

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

October 2009 Vol. 7 No. 10

This issue highlights the role of irresponsible tourism in the trafficking of boys.

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For Practical Action
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Tourism & Trafficking of Boys

Tourism

Many underdeveloped countries' governments, on the advice of international lending agencies, have adopted tourism as the way toward economic advancement. Despite adverse longterm socio-cultural effects, governments too often sacrificed policy and planning decisions in order to allow tourism to flourish.

Rather than serving as a means of understanding and cultural exchange, tourism became one more profit-making and exploitative enterprise. Tourism exploited remote destinations for their exotic nature and cheap prices. Tourism set up a series of unequal relations between the powerful and powerless, the wealthy and poor.

Insensitive to local cultures and value systems, it created social havoc and irrevocable damage to peoples who were not equipped to handle such abrupt changes in their lives. Sexual exploitation of women, children and youth, trafficking and slavery became inevitable consequences.

(The original, more extensive article on Asia from 1997 is found at:
<http://www.samarmagazine.org/archive/article.php?id=82>)



Photo courtesy of ECPAT-International

'Boy Trafficking' Around the World

Sri Lanka

Tourism in its modern form developed in the 1960's in Sri Lanka (then Ceylon). The *Ceylon Tourist Board* was set up in 1966 and the first *Tourism Development Plan* was drawn up in 1967.

The majority of the tourists to Sri Lanka come from Western Europe with Asia following in second place. Considerable numbers come from North America and Australia. The most injurious among the ill-effects of tourism is the explosion of child prostitution. It is estimated there are thousands of prostituted children in Sri Lanka today, most of them boys in the age range of 7 to 16 years.

Older women and homosexual foreigners look for 'beach boys,' who act as tour guides, providers of entertainment and jacks-of-all-trades for tourists. Thus Sri Lanka is now well-known in Europe as an easy and cheap source of young boys, a pedophile's paradise. One can find names and addresses of agents and children in publications, particularly in gay magazines. The prostitution of children is a

Sri Lanka cont. pg. 2



Awareness

Sri Lanka *cont. from pg. 1*

result of a combination of socio-economic factors, with poverty the main cause. Research studies have shown that in city slums and some suburbs of Colombo, 'protectors' set up young boys in rooms and shops for sale or use. Children are also sexually exploited for the porn industry.

Studies of tourism usually stress the economic gains it brings to a country, ignoring the social/cultural effects that erode value systems and life patterns. Socially, the problems posed by tourism are complex. In Sri Lanka, tourist resorts came up in areas where people were living in poverty. Luxury hotels suddenly opened before them, with people sunbathing or strolling in the shopping areas, buying expensive trinkets. Naturally the poor sought ways to take part and make money by working for tourists. (<http://www.samarmagazine.org/archive/article.php?id=82>)

India

Development of tourism in India has led to sexual exploitation of children, in the form of child abuse, child trafficking, child prostitution, child sex tourism and child pornography. Young boys interviewed by ECPAT (*End Child Prostitution and Trafficking*) said they were abused by foreign and domestic tourists as well as locals. The abuse started by age six and by age nine the boys were drawn into full time prostitution.

Newspaper reports in March 2009 stated that sexual exploitation is becoming more common in cities of religious tourism, including Hindu temple sites in the states of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.

Family members see less risk when

male children are involved in selling sex as compared to girls, since the social stigma is less and the fear of pregnancy does not exist. (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/india/3486951/Sexual-exploitation-of-boys-on-rise-in-India.html>)

Taiwan

During police investigations of online social networking sites suspected of fronting for prostitution rings, an ever-increasing number of boy victims are being discovered. (TIP 2009 pg. 274)

Bangladesh

Both boys and girls are trafficked within Bangladesh for commercial sexual exploitation, bonded labor, and forced labor. (TIP 2009 pg. 74)

Bali

In Indonesia, child sex tourism is a major problem on the resort islands of Bali and Batam. Bali is becoming known as a haven for international rings of pedophiles. Poor children are enticed by mobile phones, food and a nice place to stay. Trafficking rings use the pretense of adopting or fostering impoverished children.

In March 2009 a court in Bali sentenced an Australian man to eight years in prison for having sex with boys. He was one of several Australians to have been arrested in Indonesia in recent years for pedophilia. (http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/asiapacific/news/article_1465359.php/Rights_groups_say_child_sex_abuse_rampant_in_tourism_industry)

Fiji

Boys and girls are subjected to commercial sexual exploitation by family members, other Fijian citizens, foreign tourists, and sailors on foreign fishing vessels. (TIP 2009 pg. 133)

"Sexual exploitation of children in the tourism industry is rampant in Southeast Asia despite efforts to curb the crime."

Chairperson of
the National Coalition against
Sexual Exploitation of Children.

Middle East

Afghan boys and girls

are trafficked within the country for commercial sexual exploitation, forced marriage to settle debts or disputes, forced begging, as well as forced labor or debt bondage in brick kilns, carpet-making factories, and domestic service. Boys are promised enrollment in Islamic schools in Pakistan, but instead are trafficked to camps for paramilitary training by extremist groups. (TIP 2009 pg. 59)

Iraqi boys, mostly from poor families of Turkmen and Kurdish origin, are trafficked within Iraq for the purpose of forced labor, such as street begging and sexual exploitation. (TIP 2009 pg. 162)

Some of **Egypt's** estimated one million street children – both boys and girls – are exploited in prostitution and forced begging. Local gangs are, at times, involved in this exploitation. Egyptian children are recruited for domestic and agricultural labor; some of these children face conditions indicative of involuntary servitude, such as restrictions on movement, non-payment of wages, threats, and physical or sexual abuse. (TIP 2009 pg. 125)

AFRICA

Kenya

An ECPAT Report entitled, '*Child Sex Tourism in Kenya*' indicates that on the beach resorts of Mombassa, both boys and girls appear to be sexually abused by male and female sex tourists. In some locations, there are suspicions that hotel staff members bring children into hotels for abuse by sex tourists.

The research documents that many of these offenders escape detection for a long time because they abuse boys and girls in private residences, particularly along the coastal areas. Sex tourists, who abuse children for

Kenya *cont. pg. 3*



Awareness

Kenya *cont. from pg. 2*

the first time are often offered the opportunity to do so through intermediaries working for the sex industry at bars and clubs. It appears that some brothels are being operated by women, who also mediate in the exploitation of children by local or foreign child sex abusers. (<http://www.ecpat.org.uk/downloads/Kenya05.pdf>)

The Gambia

Boys from the neighboring countries of Mali, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana, Nigeria, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Benin, and especially Senegal are trafficked to The Gambia for forced begging by religious teachers and for street vending. (TIP 2009 pg. 138)

Ghana

Boys are trafficked for forced labor in agriculture and the fishing industry, for street hawking, forced begging by religious instructors, as porters, and possibly for forced weaving. Over 30,000 children are believed to be working as porters in Accra alone. Annually, the International Office of Migration (IOM) reports numerous deaths of boys trafficked for hazardous forced labor in the Lake Volta fishing industry. (TIP 2009 pg. 142)

Madagascar

The main sources of clients for child sex tourism are France, Italy, Spain, Germany, and Switzerland. Victims are usually girls, but reports of male tourists seeking sex with underage boys have increased. (TIP 2009 pg. 194)

Editor's Note:

All references to TIP may be found at: www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2009/

Europe — The Czech Republic

Prague's main train station is the first thing many tourists see when they reach the city. It is also one of the city's best-known sites for sex tourism, a place where foreign men come to find young men and boys known as 'rent boys'. A café in the station is the meeting place where one sees young men and boys moving from table to table, until joined by older men. If a tourist sees someone he likes, he asks, "Where are you from? How much do you go for? What do you want to do?" Then they leave together.

Boys, between ages 11 and 17, are predominantly orphans and runaways caught up in a world of drug addiction, isolation and the ever-present threat of sexually transmitted diseases. *Project Opportunity*, an organization that helps these boys, says more than 70% of the 80+ male prostituted children they service have lived in orphanages. The Czech Republic has more children in orphanages than any other E.U. country.

One former 'rent boy' explained, "Today orphanages are not obligated to prepare their students for life by securing them a job, money or a place to live. So I ended up on the street because I was 18 and had just gotten out of an orphanage. At first a person doesn't realize what can happen. You start to realize it later, but you are so entrenched you don't really ask why you're doing it or how you're doing it. The main thing is that you are making some money to live off, but it's not like you have money to throw around. There are only a few well-off clients, and mostly only at the beginning. It is enough to survive, but not enough to live. When a person starts, they make thousands of crowns. And when you're leaving the business, you end up with mini sub sandwiches or mini pizzas - for sex."

(<http://www.radio.cz/en/article/59997>)

Russia

In 2006 in St. Petersburg there were approximately 700 court cases on sexual violence against children. In 5% of those cases boys were victims (approx. 35 cases), mostly between 9-12 years of age with some as young as seven.

In a shelter of 450 children, 315 were boys. Approx. 10-15% (30-50 boys) experienced being involved in prostitution. The boys were usually from North-West Russia and were 15-17 years old. Some of them could be 6-7 years old. They earned money (around 15 Euro for oral sex, 100 Euro for anal sex) or were provided with food and a place to live in exchange for sexual acts.

In a study of four Russian cities researchers interviewed 1515 teenagers (14-21 years old; 52% boys and 48% girls). The age sample included 38% under 16 years old; 25% were 17 years old; and 35% were 18 years and older. Sexual contacts with boys were more costly than with girls. Thus it was difficult to rehabilitate boys or offer alternative ways to earn money. Boys usually were prostituted until they were 18 to 20 years old. After that there was no demand for them and they often then resorted to heroine use. (<http://www.osce.org/item/27703.html>)

In **Armenia** a small number of boys and girls are trafficked internally for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced begging. (TIP 2009 pg. 66)





Awareness

The Americas

Through its extensive presence in **Central America**, *Casa Alianza*, an international NGO dedicated to assisting abandoned children, has been able to recognize the gravity of commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) and human trafficking of boys, girls and adolescents in the region. Although women and girls are usually regarded as the 'typical' victims of this type of abuse, research conducted by *Casa Alianza* in 20 Honduran cities found that, from a sample of 1,019 minors victims of sexual exploitation, 42 of them (4 per cent) were male. Among the victims screened by *Casa Alianza* there were a significant number who either identified themselves as gay or transsexual.

The majority of migrant boys and girls who travel alone are exploited sexually. Many are vulnerable to becoming victims of trafficking. Young migrants are forced into these situations not only because of economic necessity but also, because traffickers, pimps and other intermediaries coerce them into sexually exploitative situations. The exploiters of boys and male adolescents are most often middle-aged men. These men search for boys in lodging establishments, bus stations, and fast-food restaurants, among other places and pay anywhere from 15 to 100 USD.

The most frequent type of CSE is remunerated sexual relations, paid either in cash or in kind with clothes, shoes, mobile telephones, food and entertainment. Certain forms of sexual exploitation such as pornography, sexual tourism or using young males in public/private erotic shows are not easily documented as they usually occur clandestinely. (<http://www.ungift.org/ungift/en/stories/trafficking-and-sexual-exploitation-of-boys-and-male-adolescents-in-central-america.html>)

Dominican Republic A significant number of boys and girls are trafficked within the country for forced prostitution and domestic servitude. In some cases, parents push children into prostitution to help support the family.

Child sex tourism is a problem, particularly in coastal resort areas, with child sex tourists arriving year-round particularly from Spain, Italy, Germany, Canada, and the U.S. and reportedly numbering in the thousands. (TIP 2009 pg. 123)

Jamaica is a source, transit, and destination country for women and children trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor. The majority of victims are poor Jamaican women and girls, and increasingly boys, who are trafficked from rural to urban and tourist areas for commercial sexual exploitation. Victims are typically recruited by persons close to them or newspaper advertisements promoting work as spa attendants, masseuses, or dancers; after being recruited, victims are coerced into prostitution. (TIP 2009 pg. 169)

Nicaragua The most prevalent form of internal trafficking is the exploitation of children, both boys and girls, in prostitution. NGOs identify Managua, Granada, Esteli, and San Juan del Sur as destinations for foreign child sex tourists. (TIP 2009 pg. 223)

Mexico A significant number of Mexican women, girls, and boys are trafficked within the country for commercial sexual exploitation, lured by false job offers from poor rural regions to urban, border, and tourist areas. According to the government, more than 20,000 Mexican children are victims of sex trafficking every year, especially in tourist and border areas. (TIP 2009 pg. 206)

Brazil is a source country for men, women, girls, and boys trafficked within the country and internationally for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation, as well as a source country for men and boys trafficked internally for forced labor. The Brazilian Federal Police estimate that 250,000 to 400,000 children are exploited in domestic prostitution, in resort and tourist areas, along highways, and in Amazonian mining brothels. (TIP 2009 pg. 85)

Paraguay Street children and working children are common targets for trafficking recruiters. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), some traffickers coerce underage males, known as 'taxi boys,' into transgendered prostitution. Some of these boys are trafficked abroad, particularly to Italy. Trafficking of Paraguayan and Brazilian women, girls, and boys for commercial sexual exploitation commonly occurs in the Tri-Border Area of Paraguay, Argentina, and Brazil. (TIP 2009 pg. 274)

Uruguay is primarily a source and transit country for men, women, and children trafficked for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. Most victims are women and girls trafficked within the country to border and tourist areas for commercial sexual exploitation; some boys are also trafficked for the same purpose. (TIP 2009 pg. 295)



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Advocacy

'Operation Twisted Traveler' & Abuse by U.S. Citizens

Through 'Operation Twisted Traveler' three Americans were arrested in August 2009 for sexual activity with minors in Cambodia through the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) campaign to identify and prosecute American sex tourists in Cambodia. The three are all convicted child sex offenders who have served time in U.S. prisons.

One had bought a 13-year-old Cambodian boy from his parents for \$2 and a bag of rice, then raped him repeatedly. He molested other boys, paying them small amounts of money -- \$5 to \$10 -- and took digital pictures of his young victims while they were naked. The second man had sex with a 10-year old Vietnamese girl outside of Cambodia's capital Phnom Penh.

The third was a 74-year-old 'Pied Piper of Pedophiles'. He had spent nine years in a California prison for molesting as many as 500 boys during camping trips. After his release from Atascadero State Hospital, where he refused treatment, he traveled to Southeast Asia at least eight times, rode his motor scooter through the poorest neighborhoods of Phnom Penh and, using money, lured young boys back to his home where they were sexually assaulted.

"Cambodia in particular has been known for some time as a pedophile haven because of no rule of law, and no laws on the books that would have been enforceable against these types of activities until recently," said an investigator with *International Justice Mission*. Investigators say the men are part of a thriving billion-dollar sex tourism business. After a crackdown in Thailand on child sex, the industry has moved primarily to Cambodia where pedophiles molest Vietnamese girls and Cambodian boys with little risk of being caught.

In the U.S. the men face charges under the *Protect Act*, a 2003 law that provides life terms for child sex offenders with prior convictions, a much longer sentence than offenders would get abroad. Since 2003, ICE has arrested 70 international sex offenders under the *Child Protect Act*. (www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,544660,00.html)

'Operation Predator' — Abuse by Canadian & U.S. Men

A Canadian, arrested in the United Kingdom in December 2008 on U.S. sex tourism charges, was extradited and arrived in New Jersey in July 2009. He is charged with one count of conspiracy to engage in sex tourism, two counts of aiding and abetting sex tourism, one count of conspiracy to produce child pornography, seven counts of producing child pornography, and seven counts of distributing child pornography. If convicted, he faces up to 15 years in prison for each count of sex tourism, a minimum of 10 years and a maximum of 20 years in prison for each count of producing child pornography, and up to 15 years in prison for distributing child pornography. He also faces a fine of up to \$250,000 per count.

He had ready access to Thai boys, some as young as four years old, at his Thailand home. From at least as early as May 2000, he helped arrange trips to his home during which U.S. citizens and others paid him money to engage in oral sex and other sexual acts with the children, sometimes for weeks at a time. His customers were allowed to videotape and photograph their abuse.

Three additional men have already pled guilty. They were all members of an Internet chat group dedicated to men with a sexual interest in minor boys. One of these suspects was identified in May 2008 after INTERPOL released his photo to media outlets in the U.S. and abroad, and made a global appeal for information that could identify the offender depicted in the photo. The image was cropped from photos depicting him sexually abusing young children in Southeast Asia. Within 48 hours, information was obtained from individuals who recognized the offender. This was the second time that INTERPOL has made a public appeal to identify a suspected child predator. INTERPOL and ICE are partners in the *Virtual Global Task Force*, an international alliance of law enforcement agencies committed to joint, international enforcement efforts designed to protect children from sexual predators around the world.

This investigation is part of 'Operation Predator', a nationwide ICE initiative to protect children from sexual predators, including those who travel overseas for sex with minors, Internet child pornographers, criminal alien sex offenders, and child sex traffickers. Since 'Operation Predator' was launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 11,600 individuals. (<http://www.ice.gov/pi/nr/0907/09072owashington.htm>)



Advocacy

Programs for Boys

During the 'III World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents' in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil November 25-28, 2008 ECPAT International gave a report entitled, 'Child Trafficking for Sexual Purposes'.

They stated, "The UN Trafficking Protocol is gender neutral as far as children trafficked for sexual purposes are concerned. Nevertheless, many of the programs initiated since 2001 that focus on adolescents trafficked for sexual purposes have assumed that the focus should be on girls.

It seems that not enough effort has been made to collect data about boys, who receive money for commercial sex after moving away from home, to establish whether they have been trafficked or what measures would help protect them. This may be because most cases formally identified in a particular country as child trafficking involve girls, or it may be due to assumptions based on gender prejudice, i.e., that girls are trafficked for sexual purposes and boys are not.

Evidence has been published recently about boys trafficked for sexual purposes in countries such as India, but so far, relatively few programs have focused on them. This suggests that those responsible for designing or funding anti-trafficking programs need to shed certain gender-based prejudices." (pg. 16)



America's Prostituted Children

The May 2009 Shared Hope International's 'National Report on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: America's Prostituted Children' is based on research taken from Dallas, San Antonio, and Fort Worth, TX, Salt Lake City, UT, Buffalo, NY, Baton Rouge and New Orleans, LA, Independence, MO, Las Vegas, NV, Clearwater, FL, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (a U.S. Territory).

"In every location assessed by Shared Hope International, the majority of prosecutors, juvenile court judges, and law enforcement officers interviewed, reported that they view commercially sexually exploited children as victims. The disconnect was found to be between a theoretical victim and an actual child sex trafficking victim who rarely meets the standards of a 'perfect victim.' A perfect victim is a victim who self-identifies, cooperates with police and prosecutors, fully rejects their abuser, and willingly complies with service treatment plans. Traditional child sex abuse cases typically garner priority over child sex trafficking cases because sexual abuse victims are seen as compliant and innocent witnesses, while domestic minor sex trafficking victims (DMST) victims are viewed as uncooperative and defiant witnesses. The defiance and rejection of help by most DMST victims is consistently misunderstood as an acceptance or even complicity in their exploitation through prostitution rather than a desire to be freed. While there is much to learn from the field of child sexual abuse — this is where the sexual exploitation began — the level and type of abuse is different and requires a specialized response and understanding in order to foster an environment where the victims of sex trafficking can become valuable witnesses in the cases against their perpetrators." (Report, pg. 51-52)

"A system-wide lack of training causes the misidentification, arrest, and mislabeling of victims. In all locations assessed, Shared Hope International found a profound lack of awareness of human trafficking as a crime among professionals within government, social services, and law enforcement, as well as in the general public. Lack of training within specific units and overall departments can

hinder investigations of domestic minor sex trafficking crimes. Vice units are often the first units within a police department to be associated with the investigation of prostitution of children; however, patrol units are critical in identifying victims. For instance, in Dallas an estimated 50% of domestic minor sex trafficking referrals to prosecutors originate in units other than the vice unit."

"Though every assessment revealed a lack of training on domestic minor sex trafficking, promising practices have been illustrated through the work of innovative programs and initiatives.

Shared Hope cont. pg. 7

Video Against Child Sex Tourism

ECPAT International is a global network of organizations and individuals working together for the elimination of child prostitution, child pornography and the trafficking of children for sexual purposes. The ECPAT video is found at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xo8qbxUhGfI&feature=related>



Advocacy

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Shared Hope

cont. from pg. 6

Successful initiatives train diverse cross-sections of professions and departments in recognition of the many avenues that domestically trafficked minors come into contact with governmental and non-governmental agencies and systems. Law enforcement and prosecutors in San Antonio, Dallas, and Oakland are positive examples of this promising training method. In each of these cities, training on domestic minor sex trafficking has gone beyond the units that routinely come into contact with prostitution activities, such as vice units. Law enforcement agencies and prosecutors are expanding aggressive efforts to train personnel likely to come into contact with domestically trafficking minors, though they may not initially be aware of the exploitation. These personnel include patrol officers, warrant officers, and transit authorities. Similarly, successful training initiatives are also multi-disciplinary and include a wide variety of professionals, such as juvenile probation officers, child protective services, social service outreach workers, religious entities, juvenile court judges, juvenile public defenders, law enforcement, prosecutors, and educational systems.” (Report, pg. 62-64)

“Some promising interviewing approaches to working with domestically trafficked minors are:

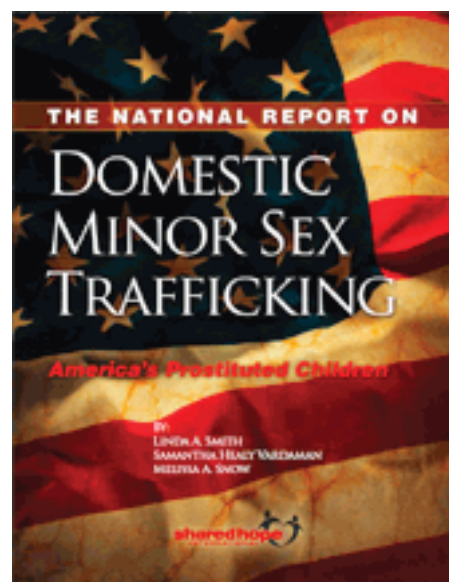
1. Planning on multiple meetings with the victim in order to build trust and rapport. Once trust is built, then a forensic interview can be conducted where reliable information is more likely to be gained.

2. Using victim-centered approaches that place the safety and needs of the victim first rather than focusing on information about the trafficker/pimp through a flip-interview.
3. Interviewing a domestically trafficked minor in an environment conducive to her status as a victim and a minor, such as at a social service agency or office, rather than an interview room used for suspects.
4. Being cognizant of the crime of domestic minor sex trafficking when deciding on where to conduct interviews. For example, it is inappropriate for a child, who has been commercially sexually exploited, to be interviewed in a hotel or motel given that the minor has likely been raped in such an environment.
5. Having experienced interviewers or a survivor of sex trafficking either conduct or be present at the interview can assist in establishing trust. These professionals understand the dynamics of pimp control and the resulting behavior, such as trying to manipulate their way out of the situation or refusing help, and viewing law enforcement and social services as enemies.
6. Gender-appropriate interviewing is vital; however, this does not mean that a uniform protocol must be set (i.e. a woman always interviews a girl or a male always interviews a boy). Rather, gender dynamics must be accounted for and assessed in that particular situation.
7. Weapons and uniforms are likely to trigger defense mechanisms and should not be worn while interviewing a potential victim.
8. Using language that is relevant to the victim such as identifying and asking about her “boyfriend” before labeling him as a trafficker/pimp.” (Report, pg 65)

Needed Steps

(Report pg. 74-75)

1. U.S. citizens and lawful permanent resident child victims of sex trafficking must not be criminalized.
2. The arrest and prosecution of buyers must be made a priority.
3. Domestic minor sex trafficking must be recognized as a national threat.
4. Innovative investigative techniques, technology, and protocols are needed to combat domestic minor sex trafficking.
5. Appropriate protective shelter and services are critical for the protection and restoration of child sex trafficking victims.
6. A nationwide, multi-disciplinary reporting measure is needed to capture the true scope of domestic minor sex trafficking.
7. Survivors must be leaders in the development of services, shelter, and response protocols to domestic minor sex trafficking.





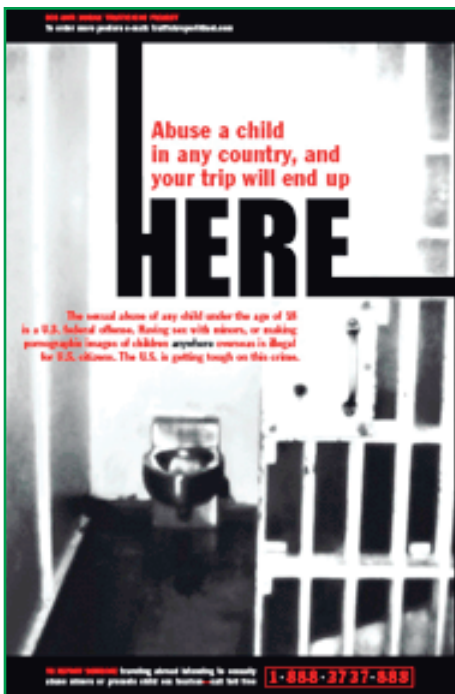
Action

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

Report Suspected Predators

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) encourages the public to report suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators.

Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the *National Center for Missing and Exploited Children*, an 'Operation Predator' partner at: 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>



Available at: stoptraffick@aol.com

Report Child Sexual Exploitation to the National Center on Missing and Exploited Children

1.800.843.5678

<http://www.cybertipline.com>

The 'BLUE Heart'

The *Blue Heart Campaign* is a United Nations' awareness-raising initiative. Its purpose is to encourage involvement and inspire action to stop the crime of human trafficking.

The *Campaign*, which has more than 8,000 followers on Facebook, allows people to show solidarity with the victims of human trafficking by wearing the *Blue Heart*, which represents the sadness of trafficking victims, the cold-heartedness of the perpetrators, and the commitment of the UN.

Show your support by joining the *Blue Heart* Facebook group or meeting with other supporters on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=54499264369&ref=mf>

Add a link and *Blue Heart* web banner to your own webpage: <http://www.unodc.org/blueheart/en/join-us.html>

Oct. 31st Conference in New York

The *New York Coalition of Religious Congregations-Stop Trafficking of Persons* (NY-CRC-STOP) is hosting an event on October 31st entitled,

"*Taking the next Steps: STOP the Demand for Human Trafficking*".

Held at Immaculate Conception Center, 7200 Douglaston Parkway, Douglaston, NY 11362, the event runs from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Arlene Flaherty OP of *Catholic Relief Service* will speak and suggest actions. For information, contact:

Mary Heyser, RSHM
mpheyser@gmail.com

Informative Web Sites:

(Each contains information related to human trafficking)

U. N. Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC) 'Anti-Human Trafficking Manual for Criminal Justice Practitioners' (14 modules)

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/anti-human-trafficking-manual.html>

ECPAT-USA:

Report Concerns

<http://www.ecpat-usa.org/concern.html>

'Under the Radar - The Sexual Exploitation of Young Men'

Western Canadian Edition.

<http://www.hindsightgroup.com>



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/stoptraffick/index.html>

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