



Human Trafficking: 21st Century Slavery

hidden in the in red light district brothels of Nepal, Germany and the United States; tucked away in low-slung sweat shops and nondescript clothing factories of Asia, India or the Americas; unseen in the brick factories of India, the leather workshops of Florence, and the mines of Africa: these are the world's modern day slaves. They are human beings, our brothers and sisters, bought and sold every day. Though not traded in chains on public blocks, they are bought and sold nevertheless. They are the world's poor in search of a better life. They are deceived, entrapped, taken from their homes to unknown places, where robbed of all dignity, they become human cargo, cogs in the



A group of trafficked Cambodian women in a detention centre in Bangkok, Thailand.

machinery of economic globalization.

This is trafficking in human persons. This is 21st century slavery. Its forms are many. It involves transporting people, pri-

marily women and children, within or across borders to be sexually exploited, to work in sweat shops, to be domestic workers, to be objects of sex tourism, or to be mail-order brides.

The UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women defines trafficking as *the recruitment, transportation, purchase, sale, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons by threat or use of violence, abduction, fraud, deception or coercion (including the abuse of authority) or debt bondage for the purpose of placing or holding such a person, whether for pay or not, in forced labour or slavery-like practices in a community other than the one in which such a person lived at the time of the original act.*

NORTHWEST STORIES

Victor Virchenko

In 2000, Victor Nikolayevich Virchenko fraudulently recruited women and underage girls to perform Russian folk dances in Alaska. Upon arrival in Anchorage, he forced them to dance nude in a strip club. Once U.S. law enforcement identified the victims, a number of them received services in Washington State.

Port of Seattle

In 2000, law enforcement officials uncovered the movement of smuggled and trafficked persons into the Port of Seattle. Over 200 victims were assisted in the Seattle area.



Catherine Ferguson, SNJM, PhD is the Coalition Coordinator for UNANIMA International, a faith-based NGO focusing on violence against women.

Women and Children for Sale

IDENTIFYING THE CAUSES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Catherine Ferguson, SNJM

Lisa, from Bangkok in Thailand, was kidnapped off the streets of the city.

Marina, from Russia, was a mail order bride who found herself sold by her "husband" into sexual exploitation in a London brothel.

Benita left Latvia to work in the entertainment industry. She thought she might find herself in prostitution, but she had no idea of the extent of her indebtedness.

She expected to have to pay for her transportation and papers, but didn't realize she would never be able to free herself from bondage.

Carmen wanted to find work to help her family living in Mexico. She believed her cousin's friend, who told her there was a good job for her in the U.S. But once she was transported across the border, her papers were stolen and she was sold to a brothel in Florida.

Trafficking in human persons is the fastest growing form of transnational organized crime.¹ It has become the third most lucra-

drugs and arms.

According to a recent report by Human Rights Watch, some 50,000 women and children are trafficked to the United States each year. Women most often wind up in the sex industry in larger cities, but increasingly are also brought to smaller cities and

Chicago and San Francisco. More recently they have extended their operations to Atlanta, Cleveland, Houston, Orlando and Washington, DC.²

These facts are surprising given the strong international commitment to decreasing violence against women made in

Trafficking in human persons is the fastest growing form of transnational organized crime.



© IOM 1999 PHOTO BY: WILLIAM

Illegal Cambodian migrants retained in Thailand.

suburbs. The United States is also the major destination country for young children kidnapped and transported for adoption by childless couples. Traffickers move women and children into the US

1995 at UN Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing and subsequent efforts by many world leaders to address the problem.

In spite of these efforts, we find that in most countries not much information about trafficking reaches the public. What little is known is printed on obscure inner pages of newspapers and goes unreported in the non-print media.

Trafficking springs up in global hot spots where there are conflicts and natural

tive form of international trafficking, next only to illegal trade in

through many ports of entry: Los Angeles, New York, Miami,

Why has trafficking in women and children increased today?

The social, economic and political causes are extremely complex. These are a few:

- Women are marginalized from the job market and from education.

- Sexual exploitation of women and children is prevalent in cultures where men have more power than women and children.

- Advertising, fashion, music and entertainment industries around the world promote the insidious values of sexual exploitation by the way they portray women.

- Some countries have a strong economic stake in the success and perpetuation of human trafficking. This is true for tiny countries whose gross national product depends on sex tourism and for larger countries in Europe and the developing world where there are huge organized sex industries. Both Thailand and the Netherlands, for example, receive large sums of money from legalized prostitution.³

- Trafficking also springs up in regions experiencing war and natural disasters. *Sending countries* are global *hot spots* where there are conflicts and natural catastrophes. For instance, since the fall of Communism and the loss of better paying jobs, there has been an increase in trafficking in women from Eastern and South Eastern Europe. In addition, women are often trafficked into these *hot spots* to provide "R & R" for military personnel and more

recently for UN Peacekeepers.⁴

- Another motivation for trafficking in women is the demand for brides in the United States and around the world. There are now 200-250 mail-order bride agencies in the U.S. alone.⁵

Trafficking in women and children is both a human rights violation and a development issue. It has tremendous human, social and economic costs, contributing to the spread of venereal disease and HIV/AIDS. It deprives children of education and the opportunity to achieve their full potential, robbing poor countries of their most vital resource for development—their very people.

Regardless of where human

trafficking occurs, sexual exploitation undermines the dignity of all women. It devalues women, treats them as of lesser status, as commodities to be bought and sold, to be used at will by men.

Some countries have a strong economic stake in the perpetuation of human trafficking.

¹ UN Division for the Advancement of Women and UN Office on Drugs and Crime. "Trafficking in Women and Girls: Report of the Expert Group Meeting." Glen Cove, NY, Nov. 18-22, 2002. Available at www.un.org/womenwatch/daw.

² Human Rights Watch, "Women's Rights," www.hrw.org/about/projects/traffcamp/intro.html, 2002.

³ *So Deep a Violence: Prostitution, Trafficking and the Global Sex Industry*. Coalition against Trafficking in Women.

⁴ For a link between the military and prostitution, see Cynthia Enloe. *Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives*, University of California Press: February 2000. For an in depth study of the U.S. military and Korean women from the late 1950s to the present day, see Katherine Moon, *Sex among Allies*, Columbia University Press, 1997.

⁵ Lena H. Sun, "The Search for Miss Right Takes a Turn toward Russia: Mail-Order Brides of the '90s Are Met Via Internet and on Romance Tours," *Washington Post*, 8 March 1998.

WORLDWIDE ACTIONS

- Three years ago, a major human rights instrument was signed into effect as part of the Supplementary Protocol to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.
- In 2001, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan published a statement condemning human trafficking.¹
- National governments have passed significant anti-trafficking legislation, including Sweden in 1999 and the Philippines in the spring of 2003.
- The United States enacted the *Trafficking Victims Protection Act in 2000*.
- Religious leaders and religious groups have unequivocally condemned the practice.²

WHAT THE U.S. STILL NEEDS TO DO

- The United States has signed the *UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* and the two protocols on alien smuggling and trafficking. They are now being reviewed by the U.S. Department of Justice for possible ratification. The U.S. has not signed the arms protocol. The U.S. now needs to ratify the protocols on alien smuggling and trafficking and to both sign and ratify the arms protocol.
- According to the U.S. State Department, "*the greatest challenge for the immediate future is locating and identifying victims. In contrast to the estimate that tens of thousands of victims of trafficking end up in the United States every year, the U.S. Government has assisted on the order of 450 victims since the enactment of the TVPS. Clearly we need to do more to bring forward victims.*"³

¹ Report of the UN Secretary General for the UN Special Session on the Rights of the Child, no. 1, 23.

² Two examples of such statements are found in a letter of Pope John Paul II (May 2002) and a statement by the members of the International Union of Superiors General, at their meeting in Rome (2001).

³ *Assessment of U.S. Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons* (August 2003), p. 7.



Jean Schafer, SDS, works in Watsonville, CA with Capacitar International to raise awareness about human trafficking and to empower its victims. Email: jeansds2000@yahoo.com

Journey Out of Bondage

S. Jean Schafer, SDS

the Jubilee Year 2000 holds many memories. Among them I remember seeing five or six Romanian girls, each standing alone several miles apart along a highway in Austria. They were ill clad, obviously intent on looking sexually suggestive. It was a cold December.

Later, I was waiting in the Colombo airport for a flight to Rome. There were about 200 young Sri Lankan women in the passenger lounge. Each had several very large suitcases, as if this trip were a major move. No one spoke.

Above all, the year 2000 was a spiritual milestone, marking my sacramental release from the bondage of guilt. I had carried guilt feelings for so long, I felt trapped. Not that I had done terrible things. My guilt was based equally on what I had not done over the years, those numerous occasions where words or deeds on behalf of someone else were called for and not offered.

Being the Jubilee Year, I mustered the courage to make a general confession of my life. The confessor's words about God's never-ending mercy despite our weakness still reverberate in me. I felt like the Israelites, who because of God's mercy, walked through the Red Sea and were freed from

their oppressors!

God had offered me spiritual liberation. The next year I was to be equally graced by experiences calling me to work against human trafficking.

First there was the assembly of the International Union of Superiors General. I was exhilarated to join 800 women religious publicly declaring our determination to address the trafficking of women.

Then I attended an international meeting of my religious community, The Salvatorians. We asked ourselves, "What is our role in the face of so much suffering by the world's women and children?" We adopted the UISG Declaration, resolving to work as stronger advocates for voiceless women and children.

In February 2002 I was home for my Province's goal-setting meeting. We targeted human trafficking as a major focus, since the U.S. is a primary destination for those enslaved. I felt God was offering me the chance to be an instrument in the liberation of others.

I hold in my heart many women, who live in precarious circum-

stances of terrible bondage. I continue to wonder about those Romanian and Sri Lankan girls. What type of bondage might they now be in? Has any one reached out to free them or help them heal of guilt they inevitably must suffer? Could our mission efforts be that helping hand?

Human trafficking has taken on many guises. Magazines and newspapers are filled with ads for housekeepers, models, baby-sitters, mail order

brides, entertainers, waitresses, assembly line workers, or children in need of adoption. It is easy for us to misjudge or not see what is going on because the problem seems so far away. But is it really?

For followers of the Gospel, eliminating the scourge of human trafficking will demand courage, dedication and creativity. But as we grapple with ways to resist this evil, to free and empower its victims, and to change the hearts of its perpetrators, we are on the path toward our own salvation:

What you did to the least of my brothers and sisters, you did to me. (Mt. 25:40).

As we grapple with ways to resist this evil . . . we are on the path toward our own salvation.

RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES TAKE CORPORATE STANDS

The International Union of Superiors General, representing 1 million women religious in their Institutes, declares *our determination to work in solidarity with one another, within our religious communities in countries in which we are located, to address insistently...the abuse and sexual exploitation of women and children, with particular attention to the trafficking of women which has become a lucrative multi-national business.*

—May 13, 2001

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men *stand in support of human rights by opposing trafficking in women and children for purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor, and will educate others regarding the magnitude, causes and consequences of this abuse in the U.S. and the world.*

—August 26, 2001

Northwest Institute Fights Trafficking in Russia

Juliette M. Engel, M.D.

Since 1991, Seattle based MiraMed Institute has been working to improve women's healthcare and protect the human rights of women and children in the former Soviet Union.

MiraMed has focused on the prevention of sexual trafficking from the countries of the New Independent States (NIS). We have held town meetings across Russia; distributed the United Nations videotape, *World Free From Violence Against Women*; and conducted a survey on violence against women in the NIS countries.

With funding from the Adrian Dominican Sisters, MiraMed has facilitated global Russian language chat rooms on violence and trafficking prevention.

In recent years, MiraMed has created the *Angel Coalition*, comprised of 43 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from 25 regions of the Russian Federation

ten regions of the Russian Federation with funding from the U.S. government, the Dominican Sisters, and others. The workshops have led to NGO and

media partnerships to develop public information materials.

MiraMed is working with the Russian Border Police, the Interior and Foreign Ministries, Interpol, and NGOs in countries of destination to assist the rescue and return of trafficking victims. Earlier this year, MiraMed received funding from the U.S. State Department to open Russia's first Trafficking

Victim Assistance Center in Moscow and to start five regional safe houses to help repatriate victims of trafficking from Russia.



Young women of Yaroslavl protest trafficking during a MiraMed sponsored public action.

and seven former Soviet Republics, devoted to the prevention of sexual trafficking of women and children. We have conducted public information workshops in



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SCRIPTURE IN CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING CONDEMN HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- Gen. 1:27 Every human being is created in God's divine image.
 Ex. 6: 5-6 God vows to free the Israelites from the bondage of slavery.
 Jer. 7: 5-7 The prophet warns that we must deal justly with our neighbor and no longer oppress the resident alien, the orphan, and the widow.
 Cor. 12: 12-13, 26 Every human being is part of the body of Christ. If one person suffers, all of us suffer.

Pacem in Terris

Human society . . . must lay down as a foundation this principle, namely that every human being is a person ... [with] rights and obligations . . . [that] are universal and inviolable. . . From the dignity of the human person, there also arises the right to carry on economic activities according to the degree of responsibility which one is capable. Furthermore . . . the worker has a right to a wage determined according to criteria of justice. — *Nos. 9 &, 20, John XXIII April 1963.*

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The seventh commandment forbids acts or enterprises that for any reason - selfish or ideological, commercial, or totalitarian - lead to the enslavement of human beings, to their being bought, sold and exchanged like merchandise, in disregard for their personal dignity. – Catechisms #2414.

Guadium et Spes

Whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children; as well as disgraceful working conditions, where men are treated as mere tools for profit, rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things . . . poison human society. . . Moreover, they are a supreme dishonor to the Creator. — *No. 27, Paul VI, December 1965.*



State Rep. Velma Veloria represents the 11th legislative district of Washington State. Email: Veloria_ve@leg.wa.gov

Washington State Takes On International Problem

Velma Veloria

In 1995, Susana Blackwell, a Filipina mail order bride, and her unborn child, along with two friends, Phoebe Dizon and Veronica Laureta, were murdered outside a King County courtroom by Susana's husband, Timothy Blackwell.

Four years later Helen Clemente, another Filipina, made the headlines. Helen was brought to the U.S. on the promise of a fraudulent marriage and was kept in indentured servitude for three years by a retired policeman and his wife.

Soon after in 2000, Anastasia King, a 20 year old mail order bride from Kyrgyztan, was murdered by her husband.

That same year, the Northwest Immigrant Rights project asked me if there were any legislation adopted by the state that would help victims of trafficking. They were in contact with women who had just escaped from a trafficker and needed help. The answer was no.

The practice of human trafficking has increased with economic globalization and the wid-

ening disparity between rich and poor. Twenty per cent of the world's population controls 80% of the gross domestic product. 447 billionaires have wealth greater than the income of half of humanity. The richest man in the United States has wealth equal to that of the poorest 40% of the American people. About 1.2 billion people live on less than \$1 per day and another 1.3 billion live daily on just \$2.

It is no wonder then that in some parts of the world, farmers sell their children to pay off a debt, children are taken from their families to be sold for profit, and that women from poor countries in search of better economic opportunities might turn to a "mail order bride" agency to find a husband in the developed world. Despite the promises of a better life, these women often find themselves forced into a prostitution ring, working as an indentured servant, or murdered.

Trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, has now become the third largest underground industry in the world. Traffickers find the state of

Washington with its international border and active consumer base to be a lucrative market for trafficked women.

In response to this situation, I spearheaded a 2001 conference of legislators, lawyers, healthcare providers, law enforcement officers, and human rights advocates to find solutions to the problem of trafficking or "human trade" in our state. The result was landmark legislation passed in 2002, which requires Washington State to identify services for trafficked persons, to evaluate prevention activities, and to recommend a coordinated system of support for victims.

Last spring, Washington State also enacted HB 1175, making it a crime to traffic in persons and setting a standard sentence range of 93-200 months and monetary penalties for anyone found guilty of this offense.

However, women will never find equality as long as they are viewed as commodities to be bought and sold. My liberation as a woman and as a person of color, particularly one from the Philippines (the major supplier of mail order brides) is tied directly to changing that perspective and advancing gender and socio-economic equality.

The right to unionize and collective bargain are indispensable protections of workers rights. Free trade agreements put these rights at risk. Accordingly, I have sponsored legislation to establish an oversight committee to delve into the disproportional impacts international trade agreements have on women.



State Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles represents the 36th District of Washington. Email: kohl_je@leg.wa.gov

Washington Regulates Mail Order Bride Operations

Jeanne Kohl-Welles

A variation of human trafficking can occur with International Matchmaking Organizations (IMOs).

As a result of the murder and exploitation of mail-order brides, the Washington Legislature last year passed Rep. Veloria's and my legislation requiring IMOs to notify foreign clients of their right to receive information on the Washington resident's criminal and marital history, domestic violence protection orders, and founded complaints of child abuse and neglect.

Other states are following Washington's lead. U.S. Sen. Cantwell and Rep. Larsen have introduced similar federal legislation at the federal level.

U.S. Launches Multi-Front Campaign Against Trafficking

Laura J. Lederer

In 1998, Rosa, a 13 year old Mexican girl was trafficked from her village in Mexico. She thought she was coming to waitress at a Texas hotel and walked four days and day nights through the desert. When she got to Brownsville, she was picked up by a van and driven to a trailer park in Avonsville, Florida. There, she was told that she had been sold to a brothel and would have to work off her debt sexually servicing as many as 15 men a day. Thus began a nightmarish cycle of violence for Rosa—including threats, intimidation, brutal beatings, and forced abortions, culminating in a “rescue” nearly a year later, when she was arrested and thrown into jail with her captors. By the time, the U.S. government discovered that she was a victim, she was physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually broken. She is still recovering.

At that time, the U.S. had no trafficking law. Since then, we have come a long way. In 2000, Congress passed the *Trafficking Victims Protection Act*, a comprehensive new law to address trafficking in persons. The law does a number of things:

- It increases penalties for traffickers.
- It broadens the definition of trafficking to include recruiters, transporters, buyers, sellers, guards, and others involved in the whole pipeline of activity.



- It adds victims of trafficking to the Victim Witness Protection Program.

- It creates a new T visa for trafficking victims, allowing them to apply for a three-year temporary residency, with possible permanent residency after that.

- It authorizes over \$50 million per year for U.S. government agencies to spend on domestic and international anti-trafficking programs.

In 2001, President Bush created a cabinet level Inter-agency Task Force on Trafficking, chaired by Secretary of State Colin Powell. This year, the President directed all agencies to develop strategic anti-trafficking plans. He also set forth new policy, linking trafficking and prostitution, stating that because prostitution fuels trafficking, the U.S. will not

regulate prostitution as a legitimate form of work.

This past August, the Department of State issued

its third annual Trafficking Persons Report, assessing the progress of governments in addressing their particular trafficking problems. Over forty countries now have national plans of action. For the first time, the Department of Justice issued a report our own progress in combating trafficking within the U.S.

The Department of Justice has

set up a **Hotline 1-888-428-7581** to report and request help for trafficking victims. In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services has set up shelter and assistance programs. The Department of Labor has designed a strategic plan to stop child slavery and child labor in Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. Finally, the U.S. Agency for International Development has been assisting governments and NGO's in setting up anti-trafficking programs.

In every part of the world, the U.S. government has welcomed the efforts of countries to address the problem. We have supported passage of new anti-trafficking laws and helped countries enforce those laws through intensive training in investigative and prosecutorial procedures. We have encouraged countries to design victim-friendly programs that include witness protection, shelters, a comprehensive set of services for trafficking victims, and

repatriation, resettlement and reintegration programs where necessary.

While we have come a

long way, we still have much to do. The United States looks forward to working with our friends and allies to abolish trafficking and related transnational criminal activities. We share a common goal, a common determination and a common strategy, and together we can succeed.



Laura J. Lederer is Senior Advisor on Trafficking, Office of Global Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

In 2000, Congress passed a comprehensive new law to address trafficking in persons.

Continuum of Action: From Awareness to Leadership

Awareness	Involvement	Leadership
Read an Article	Share an article or this issue of AMOS with another person. Discuss what you learned.	Make an article or this AMOS issue available at church or work.
Watch a video from IPJC with family or friends.	Reflect and discuss your feelings, questions and hopes for those who are victims of trafficking.	Write a short review or recommendation on the video. Organize a church or community showing of the video.
Visit one or more websites and follow one story or issue. Download the curriculum on modern slavery (pg 9).	Send a copy of the curriculum to a teacher you know or to your child's social studies teacher.	Offer to be a support person or volunteer for a school or classroom project on trafficking of persons.
Research through the internet, church, or government agency one group that works on the issue of trafficking of persons.	Volunteer with, or make a donation to one group addressing trafficking of persons.	Have your church, community group or family support an organization addressing trafficking of persons.
Become familiar with the United Nations resolution on trafficking of persons (2000).	Write a letter to your Senator asking for the U.S. to ratify the UN resolution without reservations.	Coordinate a church or community call in or letter campaign. Post a sample letter at church or school.
Be aware of the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. It is due for reauthorization.	Call, e-mail, write your Congress person to support the anti-trafficking reauthorization bill.	
Watch for media coverage on the topic of trafficking of persons.	Ask your church or denominational newspaper to run a story on the trafficking of persons.	Explore any possible sister church/agency/city relationships that might address trafficking of persons.
Discover the local and regional resources on trafficking of persons.	Contact individuals or organizations (including IPJC) about what materials, speakers, workshops they provide.	Form a committee or ask your church social concerns group to consider hosting a speaker or workshop.
Be familiar with options for charity (direct service for victims) and for justice (addressing the root causes) regarding trafficking of persons.	Take one action to support victims. Take one action for advocacy that addresses the systems that affect trafficking of persons.	Invite others to join you in your action. Post this action guide where others will see it.
After further study, reflect on whether any practice at your place of work or in your purchasing could in any way have a link to the trafficking of persons for sweatshops, prostitution or servitude.	Identify one purchasing practice you will change or one question you will pose at your work place.	Suggest your work place support fair-trade products. Provide a speaker, panel or forum on the issue of trafficking of persons.
Consider where or how government, military intervention or economic policies can have a correlation to the trafficking of persons	Ask people that you know who have worked with or served in the military what their experience has been.	Identify and support groups that monitor or research trafficking issues and related military and economic policy.

Resources on Human Trafficking

Government

- **U.S. Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons**
www.state.gov/g/tip
Coordinates U.S. government's anti-trafficking efforts and writes an annual report on the state of trafficking worldwide.
- **Washington State Task Force on Trafficking in Persons**
www.ocva.wa.gov/trafficking_final_report.htm
Convened in 2002 to identify and coordinate services and to victims of trafficking.
- **U.S. Government brochures** explaining new rights and services for trafficking victims:
www.usdoj.gov/crt/crim/wetf/victimbrochure.pdf
www.usdoj.gov/crt/crim/wetf/trafficbrochure.pdf
- **Department of Justice Toll-free Trafficking in Persons and Worker Exploitation Complaint Line: 1-888-428-7581.**

Groups Working Against Trafficking

- **Anti-Slavery International**
www.antislavery.org
Founded in 1839, the world's oldest international human rights organization.
- **Free the Slaves**
www.freetheslaves.net
Leads efforts against slavery around the world. Website posts a free downloadable Education Pack with lesson plans.
- **The Protection Project**
www.protectionproject.org
A human rights research institute.
- **End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism**
www.ecpatusa.org
A network of organizations working against child sex tourism and trafficking in children.
- **Coalition Against Trafficking in Women**
www.catwinternational.org
Works internationally to combat sexual exploitation.
- **Miramed Institute**
www.miramedinstitute.org
Works to protect women's health and human rights in Russia.

- **International Organization for Migration**
www.iom.int
Works to protect migrants' rights and to prevent trafficking in persons.
- **UNANIMA International**
www.unanima-international.org
A Faith-based NGO focusing on violence against women, particularly through trafficking. The coalition consists of eight congregations of women religious ministering on all continents.
- **Shared Hope International**
www.sharedhope.org
Focuses on rescuing and restoring women and children in crisis and eradicating sex trafficking and slavery. Headquartered in Vancouver, WA.

Videos (All are available on loan from IPJC)

- ***The Day My God Died***
A 70-minute documentary about young girls whose lives have been shattered by the child sex trade in Nepal and India. \$30 from Andrew Levine Productions.
www.thedaymygoddied.com.
- ***Sisters and Daughters Betrayed.***
\$25 from the Global Fund for Women.
www.globalfundforwomen.org
- ***So Deep a Violence, Prostitution, Trafficking and the Global Sex Industry.***
\$29.95 from the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women. www.catinternational.org

Print Materials

- Barbara Ehrenreich and Arlie Russell Hochschild, eds. *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy.* 2003
- Andrew Cockburn. "21st Century Slaves," *National Geographic Magazine*, Sept. 2003.
- JPIC Commission of the Unions of Superiors General USG/UISG. *Trafficking in Women and Children: Information and Worship Kit.* Rome, 2003. Phone: 06-66-22-929. Email: jpic@mclink.it



Courage to Give

We must build dikes of courage to hold back the flood of fear.

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

- It takes courage to work for justice
- It takes courage to keep asking for your donations
- It takes courage to give when your resources are stretched

Please create dikes of courage by:

- Praying for our mission.
- Donating to IPJC.
- Taking advantage of company matching programs.
- Designating IPJC to receive a share of your United Way contribution. Write Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center on your United Way pledge form.



Fair Trade Coffee Victory:

Religious Shareholders Change Procter & Gamble

On September 15, 2003 small scale coffee farmers around the world scored a victory when Procter & Gamble, the largest seller of coffee in the U.S. announced that it would begin selling Fair Trade Certified™ coffee in its specialty coffee, **Millstone**. This exciting and monumental success is the result of nine months of intense dialogue between P&G and over 18 religious shareholders and advocacy groups, including our Northwest Coalition for Responsible Investment.



What does this mean for coffee farmers? At a time when coffee prices are at a 30-year low and farmers are receiving 52 cents a pound, Fair Trade Certified™ coffee guarantees farmers a minimum of \$1.26 a pound.

What does this mean for consumers? Procter & Gamble will immediately offer Fair Trade Certified™ coffee to its commercial accounts (universities, restaurants, etc.), and to individuals through its website, www.millstone.com

What does this mean for shareholders and NWCRI? We will continue to work with P&G until the day when it commits to paying farmers a fair price for all its coffee.

Action for coffee drinkers:

- Go to www.millstone.com and order Millstone Mountain Moonlight Fair Trade. While at the website take advantage of the opportunity to thank P&G for taking this first step on what you hope will be a journey that will end with 100% of its coffee being Fair Trade Certified™.
- Ask grocery stores that carry Millstone to sell the Millstone Mountain Moonlight.

JUSTICE CIRCLES

What?

- * Women sharing their story and acting on behalf of low income women in an eight week process
- * Acting together to affect systems that address poverty
- * A learning circle
- * A two hour justice commitment for eight weeks
- * An act of solidarity

Why?

- * It is an opportunity to take a first step or make a short term commitment to justice
- * A Justice Circle brings faith, spirituality and life practice into harmony
- * Every woman in a Circle makes a difference
- * Women's Circles model a way to peace and justice

Where?

- * Bellevue
- * Olympia
- * Portland
- * Renton
- * Seattle (Two locations)
- * Spokane (Three locations)
- * Vancouver

To join or schedule a winter Justice Circle in your community call IPJC at 206-223-1138

peace & justice center

Young Adult Conference

November 15, 2003

Network with your peers and find ways to move towards a more balanced life. Learn how to weave justice, spirituality and community into the fabric of everyday life. The group will “go within to go without”, discovering the resolve and resources to achieve a greater balance.



The conference will be held at St. James in Seattle and will begin at 10:00am.

For more information on speakers, workshops, and registration call IPJC at 206-223-1138 or online at www.ipjc.org/yac2003

Advent Reflection with Michael Crosby



**Seattle, December 6th
9:00-12:30pm
St. Patrick**

**Spokane, December 7th
1:30-5:00pm
St. Aloysius**

Please join us as Michael Crosby OFMCap. facilitates a contemporary look at the traditional “Lord’s Prayer.” based on his new book: *The Prayer That Jesus Taught Us*.

Call IPJC at 206-223-1138 for details.

Plan Ahead

November 16, 2003—A rally and march to close the School of the Americas. Noon at Portland Ave Park in Tacoma, WA

January 31, 2004—Legislative Advocacy in Spokane, WA

February 10, 2004—Catholic Advocacy Day, Olympia, WA

Lenten Reflection Booklets will be available to order starting January 1, 2004. Call now to place your order!

Jesus’ Third Way: Nonviolence

June & Walter Wink
Oct. 23 - 7:00 UW
Oct. 23-25 - Seattle
Oct. 27-28 - Tacoma

Information:
206-632-5218
www.contemplatenonviolence.org

Welcome:

New IPJC members

- Benedictine Sisters of Cottonwood, Idaho
- Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon
- Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union, Montana

New NWCRI member

- Providence Services, health system

Human Trafficking Around the World

SOME BASIC FACTS

International trafficking in human persons is a lucrative, but demeaning and illicit industry fuelled by a rapidly globalizing world of easy travel, fast telecommunications and the internet.

- The U.S. Government estimates that 800,000 to 900,000 persons, mainly women and children are trafficked across international borders each year.¹ Other sources, including the International Labor Organization in Geneva, estimates the total number of persons trafficked worldwide to be as high as four million.²
- In the last 30 years, trafficking in women and children in Asia for sexual exploitation has victimized over 30 million people.³
- Well over \$7 billion a year is generated from sex trade and trafficking.⁴
- The U.S. Government recently estimated that 18,000 to 20,000 people are trafficked annually into the U.S.⁵ Previous estimates have been as high as 50,000.⁶
- Since passage of the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) in 2000, the U.S. Government has identified and assisted only 450 victims of trafficking.⁷
- By May, 2002, the Catholic Church had been responsible for bringing nearly 200 of all the identified victims of trafficking to the attention of the authorities.⁸



Enslaved fishing boys draw nets under the supervision of a "slave master" on Lake Volta.

¹ U.S. Dept. of State. *Assessment of U.S. Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons*, Aug. 2003, p.1. www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2003

² Jim Nicholson. U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See, "21st Century Slavery Must End," *The Denver Post*, June 23, 2003.

³ Marwaan Macan-Markar. "Fighting Sexual Exploitation Goes Beyond Paper Pledges: Report on the Second World Conference Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, 2001," LATEST NEWS FROM YOKOHAMA. www.ipsnews.net/alert/jap1612.html

⁴ "Women as Chattel", GENDER MATTERS QUARTERLY, No.1, Feb. 1999; a publication of USAID's Office of Women in Development as cited in EXPERT MEETING on "Trafficking in Women and Girls", 18-22 Nov., Glen Cove, NY.

⁵ U.S. Dept. of State. *Assessment*, p.1.

⁶ Nicholson.

⁷ U.S. Dept. of State. *Assessment*, p.7.

⁸ Mark Franken, executive director, Migration and Refugee Services, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. May 15-16, 2002 Conference in Rome on 21st Century Slavery.

A Matter of Spirit is a publication of the Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center

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