

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

April 2007 Vol. 5 No. 4

This issue highlights bride trafficking in various parts of the world.

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Bride Trafficking

U.S.A.

To Nataliya (age 33), James Fox seemed a terrific catch: caring, financially secure and serious about family. The Ukrainian woman, who met him through an international marriage broker (IBM), imagined her future unfolding happily on 40 acres in the USA.

She and Fox married in November 1998, less than three months after they met. The first indication, she said, that she had misjudged her new husband came the morn-

Continued pg. 3

Brazil

Brazil's influence in Portugal goes beyond sports and vacations. The world's fifth-largest country in population (182 million) and land area (8.5 million square kilometers), is nearly 96 times the size of its former colonial ruler with a population 18 times larger.

Today it is also the main source of victims of human trafficking to Portugal, women who fall into prostitution and sexual exploitation networks, as well as a source of large numbers of women who marry Portuguese men.

Continued pg. 2

England

Mega Arumugam, a researcher from the University of Leicester, used in-depth interviews to investigate the prevalence of 'bride trade' and its link to forced marriage in the UK. She noted, "By-products, such as forced marriage and bride-trade, culminate out of certain practices embedded in family and kinship relations within some of Britain's ethnic communities. These practices not only condone exploitation and sexualized violence against women, but can actually encourage sexual trafficking of

Continued pg. 2

Philippines: Close to 150,000 women left between 1989-98 as fiancées or spouses of foreigners, many going to Canada. In 2003, Filipinos formed the third largest immigration group to Canada, after Chinese and Indians.

China

Popular areas from which to traffic brides domestically are poor areas of China's inland provinces, where poverty renders women more vulnerable to trafficking. Traffickers generally sell these girls and women in provinces where women are few.

In fact, some experts believe that the kidnapping and sale of women has increased as China's economic development has accelerated, and that such trafficking accounts for 30-90 percent of marriages in some villages.

China cont. pg. 2.



Cameroon is a source, transit, and destination country for women and children trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor. Most trafficking is internal and children are at greatest risk.

Traffickers use fraudulent marriage proposals to lure women to Europe, principally France and Switzerland, for exploitation in prostitution.

(TIP 2005, pg. 78)



Awareness

Mailorderbrides.com says of its women: "possessing useful housekeeping skills is a major source of self-satisfaction for them." It's estimated there could be as many as 10,000 Internet sites worldwide offering mail-order brides. One such site listed 128 countries.

Statistics

Reveal the Problem

During the 109th CONGRESS, 1st Session Hearing on Sept. 6, 2005, the following statistics were highlighted in support of the passage of HR 3657:

- 30.4 percent of all women in the United States are physically abused by their husbands or male-cohabitants at some point in their lives.
- 49.3 percent of immigrants reported physical abuse by an intimate partner during their lifetimes; 42.1 percent reported severe physical or sexual abuse.
- Among immigrants who were married or formerly married the lifetime abuse rate raises as high as 59.5 percent.
- 72.3 percent of abusive U.S. citizen or lawful resident spouses never file immigration papers for their abused spouses.
- The 27.7 percent who eventually do file wait approximately four years to do so.

HR 3657: 'To regulate international marriage broker activity in the U. S., to provide for certain protections for individuals who utilize the services of international marriage brokers, and for other purposes.' became law in 2006. (Please see pg. 7 for the web site reference re. this law.)

Brazil *cont. from pg. 1*

Figures provided by the *National Statistics Institute* (INE) show that one out of every 12 Portuguese people marry foreigners, with such marriages totaling 3,909 last year, compared to 1,346 in 1998 and 2,721 in 2002.

An inspector with the *Service for Border Control and Aliens* (SEF) reported that traffickers tend to be men between the ages of 20 and 50, who are either businessmen or employees in prostitution-related establishments. The victims, meanwhile, are typically young women between the ages of 18 and 24, with a low educational level.

In general, it is Portuguese men who are more open to marrying women of other nationalities. There were 2,563 such cases in 2005, compared to 1,346 cases in which Portuguese women married foreign nationals, according to INE figures. The largest number of foreigners in these marriages were people from Brazil, while Eastern Europe, particularly Ukraine and Romania, are gaining ground. By contrast, marriages with people from former Portuguese colonies in Africa -- Angola, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau and Sao Tomé and Príncipe -- as well as East Timor in Asia are on the decline.

(<http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=35071>)

England *cont. from pg. 1*

young girls and women." She wanted to move beyond a focus on trafficking for commercial sex to examine other contexts in which women are exploited as items for exchange or as being denied individual autonomy or authority.

"Marriage can be an attractive tool for sex traffickers. The legality of marriage often offers a false sense of security that there is no victimization, coercion or exploitation involved. This provides a veil for the perpetrators, and could possibly lead to a means of trafficking women across the UK," Arumugam said.

"When the process of trafficking begins at a more domestic level - with perpetrators ranging from spouses and partners to parents and other family members - the familial relationship between trafficking agents and victims often leads to barriers in disclosure. This provides the perpetrators with a coercive tool to use and abuse these women at every step of the trafficking game," she explained. (<http://www.24dash.com/content/news/viewNews.php?navID=7&newsID=6862>)

China *cont. from pg. 1*

Women from Burma, North Korea, Russia, Vietnam, and Mongolia are trafficked to China for labor and commercial sexual exploitation and forced marriage. (Source: *TIP 2005, pg. 83*)

The resurgence in the trade in wives comes as China faces an acute lack of women. So serious is the dearth of females that it is estimated that by 2020, 40 million men will be forced to remain bachelors. The introduction of the 'one-child' policy in 1979, designed to curb the growth of China's vast population, exacerbated the problem. Selective abortions remain common, despite being outlawed in 1995.

"Your Bride Is in the Mail" author Gary Clark, one of the most prolific consumer advocates and defenders of the international matchmaking industry, claims that it is because of "confrontational, chip-on-the-shoulder" American women that men look elsewhere for "more traditional" mates.

Nepal is a source country for girls and women trafficked to India for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, forced labor, and work in circuses. Many victims trafficked to India are lured with promises of good jobs or marriage.

(*TIP 2005, pg. 162*)



Awareness

U.S. International Marriage Brokers

Foreign women and American men increasingly use marriage or international matchmaking agencies, services, or “mail order bride” catalogues to find a spouse. While international matchmaking agencies are considered legitimate businesses, until the federal law enacted in 2006, they were almost completely unregulated. (*Please see pg. 8 for the reference to the international marriage broker law.*)

There was generally no obligation for full disclosure, no liability, and no obligation to give the women information about their rights. A nongovernmental organization, the *Global Survival Network* (GSN), found that marriage agencies generally did not screen their male clients, some of whom had histories of domestic violence or criminal records. Another consequence of the lack of regulation was that marriage agencies were able to advertise minors.

In 1999, the *Immigration and Naturalization Service* (INS) reported that there were over 200 mail order bride agencies operating in the US.

These agencies were annually bringing to the US approximately 4-6,000 women, mostly from the Philippines or the Newly Independent States (i.e. countries, which until 1991 were USSR republics, incl. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, and sometimes Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania).

GSN also reported that most of the matchmaking companies in Russia had links to Russian organized crime. These ties facilitated trafficking, as GSN found the Russian mafia recruited women at mixers or matchmaking parties, organized by marriage agencies. Russian organized crime used these companies’ databases to get additional names of possible recruits who wished to marry or work abroad.

Mail order bride brokers are not traffickers *per se*; but, where there is deception or fraudulent non-disclosure of known facts concerning the nature of the relationship being entered into or the criminal or abusive background of the client, the brokers should be liable as traffickers. (*International Trafficking in Women to the United States: A Contemporary Manifestation of Slavery and Organized Crime, Center for the Study of Intelligence, Amy O’Neill Richard, Nov. 1999 to Apr. 2000*)

Afghanistan

The mother of a 10-year old girl from a village in western Afghanistan sold her. “*I need to sell my daughters because of the drought,*” she explained. “*We don’t have enough food and the bride price will enable us to buy food. Three months ago my 15-year-old daughter married. We were not so desperate before. Now I have to marry them younger. And all five of them will have to get married if the drought becomes worse.*”

While the world focuses on the war against the Taliban, the suffering of the 2.5 million drought-stricken villagers has largely gone unnoticed. Before droughts afflicted Afghanistan once every couple of decades. This drought however came soon after a prior one, from which villagers were barely able to recover. Families are forced to sell their daughters to cope. The bride price is 200,000 afghanis (US\$1,000).

While prohibited by both Afghan civil and Islamic law, arranged marriages have long been a feature of Afghan life, particularly in rural areas. What is unusual is the age of some of the girls. And the reason: to buy food to survive. The head of the men’s village council summed up the desperate situation confronting families. “*There is widespread poverty. We have to sell off our children to survive. We are not proud of it, but we have to do it.*” (*Peter Beaumont, foreign affairs editor, The Observer, January 7, 2007*)

USA *cont. from pg. 1*

ing they exchanged vows, when he changed clothes and left for work. “*I was waiting all dressed up and alone in the house, and then I started crying,*” she testified. The situation had grown far more desperate by July 2000, when she moved into a shelter for battered women, she said.

Nataliya sued the Bethesda-based company, *Encounters International*, for failing to screen its male clients and failing to tell her about the so-called battered spouse waiver, a provision in immigration law intended to help foreign nationals escape abusive relationships without fear of automatic deportation. A federal jury in Baltimore awarded her \$434,000 in 2004 – a highly unusual verdict against an IBM prior to the 2006 law. In April 2006 a Virginia federal appeals court upheld that verdict. (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A61168-2004Nov18.html>)

The mail-bride industry is especially popular in rural areas of Washington state, where foreign wives who speak little English can be isolated and kept from knowing their rights and options. The director of the *University of Washington’s Women’s Center* said that even less exploited mail-order brides often “*know less about the men they agree to marry than a shopper knows about the ingredients in the soup they buy.*” On some IBM Web sites the “product” is advertised in much the same way that an online store would sell a shirt.

But even in cities fear is a controlling factor. When the UW Women’s Center held its first on-campus conference, the grieving parents of Anastasia King, a murdered mail-order bride, spoke. Afterward, six young women -- like Anastasia, all tall blondes from Eastern European countries -- told they, too, were in abusive relationships they couldn’t escape. One was a UW medical student.

They all were afraid to come forward partly because they claimed that the Russian mafia controls the brokerages that brought them here. These businesses boast of shining “95 percent success rates” they don’t want tarnished. So, if they divorced, the women feared reprisals against family members still at home. (http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/paynter/267111_paynt19.html)

“As many as half of the more than 28,000 foreign fiancé(e)s and many of the thousands of foreign spouses entering the U.S. each year may have met their American husbands through international marriage brokers.” (*Tahirih Justice Center Fact Sheet Jan. 2006, http://www.humantrafficking.org/countries/eap/united_states/news/2006_01/factsheet_tahirih_justice_center.doc*)



Awareness

Eastern Europe

A gang from the former Yugoslavia trafficked women for sexual exploitation. They recruited women and girls between the ages of 15 and 18 in the Ukraine, Bosnia, Croatia and Slovenia by promising them jobs in the Netherlands.

In some cases, women were reported to have been kidnapped and kept imprisoned. The gang used extensive violence, cooperated with other organized criminal groups in the Netherlands, and engaged in much cross border activity.

Gang associates recruited women, controlled them or arranged 'marriages' with Dutch citizens. Most of the associate members came as illegal refugees from the former Yugoslavia (predominantly Bosnia), many knowing each other before moving to the Netherlands.

There is evidence that some police officers and custom officers in the former Yugoslavia and the Ukraine were paid by the gang to facilitate the transfer of women to the Netherlands. (UN Office on Drugs and Crime)

Albania

An Albanian girl coerced into marriage and prostitution in Italy at age 14 tells her story.

"My sister-in-law convinced me to marry Robert. She said he was handsome and had money. After we were married, Robert said we should go to Italy because there is more opportunity there. We went at night in a speedboat.

After one week in Italy, Robert asked me to work on the street. I said 'no'. Then he tortured me. He left me in a bath with cold water. Then he tied me naked to a bed with belts and beat me. He didn't give me any food.

I was a slave for him. I don't consider him my husband. I was forced to work in the street. I didn't want to do it. He wouldn't permit me to sleep even. Sometimes I worked for 24 hours straight. He gained a lot from me and I gained nothing." (Source: UNICEF booklet: Abuse Pg. 19)

Iraq

Fatima Ali was a 24-year-old divorcee with no high school diploma and no job. al-Rubae was a 34-year-old Shiite sheik with a pregnant wife who, he said, could not have sex with him.

Ali wanted someone to take care of her. Rubae wanted a companion. They met one afternoon in 2006 at the house he shares with his wife, in the room where he accepts visitors seeking his religious counsel. He had a proposal — would Ali be his temporary wife? He would pay her 5,000 Iraqi dinars upfront — about \$4 — in addition to her monthly expenses. About twice a week over the next eight months, he would summon her to a house he would rent. The negotiations took an hour and ended with an unwritten agreement, the couple recalled.

Thus began their "*mutaa*," or "*enjoyment marriage*," a temporary union believed by Shiite Muslims to be sanctioned by Islamic law. The Shiite practice began 1,400 years ago, in what is now Iraq and other parts of the region, as a way to provide for war widows. Banned by President Saddam Hussein's Sunniled government, it has regained popularity since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq brought the majority Shiites to power, said clerics, women's rights activists and *mutaa* spouses.

Opponents of *mutaa*, most of them Sunni Arabs, say it is less about religious freedom and more about economic exploitation. Thousands of men are dying in the sectarian violence that has followed the invasion, leaving behind widows who must fend for themselves. Many young men are out of work and prefer temporary over permanent wives, who require long-term financial commitments. In a *mutaa* arrangement, the woman is entitled to payment only for the duration of the marriage.

Shiite clerics and others who practice *mutaa* say such marriages are keeping young women from having unwed sex and widowed or divorced women from resorting to prostitution to make money. They say a *mutaa* marriage is not much different from a traditional marriage in which the husband pays the wife's family a dowry and provides for her financially. "*It was designed as a humanitarian help for women*," said a Shiite cleric. (Jan. 22, 2007 <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/16717237/>)

South Korea

More and more South Korean bachelors find foreign wives outside of South Korea due to a lack of marriageable Korean partners and the rising social status of Korean women. Men in China, India and other Asian nations are facing the same problem, due to the traditional preference for sons, which created a disproportionate number of men vying over a smaller pool of women. In 2005, marriages to foreigners accounted for 14% of all marriages in South Korea, up from 4% in 2000.

(<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/22/world/asia/22brides.html?em&ex=1172293200&en=326f603e97150bc5&ei=5087%0A>)

India

So many female fetuses have been aborted in parts of India that there are too few women for the men to marry. In some states there are 742 girls per 1,000 boys. Men are forced to buy brides from tribal areas for prices as high as U\$2,000. Men use prostitution as a way to overcome loneliness.

In a poor village near Delhi there are more than 100 imported 'brides' according to locals. The people are hostile and crowd round strangers suspiciously. Even the police don't risk coming into the area unarmed. Villagers have attacked police who tried to rescue the 'brides' and set their cars on fire. (<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1648323.cms>)



Advocacy

5 Taiwan

To prevent trafficking of Southeast Asian women through fraudulent marriages — a significant problem in Taiwan — the Ministry of Interior banned the registration of new international marriage firms based in Taiwan and strengthened regulations and monitoring of existing firms.

Steps taken by the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs to tighten the screening of Southeast Asian women applying for visas as 'brides' of Taiwan men has led to a marked decrease in the number of spousal visas issued.

(*Trafficking In Persons Interim Assessment report* <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78948.htm>)

U.S.A.

In *United States v. Jimenez-Calderon*, a group of family members recruited women and teenaged-girls from the Mexican state of Tlaxcala to come to the United States with promises of love and marriage, only to hold them in prostitution through force and by threatening them and their families in Mexico. The defendants received sentences ranging from 16 months to 17 years of incarceration. (*DOJ Report on 2001-2005, pg. 25*)

"There has been a proliferation of illegal or unlicensed recruiters, which can be attributed to the often very restrictive, complicated, time-consuming or very costly procedures involved in legal migration. Unlicensed or illegal recruiters are the ones most likely to exploit and traffic unsuspecting women looking for employment opportunities abroad." (*Preventing Discrimination, Exploitation and Abuse of Women Migrant Workers, An Information Guide. Booklet 3: Recruitment and the journey for employment abroad, pg. 11. Gender Promotion Program, International Labor Office, Geneva.*)

Women Religious of Africa Organize

The *Dutch Foundation of Religious Against Trafficking in Women* (SRTV) with funding from a *Dutch Catholic Missionary Development Organization* (CMC) organized a conference in Karen, Nairobi on counteracting trafficking of women and children. The January 2007 conference coincided with the *World Social Forum* in Nairobi, which highlighted trafficking on its agenda.

Participants, primarily women religious and women from other faith-based groups working on this issue, came from Nigeria, South Africa, Ghana, Cameroon, Malawi, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Kenya. The *Committee in Support of the Dignity of Women – Nigeria* (COSUDOW), which provides shelter for trafficked survivors, as well as preventive measures and other programs, stressed the importance of identifying target groups and building good relations with police, immigration and government officials.

S. Eugenia Bonetti MC, representing the *Trafficking Office of the Italian Union of Major Superiors* (USMI), made a passionate plea that Africa create a network among the Conferences of Religious and that each conference appoint a contact person in order to counter trafficking. As a result the *African Network Against Human Trafficking* (ANAHT) was born with a goal of broader contact and better sharing of information and materials among African congregations and their partners.



Participants: S. Eugenia Bonetti is on the left.

Marriage: 'Can Be a Façade for Trafficking'

Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer from the Holy See to the U.N., addressing the 51st session of the *Commission on the Status of Women*, with its priority theme — "*The elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child*" — stated, "*Besides the usual thriving channels of trafficking in persons, even the institution of marriage is sometimes misused to give a safe façade to sexual exploitation and slave labor by means of what is known as 'mail order brides' and 'temporary brides'.*"

...In order to put an end to the violation of human rights of trafficked women and girls, it is not enough to sensationalize their tragic plight; rather there is a need to trace the question back to the market that exists due to the demand which makes such trade possible and profitable....The promotion of women will be achieved not only by the legitimate vindication of women's rights, (but also) by a fresh appreciation of authentically feminine values in the heart of our societies." (March 2, 2007)



Advocacy

"The very process of allowing men to hand-pick their partners from a sea of faces and measurements is built on the commoditization of women," said a representative of the international Coalition against Trafficking in Women (CATW).

6 Academic Study of Mail Order Brides

In 1995 a pregnant Filipino woman was shot outside a Seattle WA courtroom by her husband, who was seeking an annulment after only 10 days of living together. He said he had spent \$10,000 to bring his wife to the U.S.

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore MD, is currently offering a course entitled, *"Mail-Order Brides: Understanding the Philippines in Southeast Asian Context."* It is offered through the Department of Anthropology and is cross-listed with studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, and Political Science.

In 1999, the Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS, now ICE) issued a report about more than 200 international matchmaking organizations in the U.S. that bring together as many as 6,000 couples for marriage annually. Most of the petitioned women come from the Philippines and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

New York-based novelist and activist Ninotchka Rosca said the mail-order bride phenomenon is complex. *"There are two narratives in the mail-order bride phenomenon: the first comes from the Philippine context and the second, from the U.S. (or receiving country's) context. By and large, academics see only the first and ignore the second, and thereby miss the point that the mail-order bride business is a demand driven, rather than a supply driven, business."*

Rosca, spokeswoman for the Gabriela Network's Purple Rose campaign against sex trafficking, pointed out that the mail-order bride *"is only a sliver of the overall phenomenon of labor export from the Philippines. I worry that people see only the women's function in the business and not the men's – an indication of both sexism and racism."*

British Prof. Fenella Cannell, who spent 15 years in the Philippines and wrote scholarly books about Southeast Asia, commented on her intent for the course, *"We want to find out about the Philippines and address some of the stereotypes and misconceptions and why people tend to think of Filipinas as transnational migrants or as marrying partners of distant foreigners."* http://www.philippinenews.com/news/view_article.html?article_id=21ec41fbab7e9bc15a573d53ad3ec649

Help for the Vulnerable

The Emancipation Network (TEN), founded in 2005, helps survivors of human trafficking, and women and girls at high risk for being trafficked, by offering them a means for self-sufficiency and an economic alternative to further exploitation.

TEN partners with anti-trafficking organizations and women's craft collectives around the world, including Thailand, Cambodia, Nepal, and India. TEN buys unique handicraft products from its partners, and sells them at U.S. 'Awareness' parties, colleges, and community events across the country, thereby raising awareness of this human rights crisis among Americans.



TEN has so far chosen eight partner organizations, from which it buys its products. Many of these organizations provide trafficking survivors with a safe place to live and a full range of support services to help them heal and reintegrate, including job training jobs, and therapeutic handicrafts programs. Others operate trafficking prevention programs for children born into brothel districts, or for girls in remote, impoverished villages where they are likely to be sold into slavery.

TEN addresses one of the primary difficulties in stopping trafficking – the fact that the areas that the girls are taken from often have depressed economies and few employment options to 'compete' with the profits of trafficking. TEN offers economic opportunity for young women in areas vulnerable to trafficking.



Action

Promoting Awareness

On Feb. 22, 2007 the California State Assembly received a Resolution (ACR 28, introduced by Rep. Alarcon and Sen. Padilla) entitled, "National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness."

The measure would recognize January 11th of each year as the *National Day of Human Trafficking Awareness* in order to encourage greater awareness of human trafficking and all other forms of modern day slavery.

The Resolution states, "The United States is the only nation in history to fight a civil war that resulted in the abolition of slavery, and its government and citizens must once again stand united to successfully defeat the current forms of slavery in the United States and around the world, no matter how long it takes."

Why not urge your state legislature to also promote this means of raising national awareness?

New DOJ Unit

March 15, 2007 the Department of Justice (DOJ) announced establishment of the *Human Trafficking Prosecution (HTP) Unit* within the Criminal Section of the DOJ's Civil Rights Division.

The HTP Unit is designed to further increase human trafficking investigations and prosecutions throughout the nation, by investigating and prosecuting large-scale trafficking cases, such as multi-jurisdictional cases and those involving financial crimes. It will also offer training, technical assistance and outreach initiatives to federal, state and local law enforcement as well as NGOs.

**Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline
National Human Trafficking
Resource Center
1.888.3737.888**

Kentucky Anti-Trafficking Law

In March 2007 the *Kentucky Legislature* passed on to the Governor Senate Bill 43, which makes human trafficking a state felony offense. The original bill had provisions for providing services for victims, but this section was omitted and will need to be brought back during the biennial state budget process next year.

Nancy Gerth, a Sister of Charity of Nazareth KY, who works with trafficked survivors, emphasized the need for providing adequate services to those rescued. In her experience at *Covenant House/Casa Allianza* in Florida, she described an 18-year old Guatemalan man, who is slowly beginning a healing process.

He had been kidnapped and taken to Arizona where he was forced to live as a 'drug mule' (swallowing balloons of cocaine and delivering them to dealers) and as a prostitute. He eventually escaped. He was helped by Catholic Charities and now lives at *Covenant House* where he is working toward his GED.

Proposed State Law Needs Advocates

California's Assembly Bill 634 would license international marriage brokers and ensure that women who come to California through a marriage broker are provided with important information about their rights in this country.

It would regulate the more than 70 CA-based mail order bride businesses. The bill has languished in the State Senate.

Urge your state legislature to enact legislation that will protect women from unscrupulous international marriage brokers.

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

Afghan Women Sold for Drugs

<http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=57163&SelectRegion=&SelectCountry=AFGHANISTAN>

US Senate Hearing on Mail Order Brides, July 13, 2004

<http://www.foreign.senate.gov/hearings/2004/hr040713p.html>

International Marriage Broker Regulation Act into Law

<http://thomas.loc.gov/>
(See *Stop Trafficking* newsletter January 2006 - 4/1 pg. 4)

The Emancipation Network www.madebysurvivors.com

Film

'Say I Do,' directed by Arlene Ami, examines women trafficked through the mail-order-bride industry.

Three women from the Philippines tell their stories of marrying men they didn't know to escape lives of poverty and support their families.

Made in 2001, it runs 52 minutes and is available through www.redstorm.ca.

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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