anti-human trafficking field.
- A comprehensive list of anti-human trafficking distance learning, in-person training, and training by request opportunities.
- The location, contact information, cost, and description for each of the trainings.

If an organization wants to be included in the next version of the *Directory*, contact: [humantrafficking@ovcttac.org](mailto:humantrafficking@ovcttac.org) (<https://www.ovcttac.gov/TTADirectory/>)

**Stop Trafficking!** is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of *Stop Trafficking!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm>

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

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