

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

January 2014 Vol. 12 No. 1

This issue highlights information on human trafficking and resources to use to eliminate it.

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- Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, WI
- Sisters of St. Francis of Colorado Springs
- Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Family
- Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God
- Sisters of St. Francis of Redwood City
- Sisters of St. Francis of Rochester, MN
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Los Angeles
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill, PA
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, Prov. of USA & Canada
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, CA
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
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- Society of the Holy Child Jesus, Amer. Prov.
- Society of Jesus, CA Prov.
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Time for New Resolve

JANUARY

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

COERCION
debt
women
children
vulnerable
recruitment
global
exploit
FORCE
local
involuntary
labor
Modern Day Slavery
sex
men
Are YOU part of the problem or a solution?

1-888-373-7888
National Human Trafficking Hotline
Southern CA Partners for Global Justice

It is time to take stock of what we understand about modern day slavery and how communities and nations must more effectively collaborate to eliminate its impact on the human community.

Every economic stratum in every nation state is impacted by the effects of human trafficking -- women, children, men exploited, tricked, bought, sold, thrown away, scarred mentally, physically, spiritually -- so that a few more powerful people can profit directly and many others can profit indirectly from these victims' work, their vulnerability, their bodies.

Human trafficking involves an act of recruiting, transporting, transferring, harboring or receiving a person through use of force, fraud, coercion or other means, for the purpose of exploiting them.

Human trafficking has become the

second largest crime in terms of dollar exchange and is the cruelest form of abuse against human rights. Countless caring people, committed organizations, and responsible governments are struggling to keep up with the ever-changing strategies of the exploiters and those profiting.

The following pages highlight the impacts of demand and pornography on sexual exploitation of women, children and men and of demand for cheap goods on the labor exploitation of men, women and children globally and locally.

Stop Trafficking remains committed to providing information and resources to those who want to be informed and active in the work against modern day slavery. Perhaps an action suggested will become one of your 2014 resolutions.



Awareness

Innocent People Exploited

(Names changed to protect their identities.)

For other examples of modern day slavery, go to: <http://www.f-4-c.org/slavery/stories.asp>

France:

Sabine was 23 when her parents gave her to another family as partial payment for a used car. The family who took Sabine used her as a domestic slave for three years, making her look after their seven children and hiring her out to other men for sex. They burned her with an iron and cigarettes and beat her with iron bars and sticks, took her identity papers and claimed her unemployment benefits for themselves, and chained her up in a squalid shed at night to prevent her from escaping. They threw scraps of food on the ground for her to eat, treating her worse than an animal. When Sabine fell ill, the family dumped her outside a Paris hospital. She had no teeth and weighed less than 84 lbs. Her nose and ears had been mutilated, and she needed corrective surgery. A French court sentenced Sabine's parents to 30 years in prison, the maximum sentence under French law. Ten other defendants received prison sentences of between 2 and 25 years.

Philippines-USA:

Maria came to the U.S. with some 50 other Filipino nationals who were promised housing, transportation, and lucrative jobs at country clubs and hotels under the H2B guest worker program. Like the others, Maria dutifully paid the substantial recruitment fees to come to the United States. But when she arrived, she found that there was no employment secured for her. She did not work for weeks, but the recruiters seized her passport and prohibited her from leaving their house. She and other workers slept side-by-side on the floors of the kitchen, garage, and dining room. They were fed primarily chicken feet and innards. When the workers complained, the recruiters threatened to call the police or immigration services to arrest and deport them. A federal grand jury indicted the two defendants for conspiracy to hold the workers in a condition of forced labor.

Saudi Arabia:

For Mylee, a young single mother from the Philippines, employment as a maid for a family in Saudi Arabia was a possible route out of poverty. Her employer was an officer in the Saudi Royal Navy. While his wife was away, he raped Mylee. She was subsequently raped repeatedly but was too scared to run away. Mylee was given just one piece of bread to eat at meal time. When she fell and cut herself while cleaning, blood gushed from her wound, but her employer refused to take her to the hospital. He told her, "You might as well die." Mylee wrapped the wound with her own clothes. After several months, Mylee managed to contact Philippine labor authorities in Saudi Arabia, and they arrived at her residence with local police. While they gathered outside, Mylee's employer raped her for the fifth time. The police finally rescued her after hearing her screams from outside the house, and they arrested her employer. The criminal investigation is ongoing.

Honduras-USA:

Maira was 15 when two well-dressed men driving a nice car approached her and two friends in a small Honduran village. They told the girls they were businessmen and offered to take them to the U.S. to work in a textile factory. Maira thought it was the perfect opportunity to help her single mother, who struggled to support seven children. But upon arriving in Houston, the girls were held captive, beaten, raped, and forced to work in cantinas that doubled as brothels. Men would come to the cantina and choose a beer and a girl, some as young as 12. If they wanted to have sex with the girl, they would take her to the back and pay cash for a mattress, paper towels, and spermicide. The captors beat the girls daily if they did not make enough money. After six years, Maira was able to escape and return to her mother with the help of a kind American family. Her two friends remain missing.

India-USA:

Ravi was among hundreds of workers lured to the United States from India by an oil rig construction company operating in the Gulf Coast. Lacking skilled welders and pipefitters to help rebuild after Hurricane Katrina struck the area in 2005, the company brought Ravi and others from India on H-2B visas. The company promised them permanent visas and residency, but the promises were false. Instead, Ravi was forced to live with 23 other men in a small room with no privacy and two toilets. The camp was lined with barbed wire and security guards, so no one on the outside knew Ravi's whereabouts. The company charged so much for food and a bunk bed that Ravi was unable to send any money home or repay the money he borrowed for his travel expenses to the United States. When the workers began organizing to protest their working conditions, the company began arbitrary firings and private deportations of the protest leaders. Those who remained filed a class action lawsuit and applied for TVPA immigration services.



Awareness

The 'Dirty Dozen'

Common sense, anecdotal evidence and scientific research all demonstrate that pornography is a harmful mind-altering drug. Meanwhile the U.S. is suffering from an untreated pandemic of pornographic harm. Consequences include:

- Children and adults developing life-long addictions to pornography;
- On average, American children are seeing hardcore pornography at age 11 and often acting out what they see in porn;
- Four out of five 16 year-olds now regularly access pornography online and many are developing life-long social/sexual problems as a result;
- Violence against women, rape and other sex crimes are directly tied to the consumption of pornography;
- 56% of divorces cite Internet pornography as a factor in the breakup;
- There is increased demand for child pornography because many adult-porn users find they are no longer excited by adult images and move to child images;
- Pornography is a contributing factor in the increased demand for sexually trafficked women and children in the U.S. Despite pornography's destructive force and the illegality of most pornography in the U.S., its availability is increasing.

To halt the rapid spread of pornography, Morality in Media has developed "The Dirty Dozen List," which includes the names of 11 top promoters/distributors of pornography and the one individual most responsible for widespread distribution of illegal adult porn, U.S. Attorney General, Eric Holder. Though in charge of federal obscenity laws, Holder refuses to enforce them, giving a green light to pornographers.



In addition to the many proven harms of pornography, it is a violation of federal law to distribute obscene (hardcore adult pornography) material on the Internet, cable/satellite TV, hotel/motel TV, in retail shops, through the U. S. Mail, and by common carrier. Additionally, most states prohibit the sale of obscene pornography.

The purpose of the 'Dirty Dozen' list is to publicly shame these promoters of pornography in the hope that those on the list will change course or, at least, that the public is better able to protect itself from those on the list.

Mr. Eric Holder refuses to enforce existing federal obscenity laws against hardcore adult pornography, despite the fact that these laws have been upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court and effectively enforced by previous attorneys general.

Comcast. Major cable and satellite TV companies such as Comcast, Time Warner, Verizon, DIRECTV and DISH provide hardcore pornographic premium channels and pay-per-view movies to tens of millions of American homes. Comcast is the largest of these. With the growth of the Internet, pay TV pornography does not sell like it once did, but it still sells and pollutes countless minds.

Facebook. The world's most popular social networking site has become

a top place to trade pornography. According to reports, even child pornography is regularly shared on Facebook and women and children are trafficked on the site.

Google has essentially no restrictions on the types of apps allowed in their app store, Google Play. Pornographic apps are in every category and in many of the categories there are countless porn apps available. Whether you are looking for these apps or not, you'll be forced to search among them unless you use a filter.

LodgeNet This is the company that provides most of the in-room TV pornography to major hotels and motels. Despite the federal and many state laws, which prohibit obscene materials on cable and satellite TV, LodgeNet has made untold millions by providing hardcore pornography to its customers. Children have also been exposed to this material.

Hilton. This hotel chain, like Hyatt, Starwood and many other top hotel chains, provides hardcore pornography movie choices; and it's "adult" channels that are often the first thing advertised when you turn on the TV.

Twitter's policy reads: "We do not regulate Tweets that link to content on external websites, including pornography." For this reason, Twitter has become the new 'micro-porn' service with tens of thousands of porn tweets an hour. Of course, there is no way to keep this from children.

American Library Association.

For years, this self-styled champion of First Amendment freedoms has worked to encourage public libraries to keep their computers unfiltered. The ALA's misguided campaign has resulted in countless patrons of all
'Dirty Dozen' cont. pg. 4



Awareness

'Dirty Dozen' *cont. from pg. 3*

ages being able to access or being inadvertently exposed to hardcore adult pornography and even child pornography on library computers.

Wikipedia. The popular encyclopedia-type website houses thousands of pornographic images within its articles. According to news reports, even child pornography has been found on Wikipedia. Despite this problem, Wikipedia leadership refuses to monitor the site or to code the pages as having "adult content" so that filters can block the pages.

Cosmopolitan. This staple of the supermarket checkout line may be as pornographic as Playboy magazine, but without the pictures. This publication has steadily declined from a somewhat inspirational women's magazine to a verbally pornographic "how-to" sex guide, further desensitizing young women and girls to the pornified culture around them.

Barnes&Noble. This Fortune 500 company, operator of 689 retail bookstores and a very active website, is a major supplier of adult pornography and child erotica. Nearly two dozen porn magazines are currently for sale at one store we randomly checked.

The Pentagon has a serious pornography problem, and it is doing next to nothing to combat it. In fact, it seems to be embracing pornography. *Morality In Media* receives a steady stream of comments from servicemen and women and their spouses regarding the widespread availability of pornography in the U.S. Military.

For more information, go to: <http://www.PornHarms.com/dirtydozen>
The 'Dirty Dozen' will be updated in 2014.

Creating Sustainable Apparel Value Chains: Transforming the Industry

The ubiquity of the apparel industry is staggering. Everyone wears clothes. The manufacturing of apparel triggers national development and industrialization, provides jobs and forms of commerce for producers, and satisfaction for consumers. At US \$3 trillion and counting, the global garment and textile industry is responsible for a great deal of progress today.

But when the *Rana Plaza* garment and textile factory collapsed in Bangladesh's capital Dhaka in April of 2013, killing 1,133 people, a level of prolonged scrutiny of the apparel industry commenced. In the months since, its poor working conditions have been exposed again—the compromises and exploitation often made in the name of growth. Thus, as the industry grows, there will be more accidents, unless consumers and business take social and environmental performance to a completely new level.

Will the global community finally demand sustainable garment industry transformation? Only time will tell.



The response to the incident was swift. Major players stopped purchasing from multi-story buildings like the *Rana Plaza* factory. Buyers have taken action to improve safety in the textile and garment industry in Bangladesh by joining the US buyer-led *Building Safety and the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety*. While greater fire and building safety are very important, the problems lie much deeper. The issue is systemic in nature, and the response needs to be as well.

Hence the focus of the new report by *Impact Economy* – a global impact investment and strategy firm – titled '*Creating Sustainable Apparel Value Chains*', authored by Dr. Maximilian Martin, founder and global managing director of the firm. The report provides an evidence-based assessment of the prospect of sustainable textile and garment value chains and highlights key levers needed for sustainable industry transformation.

Study the entire supply chain to foster resource productivity and transparency.

Chocolate manufacturers *Mars* and *Cadbury* started cooperating as they discovered that an increase of production volume was beneficial to corporate business growth and helped to improve the reputation of the brand.

Improve working conditions

A widespread misperception is that decent work and competitive output conflict. Evidence suggests otherwise—that improving working conditions achieves higher productivity.

Workers in the textile and garment industry, of whom 80% are women, typically suffer from widespread and insufficient health and safety conditions, violations of labor rights (e.g. wages, child and forced labor), inadequate housing, transport, healthcare and childcare, as well as gender discrimination. The net of these issues is low worker productivity.

'*Creating Sustainable Apparel Value Chains*' argues that sustainable transformation of the apparel industry will need to make the

linkage between how higher social and environmental performance can actually drive revenue creation via increased resource productivity and savings—making supply chains transparent, working conditions adequate, and environmental footprints optimized. The issues facing the apparel industry are staggering. The solutions to them now need to be as well.

(<http://www.csrwire.com/blog/posts/1150-creating-sustainable-apparel-value-chains-transforming-the-industry>)



Advocacy



5 National Educators to Stop Trafficking (NEST)

There is growing evidence that sex trafficking can be stopped if America's youth are reached with the proper education about sex and the reality of human trafficking. The need for getting quality curriculum into America's schools, coupled with an effective method for meeting that need, inspired the formation of NEST, which plans a national launch in April-May 2014. NEST's mission is to establish a clearinghouse that serves to empower and equip educators by providing youth-focused prevention resources to those committed to eliminating sex trafficking in their communities and to form a web-based warehouse of curriculum from advocates and educators that address the issues of human trafficking from a prevention viewpoint.

HOW WOULD THIS WORK?

The process is quite easy – as a member of NEST your curriculum will be listed in a comparison chart on the website.

There is no membership fee at this time to be a curriculum provider. Educators would go to the chart to find what may work best for their classroom. If the educator is interested in your curriculum, he/she will click on your link and contact you to find out your guidelines for usage in their class room. You take it from there. It really is that simple.

For more information, contact: YVONNE WILLIAMS, Coordinator, Trafficking in America Task Force;
Tel. 615-815-7068; Email: yvonne@rtbp.net; Website: <http://www.NESTeducators.org>

| Curriculum Comparison Chart | | | | | Curriculum Components | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|
| Organization & Curriculum Name | Program Length | Ages & Gender | For Sale | Cost | Service Learning | Gender Violence | Demand | Grooming Tactics | Risk Factors | Media Influence | Porn Link | Self Esteem |
| Aware Inc. <i>Deceptions</i> | 3 Hrs | 12-18; all | Yes | \$199 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Born 2 Fly <i>Born 2 Fly</i> | 6 sessions | teens & young adults; all | Free | Free | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE) <i>Empowering Youth to End Sexual Exploitation</i> | 4 45-min. sessions | 14-18; all | No | \$150 per class | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Dream Big Campaign <i>Born 2 Fly</i> | 6 sessions | children & teens; all | Free | Free | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | Yes |
| Faces of Child Abuse <i>Blue Ribbon Week</i> | 5 days | all; all | Free | Free | Yes | | | Yes | | | | Yes |
| Richmond Justice Initiative <i>The Prevention Project</i> | 4-6 wks | middle school and high school; all | Yes | TBD | Yes | | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Trafficking in America Task Force <i>Empowerment Report</i> | 7 wks | 13-18; all | No | N/A | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Your Organization & Program | The Chart sample can be accessed at: http://nsteducators.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Curriculum-Comparison-Chart.pdf | | | | | | | | | | | |



Advocacy

January 2014 Legislative Action Alert

Strengthening the Child Welfare Response to Trafficking Act of 2013

(H.R. 1732 Introduced by Rep. Karen Bass - CA-37; currently has 41 co-sponsors)

This bill directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop and publish guidelines for state welfare agencies on how to identify and treat child victims of human trafficking. It also creates a mechanism for collecting data from the states on victims of trafficking that are in the child welfare system.

Important because 60-80% of child trafficking victims have been in contact with child welfare agencies.

Human Trafficking Prioritization Act

(H.R. 2283 Introduced by Rep. Christopher Smith - NJ-4; currently has 48 co-sponsors)

This bill amends the *Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000* to change the status of the *Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking* to that of the *Bureau to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, which shall be headed by an Assistant Secretary of State, rather than an Ambassador-at-Large.

The State Department publishes a *Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report* annually. Countries that are Tier 2-Watch List and Tier 3 (i.e. not effectively addressing with the issue of human trafficking) should be subject to sanctions until they deal with human trafficking. However, since an "Office" is unable to impose sanctions, upgrading to a "Bureau" would allow putting sanctions in place. Passage of this bill would enable the U.S. Dept.

of State to demonstrate the gravity of the crime of human trafficking and the necessity for all countries to address this problem.

Fraudulent Overseas Recruitment and Trafficking Elimination Act of 2013

(H.R.3344 Introduced by Rep. Edward Royce R. CA-39 (introduced 10/28/2013))

Amends the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to require the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Dept. of State to incorporate anti-trafficking and anti-slavery priorities into other aspects of foreign assistance to ensure that assistance programs do not contribute to vulnerability to, or the prevalence of, human trafficking and slavery.

Requires a foreign labor contractor to disclose in writing in English and in the primary language of the worker being recruited specified information, including the identity of the employer and the recruiter, worker protections, and a signed copy of the work contract. Prohibits a foreign labor contractor from providing related false or misleading information.

Prohibits certain recruitment fees. Requires a foreign labor contractor to obtain from the Secretary of Labor a certificate of registration which shall be valid for two years. Provides for a registration fee.

Exempts from such certificate requirement an employer who engages in foreign labor contracting solely to find workers for the employer's own use without the participation of any other foreign labor contractor.

Directs the Secretary of Labor to: (1) maintain a list of all registered for-

foreign labor contractors and a list of all such contractors whose registration has been revoked; and (2) establish a process for receipt, investigation, and disposition of complaints.

Amends the *Immigration and Nationality Act* to require a consular officer, before issuing specified work visas, to: (1) provide the alien with certain trafficking information, and (2) review and include in the alien's visa file the foreign labor recruiter's disclosures.

Directs the Secretary of State to ensure that: (1) each U.S. diplomatic mission has a person responsible for receiving information from any worker who has been subject to violations of this Act, and (2) consulates maintain and make public any information regarding the identities of foreign labor contractors and the employers to whom those contractors supply workers.

Take Civic Action

Meet with and/or write to your local, state, and federal government representatives to let them know that you care about combating human trafficking in your community, and ask what they are doing to address human trafficking in your area.

Ask your Representative(s) to co-sponsor these bills and do everything possible to bring them to a vote in 2014.

Start or sign a human trafficking petition that helps improve federal and/or state laws against trafficking.



Action

Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline
National Human Trafficking
Resource Center
1.888.3737.888
 or text **HELP** or **INFO** to
BeFree (233733).

Ways to Get Involved

Recognize the Red Flags

Persons exhibiting certain signs may indicate they have been trafficked. If you encounter such a person, try to ask follow-up questions to help verify his/her situation.

Human trafficking awareness training is available for individuals, businesses, first responders, law enforcement, and federal employees.

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

Report Suspicious

Call federal law enforcement directly to report suspicious activity and get help. Victims, including undocumented individuals, are eligible for services and immigration assistance.

Call the *Dept. of Homeland Security* (24/7) at 1-866-347-2423 or submit a tip online at www.ice.gov/tips

Call the *U.S. Dept. of Justice* at 1-888-428-7581 (9:00am - 5:00pm EST).

Educate Others

Distribute public awareness materials available from the Dept. of Health and Human Services or Dept. of Homeland Security.

Host an awareness event to watch and discuss a recent human trafficking documentary. On a larger scale, host a human trafficking film festival.

Attend a Conference

The *Exchange Initiative* (EI) is an organization under *Nix Conference & Meeting Management*, which oversees meetings, conferences and trade shows for many businesses. EI's purpose is to empower individuals and organizations with real resources to help end sex trafficking. Nix will sponsor 'Ignite' - its first national conference March 2-4, 2014 in St. Louis.

To download program information, go to: <http://www.exchangeinitiative.com/ignite/>



KnowTheChain was developed by multiple anti-trafficking organizations to educate companies, investors, policymakers and consumers about the existence of slavery in supply chains and to encourage greater disclosure related to the *California Transparency in Supply Chains Act* (SB-657).

Encourage companies, including your own, to take steps to investigate and eliminate slavery and human trafficking in their supply chains and to publish the information for consumer awareness. Go to:

<https://www.knowthechain.org/>

Be a Conscientious Consumer

Stay away from stores that exploit workers or do not report on their supply chain policies. Check out the Dept. of Labor's 'List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor'.

Go to: www.dol.gov/ilab/programs/ocft/2012TVPRA.pdf

Make a Donation

Organize a fundraiser and donate the proceeds to an anti-trafficking organization.

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

Porn Profits Unreported

<http://abcnews.go.com/Primetime/story?id=132001>

Chain Store Action

<http://chainstorereaction.com/home/companies/name=walmart/>

Sustainable Apparel Chains Report

<http://www.impacteconomy.com/en/primer2.php>

Get Directly Involved

Incorporate human trafficking information into your professional associations' conferences, trainings, manuals, and other materials as relevant.

Join or start a grassroots anti-trafficking coalition.

Volunteer to do victim outreach or offer your professional services to a local anti-trafficking organization.

Write a letter to the editor of your local paper about human trafficking in your community.

Get Schools to Help Educate About Human Trafficking

Encourage your local schools to partner with students and include the issue of modern day slavery in their curriculum.

As a parent, educator, or school administrator, be aware of how traffickers target school-aged children.

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 past issues of *Stop Trafficking!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm>

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please contact: srjeanschafer@aol.com

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