

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

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Action

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This issue highlights the Report of the US Government on its anti-trafficking activities.

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U.S. Government Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons Attorney General's Annual Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2005

Editor's Note: Readers asked why the TIP Report (in July issue) did not rank the US. In response to this inquiry the separate US Report is featured in this issue of *Stop Trafficking*.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Report, presented by Attorney General Alberto Gonzales to Congress in June 2006, summarizes the immigration benefits as well as the benefits and services given domestically to trafficking victims through the Departments of State, Health and Human Services, Justice, Homeland Security, Labor, and the Legal Services Corporation.

The Report describes the training and outreach through international and domestic law enforcement training, through outreach to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), through the public awareness campaign of the Department of Health and Human Services and through the Department of State international outreach programs.

The Report lists the agencies conducting investigations: the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center, and the Department of Labor (DOL).



As an example of investigation, the DOL "continues to increase its emphasis on compliance with labor standards laws, such as the Fair Labor Standards Act and Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act, in low-wage industries like garment manufacturing and agriculture. DOL civil law enforcement responsibilities relating to trafficking are carried out by the Wage and Hour Division ("WHD") with the support of the Office of the Solicitor. WHD investigators interview workers and assess situations where workers may have been intimidated, threatened, or held against their will. WHD investigators also review payroll records and inspect migrant farm worker housing. Additionally, criminal enforcement agents from DOL's Office of the Inspector General have worked with their FBI and ICE counterparts on a

growing number of criminal investigations, particularly those involving organized crime groups." (pg. 14-15)

Cases:

United States v. Sims (GA).

"On February 4, 2004, a federal grand jury in the Northern District of Georgia indicted Maurice Sims on six counts, including kidnapping, violations of the TVPA, and transporting a minor in interstate commerce for criminal sexual activity. He had transported a 16 year-old girl from El Dorado, Arkansas to Atlanta, Georgia for purposes of prostitution and en route beat and raped the girl. A superseding indictment was returned March 2, 2004 adding three counts of obstruction of justice. On September 20, 2004, Sims was convicted following a jury trial, and on December 15, 2004 he was sentenced to life imprisonment." (pg. 20)

United States v. Kaufman (KS).

"For nearly 20 years, beginning in 1986 and lasting through October 2004, the defendants Arlan and Linda Kaufman engaged in a conspiracy to

DOJ Report cont. pg. 2



Awareness

The Future Group

The Future Group (TFG) is a Canadian-based non-governmental organization dedicated to combating human trafficking and the child sex trade. In March 2006 TFG submitted its findings (detailed in the article on pg. 3) to the governments of Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. The Study also went to the U.S. State Department (Trafficking in Persons); INTERPOL; EUROPOL; U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime; U.N. Human Rights Committee; U.N. Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees; and the Council of Europe.

The objectives of TFG are:

1. To provide assistance and education to persons in need including small business training, life management skills, counseling, and other support services to assist victims of abuse to become more independent in the community.
2. To relieve poverty in developing nations by providing medical and other basic supplies to persons in need.
3. To educate the public, professionals, and local businesses about prevention of and responses to abuse by offering courses, seminars, literature, conferences, and meetings and by collecting and disseminating information on that topic.
4. To provide support for those affected by debilitating diseases, illness, and conditions by offering education and counseling and by establishing mutual support groups.

(The full Report may be found at: <http://tf-gwebmaster.web.aplus.net/wwwthefuture-grouporg/index.html>)

DOJ Report cont. from pg. 1

hold mentally ill residents in involuntary servitude and forced labor in 'The Kaufman House,' a residential treatment group home. The defendants forced the victims to perform labor and services for the defendants' entertainment and benefit, including engaging in nudity and sexually explicit acts. On November 7, 2005, the Kaufmans were convicted by a jury of numerous crimes, including conspiracy, involuntary servitude, forced labor, and multiple health care fraud counts. Arlen Kaufman was sentenced to 30 years of incarceration, and Linda Kaufman was sentenced to seven years of incarceration." (pg. 20-21)

Prosecutions:

The following table "lists the numbers of defendants charged, prosecuted, and convicted of trafficking offenses and offenses under the TVPA since FY01. Defendants charged in FY05 with a trafficking offense are not necessarily the same defendants convicted and sentenced in FY05. (These figures do not include CEOS prosecutions of child trafficking and sex tourism.)" (pg. 15)

From DOJ Report (pg. 16)

All Traff. Prosecutions:	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Cases Filed	10	10	11	26	34
Sex only	4	7	8	23	26
Total Defendants Charged	38	41	27	47	95
Sex only	26	27	21	40	75
Total Convictions	23	28	21	33	35
Sex only	15	23	16	30	25

All TVPA Prosecutions:	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Cases Filed	5	7	10	10	27
Sex only	2	5	7	9	19
Total Defendants Charged	11	21	26	24	83
Sex only	6	13	20	19	64
Total Convictions	5	6	18	15	26
Sex only	3	6	13	13	18

NGOs Lead Anti-Human Trafficking Effort

Private, nonprofit organizations worldwide have been instrumental in bringing the issue of human trafficking to governments' attention and are key to providing essential services to victims stated Amb. John Miller, the U.S. Senior Adviser to the Secretary of State for human trafficking.

In May 2006 Miller, speaking at a program entitled "Human Trafficking - A Day of Learning" organized by the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) and the Global Fund for Women, stressed that the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act would not have passed in 2000 without the support from faith-based and women's groups that brought the issue to the attention of Congress. "The NGOs [non-governmental organizations] were well ahead of the governments of the world. There is no question about it," the Ambassador said, adding that currently the USA is supporting 266 programs in 101 countries. (Source: <http://newsblaze.com/story/20060505133446tsop.nb/newsblaze/TOPSTORY/Top-Story.html>)



Awareness

Falling Short of the Mark: 'An International Study on the Treatment of Human Trafficking Victims'

An excerpt from the *Future Group Study* states, "Victims of human trafficking live in a world of fear and despair. The treatment afforded to these victims when they finally emerge from the violent and brutal cycle of human trafficking tells us something about our own societies. This *Study* was undertaken to evaluate the progress made by various developed countries towards implementing their international obligations to protect victims of human trafficking, and to assess the treatment given to these victims in comparison to international best practices.

The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime ("Trafficking Protocol") was adopted on November 15, 2000, and came into force on December 25, 2003. With 117 signatories, it has widespread international support. One of its main objectives is to protect and assist trafficking victims."

Part I of the *Study* analyzed the law and practice of Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States with respect to their compliance with Articles 6-8 of the *Trafficking Protocol* (related to the protection of victims of human trafficking), using three categories:

1. Residence:

- Consider permitting victims to remain in the territory, temporarily or permanently, in appropriate cases, and consider humanitarian and compassionate factors: Art. 7
- Right of repatriation of victims: Art.8



2. Support:

- Consider implementing measures for physical, psychological and social recovery of victims, in particular: housing; counseling; information on their legal rights in a language they understand; medical, psychological and material assistance; employment, education and training: Art. 6(3)
- Provide means for victims to obtain compensation: Art. 6(6)

3. Investigation:

- Protection of privacy and identity of victims: Art. 6(1)
- Provide information to victims on relevant proceedings, and enable them to present their views/concerns in proceedings against their traffickers: Art. 6(2)
- Provide for physical safety of victims: Art. 6(5)

The *Study* concluded that Australia, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden and the United States generally comply with their international obligations under the Trafficking Protocol to protect victims of human trafficking.

However, the United Kingdom failed to meet these international standards and is currently reviewing its policy, while Canada has systematically failed to comply and did not provide the *Future Group* with information.

The second section of the *Study* provided a comparative analysis of best practices. The overall grades applied (and described in detail in the *Study*) were as follows:

United States B+
Australia B
Norway B
Sweden B
Germany B
Italy B
United Kingdom D
Canada F

Give the U.S. a Good Grade

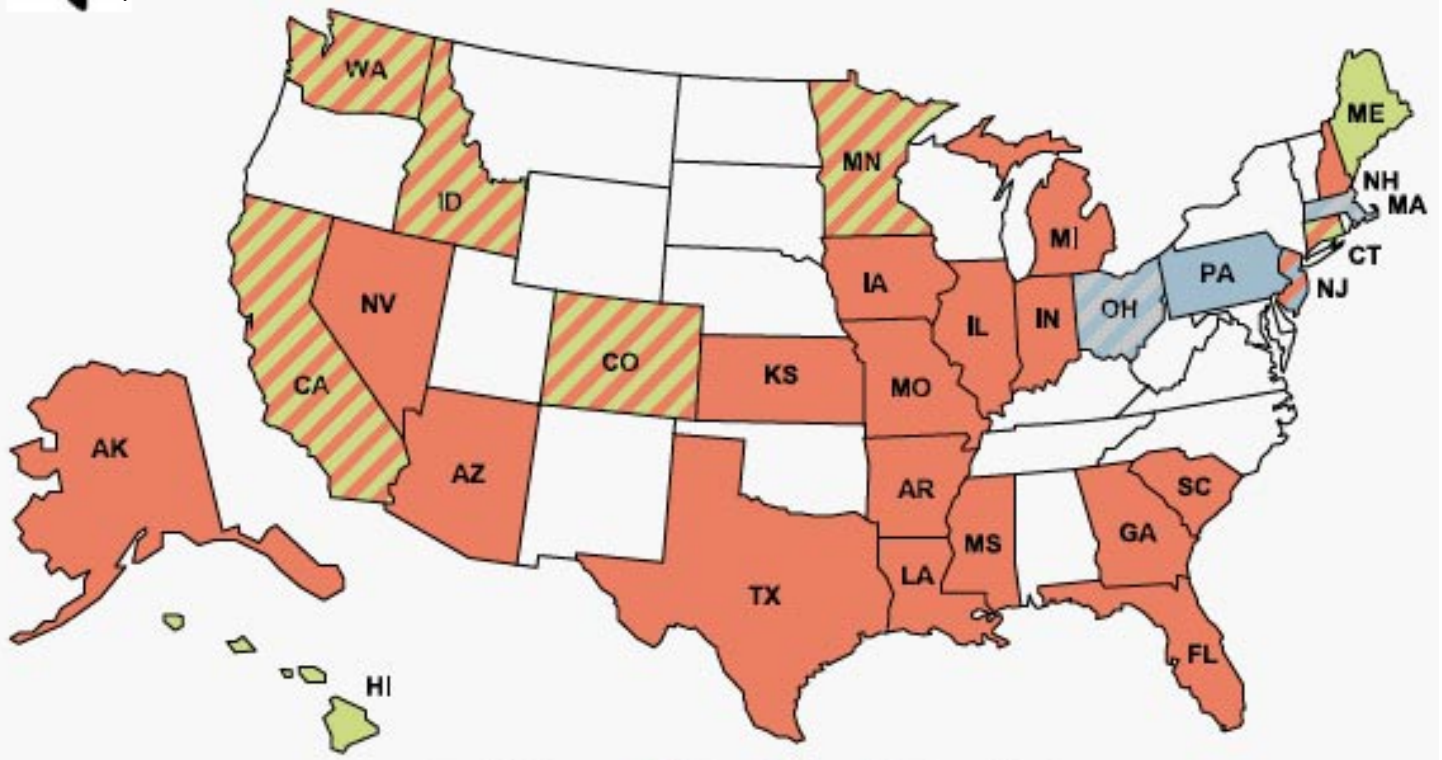
"Critics (of the U.S. administration's effort to fight human trafficking) ignore the big picture: this administration has put more resources and expended more political capital to combat human trafficking than any previous administration. In so doing, they have put the issue of human trafficking squarely on the top of the international agenda. As a result, other countries are responding with positive action." A. Yasmine Rassam, Director of International Policy for the Independent Women's Forum (IWF) (http://www.iwf.org/media/media_detail.asp?ArticleID=908)



Advocacy

This map shows states' efforts at supplementing the US government's anti-trafficking legislation.

Anti-Trafficking Legislation



KEY: (as of 07.28.2006) Complete information available at the Polaris Project site.

-  States (24) with anti-trafficking laws (Criminal code revision or comprehensive)
-  States (8) with existing anti-trafficking task force/ research commission legislation.
-  States (4) with pending anti-trafficking bills.
-  States (2) with pending anti-trafficking task force/ research commission bills.
-  States with anti-trafficking laws and existing task forces or research commissions created by legislation.
-  States with anti-trafficking laws and supplemental pending anti-trafficking bills.
-  States with no current legislative anti-trafficking action.

Corporate Stance

- Religious congregations that have taken a corporate stance against trafficking.
- o Dominicans of Mission San Jose, CA
 - o Dominicans of Oxford, MI
 - o Dominicans of San Rafael, CA
 - o Dominicans of Springfield, IL
 - o International Congregation of Notre Dame
 - o Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Stella Maris Prov. NY)
 - o Religious of the Good Shepherd
 - o School Sisters of Notre Dame
 - o Sisters of the Divine Savior
 - o Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
 - o Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
 - o Sisters of St. Joseph of Chambery
 - o Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia
 - o Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, CA



Action

Training Video to Help Police

The woman, wearing a short skirt and platform heels, looked like a typical street prostitute. But the police officers who stopped her quickly realized, under the heavy makeup there was a young girl. She looked scared and had bruises on her arms and face.

She was a domestic victim of human trafficking.

That scene was actually an enactment being filmed in order to produce a police training video, expected to be finished by fall 2006 and distributed to all police agencies in California, Arizona and Texas.

It will be part of a mandatory police training program aimed at helping raise awareness among police about human trafficking, a crime that is often judged as prostitution, illegal migratory status or truancy. These latter crimes in fact criminalize the trafficked victim.

And while human trafficking is a centuries-old crime, many officers are not adequately trained to spot the subtle clues that could save a victim from a life of captivity, said Deputy Rick Castro, who helped form the *San Diego Region Human Trafficking Task Force* in 2005. He realizes now that he probably unknowingly released about 100 victims of human trafficking between 1996 and 1998 alone.

"I didn't realize what I was looking at," he said. "No one ever mentioned or talked about trafficking. It wasn't until after I started thinking back to all the interviews I did with girls when it dawned on me. Some were very young girls. I could tell they were crying when I was interviewing them. They kept looking over their shoulders."

"Most police departments don't have a vice squad," Castro said, "so it's up to beat cops to recognize the signs."

The San Diego Sheriff's Department had already produced its own video, "*Sex Trafficking: Looking for the Indicators*," to train their deputies. That film won a local Emmy Award for a crime special in June. Some of its footage will be included in the new statewide training video.

Kathi Hardy, founder of *Freedom from Exploitation*, an outreach program, said training law enforcement, as well as parents, children and 'johns,' is crucial. "Many times they tend to look at these people as criminals," she explained.

The California Anti-Trafficking Law was promulgated in January 2006. The law clearly spells out the crime and allows for harsher penalties. (Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20060701-9999-7m1slavery.html>)

World Cup Update

Dr. Janice Raymond was asked about the outcome of the CATW Campaign during the recent World Soccer Cup. Her response follows.

"This is a very complex question. The news media reported what they found from the brothel owners, or women who were interviewed in the sex clubs, as well as the police and the (German) government. The government was keen to lowball the numbers. The police have no idea about the number of foreign women in Germany's brothels under ordinary circumstance (about 85%) and no idea how they got there (trafficked, many of them).

There were large numbers of foreign women in Munich. No one has any 'official' idea of how they got there. Germany says they have work permits and traveled to Germany. CATW asks, "Who facilitated their travel?"

On the other hand, it is quite possible that the Campaign had some effect in highlighting the problem.

The International Office of Migration (IOM) is doing a study of the situation during the Games, but the IOM supports legalization of prostitution so we have no confidence that it will be an unbiased study." Janice G. Raymond, Ph.D., Prof. Emerita, Univ. MA at Amherst and Co-Exec. Dir. Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW)



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If your state does not yet have anti-human trafficking legislation in place (*see map on pg. 4*), why not create a coalition and work with key legislators to make this important tool a reality!

Anti-Trafficking Seminar in Las Vegas

The 2006 'Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation National Seminar' will be held September 18 - 20, 2006 in Las Vegas, NV. The course is specifically designed for prosecutors, victim service professionals, and law enforcement.

Dr. Sharon W. Cooper, M.D., a forensic pediatrician from the University of North Carolina, will speak on how the normalization of sexual exploitation in society is conditioning persons to regard prostitution as socially acceptable.

Other topics include domestic trafficking, child exploitation and prostitution, and working with victims.

To register, obtain a registration form from
<http://www.teachcops.com/>
and return it to the address provided.

Phoenix Conference

A day-long conference on prostitution and human trafficking entitled, 'Oppression vs. Profession' is scheduled for October 5, 2006 in Phoenix, AZ.

The Directors of ECPAT and Catholic Charities, along with members of the FBI, local police, social service providers and survivors will make presentations.

The featured speaker is Professor Donna Hughes, Eleanor M. and Oscar M. Carlson Endowed Chair in Women's Studies at the University of Rhode Island.

The conference is free and open to the public. For information, contact

Maureen Webster:
MWebster@cc-az.org

New Documentary

A one-hour documentary, 'Slavery: In Our Own Backyard,' funded in part by the Catholic Communication Campaign, will examine immigration and human trafficking without the sensational images used by mainstream media.

The documentary will highlight the root issues behind human trafficking — economic and social injustice (poverty, globalization, educational barriers and ineffective and contradictory immigration policies) and explore economic alternatives to migration, which would lessen the flow of trafficked human beings.

Shot on location in Guatemala, Mexico, Florida, Arizona and California, 'Slavery In Our Own Backyard' is expected to air on PBS and the Hallmark Channel in October 2006.

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

Report to Congress on U.S. Government Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons
<http://www.state.gov/g/prm/rls/rpt/2006/67941.htm>

The Future Group
www.thefuturegroup.org

Polaris Project map and information 2006
http://www.polarisproject.org/polarisproject/programs_p3/State_p3.htm

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 Schafer, SDS

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

Between 04.01.2004 and 04.30.2005, the *Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline* handled 2,150 calls. Of these 100 led to investigations, 361 resulted in referrals to NGOs, and 791 were requests for information. The hotline received the most calls from: CA (287), TX (155), FL (176), NY (204), and GA (115).