

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



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1 This issue highlights the CATW Campaign related to the World Soccer Cup in Germany. Information sent in by readers is also included.

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Buying Sex Is NOT a Sport!

Say 'NO' to Germany's Trafficking and Prostitution of Women During the World Cup Games of 2006

From June 9 - July 9, 2006, twelve German cities will host the *World Cup Soccer Games*. Approximately three million football fans — mostly men — will attend. But Germany's legal red light districts will be too small for the thousands of sport/sex tourists coming for the World Cup, despite the 175,000 women currently working in prostitution there.

The demand for prostitutes in Germany is expected to rise by 30 percent as the World Cup event approaches. It is estimated that 40,000 to 100,000 more women will be "imported" from Central and Eastern Europe to "sexually service" the men. Many of these women will have been "tricked" and forcibly trafficked.

Wooden "performance boxes" that look like toilets have been built in fenced-in areas the size of a football field — with condoms, showers and parking for the buyers and a special focus on protecting their "anonymity."

The German sex industry has also built huge new mega-brothels. "Football and sex belong together," claimed the lawyer of a newly-opened 3,500-square meter brothel in Berlin, built near the main World Cup venue. The "World Cup brothel", as it is called, includes a spa with jacuzzi, a sauna, a Turkish bath, movie theaters and

a round-the-clock dinner buffet. To enter costs 100 euros (\$120). Clients must then pay prices fixed by the women — around 50 euros (\$60) per half hour. "Extra services cost more," the brothel's spokesman said. In that brothel, open 24 hours a day, 100 women will be expected to service approximately 650 men daily.

On January 25, 2006, the *Coalition Against Trafficking in Women* (CATW) launched an international campaign: 'Buying Sex is not a Sport'.

CATW points to the contradiction in Germany's claiming to fight against trafficking, while at the same time ignoring or endorsing the legalized prostitution economy that encourages the physical and psychological exploitation of women and the marketing of women's bodies as commodities to be bought and sold.

Campaign cont. pg. 7

• The *Coalition Against Trafficking in Women* (CATW) is an NGO with Category II Consultative Status with the *United Nations Economic and Social Council* (ECOSOC). It has regional networks throughout the world. CATW's mission is to promote women's human rights and work internationally to combat sexual exploitation in all its forms, especially prostitution and trafficking in women and children.

Consequences of 'Legalized Prostitution'

Comments by Janice G. Raymond, Ph.D.

There are clear problems with some of the World Cup anti-trafficking campaigns, particularly the campaign of the women's NGOs in Germany.

The *National Council of German Women's Organizations* has enlisted the support of Theo Zwanziger, President of the German Football Federation, in their campaign against "forced prostitution".

The German NGOs are separating the potential for sexual exploitation during the World Cup Games from the German legalized system of prostitution, which encourages the building of more and bigger sex cabins and brothels — allowing the biggest new brothel of them all to be built next to the main venue for the Games in Berlin.

Some rather ridiculous and useless strategies follow from this position of "forced prostitution simply being the 'bad guy', and voluntary prostitution being the 'good guy'." German NGOs are asking "customers" or potential "customers" to be

Consequences cont. pg. 2



Awareness



Attempts to Control Trafficking During the World Cup

In March European Justice Commissioner, Franco Frattini, proposed re-introducing temporary visa requirements for all non-EU citizens traveling to Germany for the World Cup. He proposed each and every application for a visa, from women in the suspected countries of origin for ‘forced prostitution’, should be checked, since often *“these women lie and say they will attend for cultural events”* on their applications.

Frattini urged member-states of the Schengen border-free area to impose stricter border and passport controls during the event, a move that would affect ten new EU members that are not yet part of the zone.

A “Schengen” visa allows visitors to travel freely within the area which includes 13 EU states, as well as Norway, Switzerland and Iceland. Women from Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Russia, and Ukraine head the list of prostitutes in Germany, but out of these only Ukrainian and Russian travelers currently need a visa to enter the EU.

Women in the European Parliament criticized Frattini’s plan for only being directed towards women and not towards the men buying sex. The European Commission has since scrapped the visa-toughening plan. <http://euobserver.com>

Consequences

cont. from pg. 1

“nice” to the women in prostitution and take responsibility for determining whether women they will use for sex have been trafficked or in legal prostitution, as if this will solve the problem! The municipal governments in the German cities where the Games will be played are building provisional brothels, equipped with condom vending machine, alarms and emergency exits for the women, as a “pragmatic response” to possible violence of the men. In effect, the German emphasis — both governmental and NGO, joined by some international NGOs — has been on sexual exploitation sanitized, with the language of the “continued modernization and regulation of prostitution”, “protection of sex workers” and “minimizing the criminal element” used to justify the mega-brothels and “performance boxes”.

Promotion of prostitution happens at many major sporting events in various ways. The difference in the World Cup situation is that here one has a government that is supporting its sex industry. The whole framework of legalization in Germany works towards the expansion of the nation’s sex industry by all means possible. Thus the sex industrialists are merely doing what any good marketer does — expand the market by building multiple sex huts, bigger brothels and advertising widely — all within the legal framework of a prostitution economy.

For those who question the links between prostitution and trafficking, the World Cup Games in Germany offer a graphic depiction of how one influences the other!

Janice G. Raymond, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita, Univ. of MA, Amherst
and Co-Executive Director of the Coalition
Against Trafficking in Women

The European Women’s Lobby (EWL), a non-governmental organization bringing together over 4,000 women’s organizations across Europe, is urging football fans to join the campaign by resisting the use of prostitutes.

“Prostitution is not a game, it is in fact the oldest crime in history and a violation of women’s human rights. During the World Cup every man must ask himself why he, or why other men, believe that they have the right to exploit the body of a woman, another human being, in this way.

Each man’s individual decision to buy access to a woman in prostitution fuels the demand for women in prostitution and the ruthless criminal gangs involved in trafficking ensure the ongoing supply.” Mary McPhail,
EWL Secretary General.

“Football and prostitution are a great match. You get lots of men at the right biological age and all fired up by a football match. What else could you hope for?”
Hans-Henning Schneidereit, owner of the Hamburg St. Pauli’s Safari Cabaret, renowned for its sex shows.

Speculating on whether it will be cheaper to buy the body of a person or a ticket to the football match during the World Cup, EU Communication Commissioner, Margot Wallstrom, commented, *“I come from a national background where treating women as commodities is an insult to all women and also to all men.”*

“The World Cup should be a celebration of sport, not an orgy of the sale of women’s bodies.” Marianne Mikko, member of the European Parliament from Estonia,



Awareness

"We predict that legal institutions will say prostitutes sold their bodies of their own free will during the World Cup. We totally disagree. We want to draw attention to the fact that exploitation and violence against women in Europe is still widespread. It is taken as the norm that women can be abused, they can be paid less for the same work, and, yes, they can be used as prostitutes. Prostitution is the oldest crime, not the oldest profession."

Latvian activist Iluta Lace
Vice-President of the European Women's lobby.

Traffickers Exploit Vulnerability

Researchers for the United Nations estimate that more than 500,000 men, women and girls are smuggled from Central and Eastern Europe to the rest of the world on an annual basis. Nine in 10 will end their trip forced into prostitution.

Political changes over the past decade have contributed to the rise of trafficking into the EU from Central and Eastern European countries. The fall of the Soviet Union and the wars in the Balkans resulted in a huge displacement of workers. According to the Council of Europe, per capita income in Central and Eastern Europe is 30 percent lower than in 1989, despite partial economic recovery in the region. In countries such as Moldova, Ukraine and Romania, between 20 and 30 percent of the population lives below the poverty threshold. People often look to the EU for better standards of living. Traffickers manipulate those in fragile situations and lure them to 'better' conditions in the West. However, victims are often deceived and abandoned.

EU enlargement has facilitated human trafficking by bringing borders closer to economically unstable countries such as Ukraine, Albania, and Belarus. For natives of these poorer countries, the EU is a close and attractive destination. However, tightened EU immigration policy has made it more difficult for migrants to enter Europe legally, thus a greater demand for human smuggling.

Criminal Organizations and EU measures

According to the *Computer Crime Research Center*, globalization of technology and improved Internet technology have exacerbated the situation, by enabling criminals to develop highly sophisticated sex industries. The European Commission recognizes technology's role in the "invisibility of exploitation" and believes that "public-private partnerships with the Internet Service Providers must be further developed".

Criminal organizations often control the whole chain from recruitment, through transportation, to sexual exploitation. Prostitutes are more likely to be arrested and deported than the criminals. Criminal leaders often confiscate trafficking victims' passports and pressurize them to pay for their transport and documentation. This forces them into illegal lucrative activities like prostitution.

In October 2005, at the *Survivors of Prostitution and Trafficking Manifesto* Press Conference, victims stated, "Governments should stop legalizing and decriminalizing the sex industry, which gives pimps and buyers legal permission to abuse women in prostitution."

CATW and *Christian Action* argue that ethical barriers disappear with the removal of legal barriers, and that decriminalizing the sex trade only lowers the threshold for those seeking prostitution. (<http://www.cafebabel.com/en/article.asp?T=A&Id=1711>)

The Link Between Football and the Sex Trade: Even in USA Colleges

In 2004 the Colorado grand jury handed down an indictment against the University of Colorado football coach, athletic director, several U. of C. players and the former manager of an escort service for use of prostitutes to entice football recruits.

There were allegations that the Colorado football program used sex, strippers and alcohol to recruit promising athletes. Players arranged the recruitment parties. It was not clear at the time of the investigation whether Colorado officials "knowingly sanctioned" these activities.

Three of the women filed federal lawsuits saying they were raped by recruits or players in December 2001. http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/ap/20040822/ap_on_re_us/university_investigation_1



Advocacy

California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery (CA ACTS) Task Force

In late March 2006 California Attorney General, Bill Lockyer, convened the first meeting of a statewide task force to address the emerging issue of human trafficking, a crime involving captives — many of them non-English speaking women and children — who are forced to work against their will in sweatshops, prostitution rings, farm labor, private homes and other enterprises under deplorable conditions.

“Human trafficking and forced labor is not only unconscionable, it is illegal,” said Lockyer. *“It is my hope that this task force can identify ways to strengthen California’s ability to combat this inhumane and hidden crime.”*

The California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery (CA ACTS) Task Force was established as a result of AB 22, by Assembly Member Sally Lieber (D-Mountain View) and SB 180, by Senator Sheila Kuehl (D-Los Angeles).

Chaired by the Attorney General, the CA ACTS Task Force will examine the issue and present a report for legislative review. The report, due by July 2007, will identify the scope of human trafficking in California, collect and summarize data, describe local and statewide efforts to address the issue, determine gaps in services, and make recommendations on how to improve California’s law enforcement and prosecution efforts, as well as its response to victims.

“Human trafficking is modern day slavery,” said Assemblywoman Lieber. *“California is committed to putting*

these merchants of human suffering out of business and the work of this task force is critical to that effort.”

In addition to creating the task force, Lieber’s bill criminalized human trafficking under California law and established legal benefits for victims. Kuehl’s bill also created a training program to educate peace officers on responding to human trafficking offenses.

“Human trafficking is rapidly becoming one of the most serious human rights issues of the 21st century and it’s time for California to take immediate and strong action,” said Senator Kuehl. *“This task force has been formed to identify ways to coordinate efforts to prosecute traffickers, and, most importantly, provide survivors of trafficking with desperately needed services and support so they can recover and get on with their lives.”*

A recent report by the Human Rights Center at the University of California, Berkeley cited 57 cases of forced labor in California between 1998 and 2003, with over 500 victims. The report, *Freedom Denied*, notes most of the victims in California were from Thailand, Mexico, and Russia and had been forced to work as prostitutes, domestic slaves, farm laborers or sweatshop employees.

The report also noted that crime data on human trafficking is difficult to track because exploited immigrants are reluctant to report abuse. Captors often take away victims’ identity documents and threaten them with reprisal, such as harming family members

in their home countries. Victims can also fear law enforcement because of their experiences with corrupt authorities in their home countries.

Members of the CA ACTS Task Force include representatives of statewide criminal justice associations, local law enforcement, human trafficking victims’ advocate groups, state government leaders, researchers and victims.

Additional information about human trafficking and a list of the task force members is available at the Attorney General’s Crime and Violence Prevention Center web site at: www.safestate.org/humantrafficking. Teresa Schilling, CA Dept. of Justice

Corporate Stance

Religious congregations that have taken a formal corporate stance against human trafficking include:

- 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 St. Joseph of Orange
- o Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia
- o Springfield Dominicans

Stop Trafficking hopes to print a complete list. Please contact: jeansds2000@yahoo.com



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Sudan Freedom Walk

In late March and early April 2006 American Anti-Slavery Group (AASG) Associate and former slave, *Simon Deng (left)*, led a historic, 300-mile *Sudan Freedom Walk* from New York, NY to Washington, D.C.

Though the first 200 miles passed smoothly enough, the group encountered startling resistance as they neared Delaware at the end of March. Maryland police refused to allow the passage across the Hatem Memorial Bridge — a four-lane bridge approximately 1.5 miles long that crosses the Susquehanna River in northeast MD.

Organizers encouraged Simon to consider crossing the bridge by car, but he refused. He had promised to walk the entire 300 miles on foot and would not back out on that promise. AASG and volunteers bombarded federal and state officials with calls to intercede on Deng's behalf. After several hours of persistent calls, the police provided the group an escort, then drove them 1.5 miles away from where they were headed so that they could make up the ground lost as a compromise for not being permitted to walk the bridge.

Deng was asking the global community to take practical steps to end the flagrant human rights abuses, including human trafficking, ethnic cleansing, genocide, torture, and rape, that continue to be perpetrated in Sudan with the complicity of its government.

Among the *Walk's* several demands is one for the institution of a special anti-slavery task force that would provide the hard, fast data necessary to hold the Sudanese government accountable for such atrocities.

The AASG also petitioned the U.S. Government to create such a task force and launched a campaign to collect signatures in support of this petition.

Dale Jarvis RSM, Sisters of Mercy International Justice Network.

Sexual Trafficking — Breaking the Crisis of Silence

Policy-makers, law enforcement officials, scholars and social service providers gathered April 7-8 for "*Sexual Trafficking: Breaking the Crisis of Silence*," a conference hosted by the *University of North Carolina (UNC) Chapel Hill's Carolina Women's Center*.

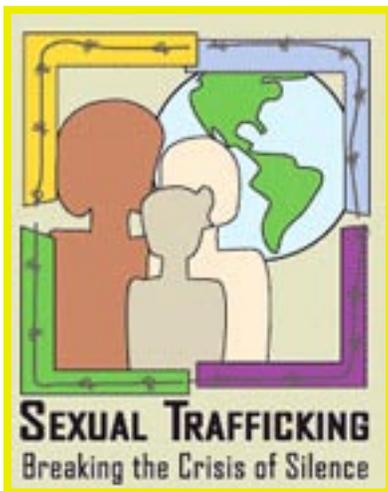
Conference participants included U.S. and state officials, national law enforcement leaders, executives of non-government organizations and social service experts working on the array of areas affected by sexual trafficking, including family services, public health organizations, psychiatric services and police departments.

The keynote speaker was *Laura Lederer, Senior Advisor on Trafficking in Persons to Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs and Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown Law Center.*

Conference goals included:

- To educate participants and publish the proceedings.
- To create and strengthen state networks and coalitions.
- To identify successful victim intervention models.
- To stimulate research.
- To articulate a position statement for the NC Governor, recommending legislation that would facilitate the eradication of sexual trafficking.

Other sponsors included UNC's Office of Global Health in the School of Public Health, the Jordan Institute for Families in the School of Social Work, and the Office of Research Development.



"Too many people do not fully grasp the magnitude of this problem and the enormous impact on areas of health, human services and human rights. The individual and collective denial — that trafficking is something far removed from one's own experience and geographic area — has contributed to the growth of this modern-day slavery. The beginning step of stopping the problem is educating oneself." Dr. Linnea Smith Psychiatrist at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill





Action

The NY Congregations of Religious against Human Trafficking Coalition will host **"A Day On Human Trafficking: A Global Problem With Local Ramifications"** May 13, 2006 at Villa Maria Academy, Bronx, NY. Sister Clare Nolan, UN NGO Representative for the Congregation of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd and Leslie Wolfe, President, Center for Women Policy Studies, Washington, DC are the speakers.
Contact: Mary Heyser, RSHM
(mpheyser@rshmeap.org) for more information.

Lobbying in New York

The *New York State Anti-Trafficking Coalition* continues to lobby for the passage of a state anti-trafficking law. Forty-eight coalitions, NGOs, agencies and associations co-signed a letter calling for the passage of Bills A.1898-a/S. 6231 by the New York State Legislature.

The Senate bill was unanimously accepted, but the Assembly bill has met roadblocks placed by certain members of the State Assembly. Proposed new revisions would essentially eviscerate most of what would make the bill a powerful deterrent to trafficking within the state of New York.

The Coalition *'NY Congregations of Religious Against Human Trafficking'* and other groups plan to lobby key Assembly members for passage of the A.1898-a/S. 6231 version.

Among the signers of the supporting letter were:

- Carmelite Sisters of Charity
- Dominican Congregation of Our Lady of the Rosary
- Dominican Sisters of Blauvelt, NY – Social Justice Committee
- Good Shepherd Services
- The Loretto Community
- Mercy Center Bronx
- New York Congregations of Religious Against Human Trafficking
- Sisters of the Good Shepherd, New York Province
- Sisters of the Presentation, New York
- UNANIMA International

Idaho Update: Human Trafficking

Governor Dirk Kempthorne signed Idaho's *Trafficking of Human Beings* legislation into law March 15, 2006. It becomes effective July 1, 2006.

The action of a bi-partisan group of legislators made this possible:

Representatives Donna Boe-D, Debbie Field -R, Anne Pasley-Stuart-D, Janet Miller-R, Richard Wills-R, and Carlos Bilboa-R.

Senators Denton Darrington-R, Dick Compton-R and Edgar Malepeai-D.

Trafficking in Human Beings Awareness Campaign

The Idaho Council of Catholic Women, Legislative Concerns; the West Central Deanery Council of Catholic Women, Legislative Concerns; and Catholic Charities of Idaho will sponsor a 6-city trafficking awareness campaign in the early fall of 2006 with plans to cover north and central Idaho at a later date.

To report incidents of slavery in Idaho, contact Catholic Charities of Idaho, 208-345-6031 x105 ask for Anna.

Merikay Jost, Chairperson, Idaho Council of Catholic Women, Legislative Concerns

Iowa Looks to Stop Trafficking

A mid-March 2006 interfaith forum, co-sponsored by the *Sisters of the Humility of Mary* and *Temple Emanuel Sisterhood*, hosted *Leslie R. Wolfe, President of the Center for Women Policy Studies*, who spoke on *'Human Trafficking in the Midwest.'*

Senator Maggie Tinsman (IA), also present, had introduced bill SF 2219, which provides for various criminal and civil penalties and a civil right of action for potential victim recovery. In addition, government services are to be made available to victims of the crime regardless of immigration status. This human trafficking bill passed 50-0 in the Iowa Senate in February 2006. It is expected to be passed by the House and signed by the Iowa Governor.

Lisa Bellomy, Communications Director, Congregation of the Humility of Mary

The Iowa Division, UNA-USA, will conduct programs at several sites around Iowa in coming months that focus on immigration, migration and trafficking.

Sallyann McCarthy, OSF Communications Director,

Clinton Franciscans (For information, contact: sisters@clintonfranciscans.com)

Project Lantern

The human rights organization, *International Justice Mission*, received a \$5 million grant from the *Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation* to create a replicable model for combating sex trafficking and slavery. The initiative, named *Project Lantern*, will allow *International Justice Mission* to open a new office in a community affected by trafficking.

Where trafficking flourishes, victims are at greater risk of infection with the HIV/AIDS virus. IJM will develop a model for working with local law enforcement officials in fighting trafficking in that community that will then be shared with stakeholders in the anti-trafficking community to be replicated around the globe. *Dale Jarvis RSM*



Action Campaign *cont. from pg. 1*

What follows is the text of the Petition that all readers are urged to sign.

We, Concerned Individuals and Organizations, state:

- Buying sex is NOT a sport. It is sexual exploitation in which women are physically and psychologically harmed, and women's bodies are treated as commodities to be bought and sold.
- Treating women's bodies as sexual commodities violates international standards of sport that promote equality, mutual respect and non-discrimination. FIFA President J.F. Blatt, "acknowledges the prominent role of sport, and especially football, as a vehicle for delivering clear and firm messages to eradicate the huge blights undermining society around the world." How will the World Cup Games help eradicate the blight of trafficking and sexual exploitation?
- Honorable men DO NOT buy sex because they respect the dignity and integrity of all human beings.
- NO to the organization of prostitution for the World Cup Games.

We, Signers of this Statement, call upon:

- The 32 countries participating in the World Cup Games, which have ratified UN Conventions and/or Protocols against prostitution and trafficking, to oppose Germany's promotion of prostitution and publicly dissociate their teams from the prostitution industry.
- Football team members to make public their opposition to this sexual exploitation of women.
- The FIFA Committee and its president to fulfill its social responsibility by opposing the link between football and the sex trade. We call upon them to protest this sexual exploitation of women to the German government and its chancellor Angela Merkel, the German football federation and its president, Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder, to stop this traffic in women for prostitution and to discourage the male demand that fosters prostitution.
- All concerned individuals and organizations to join in signing this statement in protest of this public display of prostitution and trafficking in women.

The CATW Campaign petition is available in English, French, Spanish, German and Portuguese and already has been signed by more than 25,000 individuals and organizations from over 100 countries worldwide. Many more signatures are needed before the end of April in order to demonstrate global aversion to this type of human rights' abuses. To sign the Petition go to: <http://catwpetition.ouvaton.org/php/index.php>

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union states that, "trafficking in humans beings is prohibited." The scale of human trafficking in Europe is growing relentlessly, with the trade in humans considered the fastest-growing criminal activity in comparison to other forms of organized crime, indicated the European Union Assembly's report.

Nearly half of the Assembly members voted for an amendment removing the expression "forced prostitution" from the report, saying all prostitution is a violation of the Charter.

"The expression 'forced prostitution' presupposes that there are voluntary prostitutes, and gives the illusion that prostitution is a profession as any other, which is wrong. Prostitution is degradation of women who come from socially-challenged environments and who have very few options." Eva-Britt Svensson, EU Parliament member, Sweden.

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

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

Coalition Against Trafficking in Women

<http://www.catwinternational.org/>
Contact information:
United States: jgr@catwinternational.org
Latin America and Caribbean:
tulloaz@hotmail.com
Europe / other countries: catwe@free.fr

American Anti-Slavery Group

www.iabolish.com
[http://www.sudanactivism.com/
darfurwalk/index.html](http://www.sudanactivism.com/darfurwalk/index.html)

Univ. North Carolina Conference Information

[http://womenscenter.unc.edu/
trafficking](http://womenscenter.unc.edu/trafficking)

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/srjeanschaferds/stoptraffic/index.html>

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