

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

Co-Sponsored by:

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- Capacitar International, Inc.
- Sisters of Mercy International Justice Network
- Congregation of Notre Dame
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Los Angeles
- Sisters of St. Francis of Colorado Springs

1 This issue highlights factors affecting the trafficking of American children.

March 2006

Vol. 4 No. 3

Child Porn Via Webcams

Pornographic sites now feature images of minors lured into performing sexually in front of their Webcams for people they believe to be friends. This has changed the nature of child pornography in ways that are only now beginning to be understood by professionals in the field.

It has helped transform the illicit trade, decreasing the probability of detection as adults use the Webcams to determine if they are really speaking to a child, as opposed to an undercover law enforcement agent.

In 2004 'Bigfunhouse', a pay site that provided access to Webcam pornography, closed after losing its relationship with Verotel, a credit card processor. Verotel severed its ties with 'Bigfunhouse' after being contacted by *The NY Times* with questions about the illicit images. (<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/12/30/national/30porn.html>)

Sex Trafficking of American Youth

Kris, age 15, was lured from a Brooklyn party by four people she met there, raped and nearly forced into a life of prostitution. She's not a runaway. She's a typical New York teen, a good student who comes from a strong, loving and supportive family. The man who took her will serve 12 years in prison. But the incident has left scars on Kris that will probably never go away.

"I felt dirty inside," Kris said. *"I cut off my hair. I cut off everything he touched."* The teen said she also never goes to the bathroom alone at school or walks alone on city streets. (<http://www.nydailynews.com/boroughs/story/273902p-234588c.html>)

Samples of Google-Sponsored Links:

- Adult WebCams:
Live XXX Webcams with Real Amateurs. Sign-up for free! (www.---.com)
 - Hot Amateur Cam Girls:
Come Party with Live girls Hot Girls Live from their bedrooms (www.---.com)
 - Want Free Live Sex?
Extremely good porno and it's free! (www.---.com)
 - My Cam Friends Live Girls:
Chat with our hot models! With sound. (www.---.com)
 - Horny Live Girls on Cam:
100's of horny live girls on their webcams doing 100% live sex shows! (www.---.com)
 - Look At Me On My Cam:
I'm a cute little teen home alone and you can watch my cam now. (www.---.com)
 - Live Amateur Webcams:
Anonymous webcam access. Amateur live sex chat shows ! (www.---.com)
 - Wanna Play on my Webcam:
Chat and watch the sexiest ladies on cam for free. (www.---.com)
 - Free Porn Webcams:
Access Free Live Porn Webcams 100% Free Porn Webcams (www.---.com)
 - Chat Free w/ Sexy Women:
Chat Free with Exotic Asian Women Watch Them Bare all Live on Webcam (www.---.com)
- (Editor's Note: Web addresses removed out of respect for our readers.)

Ellen, a 16-year old runaway, was forced to work for a NJ prostitution ring that operated out of motels.

The ring included 25 to 40 women. The teen had lived for a time on the streets after running away from her Camden County home in 2004. The woman running the ring offered the girl a place to live, but then pressed her into prostitution. Police learned of the ring when the teen ran away, returned home to her parents, and called police.

Police learned the ring operated for three years in motels along Route 73. Business hours were set at 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., with customers charged \$125 to \$150 per hour. When the woman ran a local newspaper ad, describing a girl as "sexy and discreet" and "hiring for \$125," an undercover female detective answered the ad and discussed becoming a prostitute with the woman, who was then arrested. (http://101owins.com/topstories/local_story_219203749.html)



Awareness

Role of Media and the Internet

Internet Porn Fuels Child Abuse

The Internet has sparked enormous growth in child exploitation through prostitution, pornography, sex tourism and trafficking. Pedophiles use it to stalk children, said a UNICEF adviser.

About 55% of the Internet child porn industry is based in the U.S., while Russia is second at 23%, states the U.K.'s *National Children's Homes* (NCH). Such sites are directly to blame for the rise in child-sex offenses.

People from all over the world are accessing these sites. Before one had to know a friend or be in a pedophile ring, but now anyone... can find child pornography on the Internet. Surveys of convicted pedophiles showed that up to 70 percent were inspired to commit their crimes after viewing child porn on the Internet.

UNICEF says the demand for children to work in the sex industry, caused by the dramatic rise in the number of pedophiles, was being increasingly handled by organized crime. *"Crime gangs, especially in Russia and Eastern Europe, are systematically recruiting children to be filmed having sex, whereas six to seven years ago there was no commercial market at all. One website in Eastern Europe... was generating US \$2-million a month from child pornography,"* UNICEF reported

The bust of a US website in 2001 had about a quarter-of-a-million subscribers from 59 countries. (http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=24&art_id=vn20041109081847828C480251)

In July 2005 the journal, *Pediatrics*, printed a supplemental report, *"Impact of the Media on Adolescent Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors."* The report, based on a thorough review of scientific literature, was requested by Congress and supported by the *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* and the *University of Texas Health Science Center* at Houston.

The report states: "Approximately 47% of high school students have had sexual intercourse. Of these, 7.4% report having sex before the age of 13, and 14% have had four or more sexual partners." Based on clear evidence that media representations influence teenage eating, smoking and drinking habits, adolescents are almost certainly affected — negatively — by sexual references and images from television, in movies and video games, in music, in magazines and on Web sites. As for the Internet, one national survey of

10- to-17-year-olds found that one in five had *"inadvertently encountered explicit sexual content, and one in five had been exposed to an unwanted sexual solicitation while online."*

A study conducted in the United States revealed that one in five children who go online regularly are approached by strangers for sex. A separate study revealed that an estimated 104,000 children become victims of sexual abuse each year. (Excerpted from a 2004 article by Adam Matthews, http://sattyamag.com/nov04/adamsmatthews_theft.html)

Sexually aggressive children may be growing in number because children are exposed to more graphic sexual imagery at a younger age through explicit television programming, the increased availability of Internet pornography and declining parental supervision, a clinical psychologist noted. (<http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/ssi-story.mpl/metropolitan/2777981>)

Debbie, 15 years old, the middle child in a close-knit Air Force family from suburban Phoenix and a straight-A student, was kidnapped from the driveway of her home one evening. Tied up, threatened and driven around Phoenix for hours, she was drugged and brought into a building where six men gang-raped her.

She was beaten, fed dog biscuits and kept locked in a dog kennel. Her captors said they would pour acid on her 19-year-old niece if she tried to escape.

They advertised her on *Craigslist* in a section entitled *"Teen Love."* Men began to arrive for degrading forms of sex and all the money earned went to the captors. When Debbie asked some of the men why they came to her when they had wives at home, they gave no answer.

On a tip, police searched the house where Debbie was kept, but did not find her. She had been tied up, gagged, and hidden in a drawer under the bed. But, on a second search, police found and freed her. They were amazed at the courage that Debbie had shown. Her kidnappers pled not guilty.

Debbie's family moved away from Phoenix to the Midwest, hoping that Debbie would eventually heal.



Awareness

Organized Crime Goes Online

Technology is playing a huge role in the way organized crime is developing throughout the world and law enforcers struggle to keep up. Traditional forms of organized crime - gambling, street prostitution and handling of stolen property - have evolved to Internet gambling, Internet prostitution and theft of intellectual property.

Organized crime used to be a local issue, city by city, state-by-state. Some places had it, and others didn't. But now it almost doesn't matter what jurisdiction it is - legal or illegal - because now people use the Internet.

However, people committing crimes on the Internet from their own homes are not safe from the law. *"Regardless of perceptions, there is no anonymity online,"* police say. *"Just going on to the Internet leaves a detailed fingerprint. If you visit an illegal site or perform an illegal action online you leave valuable electronic DNA on your own computer, the computers that you visit, and the servers in between."*

(<http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2004/11/29/1101577418507.html>)

Mary, age 13, was taken by a 32-year-old man between Nevada, Idaho and California over a period of 18 months. He was charged with six counts of interstate transportation of minors for purposes of prostitution. (<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2005/02/05/BABADIGEST5.DTL>)

Prostitution of Juveniles

A June 2004 article in the *Juvenile Justice Bulletin* of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention reported that the prostitution of juveniles occurs in a variety of contexts.

- Both international rings and interstate crime operations traffic young girls to distant places with promises of employment and money. (Flowers, R.B. 2001. *Runaway Kids and Teenage Prostitution*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press).
- Parents advertise and prostitute their children over the Internet. (The Hofstede Committee Report. 1999. *Juvenile Prostitution in Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Attorney General's Office).
- Runaway and homeless youth on city streets are recruited by pimps or engage in "survival sex."
- Drug pushers force addicted teenagers to prostitute themselves as a condition for receiving drugs or a place to stay. (Klain, E.J. 1999. *Prostitution of Children and Child-Sex Tourism: An Analysis of Domestic and International Responses*. Alexandria, VA: National Center for Missing and Exploited Children).
- As part of initiations, gangs may require members to engage in sex for money or other services. (The Hofstede Committee Report, 1999).
- But also, acting on their own initiative or in the company of friends, young people may engage in casual or even frequent prostitution for money or for adventure.

(Rasmussen, A. 1999. *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: A Literature Review*. Minneapolis, MN: The Alliance for Speaking Truths on Prostitution and The Center for Urban and Regional Affairs).

Juvenile prostitutes may be pre-adolescent children or older teenagers nearly indistinguishable from their adult counterparts. They may work individually or in groups, independently or under the control of pimps, parents, or other operators. The literature has tended to focus on girls, but

male juvenile prostitutes have drawn increasing attention (Flowers, 2001).

Knowledge about the backgrounds of juvenile prostitutes and the association of juvenile prostitution with child maltreatment, sexual abuse, and running away is better established than information on how these youth are dealt with by the justice and child welfare systems.

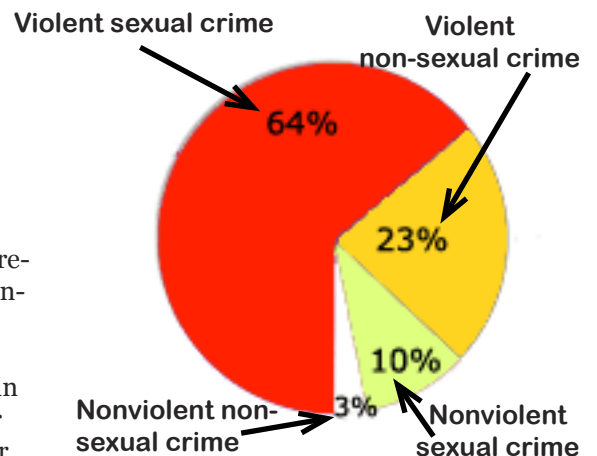
Part of the complexity of this problem relates to the social and legal status of the juveniles involved. Juvenile prostitutes can be viewed primarily as victims in the control of unscrupulous adults and commercial vice, but they can also be viewed as willing participants in an illegal trade and objectionable activity.

Welfare and reform organizations tend to approach these juveniles as victims of specific exploiters and/or more general social conditions.

The police, on the other hand, are more likely to view them as criminal offenders (Fassett, B., and Walsh, B. 1994. *Juvenile prostitution: An overlooked form of child sexual abuse*. The APSAC Advisor 7(1): 9). In fact, the legal system can treat them as both offenders and victims.

(www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp)

Offenses Committed Against Juvenile Victims in Prostitution Incidents



U.S. DOJ Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
 Juvenile Justice Bulletin June 2004
www.ojp.usdoj.gov



Awareness

Truancy

In an effort to stop truancy among middle school and high school students, the San Diego Police Department and Child and Protective Services joined forces to slow the growing trend of skipping school. However, during the “truancy sweep,” police made a disturbing discovery. They found that children were being recruited into gangs to be used as prostitutes.

The girls, some only in middle school, were being targeted by predators. Eighty percent of the girls recruited were under age 18, some as young as 10 years old.

In 2003 San Diego police contacted 184 underage girls who were suspected of being involved in prostitution. San Diego police detectives also worked with Tijuana police because many of the girls, recruited by gangs, were being taken across the border and sold on the streets in Mexico.

(<http://www.10news.com/news/3967527/detail.html>)

Alise, age 15, ran away from home. Five months later her step-father found her one night in August 2005 on *Craigslist*. The step-father, a clean-cut suburban salesman, could not believe what he saw.

The California girl was naked and on her hands and knees. She offered a cell phone number and “a must-try XXX experience.”

But a few weeks later, after police found Alise and returned her home, the step-father gathered up his courage and went back to the computer. He found her again: the “hot exotic Caucasian bombshell available for your pleasure.” She was featured in 56 postings on *Craigslist*. The pictures showed her with heavy makeup that made her look older. Rarely was she wearing anything. (http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_3258382?rss)

Craigslist’s Monitored for Underage Online Sex-for-Sale

Craigslist — used by millions nationwide to buy and sell everything from home appliances to automobiles — is also a high-tech marketplace for those looking to buy and sell sex. Raids by law enforcement followed prostitution listings on the popular Web site. Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and the Bay Area all have been raided.

For law enforcement, keeping up with the sheer volume of Craigslist postings is a challenge, said an Alameda County, CA, prosecutor, who participates in local and nationwide efforts to combat sex trafficking of children. In two hours on one day more than 300 ads offering sexual liaisons in the Bay Area were posted on the site. As growing numbers of prostitutes leave the streets for cyberspace, it appears larger numbers of under-age girls are being offered to online customers as well. ...

Police said the use of *Craigslist* and other sites can provide “pimps” an extra layer of removal from the sex-for-cash transaction, and thus make it more difficult for law enforcement to get at them.

Similarly, the online ads complicate the task of advocates who work to free young girls from the sex trade. Pimps often threaten physical harm to keep the money coming and the girls in line. “(They) say they’re untouchable and the girls believe them,” police said. “They run things from the shadows. The girl knows they’re out there.”

Boys at Risk

“A 1998 study by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine reported that sexual abuse of boys appears to be under-recognized, under-reported and under-treated.

The researchers found that 8 to 16 percent of the general male population had a history of sexual abuse, and that the boys at highest risk of sexual abuse were younger than 13 years, non-white, of low socio-economic status and not living with their fathers. Perpetrators tended to be known, but unrelated, males.” ...

“When a young man discloses that he has been sexually abused, he is punished further if his ‘manhood’ and his sexual orientation are called into question, so it is common for boys to remain silent on the subject of sexual abuse.” ... “The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) estimates that over 50 percent of all child pornography seized in the United States depicts boys.”

(*Profiting from Abuse: An Investigation into the Sexual Exploitation of Our Children*, UNICEF November 2001, pg. 11)



Advocacy

Who Is There to Help Us?

In April 2005 ECPAT-USA released an investigative report, *“Who Is There to Help Us? How the System Fails Sexually Exploited Girls in the U.S.”*, to call attention to the disparity in treatment between American and foreign girls who are trafficked for sexual exploitation.

“Large numbers of American girls, (under 18 years of age) are being prostituted in their own back yards—and back alleys—yet are uncounted, unseen and denied the resources becoming available to girls brought illegally into this country from abroad...”

The Report seeks to increase public awareness about the true nature of girls in prostitution, to understand that they are victims, and to press for reform on their behalf, especially in the areas of prevention and services that will assist them to exit *“the life”* as it is called.

“According to the federal Trafficking Victims’ protection Act (TVPA) persons under 18 years old involved in a commercial sex act are automatically defined as victims whether or not they were brought (or trafficked) into the U.S. from another country, whether or not they are trafficked across state lines, and no matter how *“consensual”* their participation. However, the implementation of the TVPA to date, both in terms of services and prosecutions, has assisted girls from abroad while essentially ignoring U.S. girls in similar situations.”

Prostituted Girls in the U.S. Unseen

“The majority of prostituted girls are literally hidden behind closed doors in escort services, massage parlors, dance clubs and other “legal” establishments where sex is bought and

sold. They are often abused or rejected by overwhelmed families, unseen by their schools, and face contempt from their schoolmates and contemporaries. When arrested, many slip through the adult system overnight with false IDs and/or bail paid by their pimps. Girls held in the juvenile justice system are often returned to abusive home situations, released back on the street or mandated to group homes or facilities, which neither recognize nor address their problems....”

Overview: The Missing Facts and Figures

“Extrapolating from relevant data, NISMART (*National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway and Throwaway Children*) estimates that nationally 450,000 children run away from home each year and that one out of every three teens on the street will be lured toward prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home....”

Age of Entry into Prostitution

“Anecdotal evidence and experience suggest 13 or 14 as the typical age of girls entering the life. According to some advocates, that age is “plummeting” to 10 and 11. Special outrage at the prostitution of prepubescent girls is appropriate, but the majority of prostituted girls are in their teens and an overemphasis on children runs the risk of diluting attention to the prostitution of older adolescents.”

Domestic Trafficking

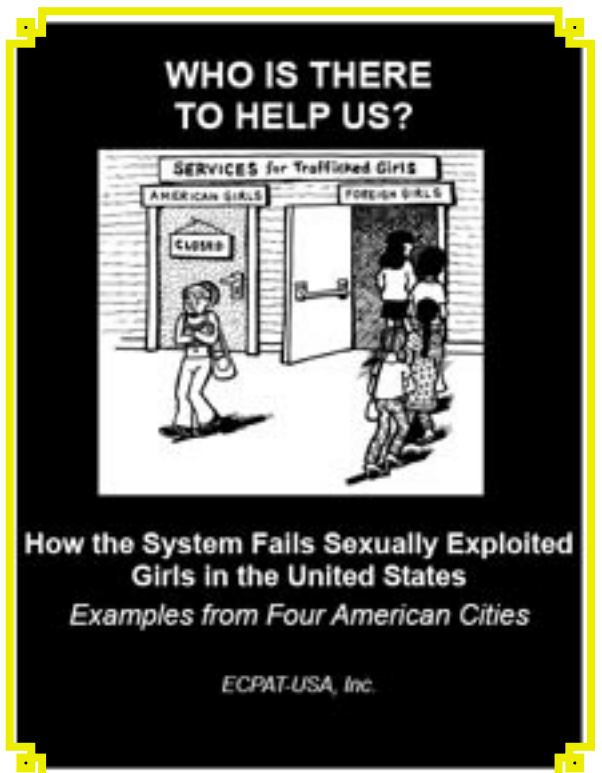
“A sizeable number of girls are trafficked interstate along well-worn circuits that include the Southwest, (Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Reno), the Pacific Northwest circuit (Hawaii to California), and the Northern and Eastern circuit (New England and New York south to Florida). A center for sports events and conventions, a city like Atlanta is both a good stopover and a popular destination spot for pimps. Eighty percent of prostituted girls in California, according to one service provider, are moved around among different counties and suffer the same isolating and disorienting impact as those who are trafficked interstate.”

Who Are the Girls and Where Are They From?

“All the interviews underscored that juvenile prostitution occurs in every part of the country and that whatever the girls’ racial and ethnic origins, the vast majority, at least of those who are arrested, are from poor families....”

The Report examines the childhood conditioning and recruitment tactics by pimps that create vulnerability in

Ecpat cont. pg. 6





Advocacy

U.S./Euro Summit on Missing Children

'Homegrown' Sex Trafficking

Sophisticated criminals earn the children's trust and then force them to participate in escort services, massage parlors, nude dancing, stripping, pornography and prostitution. For the abused this becomes "survival sex," where their basic needs are met only if they obey the controller's demands.

Traffickers may take children across state lines to avoid detection and to follow major sporting, cultural and recreational events. Cars, vans, SUVs, limos and buses transport these young victims to cities that attract large numbers of transient males, including conventioners, military personnel, seasonal workers and sex tourists.

Escape is often impossible. Fear maintains their victim status. Minors live in fear of sadistic acts by "customers," fear of being beaten and abused if they fail to bring in their quota (ranging from \$500 to \$1,800 a day/night), fear of losing their coping mechanisms

(drugs and alcohol), and fear of losing a place to live and food to eat. These children are also ashamed and fear their families will find out what they have been doing. They fear the police and fear being returned home.

Victims suffer physically from many ailments and diseases, including STDs and HIV/AIDS. Emotionally, they suffer from such disorders as intense self-loathing, post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic bonding or Stockholm Syndrome, where the victim is grateful for any favor, including simply being allowed to live. ...

Just as we have had to educate small children about strangers, we must educate young teens about the dangers of trafficking and the methods and manipulations of sexual predators.

(Excerpted from: *Washington Times* April 29, 2005)

"Missing & Exploited Children: The Past, the Present and the Future," in October 2005 in Switzerland. The goal of the Summit was to develop a joint US/European plan to combat the problem.

The extent of the problem worldwide is not known. However, in the US alone, 800,000 children are reported missing each year. An estimated 200,000 children are abducted by family members, and 58,000 are abducted by non-family members. The multi-billion dollar commercial child pornography enterprise is considered one of the fastest growing businesses on the Internet.

The Summit was sponsored by the International Center for Missing & Exploited Children with its affiliate, Child Focus of Belgium, and hosted by Swiss healthcare company, Roche. Speakers included Margarida Juan Miguel Petit, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; Michele Bruyere, a victim parent from Belgium; and John Walsh, co-founder of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (US), and host of television's "America's Most Wanted." The International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) nongovernmental organization. It is the leading agency working on a global basis to combat child abduction and exploitation. (<http://www.prnewswire.co.uk/cgi/news/release?id=156002>)

(Excerpts taken from the Ecpat Report's Executive Summary, pgs. 1 - 9)

Copies of the Report may be ordered for \$10 each, including shipping and handling. Send checks payable to:
ECPAT-USA, 157 Montague St,
Brooklyn NY 11201
718-935-9192; info@ecpatusa.org;
www.ecpatusa.org

Angelica, 16-years-old, began performing private dances and plying the sex trade after an older man convinced her she could make good money off her good looks. "I met a friend of a friend, and he was talking to me, and it sounded good," she said. Four years later she recounted, "I always knew it was wrong, but you see money like that and you don't care. For so long, I tried to shut off that little voice inside me telling me it was wrong. It definitely destroys your self-esteem." Besides being prostituted Angelica was beaten, raped, stabbed and had a stillborn baby girl. Now she is studying business at a Boston-area college and trying to get her life together. (Excerpted: <http://news.bostonherald.com/local-Regional/view.bg?articleid=50574>)

ECPAT cont. from pg. 5 the girls; the patterns of use and abuse of girls by pimps; the physical and psychological damage that occurs from their experiences; and how difficult it is to exit from prostitution once caught. The Report also highlights the debate by law enforcement and social services agencies over to what extent these girls are victims or criminals and how to best rehabilitate them. There is a growing effort to treat the girls as victims deserving of rehabilitative care and to be more proactive toward the prosecution of their exploiters – both pimps and users.



Action

Tracing Internet Abuses

Nationwide, the U.S. *Immigrations and Customs Enforcement* (ICE) agents examined more than 70,000 credit card transactions recorded by an online billing provider formerly based in Minsk, Belarus. The online service, shut down in January 2005 following a 2004 federal investigation, handled charges for people purchasing child pornography online. Tips from those transactions generated more than 160 arrests in the United States. Tips sent to police agencies in 11 other countries netted more than 860 additional arrests. (<http://www.navytimes.com/story.php?f=1-292925-557261.php>)

Operation Predator

In March 2005 56 people were arrested in Tucson by federal agents as part of *Operation Predator*. The national initiative by the Homeland Security Department is aimed at snaring child sex predators.

Arizona, with 187, ranks seventh among the top 10 states for predator arrests since the program began in July 2003. California had the most arrests with 1,317.

More than 85 percent of the 5,000 suspected child sex offenders arrested since *Operation Predator* began were foreign nationals. More than 2,100 of the total were deported, a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement news release stated.

A Phoenix ICE spokesman said 56 suspected child predators were arrested in Tucson, 108 were arrested in Phoenix, 20 in Nogales, two in Yuma and one in Douglas since the operation began. (http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/index.php?page=local&story_id=030505a12_predatorneedscurt)

Operation Guardian

A one-year federal pilot program to end child prostitution in Queens NY began in June 2005.

Operation Guardian is aimed at arresting pimps and providing a "safe house" for youth to help them get out of prostitution. A team of prosecutors work with police using wire taps, undercover 'johns', as well as tax and financial records to arrest pimps and seize property used by prostituted youth. Helping the young girls are counselors from the *Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention* program, or SAVI, a Mount Sinai Medical Center initiative that has dealt with rape, incest and domestic violence for more than 20 years. The \$500,000 program began in Queens because about a third of the 150 children under age 17 arrested in the borough in 2005 were arrested for prostitution. (<http://www.nydailynews.com/boroughs/story/320793p-274348c.html>)

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

Federal Rules Crack Down on Child Pornography

Since mid-2005 producers of sexually explicit material must be able to prove the subjects depicted in their photographs and films are adults, according to U. S. government regulations approved in May 2005 by Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

The rules establish detailed procedures for inspecting pornography producers' records to ensure children aren't being used as performers in sexually explicit depictions.

Pornography producers who violate the requirements would be subject to prison terms of up to five years on the first offense and up to 10 years for subsequent offenses.

Porn producers must keep detailed records that verify the identity and age of each individual depicted. The regulations, published in the *Federal Register*, also update the definition of "pornography producers" to include producers of visual depictions of sexually explicit conduct published on the Internet.

The regulations implement congressionally-approved amendments to the *Child Protection and Obscenity Enforcement Act*, which President Bush signed into law in 2003.



**"Money is
the root of all evil
and prostitution
is the tree."**

Lateefah Simon, Executive Director of the Center for Young Women's Development in San Francisco.



Action

“TEEN HOOKER” “CHILD PROSTITUTE” “GIRLS TURNING TRICKS”

We don't negatively label children who have been victimized through incest, rape or pornography. Why do we then, when it comes to children who are sexually exploited commercially?

A workshop, held March 7th in New York City, examined:

- How language used in the media influences society's perception of this issue as well as its motivation to address the problem.
- How grass roots organizations can influence media outlets to change the way they cover stories involving the sexual exploitation of children and youth.
- Tips and suggestions for helping the media to get the message right.

The presenter was Deborah Zanke, BA, BSW, Manager, Development & Communications - Marymound (A Sisters of the Good Shepherd Agency) Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Deborah is the chair of the advocacy group *Media Awareness Initiative about Sexually Exploited Youth* (MAISEY). This group's local actions have resulted in changes to the way media depict sexually exploited youth.

After years of media relations experience, Deborah remains enthusiastic about the power of the media to affect change in partnership with grassroots organizations seeking to make a difference in the lives of at-risk children.

To report foreign nationals who are child predators, international child sex tourists, human smugglers who traffic in children or individuals who buy child pornography on the Internet, call (866)-347-2423 toll-free any time.

College Students Organize Against Trafficking

The third annual *Northwestern University Conference on Human Rights* (NUCHR), in coordination with the first annual *National Summit of the Campus Coalition Against Trafficking* (CCAT), announces a national student conference on human trafficking to be held at Northwestern's Evanston IL campus on April 6-8, 2006.

The NUCHR conference model chooses a yearly topic area, and then selects the top student leaders for each year's topic through a competitive application process that is national in scope. This year's pool of applicants for the topic of human trafficking was the largest and most diverse in NUCHR history.

CCAT, a project sponsored by *FAIR Fund* and *Polaris Project*, is a grassroots outreach initiative, serving as a national coalition of student groups and activists on trafficking. It is dedicated to building the anti-trafficking movement through supporting student organizing, encouraging positive student leadership, facilitating peer-to-peer learning among students, and providing them with access to resources and organizations directly working in the field.

The *National Christian Alliance on Prostitution* has launched a new website <http://www.breakthetraffic.com> as a way to raise the profile of modern day slavery and human trafficking. It is meant to encourage people to step forward and engage (even if in a small way at first) with the issue. For more information contact: Mark Wakeling, National Christian Alliance on Prostitution PO Box 37077 London E15 4XR Tel- 0845 0044231 / Cell- 07956 300344

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

International Center for Missing & Exploited Children
<http://www.icmec.org>

Northwestern Conference
www.ccatcoalition.org
www.polarisproject.org

Ambassador John Miller of the U. S. State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons is one of the noted speakers. Participants will come from 74 colleges, 12 countries and four continents. The 3-day conference will include panels and presentations on global trafficking in the United States, Eastern Europe, East Asia, and Africa.

For more information:
Co-chairperson: Michael Chanin
m-chanin@northwestern.edu
Tel: 847.712.5673

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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