

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

November 2006 Vol. 4 No. 11

This issue highlights a follow-up on topics covered in past months, as well as important new opportunities to learn and take action.

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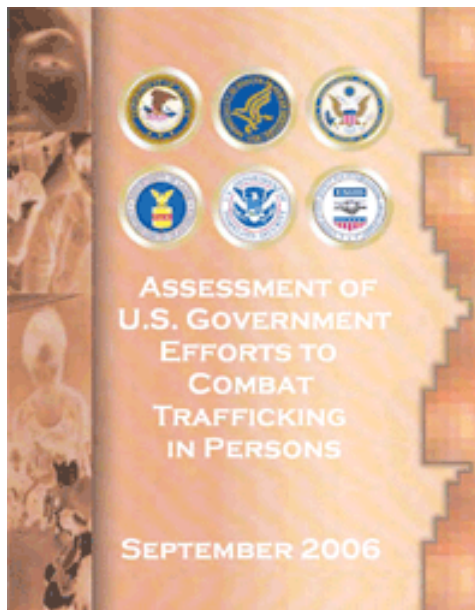
1

Assessment of U.S. Government Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons in Fiscal Year 2005

The 37-page report describes the benefits and services given domestically to trafficked victims through the *Departments of Health and Human Services, Justice, Homeland Security, State, Labor, and Legal Services.*

It gives statistics regarding the granting of T-visas and Continued Presence visas and describes the various investigations and prosecutions that took place in 2005 compared to prior years.

The Report also has a section on the training and outreach programs, both nationally and internationally.



Report details follow on pg. 3

U.S. Government Funding

On October 3, 2006 *Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales* announced additional funding, totaling nearly \$8 million, for law enforcement agencies and service organizations. The purpose of the funding is to identify and assist victims of human trafficking and apprehend and prosecute those engaged in trafficking offenses.

The funding will be used to create new *Trafficking Task Forces* in ten cities around the country, building on the current work of over 32 national task forces working as part of a collaborative effort among various Department of Justice components, the Departments of Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Labor and State, and national and community-based organizations that combat human trafficking.

2006 World Cup Germany: Report

(Draft prepared by J. Hennig, S. Craggs, F. Larsson, F. Laczko, International Organization for Migration (IOM); funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency - Sida)

Executive summary

- Prior to the World Cup in Germany in 2006, there was considerable international concern that this event would contribute to a sharp increase in trafficking for sexual exploitation.
- Media reports suggested that prostitution would increase and that up to 40,000 women might be trafficked.
- This report investigated whether the number of victims of human trafficking (VoT) for sexual exploitation increased during the World Cup 2006 in Germany.
- The study also examined the measures taken by the authorities and NGO community in Germany, before and during the World Cup to prevent human trafficking.
- The study was conducted between June and September 2006. Research included a systematic review of media and statistical sources, an analysis of previous large-scale events and their impact on trafficking, and in-depth interviews with representatives of key agencies responsible for combating

World Cup cont. pg. 2



Awareness

“One of the most terrible offenses that women face is trafficking in persons. We must not stay silent as women and children are preyed upon for profit. ... None of us can rest until we end this modern form of slavery.”

Secretary Condoleezza Rice, United Nations, September 23, 2006

World Cup *cont. from pg. 1*

human trafficking in Germany.

- Sixteen in-depth interviews were conducted in total; with six experts from the relevant departments of German Länder Criminal Police Offices or the City Police Offices of selected World Cup Cities and ten in-depth expert interviews with civil society organizations (street work and assistance to victims of trafficking).
- In addition to the analysis of the situation in Germany, information on trends in connection with the World Cup was gathered in cooperation with IOM missions. (Report pg. 2)

Main Findings

- All data, information and experts' statements that are available to date strongly indicate that an increase in human trafficking, during and after the World Cup did not occur.
- It is concluded that the 40,000 estimate was unfounded and unrealistic. The current number of known victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation in Germany is around a 1,000 persons per year. Even if it is assumed that only one in ten cases of trafficking are ever discovered, the 40,000 figure represents a very high estimate.
- The German authorities and NGOs had started their planning as far back as summer/autumn 2005. However, the international attention encouraged and fortified these efforts.
- It is likely that the German experience will provide lessons to other countries organizing large-scale sporting events. Few previous studies have looked at the impact of high profile sporting events on human trafficking.
- Prevention campaigns and increased law enforcement efforts during the World Cup may have reduced the risk of trafficking.
- It is also likely that the characteristics of the fan-base at the 2006 World Cup had a direct impact on the demand for sexual services. Many of the fans included families with children. Further research is needed to explore any such link.
- Moreover, trafficking in human beings is a process that requires some logistics and investment on the part of the traffickers – possibly

a short and one-time event like the World Cup in Germany was not perceived as a profitable enough venture for the traffickers in this respect.

- This study also suggested ways in which to enhance efforts to combat human trafficking at future large-scale sporting events, based on Germany's experience....(Report pg. 2)

Conclusions and Recommendations

... Apart from their possible impact on the level of trafficking, there is no doubt that the awareness campaigns have been a success in terms of awareness raising and advocacy both of the general public and of (potential) clients of prostitutes, as well as importantly among policymakers.

However, much of the public attention was owed to the “hype” that had developed on basis of the unfounded estimate of the 40,000-foreign/forced prostitutes allegedly expected to be brought to Germany for the World Cup. Even if many German NGOs had not supported this estimate, this may hinder their future efforts to gain long-term attention and support for the important work they are doing. It should be noted that most campaigns were launched for the World Cup, but were not limited to the event, and many activities are being continued.

It stands to reason that one big, comprehensive and professionally organized campaign covering different target groups, but with an overall consistent message may have been even more effective than the combination of several separate campaigns. However, taking into account the German federal system and the different approaches and backgrounds of NGOs active in this field, the barriers for such a desirable combination of funds and efforts are high in Germany.

Major sports events may pose a good opportunity for public awareness and advocacy campaigns also in the future. However, an early and sound situation assessment with regard to the trafficking of human beings in co-

World Cup *cont. pg. 3*



World Cup Report pg. 27

- World Cup Cities
- ▲ Location of Interviewed NGOs
- ▲ Location of Interviewed Police



Awareness

Report Details

cont. from pg. 1

Service to Victims: Certification and Eligibility Letters

The *Trafficking Victims' Protection Act (TVPA)* authorizes the "certification" of adult victims to receive certain federally-funded or -administered benefits and services, such as cash assistance, medical care, food stamps, and housing. In FY 2005, the *Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)* issued 230 certifications (196 to adults and 34 eligibility letters to minors) – a marked increase from previous fiscal years, as shown in the chart below.

The FY 2005 certification letters were sent to victims or their representatives in 19 states, with the largest concentrations in California, New York, and Texas. The countries of origin for reported victims were Albania, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Chad, Czech Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Korea, Latvia, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Russia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Western Samoa. The highest populations of victims originated in Korea (23.5%), Thailand (11.7%), Peru (10.0%), and Mexico (9.6%). (*Report pgs. 3-4*)

Year	Certifications
2001	198
2002	99
2003	151
2004	161
2005	230

Report details *cont. pg. 4*

Countries Face US Sanctions

Zimbabwe is now subject to U.S. sanctions because of its government's failure to take steps to halt human trafficking. Other sanctions have already been imposed against Zimbabwe in recent years. U.S.-backed pro-democracy and health programs will not be affected by those sanctions however.

Countries that were ranked in Tier 3 of the 2006 TIP Report were given a 90-day grace period in which to take steps to combat trafficking and protect victims in order to avoid possible sanctions. Of the 12 countries named, only Belize and Laos were deemed to have made good progress during the grace period and have been removed from the "worst offender" list.

The remaining countries have been on the list for a year or more and their status concerning sanctions remained unchanged. They are Burma, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Uzbekistan, Venezuela and Zimbabwe. The United States and Saudi Arabia are conducting official consultations on a broad range of issues, human trafficking among them.

In an interview, Ambassador John Miller said the main U.S. goal is not to impose sanctions against countries indifferent to trafficking but to encourage them to take the issue seriously. He reported that Belize had rescued 62 trafficking victims in recent months and carried out a number of prosecutions of traffickers. He credited Ecuador, Jamaica and the United Arab Emirates with a serious effort to deal with the trafficking issue in recent years.

Thirty-two countries are ranked on the Special Watch List, indicating U.S. concern about their efforts to combat human trafficking.

World Cup *cont. from pg. 2*

operation with local experts from police, international organizations, and NGOs will be extremely important. A coordinated media approach (possibly accompanied by media training) may ensure that the issue of the trafficking of human beings receives the adequate public attention while at the same time journalists are provided with concepts regarding the definition of the trafficking of human beings, aiming at disseminating facts instead of hysteria. All campaigns and projects should be launched with a view to sustainability. And last, but not least, practical assistance to victims of trafficking, effective transnational investigation and prosecution, as well as tackling the causes of the trafficking of human beings in countries of origin should not be neglected. Information campaigns are important, but can never in themselves be seen as the sole solution of modern slavery.

Moreover, one should bear in mind, that the trafficking of human beings for sexual exploitation is only one form of trafficking in human beings according to the UN definition. During the WC the sole focus was on trafficking for sexual exploitation, which contributed to a narrow perception of the issue by many commentators and observers. It is feasible to widen the scope of counter trafficking activities linked to major events, to include also forced labor, criminal activities and begging and advocate more strongly for adequate reporting, e.g. media, as to the true nature and scope of trafficking: More research is needed to explore this phenomenon.

Further research is also needed to analyze the characteristics of fans attending major events and subsequently whether the profile of spectators has any consequential impact on the demand for sexual services and in return any possible impact upon the trafficking of human beings during major events. (pgs. 24-25)



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Awareness

Report details

cont. from pg. 3

How Can Services to Victims Be Improved?

1. Continued Action on September 2005 Assessment Recommendations

In order to improve victim access to U.S. Government services, the U.S. Government must continue to work on its ability to identify victims. Acting on the recommendations in the September 2005 Assessment, *the U.S. Government has improved its capacity to find and rescue trafficking victims by focusing on particular work sectors or first responders, such as the work sector, victim service providers, the travel industry, and the faith-based community.* For example:

- DOJ has directed training and technical assistance efforts to extend the ability of “traditional” victim service providers, such as those who serve victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, to identify and respond to trafficking victims.
- DOS’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons has developed an educational CD-ROM on child sex tourism for use with the travel and tourism community. The CD-ROM includes public service announcements, posters, fact sheets, and examples of “best practices” taken by the travel industry.
- HHS is working on general outreach through its 17 trafficking coalitions. In an effort to improve its efficiency, HHS is changing to an incentive structure to find and identify TIP victims. HHS resources will go to places where victims are identified versus their ‘estimated’ location.

- HHS’s Administration for Children and Families hosted a conference on survivors of human trafficking on September 28, 2006.
- DOJ held a national conference in October 2006 with a special focus on advancing the Government’s knowledge base about human trafficking and on improving access to actionable research to better target law enforcement resources in finding and rescuing victims.
- ICE has created database files for Continued Presence applications to assist in program planning and training. ...
- NIJ has funded research projects to examine how trafficking victims have had their personal and crimi-

nal situations resolved, to identify effective ways to secure victim/witness cooperation, and to evaluate victims’ medical and legal needs.

2. Recommendations for FY 2006

- Once victims are identified, the U.S. Government must improve its efforts to coordinate victim services offered by federal agencies and grant recipients. Although the U.S. Government has improved inter-agency coordination on TIP issues, increased coordination could improve victim access to services and assistance. (*Examples followed.*)
- The U.S. Government should expand the work sector approach to the public health sector, the education community, and faith leaders. (*Report, pgs. 8-9*)

John R. Miller Resigns

Excerpts from the letter announcing his resignation follow:

Dear Friends in the Fight to End Modern-day Slavery:

After nearly four years at the U.S. Department of State, I have submitted my resignation to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice effective December 15, 2006. In the new year I will join the faculty of George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs.

It has been a great honor to serve as the first ambassador-at-large combating trafficking in persons and to chair the Senior Policy Operating Group. It has been a privilege to help nurture the 21st century abolitionist movement and to help define a leading role for the United States in this noble effort.

Under the compassionate, visionary leadership of President George W. Bush, we have spotlighted the issue of slavery around the world through the annual Trafficking in Persons Report. We have engaged with governments ... to bring about improved law enforcement, victim protection, and prevention of this hideous crime.

This link to Time magazine is just one example of how the TIP Report has helped stimulate foreign government action to confront the hideous reality of human trafficking and sexual exploitation: <http://www.time.com/time/world/printout/0,8816,1543174,00.html>

This work has been deeply rewarding and only effective thanks to your partnership in the cause. We have accelerated momentum against TIP as a government because we have worked in concert with private citizens, non-government organizations, businesses, media, and state and local officials to throw traffickers in jail and rescue and restore victims. Without your commitment, bravery, and good counsel, little would have been achieved on behalf of victims. Please accept my personal thanks for your assistance and encouragement.

This struggle is far from over, and I will continue in this fight with you from my new post....

Sincerely Yours,

Ambassador John R. Miller, Director/Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U.S. Department of State



Advocacy

Air France: Anti-Sex Tourism Video

In October 2006 *Air France* began showing a graphic video on child prostitution on all its long-haul flights in an effort to curb sex tourism involving minors. "It is a part of *Air France's* humanitarian commitment," Marina Tymen, an *Air France* spokesperson, explained.

UNICEF estimates about a million children are sexually exploited every year in the multi-billion-dollar sex industry.

The 90-second video shows young girls in discos, on streets and in hotel bedrooms, with graphics displaying their ages: "13 years ... 16 years". To the sound of handcuffs clicking shut, the video then shows a middle-aged man, a censor bar across his eyes reading: "10 years". "Having sexual relations with a minor leads to prison," a background voice says.

The video plays on the airline's 94 long-haul planes and is seen by up to 46,000 passengers a day. (Source: http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=3&art_id=vn20061007090314566C444826)

Update: JOLT Letter Campaign

Members of the *Kansas Benedictines*, *Columbus Dominicans*, *California Mercys*, and the *Palm Beach, FL Diocesan Council of Catholic Women* have written to inform *Stop Trafficking* that they are distributing letters to their contacts to use in writing to corporations that produce feminine products.

The letter campaign, also supported by the *Lutheran Office for World Community*, was launched to encourage manufacturers to include the anti-trafficking hotline (1-888-3737-888) on their products as a way to help women be informed about where to seek help if they are caught in or observe others caught in an enslaved situation. This measure began as a *JOLT (Justice Organizers, Leadership, and Treasurers)* initiative. For background information, see *Stop Trafficking* May and July 2006 (Vol. 4 Nos. 5/7)

PA: New State Legislation

Pennsylvania legislation on issues related to human trafficking (HB 1112) was introduced into the PA State legislature in March 2005.

The PA State Assembly unanimously passed the legislation in December 2005. The PA State Senate unanimously passed the legislation on Oct. 18th and sent it on to the Pennsylvania Governor for signing.

The new law will cover crimes by corrupt organizations; provide for the offense of trafficking in persons; authorize interception of wire, electronic or oral communications; and provide sentencing for trafficking of persons and for criminal forfeiture. (Source: R. Nugent SDS)

Delegation of Bishops Visit U.S./Mexico Border Region

The USCCB Committee on Migration sent a delegation to the U.S./Mexico border region to study the plight of unaccompanied minors and human trafficking victims. The ever-growing problems with these populations are some of the gravest, and many times most overlooked, symptoms of the broken and out-dated immigration system currently employed by the United States.

The delegation attempted to meet with a broad cross-section of agencies and individuals involved with or knowledgeable of these populations to gain critical insights and to understand their needs. The delegation met with Church officials, government officials, community-based organizations, and others with important perspectives. The delegation also visited programs established to serve these populations.

The delegation hoped to better understand the circumstances and perspectives there, in order to discover potential areas of collaboration between Church programs and others in Mexico and the U.S.

The delegation's trip began in Tucson, AZ October 23, 2006. From there they went to Houston, TX from Oct. 24th to the 26th and completed the visit in El Paso, TX from Oct. 26th to the 29th.

An electronic blog was designed to follow the bishops on their trip, to learn what they are learning, see what they are seeing, and to hear in their own words their impressions, thoughts, and conclusions. (See *web site on pg. 8*)



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Action

Documentary: Lives For Sale

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is supporting a just reformation of the country's immigration laws ... and working with a Coalition of Catholic Organizations and individuals to combat and eliminate the dehumanizing trafficking of human persons. ...

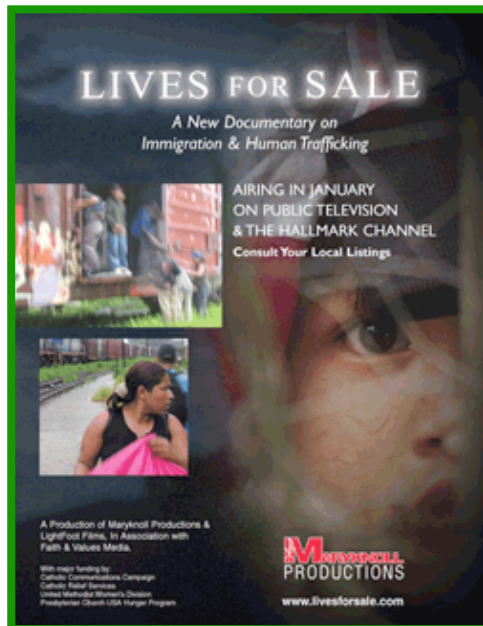
These two issues, immigration and human trafficking, come together in a disturbing new film titled LIVES FOR SALE which will be shown on public television stations across the country sometime in January -- but only if enough people contact their local PBS affiliates by November 19th asking the station to air the film.

The film, produced by *Maryknoll Productions*, is also supported by the *Catholic Communications Campaign* and *Catholic Relief Services*. ...

In LIVES FOR SALE the viewer will meet desperate people...

Esperanza, a young Guatemalan woman was brought to Florida as a domestic and sexual servant in a middle class neighborhood. Yanori Ramirez traveled from Honduras where 79% of the population lives in poverty. Her story is heart breaking, as is the story of Lucita, a poor Mexican girl who was manipulated by a neighbor to go to California in hopes of a good job only to find herself forced to work in a brothel, unable to leave.

The film also offers hope in projects by priests and ministers who run oases for immigrants or put hydration stations along the main routes traveled by immigrants. In southern Mexico the *Just Coffee* cooperative



enables growers to keep profits in the community. In Guatemala a literacy program funded by immigrants in the US combats the 80% female illiteracy rate and gives children skills to earn a living without leaving their country.

In the heated debate about illegal immigration there is a tendency to forget that we are talking about real human persons, courageous people who are willing to make sacrifices for their families. They believe in America and when they end up here it is our responsibility to do something about their situation. (Excerpted from a letter written by Fr. Robert Nugent, SDS, a member of SAVE (the Salvatorian Advocacy for Victims of Exploitation Task Force) to *The Witness*: Harrisburg and Baltimore Catholic papers.)

Urgent Action Promote a Broadcast

The documentary LIVES FOR SALE will be seen on public television stations nationwide beginning in January 2007. There is not a set date and time for the broadcast of the show, so it will be necessary to "check local listings."

To assist in getting the show seen in your community it will be important to contact your local public television station. There are several ways you can find what the public television station is in your city (some cities have 2 or more stations). You can start by going to www.pbs.org and clicking on the link "Station Finder" at the bottom of the page. Once you get into Station Finder you can put in your zip code and your local station information will come up.

The most effective way to express your interest in seeing LIVES FOR SALE broadcast on your local station is to contact the station programmer or the audience services department.

Stations are deciding during the month of November what to broadcast in January, so contacting them NOW will be important.

NOTE: The only date on which stations may download the program is NOVEMBER 19th, so YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED NOW!

A few suggested talking points:

- Describe your organization and its desire to see the program on (XXXX) station.
- Let them know how many members you have and what a service it would be to your membership and the community you serve to see LIVES FOR SALE broadcast.
- Having more than one person from your organization contact the station is encouraged.
- Where possible, offer to promote the station's broadcast of LIVES FOR SALE to your members and constituents either through email blasts, printed newsletters or a telephone tree.



Action

Book on Trafficking of Nepalese Girls

Lakshmi, sold into prostitution, lives a nightmare and gradually forms friendships with the other girls that enable her to survive in this terrifying new world.

Then the day comes when she must make a decision to risk everything for a chance to reclaim her life.

Patricia McCormick's note confirms what readers fear: thousands of girls, like Lakshmi, are sold into prostitution yearly.

"Part of McCormick's research for this novel involved interviewing women in Nepal and India, and her depth of detail makes the characters believable and their misery palpable. This important book was written in their honor."—Alexa Sandmann, Kent State University, OH

"Heartbreaking story...written in free verse...girls' first-person narration is horrifying." - School Library Journal



'Marshaling Every Resource:'

December 1, 2006

On December 1st 2006, the Policy Research Institute for the Region at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and the Vera Institute for Justice will host "Marshaling Every Resource" a major colloquium on state and local responses to human trafficking.

After years of intervention concentrated at the federal level, states and localities are increasingly seen as the primary agents for combating trafficking. To date, however, there has been little inquiry into the dynamics surrounding state- and local-level responses to human trafficking: how they come about, what they look like, and how they work. This conference will address this research gap, featuring original research by leading scholars in the field, including Rutgers University's James Finkenauer and Daniel Tichenor, and Northeastern University's Amy Farrell, as well as commentary by noted activists and practitioners like 'Free the Slaves' Kevin Bales and Deputy Attorney General Linda Rinaldi of New Jersey.

The conference (9:00 am to 3:30 pm, including lunch) will take place in Robertson Hall on the Princeton University campus. It is free and open to the public.

The conference will also be webcast live, with a special online discussion forum in which viewers will be able to ask questions of the speakers in real-time.

To register, go to: http://region.princeton.edu/conference_39.html or contact Georgette Harrison: gharriso@princeton.edu or 609.258.9065. Register online if at all possible, in order to receive updates on the conference.

Book on Narratives of Modern Day Slaves

"To Plead Our Own Cause: Narratives of Modern Slavery" (Cornell University Press, 2007) contains the stories of 100 slaves from around the world, told in their own words. Millions of people continue to work under forced conditions, despite the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the United Nations' prohibition of slavery in 1949. To promote consciousness-raising, Zoe Trodd, of the History and Literature Program at Harvard University, collaborated with Kevin Bales, president of 'Free the Slaves' and the world's leading expert on modern slavery, to edit this anthology of contemporary slave narratives.

"There are around 27 million slaves in the world today," Trodd said. *"That's far more than at any other time in history. In the United States alone, there are about 50,000 slaves at any one time, according to conservative estimates. This is something that most people unfortunately are still completely unaware of."*

"To Plead Our Own Cause" seeks to bring attention to the issue by offering a mosaic of the experiences that comprise modern slavery. By including narratives from child soldiers, sex slaves, domestic slaves, factory slaves, and agricultural slaves from Africa to Washington, D.C., Trodd and Bales want people to understand how slavery has adapted to a changing world. (http://www.fas.harvard.edu/home/news_and_events/releases/slavery_10262006.html)



Toll-Free Hotline:
(Trafficking Information
and Referral)
1.888.3737.888

Action

Justice Cards: A Gift Idea for the Holidays

The cards (samples below) are designed:

- to offer information on justice issues;
- to raise awareness about moral challenges of today,
- to encourage action toward universal human rights, and
- to engender hope in a shared vision of compassion for life on planet Earth.

All cards are blank inside with a justice message on the back. Cards may be personalized. Bulk rates are available. Order through:

Sisters of the Holy Names P.O. Box 907 Los Gatos, CA 95031.

Three samples of cards featuring issues of human trafficking.

UN Millennium Development Goals

- Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger
- Achieve Universal Primary Education
- Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
- Reduce Child Mortality
- Improve Maternal Health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases
- Ensure Environmental Sustainability
- Create a Global Partnership for Development

For each goal, one or more targets are set, most for the year 2015.

The children of today deserve to live their tomorrows in a world where these goals have been achieved.



Informative Web Sites:

(Each contains information related to human trafficking)

September 2006 Report of U.S. Government Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons in Fiscal Year 2005

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/73227.pdf>

U.S. Government Information

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov>
http://www.usdoj.gov/whatwedo/whatwedo_ctip.html

USCCB Border Blog

<http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/borderblog.html>

CRS Youth Resources

<http://education.crs.org>

Justice Cards

www.globaljusticecards.com

Local PBS Station Finder

www.pbs.org

Stop Trafficking!

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

Use the following web address to access back issues of

Stop Trafficking!

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

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please use this e-mail address:
jeansds2000@yahoo.com

Editing and Layout:
Jean Schaffer, SDS

CRS Education: 'Going Global with Youth'

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) announced a new website for educators and youth ministers, who rely on web resources in their work. Users will be able to access lesson plans, prayer services, retreat models, stories, and additional resources and links for CRS programs and partners. Feedback and suggestions may be sent to:

Ted Miles, Relationship Manager/Religious Education for CRS.

T: 410.951.7475; F: 410-234-3183; Email: tmiles@crs.org