

# Stop Trafficking !

*Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter*



*Awareness*

*Advocacy*

*Action*

1 This issue highlights the 2005 TIP Report and ongoing efforts by women religious to counter human trafficking.

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- Sisters of the Divine Savior
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## Women Religious Network in Anti-Human Trafficking Efforts

The USCCB Office of Migration and Refugee Services (MRS), with a grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services, hosted a two-day conference in Baltimore, MD June 14-16, 2005 entitled "Voices of Vigilance Against Human Trafficking."

The religious sisters invited to participate were members of religious congregations that had taken a corporate stance against human trafficking or that had members actively engaged in anti-human trafficking ministries. Ninety women religious, representing more than 25 congregations, gathered to discuss what they have done, how to strengthen their network ties and how to build broader coalitions with other NGOs and civic agencies. The Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski, Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore, welcomed the participants.

Steve Wagner, Director of Anti-Trafficking Programs, for the US Dept. of HHS Office of Refugee Resettlements (ORR) addressed the group, informing them that the USCCB MRS Office is the largest grantee of the ORR. He reported that to-date 14 US cities (see side panel, pg. 2) have obtained funding to conduct *Rescue and Restore* campaigns, aimed at helping

the public read the signs of trafficking activity and at alerting victims that help is available and how to obtain it. Wagner stressed the importance of awareness raising campaigns that partner the ordinary citizen with local police and social service agencies. The federal *Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)* has done much to rescue victims, provide them needed services and prosecute the traffickers. The collaboration of US attorneys, the FBI and US Immigration officers with local NGOs is essential Wagner pointed out. "That combination of federalism and subsidiarity is vital in the work against trafficking," he added. Trained law enforcement teams, juvenile and child protection agencies, labor law investigation agents and citizens have collaborated in so many ways. The goal of the US government is to create an abolitionist movement that makes human trafficking intolerable. The news media also plays a key role in the awareness raising process.

The group viewed *Fields of Mudan*, a short art film depicting commercial sexual abuse through the eyes and experience of a small Asian girl taken into a brothel against her will. The film was produced through Florida State U. Network pg. 2

## Latest TIP Report

The United States Department of State is mandated by the *Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000* to release an annual worldwide report on the efforts of governments to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons.

Ambassador John R. Miller, Director of the *Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons* gave a briefing on the 2005 *Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report* for representatives of the NGO community on June 3, 2005 at the *United States Department of State*, Washington, DC.

The TIP Report is a compendium of information on the actions of governments around the world to combat modern-day slavery. The goal of the report is to stimulate greater action on behalf of vulnerable people by highlighting the need for governments to prevent trafficking, protect victims, and prosecute traffickers.

The US Government will later release a United States Country Report on the United States' efforts to combat domestic trafficking.

See further details pgs. 4-6.



## Awareness

### Network *cont. pg. 1*

Maria Riley of the Center of Concern, Washington D.C. spoke on the economic and social context of trafficking. She outlined how economic integration and technology have driven globalization. Today these factors allow companies to invest overnight anywhere in global stock markets and then pull out their profits instantly. Such “globalized investment” as well as “trade liberalization” (another term for free trade) created a massive global flow of finance that is now beyond the legal control of nations.

To compete in these global markets poor nations were forced to take loans from the World Bank (WB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF). In the face of powerful competitors and due to internal corruption many of these poor nations fell into debt and became unable to keep up with interest payments on these loans. The WB and IMF then imposed “structural adjustments” to influence these debtors nations. Governments were required to reduce subsidies for public services, agricultural investments, social services and health care. Governments were required to refocus product production toward export products (agricultural produce, textiles and manufactured goods). They had to deregulate banking and investments.

These three “structural adjustments” together resulted in governments essentially giving over control of their economic futures to the global marketplace in which they were not prepared to compete successfully. The outcome was increased trade and investment benefits for wealthy nations

and greater indebtedness for poor nations. Industrialized nations and the ten largest developing economies profited the most. All others had to rely on informal markets, forcing people to migrate from rural to urban centers, which disrupted social ties and led to vast unemployment and starvation.

These socio-economic shifts (poverty, lack of opportunity, lack of housing, health care, education, etc.) facilitated all forms of human trafficking. In addition the civil unrest and ethnic conflicts over scarce resources compounded the problems. Women and children became the primary victims.

At the same time US immigration policies essentially do not recognize economic migrants. Post ‘911’ attitudes toward foreigners exacerbate the problem since foreigners are discriminated against. These attitudes have pushed desperate peoples underground, making them much more vulnerable to smugglers and traffickers.

Maria Riley pointed out that the United Nations Millennium Goals do not address the structural issues and root causes of global poverty. She said it would be important to work to stall the World Trade Organization’s trade goals, since these are counterproductive to alleviating global poverty. In the US much work also must be done to reform migration policy to promote family reunification and to respect the ability to move more freely to and from one’s homeland. Labor laws for migrants working in the US need to be based more closely on labor laws for US citizens.

Following Riley’s presentation the group was invited to reflect on

- Implications for their work;
- How to create more open systems of migration?
- Why the US separates trafficking from migration issues?
- How to unmask the discrimination against women in our highly-sexualized culture?

*Helene Hayes RGS* reported on research she is currently conducting in preparation for a book she hopes to publish next year. She interviewed 55 victims of trafficking in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Korea, Thailand, the Philippines, Belgium, France, Italy, Russia and the USA (all places where Religious of the Good Shepherd are working on behalf of victims). Interviews were conducted one-on-one with victims, with the help of a trusted translator-social worker when needed.

Network *pg. 3*

### ‘Rescue and Restore’ Campaigns

**Atlanta**  
**Chicago**  
**Las Vegas**  
**Miami**  
**Milwaukee**  
**Minneapolis/St. Paul**  
**Newark**  
**Philadelphia**  
**Phoenix**  
**Portland**  
**San Francisco**  
**Seattle**  
**St. Louis**  
**Tampa**

Texas, Washington, Minnesota, Missouri, and Florida already have comprehensive state trafficking laws.



## Awareness

### Network *cont. pg. 2*

Helene's work highlighted the woman's cultural and emotional state prior to, during and after her experience of being trafficked. Each victim felt a great sense of sorrow, low self-esteem, loss and shame. She felt betrayal by family or by some trusted person. She experienced violence, emotional and economic dependency and naiveté in relation to her trafficker. She had been pushed into her situation by poverty, abuse or incest. She feared AIDS, further violence, rejection, loss of personal identity, death. She expressed denial, lived in dreams, often lied or felt unable to make choices.

One therapist said, from the symptoms expressed by victims during therapy, these women suffered "soul damage". Hence therapy required unconditional love, the withholding of judgment and work toward forming a new dream. It took time to build a relationship of trust; speaking their native language was essential to that process. The women needed education, counseling, health care, skill building, as well as help to obtain all their necessary legal papers.

Helene urged international congregations to consider ways to build effective international networks among the sending and receiving countries from which victims come. Thus sisters could

collaborate in the repatriation process in order that victims receive help with micro-lending projects that would enable them to survive on their own.

Throughout the duration of the conference *Rosemary Dougherty SSND* (former member of the Shalem Institute and author of *Group Spiritual Direction*, Paulist Press) guided the group's reflection process: what did the participants already know; where were they experiencing gaps in their knowledge; and what could be done to work together effectively. In her initial remarks she urged the participants to base their anti-trafficking efforts in a stance of discernment, i.e. "to be intentionally available to God and God's work." Such an attitude makes it possible to better know what has to be done and what can be left undone.

The participants interacted after the various presentations within their own congregations as well as in random

configurations, in order to maximize their ability to build networks.

The group formulated issues that need attention. Included were:

- Make further efforts to encourage men to organize conferences on human trafficking for male audiences.
- Ask the US Conference of Catholic Bishops to include human trafficking in documents addressing migration issues.
- Continue to work closely with legislators on anti-trafficking legislation.
- Build coalitions within local areas in order to have in place an array of means to work against trafficking and to help victims.
- Highlight efforts needed regarding the "demand" side of human trafficking.
- Address some of the root causes of trafficking.
- Provide effective help for repatriated victims.
- Train grass roots people to be aware: restaurant staff, taxi drivers, cleaning staff in hotels, motels.
- Train interpreters to help victims communicate.
- Speak to women's groups urging them to convey anti-trafficking information to their male partners and friends, urging men to get involved in anti-trafficking efforts.

Because so many of the participants expressed the conviction that involvement by religious orders of men is vital

in the work of anti-trafficking, an *ad hoc* committee drafted a letter that could be sent by the conference participants to members of religious orders of men, including Jesuits, Franciscans, Dominicans and others.

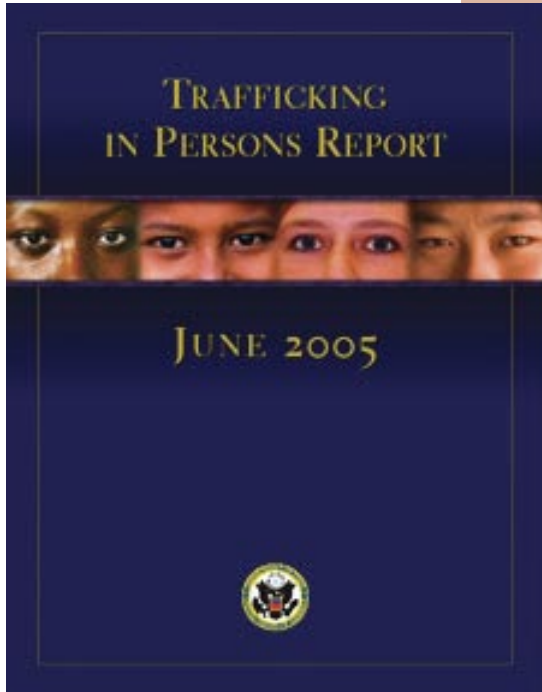


From left, Letizia Papalardo RSHM, who participated in the 2005 Baltimore conference, and Eugenia Bonetti MC along with other religious sisters, visit trafficked victims in the Ponte Galeria detention center in Rome, Italy before the women are repatriated.



## Awareness

**Information Provided by Maria Riley of the Center of Concern**  
According to the International Labor Organization (ILO Study: "A Global Alliance Against Forced Labor") 14.7 million people are victims of forced labor:  
9.8 million are exploited by private agents  
2.4 million are victims of trafficking  
2.5 million are forced to work by the State or by armed rebel groups.



Forms of forced labor include:  
64% economic exploitation  
20% imposed military exploitation  
11% sexual exploitation  
5% mixed forms of the above

Of those suffering from economic exploitation  
44% are men and boys and 56% are women and girls.

Of those suffering from sexual exploitation  
2% are men and boys and 98% are women and girls.

Of all trafficked persons 20% are forced laborers. Of these  
43% by commercial sexual exploitation  
32% by economic exploitation  
25% by mixed forms of both.

### Svetlana

"Last year, Svetlana was a young woman living in Belarus, looking for a job. She came upon some Turkish men who promised her a well-paying job in Istanbul. Once Svetlana crossed the border, the men seized her money, her papers, her passport. They locked her up. They forced her into prostitution. And then one night, they farmed her out to two businessmen, just like a commodity. Desperate, Svetlana jumped out of a window and fell six stories to a sidewalk. According to Turkish court documents, the so-called customers went down, found her on the sidewalk and instead of calling the police, called the traffickers, who killed her.

Svetlana's body lay unclaimed in the morgue for two weeks until Turkish authorities learned her identity and sent her body to Belarus. There is a bright spot in this too common tragedy. Belarusian and Turkish authorities cooperated this year to arrest and charge those responsible for Svetlana's death, which I think brings out ... how there are counterattacks going on.

Svetlana and other victims' stories are interspersed throughout the introduction to the 2005 TIP Report."

*(Excerpted from comments by Ambassador John R. Miller, Director of the U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, June 3, 2005)*

## US Secretary of State on the TIP Report

"... The United States has a particular duty to fight this scourge because trafficking in persons is an affront to the principles of human dignity and liberty, upon which this nation was founded.

... Whatever cruel form of servitude they may take, trafficking victims live in fear and misery. And wherever the trafficking trade flourishes, the rule of law erodes, corruption thrives, public health suffers and organized crime threatens the security of entire communities.



Advocacy

# TIP Report Tier Placements

Based on the extent of a government's actions to combat human trafficking.

**Tier 1:** Governments that fully comply with the TVPAs minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking.

(n) new country in ranking as of 2005; (+/-) indicates the number of tiers a country moved up (+)/down (-) since 2004.

Australia	Czech Republic	Italy	The Netherlands	South Korea
Austria	Denmark	Lithuania	New Zealand	Spain
Belgium	France	Luxembourg (n)	Norway	Sweden
Canada	Germany	Morocco	Poland	United Kingdom
Columbia	Hong Kong	Nepal (+)	Portugal	

**Tier 2:** Countries that make significant effort to bring themselves into compliance.

Afghanistan	Cote D'Ivoire (+)	Hungary	Malaysia	Singapore
Albania	Croatia (+)	Indonesia	Mali	Slovenia
Algeria (n)	Cyprus (+)	Iran	Mauritania (+)	Sri Lanka
Angola	East Timor (n)	Israel	Moldova	Switzerland
Argentina	Egypt	Japan (+)	Mongolia (n)	Syria (n)
Bangladesh (++)	El Salvador	Kazakhstan (+)	Mozambique	Taiwan (-)
Belarus	Equa. Guinea (++)	Kenya (+)	Nigeria (+)	Tajikistan (+)
Bosnia/Herz.	Estonia (+)	Kyrgyz Republic	Oman (n)	Tanzania (+)
Brazil	Ethiopia (+)	Laos (+)	Pakistan (+)	Thailand (n)
Bulgaria	Finland	Latvia	Panama	Turkey (+)
Burkina Faso	Gabon (+)	Lebanon	Paraguay (+)	Uganda
Burundi	Georgia (+)	Libya (n)	Peru (+)	Uruguay (n)
Chad (n)	Ghana (-)	Macedonia (-)	Romania	Vietnam (+)
Chile	Guatemala (+)	Madagascar (+)	Senegal (+)	Yemen (n)
Congo (DRC) (+)	Guyana (++)	Malawi (+)	Serbia-Montenegro (+)	Zambia (+)
Costa Rica	Honduras (+)			

**Special Watch List:** Based on the overall extent of human trafficking in the country and the extent to which government officials have participated in, facilitated, condoned, or are otherwise complicit in human trafficking.

Armenia (-)	China (PRC) (-)	India	Philippines	South Africa (-)
Azerbaijan	Dominican Republic	Mauritius (-)	Russia	Suriname
Bahrain (-)	The Gambia (-)	Mexico	Rwanda (-)	Ukraine (-)
Belize	Greece	Nicaragua (-)	Sierra Leone (+)	Uzbekistan (-)
Benin (-)	Guinea (-)	Niger (-)	Slovak Republic (-)	Zimbabwe
Cameroon (-)	Haiti (n)			

**Tier 3:** Countries that do not fully comply and do not make significant effort to work toward compliance.

Bolivia (-)	Cuba	Kuwait (--)	Saudi Arabia (--)	Un. Arab Emir. (--)
Burma	Ecuador	North Korea	Sudan	Venezuela
Cambodia (--)	Jamaica (-)	Qatar (-)	Togo (--)	

Concerns regarding the Tier Rankings may be sent to:  
 John Miller, Director - Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons  
 Send via: Chad Bettes, Public Diplomacy and Outreach E-mail: [BettesCM@state.gov](mailto:BettesCM@state.gov)



## Action

# Combating Trafficking: The Invaluable Role of the Media

“The media plays an indispensable role in educating us about the many manifestations of global human trafficking, presenting the problem in human terms and in all its painful detail. Yet media coverage is weak in many parts of the world. Some news media outlets are not yet aware of the trafficking phenomenon, or confuse it with other issues such as illegal migration and alien smuggling.

The media’s role is most effective when it:

- **Illuminates the problem.**

By writing an article or airing a segment focusing on trafficking in per-

sons, media not only educates the public but also shines a light on an issue typically shrouded in darkness. We know of many cases, particularly in corrupt systems, in which scrutiny by international media has made the difference between a trafficker’s release or imprisonment

- **Provides a help line.**

When the media prints or airs an item on trafficking, it is beneficial to include a local anti-trafficking help line number and other assistance sources, for potential victims and community members who may want to get involved.

- **Shames the perpetrators.**

Identify traffickers and protect victims. Press accounts tend to focus on victims. It is ethical and respectful for the media to protect victims by altering details of identity and personal story. Identify and photograph traffickers – they deserve the limelight.

The *Department of State’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons* has a *Public Affairs and Outreach Section* that is eager to hear from you. Please join us in the fight against trafficking: [tipoutreach@state.gov](mailto:tipoutreach@state.gov), or (202) 312-9639.” (Excerpted from the 2005 TIP Report, pg. 7)

## Rice

cont. pg. 4

***To confront the abomination of human trafficking, a modern day abolitionist movement has emerged. Concerned citizens, students, faith-based organizations, feminists and other nongovernmental groups are doing courageous and compassionate work to end this trade in human degradation.***

The United States Government is proud to stand with them at the forefront of this international anti-trafficking campaign. We provided more than \$96 million in foreign aid last year to help other countries strengthen their anti-trafficking efforts. We are helping them develop legislation

to combat abuse, create special law enforcement units to investigate trafficking cases and rescue victims, build emergency shelters and develop long-term rehabilitation and vocational training programs. We trust that this year’s report will raise international awareness of the crime of trafficking and spur governments across the globe to take determined actions against it.

All states must work together to close down trafficking routes, prosecute and convict traffickers, and protect and reintegrate victims into society. The responsibility does not rest only with developing countries, whose citizens are vulnerable to trafficking because of poverty or corrup-

tion or lack of education. Destination or demand countries, like the United States and other prosperous nations, whose citizens create the marketplace for trafficking, also bear a heavy responsibility.”



US Sec. State, Condoleezza Rice,  
June 3, 2005



## Action

### Anti-Trafficking Awards Given

The *Changemakers Innovation Award Competition: How to End Human Trafficking Awards*, in partnership with Polaris Project and Vital Voices Global Partnership, included a \$5,000 cash prize for each of three winners chosen by vote of this online community.

- 1st Place - Anti-Slavery Project (Australia)
- 2nd Place - STOP - Stop Trafficking and Oppression of Children & Women (India)
- 3rd Place - Soap Operas to End Child Trafficking in West Africa (USA / West Africa)

The remaining 13 finalists in order of the number of votes they received:

- Taiwan - Top Down and Bottom Up Approach
- India - Prevention of human trafficking through creation of awareness
- USA - Organizing Trafficked Persons: Survivor Advisory Caucus
- Nepal - Sensitize Demand Pool and Prevent Girls Trafficking
- Nepal - Breaking Human Trafficking Practice with Building Indo-Nepal Relation
- Cambodia - Community Based Protection Network Program
- Philippines - Holistic Approach to Assist Filipino Women Migrants in Japan
- USA - North Carolina Department of Justice's Task Force on Human Trafficking
- Nigeria - Developing Media Capacity to Eliminate Human Trafficking
- India - Comprehensive Anti-Trafficking Initiative
- Croatia - Local Initiatives in Trafficking Prevention in Bosnia and Croatia
- India - State Commitment to Combat Trafficking
- India - SAMVAV Engaging Youth to End Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation

### Comment on TIP Report

This year's report has a section on the relationship between prostitution and sex trafficking, as well as a section on the link between HIV/AIDS and trafficking. Yet the Western/developed countries such as the Netherlands, Germany, and Belgium, which play a significant role in creating the demand for sexual trafficking, remain on Tier 1, while developing countries (the supply countries) consistently receive lower tier rankings.

Sexual trafficking is a new Western imperialism that exploits the women and children of the developing world. This injustice the TIP report still does not address. Hopefully the Congress will craft a solution to this matter in their reauthorization of the *Trafficking Victims Protection Act*.

Lisa Thompson, *Salvation Army's Initiative Against Human Trafficking*

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

*The 2005 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report*

<http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2005/>

*Fields of Mudan*

Florida State University  
Graduate Film Conservatory  
A3100 University Center  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2350

*The Changemakers*

<http://www.changemakers.net/journal/300503/>

### Toll-Free Hotline: (Trafficking Information and Referral)

**1.888.3737.888**

#### Editor's Note:

*If you know of good video/book resources, please notify us so we can pass the word on to other readers.*

*Thank you!*

#### 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>

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