

# Stop Trafficking !

## Anti Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

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June 2014 Vol. 12 No. 6

This issue highlights current legislation that would help address some of the injustices faced by victims of labor and sexual exploitation and cut profits to traffickers.

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### International Labor Organization Report

Millions of forced laborers around the world are generating an estimated \$150 billion a year in profits for those who exploit them according to the International Labor Organization (ILO) May 2014 Report, *'Profits and Poverty: The Economics of Forced Labor'*.

The total figure is more than three times higher than the ILO's previous estimate in 2005 of \$44 billion.

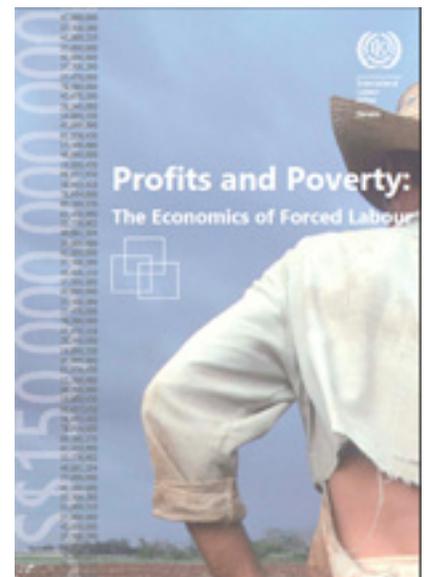
Ten percent of forced labor is imposed by the state, while 22% comes from forms of sexual exploitation and 68% from forms of forced labor *per se*.

Yet 66% (\$99 billion) of the profit from forced labor is from commercial sexual exploitation, while another \$51 billion results from forced economic exploitation, such as domestic work, agriculture or other economic activity.

*"Profits per victim are highest in forced sexual exploitation, which can be explained by the demand for such services and the prices that clients are willing to pay, and by the low capital investments and low operating costs associated with this activity,"* the report said.

*"With a global average profit of \$21,800 per year per victim, this sector is six times more profitable than all other forms of forced labor, and five times more profitable than forced labor exploitation outside domestic work."* (ILO, pg. 15)

A quarter of the total enslaved are under 18 years old and more than half of those enslaved are women and girls, primarily in commercial sexual exploitation and domestic work. Men and boys were primarily in forced economic exploitation in agriculture, construction, and mining.



Of the 21 million enslaved peoples some 14.2 million are trapped in forced labor, while 4.5 million are sexually exploited.

An additional 2.2 million are engaged in state-imposed forms of forced labor, in prisons, for example, or in work imposed by military or paramilitary forces, according to the report.

The ILO estimated that private households save \$8 billion annually by not paying or underpaying domestic workers held in forced labor.

*"Forced labor is bad for business and development and especially for its victims,"* ILO Director-General Guy Ryder said in a statement. *"Our new report adds new urgency to our efforts to eradicate this fundamentally evil, but hugely profitable practice as soon as possible."*

ILO Report cont. on pg. 2



## Awareness

### ILO Report

cont. from pg. 1

Some 56% of forced laborers are in the Asia-Pacific region and 18% are in Africa. Smaller numbers are in Latin America and the Caribbean (9%), developed economies including the European Union (7%), central and eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union (7%) and the Middle East (3%).

The ILO calculated the new profit estimate using data from its 2012 *Global Estimate of Forced Labor*, which covered the period from 2002 to 2011. It excluded 2.2 million people engaged in state-imposed forced labor, due to a lack of reliable information and “theoretical difficulties” in calculating profits generated by, for example, child soldiers.

*“The 21 million victims in forced labor and the more than US\$150 billion in illegal profits generated by their work exceeds the population and GDP of many countries or territories around the world. Yet this vast nation of men, women and children, along with its resources, remains virtually invisible, hidden behind a wall of coercion, threats and economic exploitation.”* (ILO Report, pg. 45)

To access the Report, go to:  
[http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/publications/WCMS\\_243391/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/publications/WCMS_243391/lang--en/index.htm)

*“Forced labor thrives in the incubator of poverty and vulnerability, low levels of education and literacy, migration and other factors.”*  
 (ILO, pg. iii)

### Recruiter Offers Bogus Job

A labor recruiter in the Philippines showed Cristopher (at right) a signed job offer at a resort in the Appalachian mountains. Thrilled to find a job in the U.S. Cristopher borrowed money to pay the recruiter \$5,000.



But upon arrival he was told there was no such job and was put on a bus to a Gulf state. After three days travel, without money for food or water, he arrived and was forced to clean hotel rooms 15-18 hours a day at a low wage, was constantly monitored, and was threatened with deportation.

Cristopher worried for his family and did not know how he would repay his recruiter. Eventually he escaped and found help.

### Lured and Disappeared

The 17-year-old girl was lured in by a pimp and forced to have sex for money. She worked for three nightmarish weeks, until the pimp told her that he’d sold her to another pimp in Dallas. He said he would hurt her, hurt her family if she didn’t go. *“This is the point when you can give up on me,”* the girl told her mother, and disappeared into the night.

But the mother never gave up searching. She got a tip that her daughter was being advertised online. The daughter’s former classmates, who’d been looking for a stripper for a 21st birthday party, found the ad on Back-

page.com and posted it on their social media pages. Meanwhile the mother had received text messages that swore her daughter was fine, but the messages didn’t seem to come from her daughter. The mother pressed police, family, friends and anyone else, who would listen to her pleas for help.

Finally, the man who had supplied her daughter with heroin, sold her to men for sex, and had planned to send her to Dallas, was arrested and the girl was returned to her family. However, the emotional scars will take years to heal for both mother and daughter.

*“I’m so angry about what these people did to my child,”* the mom said.

The daughter is 19 now. She started school recently. She dyed her blond hair dark. She’s starting to wear make-up again. But she still can’t bring herself to sleep in her own bed after her three-week ordeal. She sleeps instead on the couch and tells her mother, *“I’m scared to be alone.”* When her mother leaves the house, the girl sends frantic texts asking where she is and when she’ll be back. The girl cannot bring herself to fully embrace male relatives and friends. She offers a sideways, one-armed hug instead. She cries a lot and she won’t tell anyone, not doctors, therapists or even her mother the full details of what happened to her when she was forced to prostitute.

Her mom lives in a world of “anger, hurt and regret,” replaying over and over in her head the night her daughter left and begged her mom to give up on her. *“There’s got to be somebody who can help her,”* the mother said. Her daughter came back from her ordeal addicted to drugs, and, though she has been clean since February, her mom worries she’ll have a relapse when the “bottom girl” who helped keep her captive goes on trial this fall. *“When your kids fall, you can put a Band-Aid and antibiotic on their hurts, but there’s nothing I can do. When something like this happens to your child you’re supposed to protect them.”* (<http://edition.cnn.com/2014/05/20/politics/sex-trafficking-bills/>)



## Awareness

### 3 Online Prostitution Advertising

During one week in May 2014 seventy people in New York were arrested for producing and distributing child abuse imagery. The news reports were shocking. The victims were so young, the abuse so horrific, and the perpetrators included the mother of an infant, police officers and others whom we think of as trustworthy. As for the young victims, they have a long road to recovery ahead.

Through the scourge of human trafficking, children in our own neighborhoods and communities are sold into forced prostitution every single day. The Internet has dramatically changed the human trafficking landscape in the U.S. Over the last ten years, prostitution has slowly but persistently migrated to an online marketplace. "Ordinary" people can go online and have child prostitutes sent to their hotel rooms as easily as if they were ordering a pizza.

Online classified services, such as *Backpage.com*, are the vehicles for advertising the victims of the child sex trade to the world. Pimps and traffickers blatantly advertise their victim's sexual services with provocative photographs and explicit messages complete with per hour pricing. The traffickers pay online classified websites like *Backpage.com* to display their messages. These websites accordingly reap enormous profits at the expense of the victims of sex trafficking.

Government intervention is necessary to end facilitation of sex trafficking by websites like *Backpage.com*.



Example of one Internet-based 'training manual' for pimps.

### General Figures on Human Trafficking in the U.S.:

- Human trafficking generates \$9.5 billion yearly in the U.S. (United Nations)
- Approximately 300,000 children are at risk of being prostituted in the U.S. (U.S. Dept. of Justice)
- The average age of entry into prostitution for a child victim in the U.S. is 13-14 years old. (U.S. Dept. of Justice)
- A pimp can make \$150,000-\$200,000 per child each year and the average pimp has 4 to 6 girls. (U.S. Dept. of Justice, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children)

### General Figures on Online Prostitution Advertising in the U.S.:

- Revenue from U.S. online prostitution advertising totaled \$45 million in 2013, surpassing a benchmark set when *Craigslist* abandoned its adult services section in September 2010.
- Most of the \$45 million generated - 82.3% - has been generated by *Backpage.com*, a general classifieds site that has succeeded *Craigslist* as the nation's leading publisher of online prostitution advertising.

### Backlash Against Backpage

- *Backpage's* listing of sex-related ads has prompted several advocacy groups and companies to pressure the site to remove those listings. Companies H&M, IKEA and Barnes & Noble cancelled ads for publications owned by then-*Backpage* owner *Village Voice Media*.
- Over 230,000 people, including 600 religious leaders, 51 attorneys general, 19 U.S. senators, over 50 non-governmental associations, musician Alicia Keys, and members of R.E.M., The Roots, and Alabama Shakes have petitioned the website to remove sexual content.
- In July 2013, 47 State Attorneys General signed a letter to Congress asking for some federal action to change the law.

To see videos documenting the influence of *Backpage.com*, go to: <http://wagner.house.gov/Human-Trafficking-Online-Prostitution-Advertising>



Sample of documented instances of human trafficking through *Backpage.com*



## Advocacy

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### Legislation to Prevent Fraudulent Overseas Labor Recruiting

The *Fraudulent Overseas Recruitment and Trafficking Elimination Act of 2013* (HR 3344) would amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to require the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Department of State to incorporate anti-trafficking and anti-slavery priorities into other aspects of foreign assistance to ensure that assistance programs do not contribute to vulnerability to, or the prevalence of, human trafficking and slavery.

The law would require a foreign labor contractor to disclose in writing in English and in the primary language of the worker being recruited specified information, including the identity of the employer and the recruiter, worker protections, and a signed copy of the work contract. It would prohibit a foreign labor contractor from providing related false or misleading information and prohibit certain recruitment fees. The foreign labor contractor would have to obtain from the Secretary of Labor a certificate of registration, which would be valid for two years and pay a registration fee.

Employers, who engage in foreign labor contracting solely to find workers for the employer's own use without the participation of any other foreign labor contractor, would be exempt from certificate requirements.

In addition, the law would direct the Secretary of Labor to: maintain a list of all registered foreign labor contractors and a list of all such contractors whose registration has been revoked; and establish a process for receipt, investigation, and disposition of complaints. It would amend the Immigration and

Nationality Act to require a consular officer, before issuing specified work visas, to provide the alien with certain trafficking information and review and include in the alien's visa file the foreign labor recruiter's disclosures. It would direct the Secretary of State to ensure that each U.S. diplomatic mission has a person responsible for receiving information from any worker, who has been subject to violations of this Act, and consulates maintain and make public any information regarding the identities of foreign labor contractors and the employers to whom those contractors supply workers.

HR3344, currently with 73 co-sponsors, is in the House Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security. The related Senate Bill S. 744 passed the Senate 68 yeas and 32 nays in June 2013 with seven co-sponsors.

(<http://www.endslaveryandtrafficking.org/prevention-trafficking-persons-and-abuses-involving-workers-recruited-abroad-act-s-744>)

### Legislation to Protect Youth from Sexual Exploitation

Lawmakers in the House passed a broad package of bipartisan-supported bills in May 2014 aimed at trying to shut down the nation's multi-million dollar sex trafficking industry. The measures include:

- H.R. 4573: Directs the State Department to give "advance notice of intended travel" of those convicted of sex offenses against children and asks other nations to reciprocate.
- H.R. 3530: Imposes additional finan-

cial penalties on sex traffickers and helps increase the amount of restitution victims could receive.

- H.R. 3610: Encourages states to put in place laws that treat minors who have been sex trafficked as victims rather than criminals.
- H.R. 4225: Makes it a federal crime to knowingly advertise for the commercial sexual exploitation of minors and trafficking victims.
- H.R. 4058: Requires states to identify and address sex trafficking of minors in foster care.
- HR 573, a resolution condemning the April 14th kidnapping of more than 200 Nigerian schoolgirls by Boko Haram, the armed terrorist group that has threatened to sell the girls into forced marriages.

### The Child Pornography Victim Restitution Improvement Act of 2014

The 'Amy and Vicky' Act (Senate Bill 2301) was introduced by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R/UT) and Charles Schumer (D/NY) in May 2014. The bill has 13 sponsors. The U.S. Congress stated the following in the bill's introduction:

- The demand for child pornography harms children because it drives production, which involves severe and often irreparable child sexual abuse and exploitation.
- The harms caused by child pornography are more extensive than the harms caused by child sex abuse alone because child pornography is a permanent record of the abuse of the depicted child, and the harm to the child is exacerbated by its circulation. Every viewing of child pornography is a repetition of the victim's original childhood sexual abuse.
- Victims suffer continuing and grievous harm as a result of knowing that a large, indeterminate number of individuals have viewed and will in the future view images of their childhood sexual abuse. Harms of this sort are a major reason that child pornography is outlawed.

Amy and Vicky Act *cont. on pg. 5*



## Advocacy

### Amy and Vicky Act

cont. from pg. 4

- The unlawful collective conduct of every individual who reproduces, distributes, or possesses the images of a victim's childhood sexual abuse plays a part in sustaining and aggravating the harms to that individual victim. Multiple actors independently commit intentional crimes that combine to produce an indivisible injury to a victim.
- It is the intent of Congress that victims of child pornography be fully compensated for all the harms resulting from each and every perpetrator who contributes to their anguish.
- Congress intends to adopt and hereby adopts an aggregate causation standard to address the unique crime of child pornography and the unique harms caused by child pornography.
- Victims should not be limited to receiving restitution from defendants only for losses caused by each defendant's own offense of conviction. Courts must apply a less restrictive aggregate causation standard in child pornography cases, while also recognizing appropriate constitutional limits and protections for defendants. The Act calls for victims of child abuse imagery to receive restitution for their suffering. It is a response to a Supreme Court decision in April 2014, which said that children are entitled to have their mental and physical recovery paid for by the people who viewed the images. How the restitution should be apportioned among the defendants was left unanswered. This bill makes it clear that child victims deserve support and makes it clear who should pay. The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

### The Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation (SAVE) Act

Companies that base their business models on profits made by selling sex with children should not be allowed to operate. The *Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation (SAVE) Act* (HR 4225, Ann Wagner R/MO) seeks to criminalize this behavior, thereby dramatically reducing the sexual victimization of vulnerable children in the U.S.

- The *(SAVE) Act* is designed to close Internet marketplaces that host advertisements for the commercial exploitation of minors.
- While all marketplaces are covered, this bill will probably have the biggest impact on online marketplaces such as *Backpage.com*. These online marketplaces post third-party advertisements for "escort" services, which are *de facto* prostitution services. These advertisements lead to documented trafficking and the sexual abuse of minors.
- The proposed legislation amends the federal criminal code's "offenses" section to make it unlawful for *Backpage* and similar web sites "to sell or com-

mercially promote advertisements" in willful disregard of the fact that the ads facilitate human trafficking.

- The bill would allow prosecutors to use the language as a way to charge the web sites that advertise sex services with a federal crime.
- Current federal law shields from liability web sites that publish third party content, specifically Section 230 of the *Communications Decency Act* (CDA). However, Section 230 of the CDA provides an exemption for federal criminal law. Therefore, the SAVE Act fully complies with all existing federal statutes.
- The SAVE act also contains a limitation of liability provision that would protect innocent actors like *Facebook*, *Google* and *Twitter*, along with telecommunications services providers like *Verizon* and *Comcast*. As long as these entities do not directly sell advertisements to pimps, they will not be held criminally liable under the SAVE Act.

(<http://wagner.house.gov/notforsale>)

*"For the last 13 years, the House of Representatives has not passed any new pieces of legislation dealing with human trafficking. During that time, the problem has changed and evolved. Our efforts to combat sex trafficking need to be updated to match the problem as it stands today. For that reason I authored the SAVE Act, which seeks to criminalize the advertisement of innocent victims being forced into sex slavery.*

*On May 20, 2014, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the SAVE Act with overwhelming bipartisan support. By a vote of 392-19, Republicans and Democrats alike stood up for innocent young men and women and declared that no more would we allow online advertisers to profit from modern day slavery. I am thrilled to see my colleagues in the House taking positive steps on important issues and protecting our most vulnerable citizens. The SAVE Act and four other key pieces of human trafficking legislation have now been sent to the U.S. Senate, where I am hopeful that they will be passed without delay and signed into law by the President."* Rep. Ann Wagner (R/MO)

(<http://wagner.house.gov/notforsale>)



## Advocacy

### End Sex Trafficking

*End Sex Trafficking* amends the federal criminal code to expand the scope of prohibitions against sex trafficking to include patronizing or soliciting a commercial sex act with a victim of sex trafficking. It amends the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to expand the definition of “sex trafficking” to include patronizing or soliciting a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act.

The bipartisan bills were introduced in the House (HR 2805) by Rep. Ted Poe (R/TX) and in the Senate (S. 1354) by John Cornyn (R/TX). Currently the House version is in the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, while the Senate version is in the Committee on the Judiciary.

### Human Trafficking Prioritization Act

The *Human Trafficking Prioritization Act* expresses the sense of Congress that the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of the Department of State will be more effective in carrying out duties mandated by Congress in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and can do so without an increase in either personnel or budget, if the Office status is changed to that of a Bureau within the Department; and the Office is headed by an Assistant Secretary with direct access to the Secretary of State, rather than an Ambassador-at-Large.

The House bill, HR 2238 introduced by Rep. Christopher “Chris” Smith (R/NJ), was referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Senate version, S. 1249 introduced by Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D/CT), was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

### Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act

The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2013 would amend the federal criminal code to impose an additional penalty of \$5,000 on any person or entity convicted of crimes relating to: 1). peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons; 2). sexual abuse; 3). sexual exploitation and other abuse of children; 4). transportation for illegal sexual activity; or 5). human smuggling in violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The bill would establish in the Treasury the Domestic Trafficking Victims’ Fund into which such penalties would be deposited and which would be used in FY2015-FY2019 to award grants or enhance victims’ programming under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, and the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990.

The House bill (H.R. 3530 introduced by Rep. Ted Poe - R/TX) passed by a 409 to 0 vote in May 2014 and was sent to the Senate. The Senate version (S. 1738 introduced by Sen. John Cornyn - R/TX) was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

### Missing Children

May 25th was *National Missing Children’s Day*, the same day as International Missing Children’s Day. First proclaimed in 1983 by President Reagan, it aims to remind the public of the numerous cases of America’s missing children. The *National*

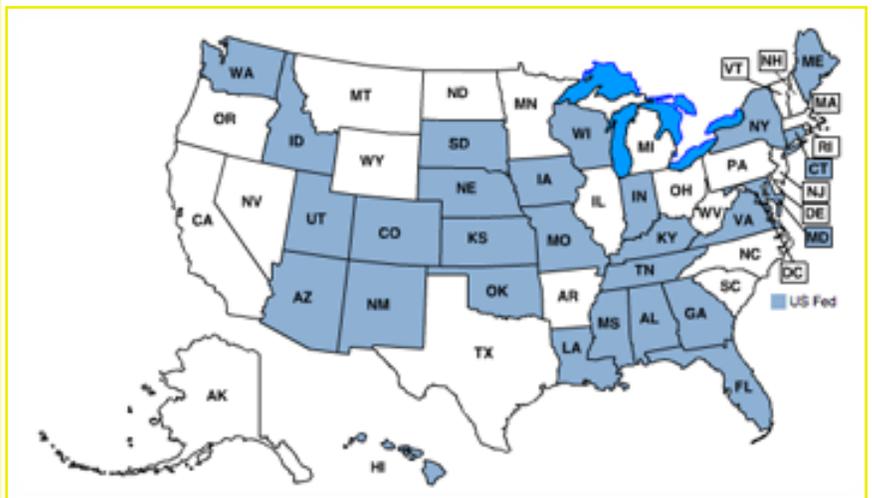


*Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)* estimates that approximately 800,000

children younger than 18 are reported missing annually. The NCMEC has assisted law enforcement in the recovery of more than 193,705 missing children since it was founded in 1984.

In Missouri alone, according to the MO State Highway Patrol, a total of 5,493 children were reported missing in 2013 and a total of 2,002 children were reported missing to date in 2014.

(<http://www.ozarksfirst.com/story/d/story/sunday-is-national-missing-childrens-day/34062/>)



States (shown in blue) that have enacted laws during 2014 related to human trafficking. To date during 2014 69 bills have passed in 27 state legislatures.



## Action

### Contact Your Legislator!

The ECPAT Campaign asks you to contact YOUR Senators and ask them to support the *Amy and Vicky Child Pornography Victim Restitution Improvement Act of 2014* (Senate Bill 2301). Below is a template letter for your use. (<http://www.ecpatusa.org/latest-campaign>)

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_ :

I strongly believe that children who are abused and exploited through the production and distribution of child abuse imagery (child pornography) are entitled to restitution from their abusers and the people who viewed and shared their pictures. Therefore I support the Amy and Vicky Act, SB 2301. I hope you will vote for this law.

With the widespread use of digital photography and the Internet, many more children are subject to abuse, and pictures of the abuse are being shared by thousands of people around the world. For young victims, knowing that these pictures are being bought, sold and shared contributes to their suffering. The Act requires real and timely restitution. Whether there was only one person who caused the harm or multiple people, the bill allows for the victim to receive help for the mental and physical health care he or she may need to recover from the abuse.

As your constituent, it is important to me that you support this law and its implementation.

Sincerely, Your Name

### June: Immigration Heritage Month

The national proclamation, H.Res. 606, introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by The Honorable Linda Sánchez (CA-38), recognizes the month of June as *Immigrant Heritage Month* in honor of the accomplishments and role of immigrants in shaping the history and culture of the U.S. To date, the resolution has 21 co-sponsors.

### Help Support New Federal Legislation!

If you support any of the other bills featured in this issue of *Stop Trafficking*, please contact your legislators and ask for their support. To find the mailing address for your U.S. Senators and member of the U.S. House of Representatives, go to:

- [http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/general/one\\_item\\_and\\_teasers/contacting.htm](http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/general/one_item_and_teasers/contacting.htm)
- <http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

### 'Journal of Human Trafficking'

The new *'Journal of Human Trafficking'* will be devoted to the dissemination of scholarship on all issues related to trafficking in persons and allied forms of contemporary slavery. The principal aim of the journal is to draw upon insights and expertise from a variety of disciplines and perspectives to better understand the global dimensions of and evolving policy responses to human trafficking.

The journal favors an expansive approach that links trafficking to issues such as bonded labor, forced labor for the state, forced marriage, hereditary bondage, wartime enslavement, and the abuse of migrant and domestic workers.

The journal will be published four times a year; the first issue will cover the topic of 'predators.'

Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editorial Manager at:

<http://www.editorialmanager.com/jht>

All articles submitted will be subjected to editorial screening and subsequent double-blind external peer review.

### Corporate Stand Against Human Trafficking

We, the *Sisters of Mercy of the Americas — Northeast Community and Companions in Mercy*, denounce all forms of human trafficking within the United States and the international community.

Having listened deeply to the God who speaks in each of us,

- we commit the gift of ourselves to educate about the root causes, consequences and magnitude of human slavery in our world today.
- we will advocate for policies and programs that address the prevention of the trafficking of children, women and men.
- we will minister to survivors freed from any form of modern day slavery.
- we will use our influence as consumers and investors to promote a just society that eliminates the incentives for human trafficking and modern day slavery.
- we will collaborate with others who are also engaged in the struggle of combating trafficking, and share our gifts of prayer, resources, advocacy and education with them.

(Adopted March 3, 2014)

### 'The Stolen Ones'

*The Stolen Ones* is a nine-part account of what happens to women and girls when they become victims of sexual exploitation.

The author, J. David McSwane, with photography and video by Dan Wagner, give voice to victims, family members, law enforcement, and advocates as they explore the challenges society faces with the growing child sex trafficking.

(<http://thestolenones.heraldtribune.com/>)



## Action

### Film: 'Who is Dayani Cristal?'

Following a team of dedicated staff from the Pima County Morgue in Arizona, director Marc Silver sought to answer this question and so give this anonymous man an identity. As the forensic investigation unfolds, Mexican actor and activist Gael Garcia Bernal retraces the man's steps along the migrant trail in Central America.

In an effort to understand what it must have felt like to make this final journey, he embeds himself among migrant travelers on their own mission to cross the border. He experiences first-hand the dangers they face and learns of their motivations, hopes and fears. As we travel north, these voices from the other side of the border wall give us a rare insight into the human stories which are so often ignored in the immigration debate.

*Who Is Dayani Cristal?* tells the story of a migrant who found himself in the deadly stretch of desert known as "the corridor of death" and shows how one life becomes testimony to the tragic results of the U.S. war on immigration. As the real-life drama unfolds we see this John Doe, denied an identity at his point of death, become a living and breathing human being with an important life story.

Winner of the Sundance 2013 Cinematography award and nominated in the World Documentary Competition, *Who is Dayani Cristal?* has been described by The Hollywood Reporter as "A deeply moving documentary, which finds a new way of making the immigration debate personal."

Watch the trailer:

<http://youtu.be/qLpjNGm3PNw>

**Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline**  
**National Human Trafficking**  
**Resource Center**  
**1.888.3737.888**  
 or text **HELP** or **INFO** to  
**BeFree (233733).**

### Books on the Vulnerability of Today's Youth

Two cultural forces have converged to make America's youth easy targets for sex traffickers. Younger and younger girls are engaging in adult sexual attitudes and practices and the pressure to conform means thousands have little self-worth and are vulnerable to exploitation. At the same time, through social media, texting, and chatting services, predators are able to ferret out their victims more easily than ever before.

In *Walking Prey: How America's Youth Are Vulnerable to Sex Slavery*, advocate and former victim Holly Austin Smith shows how middle class suburban communities are fast becoming the new epicenter of sex trafficking in the U.S. Smith speaks from experience. Without consistent positive guidance or engagement, Holly was ripe for exploitation at age fourteen. A chance encounter with an older man led her to run away from home. She soon found herself on the streets of Atlantic City.

Two decades later she is one of the foremost advocates for trafficking victims. Smith argues that these young women should be treated as victims by law enforcement, but that too often the criminal justice system lacks the resources and training to prevent the vicious cycle of prostitution.

*Girls Like Us: Fighting for a World Where Girls Are Not for Sale* by Rachel Lloyd is the true story of Lloyd's hard-won escape from the commercial sex industry and her founding of GEMS, New York City's *Girls Education and Mentoring Service*, to help countless young girls escape "the life."

*The White Umbrella* by Mary Frances Bowley tells stories of survivors as well as those who came alongside to help them to recovery. It describes the

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

#### GovTrack

#### Human Trafficking

[https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/subjects/human\\_trafficking/6210](https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/subjects/human_trafficking/6210)

#### ATEST

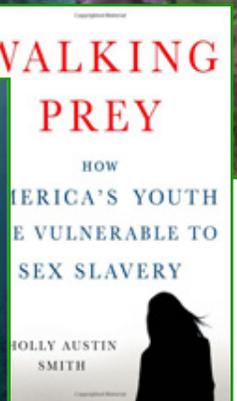
<http://www.endslaveryandtrafficking.org/>

#### Polaris Project

<http://www.polarisproject.org/what-we-do/policy-advocacy/national-policy/all-pending-legislation>

pain and the strength of these young women and those who held the "white umbrella" of protection over them on the road to restoration.

The book offers principles and guidance to anyone with a desire to help. It is a resource for individuals or organizations seeking to learn what they can do to assist these victims in becoming whole again. (<http://www.amazon.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 past issues of *Stop Trafficking!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm>

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