

FOR SALE

BROTHEL  
STRAIGHT  
AHEAD!

# Prayer Guide



Photo by Judy Silverstein for Concerned Women for America

...for the Victims  
of Sex Trafficking

# Defining the Problem

**What is Trafficking in Persons (TIP):** The definition of trafficking in persons can be divided into three parts: criminal acts, the means used to commit those acts, and goals for which the acts are committed. At least one element from each of these three groups is required before the definition applies.

The U.N. defines TIP as: *"The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs."*

**What is Sex Trafficking:** Sex trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act.

**What is Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE):** Sexual exploitation entirely, or at least primarily, for financial or other economic interests. The economic interests involved may be monetary or non-monetary (i.e., food, shelter, drugs) but in every case, involve the maximum benefits to the exploiter and an abrogation of basic rights, dignity, autonomy, physical and mental well-being of the persons involved. (R. Estes and N. Weiner, 2001) Distinct yet inter-related elements make up a continuum of abuse in CSE. These include stripping, live-sex shows, pornography, prostitution, and trafficking for these purposes.

## IMPORTANT POINTS:

- Sex is an integral dimension of the human being, of the self. When it is treated as a thing to be taken, the human being is rendered into a thing, an objectification that not only violates human rights but also destroys human dignity. (K. Barry, p 33)
- The existence of prostitution is the only reason sex trafficking exists. (J. Friedlin quoting D. Hughes)
- [Sexual] trafficking is simply the global form of prostitution. (M. Farley, p xvii)
- Prostitution is sexual exploitation sustained over time. (K. Barry, p 29)
- Sexual trauma is unique from other forms of trauma. It is a violation of the most intimate and personal aspect of the self. One's own body becomes the setting in which the atrocities are perpetrated . . . . When an individual has been beaten into submission, has become passive and accepting of what is done to her because she is a captive, then any sexual encounter she has is rape. Even if she has worked hard to attract the customer, because she has no right to refuse consent, she is being raped. (W. Freed, p 138)

Barry, K. (1995). *The prostitution of sexuality*. New York: University Press.

Farley, M. (Ed.), (2003). *Prostitution, trafficking and traumatic stress*. The Haworth Maltreatment & Trauma Press

Freed, W. (2003). "From duty to despair: brothel prostitution in Cambodia." IN M. Farley (Ed.), *Prostitution, trafficking and traumatic stress* (p141). Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Maltreatment and Trauma Press.

Friedlin, J. (2004, April 14). "Debate Roars Over Anti-Trafficking Funds." *Women's eNews* (quoting Dr. Donna M. Hughes). <http://www.womenenews.com/article.cfm/dyn/aid/1792>.

# Scope of the Problem

## A General Overview

### **Globally:**

Today, 27 million people are enslaved in various forms of sexual and labor exploitation, more than at the height of the transatlantic slave trade. (K. Bales)



*Amsterdam*

UNICEF reports that across the world, there are over one million children entering the sex trade every year and that approximately 30 million children have lost their childhood through sexual exploitation over the past 30 years.

The U.S. Department of State estimates that about 600,000 to 800,000 people — mostly women and children — are trafficked across national borders annually. *[Note: This estimate does not include those trafficked within national borders.]*

Eleven countries score very high as countries of origin for trafficking victims. The countries are Belarus, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine (Commonwealth of Independent States), Albania, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Romania, China, Thailand, and Nigeria. (UNODC, 2006)

### **India:**

More than 2.3 million girls and women were believed to be in the sex industry, and experts believed that more than 200,000 persons were trafficked into, within, or through the country annually. There were approximately three million trafficking victims in the country, and two thousand

rescues a year. Women's rights organizations and NGOs estimated that more than 12,000 and perhaps as many as 50,000 women and children were trafficked into the country annually from neighboring states for commercial sexual exploitation. (U.S. State Department)

### **USA:**

From fiscal year 2001 through fiscal year 2005, the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and United States Attorneys' Offices filed 91 trafficking cases, a 405% increase over the number of trafficking cases filed from fiscal years 1996 through 2000. In these cases, Department attorneys charged 248 trafficking defendants, a 210% increase over the previous five fiscal years. In addition, 140 defendants of trafficking related crimes were convicted, a 109% increase over the previous five years. (U.S. Department of Justice)

Despite an estimated prevalence of 100,000 to 150,000 slaves in the U.S. (K. Bales), fewer than 1,000 victims have been assisted through the efforts of federal, state, and local law enforcement since 2001, when services for trafficking victims were first made available. (U.S. Department of Justice)



*Advocates in Washington, DC, speak out about the demand for sexually trafficked women at the 2006 World Cup games held in Germany.*

# Demand

Belgium, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Thailand, Turkey and the United States are countries ranked “very high” as destination countries of trafficked persons. (UNODC, 2006)

Prostitution in the Philippines is a de facto legal industry that is now the fourth largest source of gross national product (GNP) for the country. 300,000 sex tourists from Japan alone are believed to visit the Philippines every year. (A. Trinidad, 2005)

The sex industry in the Netherlands is estimated to make almost \$1 billion each year. (UNECE, 2004) It is a major Western European destination country for trafficked women with 2000 brothels and numerous escort services, using an estimated 30,000 women. (D. Hughes, 2002) Conservatively, 68-80% of women in its sex industry are from other countries, a factor highly indicative of sex trafficking.



*A Salvation Army program in Bangladesh helps women develop the work skills necessary to prevent them from being trafficked, or to help restore the lives of those already trafficked.*



*(Photo by Judy Silverstein for Concerned Women for America)*

# Impact

Foremost among the health risks of prostitution is premature death. In a recent US study of almost 2000 prostitutes followed over a 30-year period, by far the most common causes of death were homicide, suicide, drug- and alcohol-related problems, HIV infection and accidents – in that order. The homicide rate among active female prostitutes was 17 times higher than that of the age-matched general population. (*Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 2004)

89% of 785 people in prostitution from nine countries wanted to escape prostitution. 75% of those in prostitution have been homeless at some point in their lives. 68% of 827 people in several different types of prostitution in 9 countries met criteria for post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The severity of PTSD symptoms of participants in this study were in the same range as treatment-seeking combat veterans, battered women seeking shelter, rape survivors, and refugees from state-organized torture. (M. Farley. *Prostitution, Trafficking and Stress*, 2003)

# Preparing Our Hearts & Minds

## Remembering the Victims

"But this is a people robbed and plundered;  
All of them are snared in holes,  
And they are hidden in prison houses;  
They are prey, and no one deliver;  
For plunder, and no one says 'Restore!'"

~ Isaiah 42:22 ~

"Do not degrade your daughter  
by making her a prostitute,  
or the land will turn to prostitution  
and be filled with wickedness."

~ Leviticus 19:29 ~



*A mural in West Africa warns community residents about trafficking in persons.*

(Source: F.A.I.T.H. Consortium)

"They cast lots for my people and  
traded boys for prostitutes;  
they sold girls for wine  
that they might drink."

~ Joel 3:3 ~

## Considering the Traffickers and Exploiters

Why, O LORD, do you stand far off?  
Why do you hide yourself in times of  
trouble?

In his arrogance the wicked man hunts  
down the weak,  
who are caught in the schemes he devises.

He boasts of the cravings of his heart;  
he blesses the greedy and reviles the LORD.

In his pride the wicked does not seek Him;  
in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

His ways are always prosperous;  
he is haughty and your laws are far from him;  
he sneers at all his enemies.

He says to himself, "Nothing will shake me;  
I'll always be happy and never have trouble."

His mouth is full of curses and lies and threats;  
trouble and evil are under his tongue.

He lies in wait near the villages;  
from ambush he murders the innocent,  
watching in secret for his victims.

He lies in wait like a lion in cover;  
he lies in wait to catch the helpless;  
he catches the helpless and  
drags them off in his net.

His victims are crushed, they collapse;  
they fall under his strength.

*continued >>>*



*This sign on a strip club in Ecuador announces a show with girls from Colombia.*

He says to himself, "God has forgotten; he covers his face and never sees."

Arise, LORD! Lift up your hand, O God. Do not forget the helpless.

Why does the wicked man revile God? Why does he say to himself, "He won't call me to account"?

But you, O God, do see trouble and grief; you consider it to take it in hand. The victim commits himself to you; you are the helper of the fatherless.

Break the arm of the wicked and evil man; call him to account for his wickedness that would not be found out.

The Lord is King for ever and ever; the nations will perish from his land.

You hear, O LORD, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry, defending the fatherless and the oppressed, in order that man, who is of the earth, may terrify no more.

~ Psalm 10 ~

## God's Purposes

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion — to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

~ Isaiah 61:1-3 ~

## Life and Liberty through Christ

"So if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

~ John 8:36 ~

"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

~ John 10:10 ~

## The True Fast

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?"

~ Isaiah 58:6 ~

# Prayer Requests

## **Rescue and Restoration**

*Pray for the rescue and restoration of the countless number of people who have become victims of sexual trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, including the following:*

- for an end to their exploitation and sexual abuse;
- for as many safe and secure shelters as are needed to provide for their physical needs;
- for loving care takers to provide comfort, solace, and a sense of family;
- for training and education to provide these persons with meaningful and productive livelihoods;
- for medical treatment to meet their many health concerns;
- for the Gospel message to reach their ears and be received in their hearts.

## **Breakdown of the Sex Industry**

*Pray for the breakdown of the sex industry which fuels sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of persons:*

- the demise of the pornography industry;
- a ban on internet pornography and sex tourism internet sites;
- for the closure of strip clubs;
- strong law enforcement efforts the world over to enforce obscenity laws, fight corruption, and to arrest/convict the pimps, traffickers and "customers";
- permanent closure of brothels.

## **Reduction of Demand**

*Pray for efforts to reduce the demand for commercial sex, including the following:*

- the defeat of attempts to legalize prostitution in countries around the world;
- the overturn of laws that legalized prostitution in the Netherlands, Germany, New Zealand and certain districts of Australia;
- for a repeal of legalized prostitution in Nevada;
- for the development in programs known as "johns' schools" for men convicted of soliciting for sex (aimed at educating men about the harms of prostitution);
- for the success and development of additional ministries such as "Faithful and True" and "Avenue" which help people plagued with sexual addictions;
- for counter-cultural movements opposing the normalization of pimping and prostitution;

*continued >>*



**Poverty leaves women and children vulnerable to traffickers\***

*\*Children pictured in this booklet are not sexually abused. They represent a segment of the population at risk.*

- for God to convict the hearts of traffickers, pimps and the “customers” and to transform their lives, as in the example of John Newton who turned from his life as a slave trader after coming to the faith.

### **Development**

*Pray for the development of impoverished nations so that the peoples in such countries may know a decent standard of living, have meaningful education and employment opportunities, and thus escape the desperate circumstances that make people vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking.*

### **World Leaders**

*Pray for world leaders, that they will confront sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation by dedicating their time and energy and national resources to eradicating it.*

### **The Church**

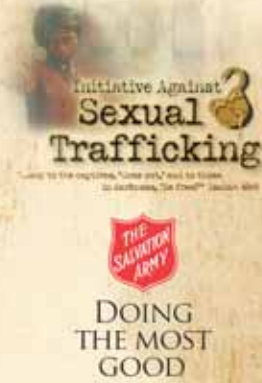
*Pray for the church and its response to sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, including the following:*

- for more missionaries to carry out evangelism;
- for more Christian aid workers to establish and administer recovery homes for survivors of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, as well as programs to rescue victims;
- for an increase in resources – human and financial – to be dedicated to meeting the needs of survivors;
- for the church, its members and leaders, to remain sexually pure – that they not become the perpetrators or consumers of abuse in any form;

- for increased networking and cooperation among Christian groups working on this issue;
- for the strength, fortitude, and vision of Christians working to address this issue.

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***The General and the World President of Women’s Ministries call the worldwide Salvation Army to a weekend of prayer for the victims of sex trade trafficking.***



***For more information about sexual trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation contact:***

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