



# Trafficking Watch

International Rescue Committee

Issue No. 4, Spring 2004

## US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION CRIMINAL SECTION

One of the oldest of the Civil Rights Division's units, the Criminal Section has the primary enforcement responsibility for prosecuting trafficking-related statutes, including involuntary servitude, peonage, forced labor, and sex trafficking. The Criminal Section works closely with the FBI, DHS, and 94 U.S. Attorneys Offices across the country to ensure that allegations of trafficking and slavery are investigated and prosecuted. In 2003, the Department of Justice achieved a record high in its anti-trafficking efforts: 82 investigations with 32 defendants charged and 26 convictions. Since 2001, the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division has initiated prosecutions of 111 traffickers - nearly a three-fold increase compared to the previous three years (see charts on pages 4 & 5).

Since enactment of the Trafficking Victims Protect Act (TVPA) of 2000, the Civil Rights Division's Criminal Section has worked closely with victim/witness coordinators from FBI, DHS, U.S. Attorneys' Offices, and the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys to assist trafficked victims in securing health care, housing, and additional protections. Moreover, the Civil Rights Division has conducted extensive outreach to: educate trafficked

persons about their rights; build trust with community-based and nongovernmental organizations; and provide education and training to law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and victim/witness coordinators. In January 2004, the Civil Rights Division kicked off the publication of a monthly Anti-Trafficking News Bulletin designed to report news and information on the Justice Department's efforts to eliminate human trafficking (available online: <http://www.usdoj.gov/trafficking.htm>).

Jane Kim, managing editor of Trafficking Watch, recently conducted an interview with R. Alexander Acosta, Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division at the U.S. Department of Justice, who discussed the significant strides made by his Division not only in investigating and prosecuting trafficking cases, but also in assisting victims through a pioneering victim-centered approach that mandates restorative justice for those who fall prey to the evil hands of traffickers.

**Kim:** *Can you describe the "victim-centered multidisciplinary approach" to trafficking that is currently being carried out by the DOJ Civil Rights Division?*

**Acosta:** There are really three parts to a successful anti-trafficking effort. First, we must identify victims. Second, we must rescue those victims and move them into restorative care. And third, we must hold perpetrators accountable. Our strategy is to bring each effort into a partnership built on coordination, communi-

cation, and leadership. This forms a multi-disciplinary team that relies on the joint contributions of: (i) state and local law enforcement investigators, who operate as "first responders" and are in an ideal position to identify potential trafficking victims during their work assignments; (ii) faith-based and other non-governmental organizations, including health care workers, who may come into contact with victims; (iii) victim service coordinators, who play a simply invaluable role in the restorative care victims; (iv) federal investigators who can reveal evidence of trafficking offenses; and, (iv) prosecutors, who of course are ultimately responsible for holding the perpetrators of these crimes accountable so that the cycle of exploitation ends. Prosecutors know that holding perpetrators accountable does not remove the scars and pain of abuse. Similarly, restorative caregivers know that victim services do not stop perpetrators from exploiting others. Both prosecutors and service providers know that they need the help of the whole community to identify victims who rarely come for-

## CONTENTS

Feature Article	1
In The News	6
News Briefs	7
Resources	10
Legislation & Caselaw	15
Fast Facts	18
Policy & Procedures	18
In the Spotlight	18
Calendar of Events	20

ward on their own. This is why our partnership with the awareness campaign that Health and Human Services has initiated is so important.

Being "victim centered" begins with the recognition that the victim's well-being comes first. This means not allowing the criminal justice system to re-victimize individuals. We also realize that the government process for victim assistance can be complex and daunting. We understand how critical it is to approach trafficking victims with an understanding of the horrific conditions they endured, and to ask questions in a sensitive manner so as to gain victims' confidence and build their trust. Indeed, we have learned that multiple interviews are often necessary to elicit information from a victim because an individual's initial reluctance to come forward with details of his or her trafficking experience. As we go through the process, we also remain cognizant at all times that federal prosecutors and law enforcement agents are expected to understand not only the requirements for investigating and prosecuting these cases, but also keep in mind the principle that cases should not be won at the cost of victim's well-being.

**Kim:** *Can you summarize the plans underway to launch federal multidisciplinary task forces in 3 target cities - Atlanta, Philadelphia and Phoenix - including how these cities were selected, the timeline for implementation, and the mission and composition of these task forces?*

**Acosta:** The launch is underway. We selected these cities because they present diverse challenges and are locations of known trafficking victimization. The task forces were formally announced during the week of April 19, 2004 -- National Crime Victims' Rights Week. They are the first phase of a national effort to put sustainable multidisciplinary teams into place whose mission is to identify victims, rescue them from their abusive situations, increase prosecutions of individual traffickers, and target nationwide criminal trafficking

conspiracies. A critical component of these working groups is our partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), state and local law enforcement agencies, and various NGOs. This collaboration will dramatically increase awareness among people who might encounter a victim during their other work. There is also a 24/7 hotline for people to call. Those calls will be coordinated with both service providers and law enforcement. Protocols are worked out for emergencies, for victim placement, and joint investigations. Although it is obviously very early in the process, I am very encouraged about the leadership role provided by the United States Attorney in each city, and the spirit of cooperation among all the governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The basic, underlying objectives in every city are identical: protect victims, prosecute traffickers, and prevent these devastating crimes from recurring to the maximum extent possible. From an organized crime perspective, where there is one victim, there are likely to be many more victims. Thus, we want to take down entire criminal networks that will multiply our rescue of victims. In addition, participants will exchange intelligence and establish a communications infrastructure for relaying that information to a central law enforcement point of contact. Such information will empower investigators to conduct pro-active investigations and empower services providers to provide emotional and material support to victims. Our hope is that these task forces will not only bring safety and restore dignity to the lives of exploited individuals, but also put the perpetrators of the crimes - who are nothing short of peddlers in human misery -- behind bars.

**Kim:** *What types of outreach and education activities is the Civil Rights Division carrying out to both educate and boost the capacity of federal, state, and local criminal justice agents around the country to respond to trafficking?*

**Acosta:** For the last two years, the Civil Rights Division organized the largest conferences in history for federal investigators and prosecutors on trafficking in persons at the Justice Department's National Advocacy Center in Columbia, South Carolina. Each 3-day conference brought together approximately 150 federal prosecutors from around the country, as well as criminal investigators from the FBI, DHS, and the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service. Participants learned how to distinguish between smuggling and trafficking cases, and several lecturers outlined various investigative and prosecutorial strategies utilized in actual trafficking cases. The Conference also focused on the respective roles and challenges faced by law enforcement and non-governmental organizations in handling human trafficking cases. The Civil Rights Division has also conducted numerous on-site, one-day trainings for agents with DHS's Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and local police in jurisdictions across the country. We are now developing a national plan for training state and local police officers.

I might add that our outreach is not limited to the U.S. We also want to assist in the effort to stop trafficking in countries of origin. Our lawyers are frequently called upon to conduct training or to participate in consultations in countries within the developing world. I recently traveled to India where I spent time being personally escorted through areas where multiple sex trafficking victims are being exploited. I also met with high ranking Indian officials and offered the resources of the Civil Rights Division to assist in their anti trafficking efforts. Our prosecutors have conducted training of police and prosecutors on every continent. The approach is the same as in the United States: set up multidisciplinary teams with all the critical components involved.

**Kim:** *As the Civil Rights Division learns more about the crime of trafficking through ongoing investigations and suc-*

*successful prosecution of cases, can you share some of the lessons learned and how they have helped to refine or redefine the way that law enforcement combats trafficking?*

**Acosta:** We have learned that these cases are very complex and difficult because of the way the traffickers lower the risk of their evil conduct. For the exploitation to be profitable, traffickers must lower the risk of their decision to enslave people in abusive labor situations. They do this through fear, beatings, rape and threats. Victims are told that the very people who can help them are their enemy. They are often made to lie to law enforcement. They suffer post-traumatic stress. Also, since victims often do not speak or read English, prosecutors must conduct interviews through an interpreter. Victims are often transported in a way that prevents them from providing certain information. These factors have required our investigators and prosecutors to develop new skills and to think creatively about how to present a case to a jury. We have learned to conduct interviews in a neutral non-hostile setting. Often a simple thing like an agent not wearing a firearm during an interview can be helpful. Our agents and prosecutors develop trust with victims and do not violate their confidences.

Another important improvement is the expansion of our asset forfeiture efforts to take the profitability out of the crime of trafficking. This has required us to learn about how the economics of trafficking works, how to follow the cash, and the type of deceptions traffickers use to hide their crimes. These efforts have paid dividends. Indeed, I am pleased to report that there have been convictions in every case we have brought.

**Kim:** *What are some of the major challenges faced by criminal justice agents in victim identification and protection? What can community-based organizations (CBOs) and nongovernmental*

*organizations (NGOs) do to assist in these efforts?*

**Acosta:** One significant challenge is the strategy of the trafficker to hide trafficking victims within smuggled populations or immigrant populations. Persons who violated our immigration laws often evade detection by hiding in the same underground economy where trafficking victims are being exploited. So the challenge is for investigators to accurately and efficiently identify trafficking victims. We do this with specialized training that emphasizes lots of real world examples and relies on the experience of seasoned and respected agents. The investigative professionals are very adaptable and creative and are developing new skills at identification of victims.

Professionals who know how to assess risk manage our protection efforts. We have not yet had the problem in the U.S. that has occurred overseas, specifically the trafficker coming into a shelter or other facility and kidnapping what they view as their "property" and removing the victim. This challenge is addressed by our victim witness coordinators who engage in a consultation with the agents and prosecutor and services providers about the specific security needs of a particular victim.

Traffickers often use fear to intimidate people who could come forward. Many new immigrants are not aware of U.S. laws or the rights of victims under our system of criminal justice. Community based organizations can help reverse these obstacles, first, by educating their own field staff, then by reaching out to volunteers and talking with those they serve. If a parish priest learns that someone has not been paid or was beaten on the job, and he knows about trafficking, he can assist in getting an intervention started. He might be the only person the victim knows or can trust with the information. Community based organizations can also volunteer

to participate in the HHS awareness campaign.

**Kim:** *Can you briefly describe the Civil Rights Division framework for prioritizing trafficking cases, recognizing specific trafficking offenses, and practical tips for distinguishing trafficking from smuggling and other immigration violations?*

**Acosta:** All trafficking is a priority for us. We have done domestic service cases with one victim and we have done cases with 250 victims in a garment sweatshop. Our case-intake process is to open all credible referrals and investigate aggressively. My management team regularly reviews all cases to make sure they are proceeding diligently and whether additional resources need to be assigned.

Smuggling is basically a crime against the sovereignty and integrity of our borders. Trafficking is a crime against a person. When a person pays to be smuggled and then arrives in the U.S. the relationship ends. When a person is trafficked, the exploitation begins after they arrive. Sometimes a person can sign up to be smuggled and then can be converted into a trafficking victim by the criminal organization that trafficked them. These cases present difficult facts for our investigators and lawyers. The best practical tip for addressing this challenge is to become familiar with both trafficking and smuggling laws. Our agents often develop a mental list of common traits of a trafficking victim: confiscated papers, inability to leave the job or workplace, indebtedness, threats or other coercion. Also, training together and good communication is critical. I am pleased that we are close to finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding between the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, and Health and Human Services that promotes collaboration and teamwork.

**Kim:** *In what ways has the Civil Rights Division Criminal Section drawn upon*

current models and expertise in combating drug trafficking and smuggling to root out human trafficking enterprises?

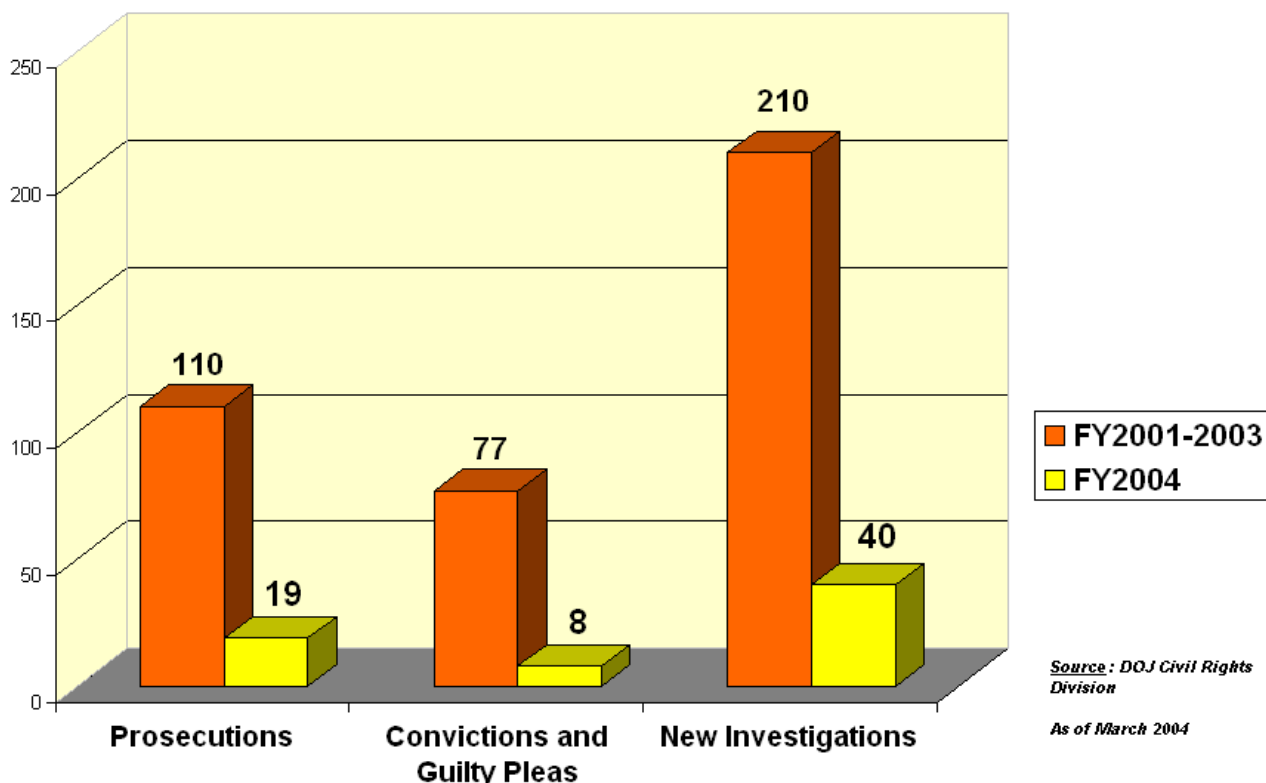
**Acosta:** There are lessons to be learned from several of the various specializations of criminal justice. Domestic abuse and child sexual abuse are areas where we have historically learned about the crime from a traumatized victim who is reluctant to come forward. Protocols were developed for how to interview and empower these traumatized victims. Persons who have expertise in assisting these victims have informed our victim-centered approach. Drug interdiction enforcement relies upon a proactive approach to be successful. DEA agents gather intelligence and try to understand an entire criminal enterprise. This is also our approach in the investigation of trafficking networks. We cannot wait for victims to come to us. When big money

and greed is a factor in a crime, we have learned to seize the assets and take the profitability out of the crime. From those who investigate smuggling, we learn about the clandestine routes utilized by traffickers and about document fraud activities. Often the same criminal networks involved in smuggling are involved in trafficking. For smugglers, a smuggled person and a trafficked person simply represent two different methods of payment: one in advance and one from slave labor. My anti-trafficking approach is to use all of the crime fighting tools in the toolbox.

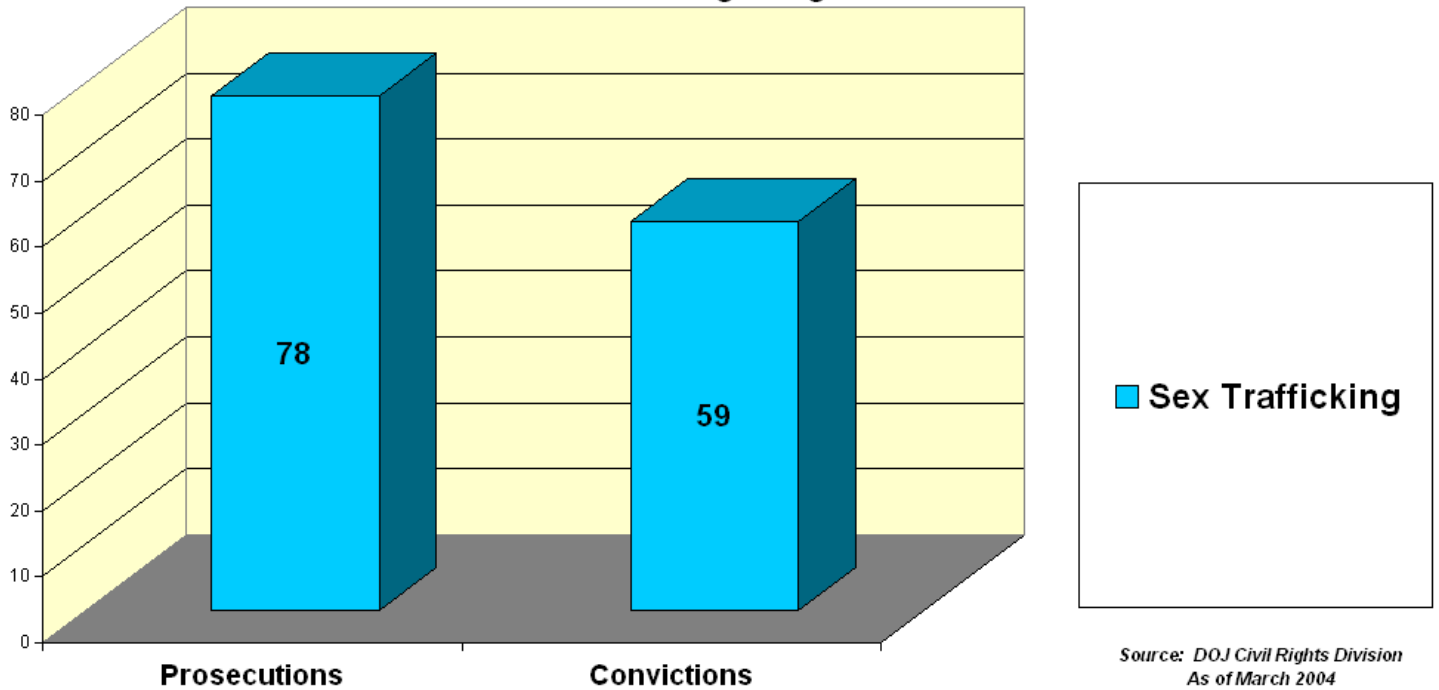
**Kim:** *How will the Trafficking in Persons and Worker Exploitation Task Force (TPWETF) Complaint Line be coordinated with the newly established Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline administered by the Department of Health and Human Services?*

**Acosta:** The new Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline is a partnership between HHS and DOJ. We at DOJ worked closely with HHS to design the decision tree and the protocols of the new hotline. Already they have sent us valuable information. HHS has an awareness campaign that will make the new number available for victims, NGOs, good Samaritans, and local law enforcement to call. The new number is easy to remember "888-3737-888." Since many people have the DOJ number on their rolodex or web site the TPWETF number will continue to be a live number for some time. From a practical point of view, we do not want to miss any victims during the roll out phase of the new HHS number.

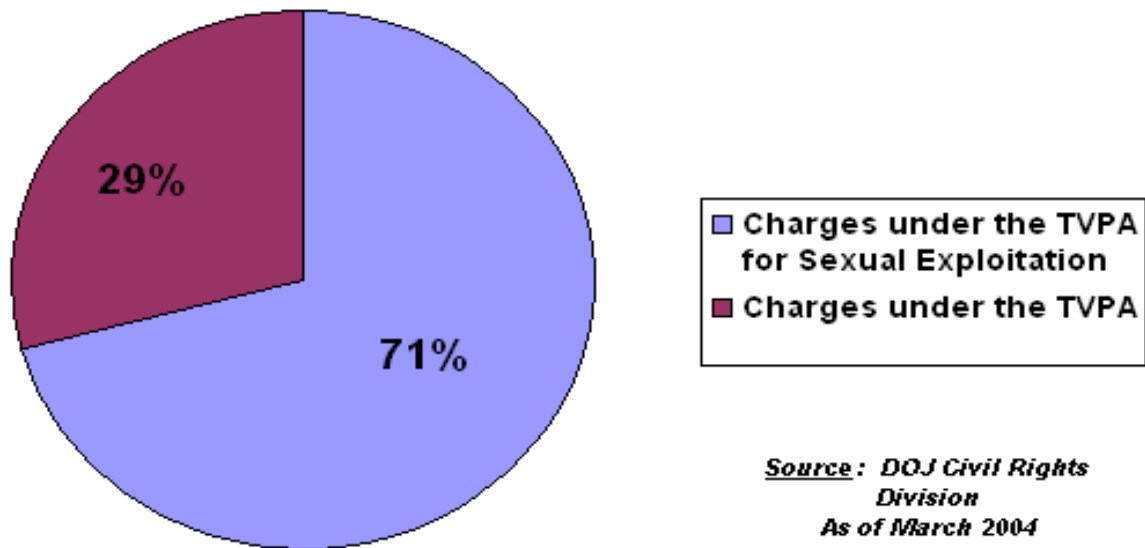
### Trafficking Investigations & Prosecutions



**FY2001 - FY2003: Prosecutions & Convictions Involving Sex Trafficking Charges**



**Total TVPA Cases Prosecuted by the US Department of Justice and US Attorneys Offices  
Total Cases: 24 (66 traffickers)**



## IN THE NEWS

### NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE FEATURE: THE GIRLS NEXT DOOR

*New York Times* Columnist Peter Landesman, January 25, 2004.

Peter Landesman's feature story in the Sunday New York Times magazine entitled *The Girls Next Door* highlighted the prevalence, nature and complexity of sex trafficking in the United States. Landesman conducted numerous interviews with former sex slaves, madams, government and law enforcement officials, and "anti-sex-trade activists," uncovering a dark and candid insider look at how victims as young as toddlers are solicited, captured, and transported across international borders. In a section of the article entitled, "Breaking the Girls In," Landesman reveals in painful detail the rates for each sexual activity victims of trafficking are forced to engage in, in addition to the escalating prices at which victims are sold to traffickers during their numerous transit stages prior to reaching the United States.

With regard to government and law enforcement response to trafficking, Landesman asserts, "No Department of Justice attorney or police vice squad officer I spoke with in Los Angeles ... considers sex trafficking in the U.S. a serious problem, or a priority." Landesman concludes the article speculating about the viable identification mechanisms and rehabilitation services available to victims of sex trafficking in light of the fear and abuse they suffer, and the lack of awareness or seriousness about trafficking by law enforcement.

To view the full article, visit:  
<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F40E1FFB3F5DOC768EDDA80894DC404482>

### Public Responses

Three days after the release of Landesman's article, New York Times editor Gerald Marzorati defended the piece in response to the surge of discussion that arose concerning the article's sources and accuracy. Marzorati pointed out the number of interviews Landesman conducted, the extent to which magazine fact checkers confirmed the information used in the article, and disclosed the name of one individual who provided some of the contested information. Additionally, Marzorati professes that several factual errors were made in the article, including a claim made by one of the victims about a movie she saw with her trafficker that in fact had not yet been released. Daniel Okrent, New York Times public editor, wrote a column specifically addressing readers' concerns about Landesman's "alarmist, unconvincing, undersourced" assertions of widespread sex slavery in the U.S. Okrent concludes, "Based on my examination of Landesman's materials, on conversations with law-enforcement authorities and on the internal evidence itself, his choices were fairly arrived at. But they weren't justified terribly well."

Responses to Landesman's article ranged from concerned readers who applauded the piece and wanted more information to know how they might help join a campaign to end sex trafficking, to advocates who felt that Landesman neglected both government and non-government initiatives to address human trafficking in the United States, committing a great disservice to their efforts.

Among the more active participants in the dialogue was an editor from Slate.com, Jack Shafer. Shafer denounced Landesman's claims as "hysterical inflation," citing his lack of "verifiable facts about the incidence and prevalence of this heinous practice." Shafer states, "As I've written before, I'm prepared to believe that tens of thousands of women and children in America endure sex slavery.... But "The Girls Next Door" fails miserably to establish

that widespread and abundant sex slavery exists [in the United States.]" Critics like Shafer expressed concern over Landesman's purported lack of factual evidence, shedding light on the recurrent debate over statistics and figures quantifying the number of trafficking victims.

Shafer, Marzorati and other responses to Landesman's piece can be found at [www.slate.com/Landesman](http://www.slate.com/Landesman)

For a list of letters to the editor regarding Landesman's article published by the New York Times, visit:

[http://query.nytimes.com/search/query?s=s&srchst=&vendor=&query=Peter+Landesman+the+Girls+Next+Door&date\\_selected=past90days](http://query.nytimes.com/search/query?s=s&srchst=&vendor=&query=Peter+Landesman+the+Girls+Next+Door&date_selected=past90days)

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### NEW YORK TIMES OP-ED: FREEING THE SEX SLAVES IN CAMBODIA

*New York Times* Columnist Nicholas D. Kristof, January 17 - 31, 2004.

New York Times columnist Nicholas D. Kristof completed a five column op-ed series documenting his purchase of two Cambodian female teen victims of sexual slavery in which he recounts his impersonation of a brothel client, interviews with the two teenagers, negotiations with the brothel owners over the purchase of their freedom, and the challenges faced by the girls when they returned home. Kristof, upon leaving the girls, provided each of them with enough funding to start their own business, a major factor helping to ensure that these women and girls do not return to the prostitution when faced with the difficulties of re-integration into society. For one of the young women, freedom from sex slavery was a long-term reality, Kristof reports. For the other, it took only several days before she fled back to her old brothel when problems arose with her family.

Kristof commended the Bush Administration, the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking and conservative evangelical Christians for applying pressure and threatening to sanction foreign governments that do not take significant steps to combat human trafficking in their country. Kristof also highlighted the work of NGO American Assistance for Cambodia, which provides assistance to teenage prostitutes in their efforts to start new lives. Meanwhile, Kristof criticized "most Democrats, liberals and feminists groups," for being "complacent on trafficking." He singled out "mainstream women's groups" for their failure to place the issue of trafficking "near the top of any feminist agenda."

Order a copy of the five-part series at: [www.nytimes.com/2004/01/28/opinion/28kristof-cambodia.htm](http://www.nytimes.com/2004/01/28/opinion/28kristof-cambodia.htm).

### Public Responses

The Nation published a response to Kristof's column series by Katha Pollitt, in which she expressed deep offense to Kristof's claim that American feminists are ignoring the injustices suffered by women and girls in developing countries, particularly sexual slavery and trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. Pollitt pointed out Kristof's failure to mention Cambodian initiatives that promote public awareness on the issue of sexual slavery. "I wish he had given us the voices of some Cambodian activists - for starters, the Cambodian Women's Crisis Center and the Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights," said Pollitt.

To view the full text of Pollitt's article, visit: [www.thenation.com/doc.mhtml?i=20040301&s=pollitt](http://www.thenation.com/doc.mhtml?i=20040301&s=pollitt)

Charles Jacobs, President of the American Anti-Slavery Group, in an unpublished letter to the editor concerning Kristof's article, also critiques statements made about complacency among Ameri-

can progressive groups from the perspective that such complacency exists out of a broader interpretation within the human rights community of injustice as centered around Western aggression and abuse. He cites a historic complacency regarding the suffering of the victims of non-Western aggression, including those enslaved by non-Westerners.

Eleanor Smeal, President of the Feminist Majority, responded to Kristof's piece in a published letter to the editor, in which she highlights the significant role played by feminist organizations in putting the sex trafficking issue on the United States policy agenda in the first place. Additionally, she points out that the Bush administration inherited rather than initiated the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, which was signed into law by President Clinton on October 28, 2000.

For letters to the editor, responses written by Kristof, and an online video presentation accompanying the op-ed series, visit: [www.nytimes.com/top/opinion/editorialsandoped/oped/columnists/nicholasdkristof/index.html](http://www.nytimes.com/top/opinion/editorialsandoped/oped/columnists/nicholasdkristof/index.html)

## NEWS BRIEFS

### ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE (OSCE) APPOINTS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

*Washington, DC  
April 2004*

Congressional representative Christopher Smith was recently appointed as the "Special Representative on Human Trafficking" to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE PA). OSCE PA's primary function entails making policy recommendations to promote democracy and human rights in Europe. OSCE PA President Bruce George nominated Smith to his new post and expressed con-

fidence in his ability to contribute to the Assembly's existing anti-trafficking agenda, stating to Smith, "I hope that you will advise the Assembly both in the implementation of its already agreed policies on combating trafficking as well as in the development of new policies. In our work we need to take a broad approach...."

Smith has a long track record of fighting trafficking both internationally and domestically, including sponsorship of the U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. Regarding his new appointment, Smith stated, "I look forward to encouraging reform where victims of this heinous crime are abducted, transported or bought and sold into slavery." Smith will release his first report in July when the OSCE PA meets in Scotland for its annual session.

### JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE PASSES SEX TOURISM BILL

*Honolulu, HI  
April 2004*

The Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee passed a bill (HB 2020) that streamlines and strengthens measures to prosecute sex tour operators by incorporating sex tourism under the state's existing anti-prostitution legislation. If passed, the law would make organizing travel for the purpose of prostitution a felony, and would serve as grounds for revoking a perpetrator's license as a travel agent. Pending passage in the Senate and final approval by the House, this bill represents a significant step towards combating the sex tourism industry.

### FIRST CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING ON COMMERCIALLY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED YOUTH

*Washington, D.C.  
March 2004*

On March 1, 2004, the First Congressional Briefing on Commercially Sexu-

ally Exploited Youth took place in Washington, D.C. Sponsored by the Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS), the Polaris Project, the US Campaign Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC), and the Fund for Nonviolence, this briefing marked the first of its kind in providing an opportunity for activists and congressional representatives to come together. Central on the agenda were testimonies from five young female survivors of commercial sexual exploitation. Their stories served as a platform for further discussion about the effectiveness of current legislation designed to protect youth from exploitation.

#### **TWO MEN ARRAIGNED IN NEW YORK FOR HEADING SEX TOURISM COMPANY**

*Poughkeepsie, NY  
March 2004*

Two men, Douglas Allen and Norman Barabash, were arraigned in Dutchess County Court of New York on charges of promoting prostitution in conjunction with their company "Big Apple Tours," a sex tourism agency that organizes trips to Thailand, Cambodia and the Philippines. New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer sued the company in State Supreme Court last year, which resulted in the shutting down of the Big Apple Tours website. Charges included allegations that the tour company propagated the sexual exploitation of minors, a crime punishable under the PROTECT Act that makes it illegal for US citizens to sexually exploit minors abroad. Paul Larrabee, Attorney General Spitzer's spokesman, stated, "This was not a traditional travel agency. It was far from that, and it was our allegation that there was systematic exploitation of young women, and that's simply unacceptable." Mr. Allen and Mr. Barabash could face up to seven years in prison if convicted.

#### **UNITED STATES AND NORWAY URGE NATO TO TACKLE SEX TRAFFICKING**

*Brussels, Belgium  
March 2004*

The United States and Norway recently urged NATO to increase measures to combat human trafficking, particularly where military personnel are known to frequent overseas brothels. U.S. envoy Nicholas Burns and Kai Eide of Norway stressed the need for NATO to develop a uniform anti-trafficking policy in order to strengthen coordination among NATO's 46 member countries to fight trafficking. Burns and Eide made the following recommendations:

- Educate military personnel overseas about trafficking
- Set up efforts to pursue evidence of human trafficking in clubs and other places frequented by NATO military personnel, placing them off-limits, and helping host countries to investigate human trafficking
- Incorporate provisions in overseas civilian service contracts that prohibit participation in activities supporting or promoting human trafficking and that impose penalties on contractors who fail to monitor their employees' conduct.

#### **FORDHAM UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL HOSTS CONFERENCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

*New York, NY  
March 2004*

On 1-2 March 2004, Fordham Law School hosted a conference entitled, "Domestic Violence, Trafficking, and Prostitution: Common Themes, Common Challenges." Speakers and panelists analyzed human trafficking and prostitution case studies in order to explore the circumstantial factors that place women at risk of violence and exploitation. The conference also addressed topics relating to the domestic

fight against trafficking such as victim identification, service provision, and initiatives to increase the number of prosecutions. Global issues such as exploitation within the mail order bride industry and the prevalence of sex trafficking in US military-occupied zones were also covered. Conference co-sponsors include the Fordham University School of Law, the Lawyers Committee Against Domestic Violence, the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, and the First Department of the Appellate Division.

#### **CALIFORNIA WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY IN INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE CASE**

*Washington, D.C.  
March 2004*

In a March 25 press release, the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) Civil Rights Division announced that Mariska Trisanti, an Indonesian woman living in Los Angeles, pled guilty in U.S. district court to charges of holding a woman from Indonesia in involuntary servitude for several years. In 1997, Trisanti arranged for the trafficking victim's transport from Indonesia, confiscated her passport, and for the next 3 years, forced her to work approximately 17 hours a day without compensation. While Trisanti initially made small payments to the victim's family in Indonesia, she ceased issuing payments after the first year. Trisanti used threats as well as physical abuse to prevent her from attempting to escape.

Trisanti will face sentencing on July 12, 2004 and can receive up to 20 years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000, in addition to restitution to the victim. In response to this case, Assistant Attorney General Acosta stated, "Holding another human being in involuntary servitude is morally reprehensible," noting that, "The Justice Department is committed to aggressively investigating and prosecuting those who would perpetrate this ancient evil."

## **FLORIDA COUPLE INDICTED IN DOMESTIC SERVITUDE CASE**

*Miami, FL  
March 2004*

A grand jury indicted a Florida couple on March 23, 2004, charging them with illegally harboring a Haitian girl, forcing her to perform domestic labor and subjecting her to sexual abuse. Willie and Marie Pompee allegedly kept the child in their home from 1996-1999. Police removed the 12 year-old child after she reported to her teacher that she was being sexually abused. If convicted, defendants could each face up to 10 years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000, in addition to restitution to the victim. When the child was removed, Willie Pompee and his oldest son left the country. Marie Pompee appeared in court on March 22, 2004. Marcos Daniel Jimenez, United States Attorney General for the Southern District of Florida, lauded investigators in the case, a cooperative effort between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

## **FLORIDA MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON IN INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE CASE**

*Washington, D.C.  
March 2004*

On March 2, 2004, Ramiro Ramos was sentenced on charges related to human trafficking, for which he was convicted in June 2002. Ramos' sentence includes 15 years in prison, \$20,000 in fines, forfeiture of property worth over \$3 million, as well as deportation. Ramiro Ramos and his brother, also convicted but not yet sentenced, supplied undocumented Mexican agricultural workers to citrus growers in Florida. After assisting with the workers' transport, the Ramos brothers forced workers to pay off debt related to their transit fees. The defendants used threats and physical violence to prevent workers from escaping.

U.S. Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Alexander Acosta said, "No one should be held in forced labor. We are extremely pleased that the court imposed a sentence commensurate with the vile nature of this crime." Juan Ramos, the other defendant in the case, is scheduled for sentencing on May 3rd.

## **HHS RESCUE AND RESTORE CAMPAIGN TO LAUNCH IN THREE PILOT CITIES**

*Washington, DC  
March 2004*

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has identified three pilot cities in which to launch the Rescue and Restore Campaign. In spring 2004, the campaign will kick off in Philadelphia, Phoenix, and Atlanta and focus on building and enhancing anti-trafficking networks. The Rescue and Restore Campaign has two primary goals: 1) To increase rates of victim identification; and 2) To improve avenues for service provision available to identified trafficked victims. The first phase of the campaign will involve public education targeting those most likely to come into contact with trafficked persons. A central component of the campaign involves the creation of the Trafficking Information and Referral Hotline (1-888-3737-888), which seeks to connect victims and intermediaries with resources and pertinent information in order to promote the protection of trafficked persons and strengthen the prosecution of traffickers. Following the successful launch of its pilot initiatives, the Rescue and Restore Campaign will expand its efforts to additional communities throughout the United States. The Rescue and Restore Campaign has also created a website, which includes toolkits, fact sheets, and current developments related to human trafficking in the United States.

More information on the Rescue and Restore Campaign is available at: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/rescue\\_restore/index.html](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/rescue_restore/index.html)

## **COVENANT HOUSE SELECTED TO OPERATE NATIONAL HOTLINE FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS**

*Washington, D.C.  
February 2004*

The United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the creation of a national information and referral hotline for trafficking victims - 1.888.3737.888 -- administered by Covenant House, an organization serving at-risk youth throughout Central America, Mexico, Canada, as well as the United States. Originally established 16 years ago to serve homeless and runaway youth, Covenant House's existing hotline, NINELINE, has since expanded its focus in order to become an extensive youth counseling resource, helping to forge an international network for child assistance.

Upon receiving calls from potential victims or persons calling on a victim's behalf, hotline operators are charged with:

- Explaining how to recognize if an individual has been subjected to trafficking.
- Describing the programs available to assist victims and provide practical advice on how to access available benefits.
- Contributing to the safety and rescue of trafficked victims by providing real-time referrals to local organizations that are equipped to provide emergency, case management, and other services to victims of trafficking within their community.

## **MEXICAN OFFICIALS ARREST MEMBERS OF SEX TRAFFICKING RING**

*New York, NY  
February 2004*

Mexican officials arrested six people affiliated with a sex trafficking ring reportedly operating throughout Mexico

and the United States. In January, four other members of the same gang were arrested in Queens, New York, making the recent arrests a significant step in the case's ongoing investigation. The gang reportedly coerces, kidnaps, and rape women and girls ranging in age from 12 to 25 years and forces them into the sex industry in the central Mexican cities of Puebla and Tenancingo. Several victims were forced to walk through the desert into the United States, where they were forced into prostitution. Any attempts made by victims to escape their trafficking situation were countered by murder threats.

#### **IMMIGRANT SURVIVOR OF SEXUAL SLAVERY REQUESTS VISA AFTER BEING JAILED FOR 22 YEARS**

*Los Angeles, CA  
February 2004*

After being granted parole in December 2003 by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Maria Suarez, a trafficking victim who was imprisoned for 22 years, requested a visa in order to avoid deportation to Mexico where she fears her life will be in danger. Suarez, 43, was originally sentenced to jail in 1981 for attacking the man who bought her as a sex slave when she was 16. Suarez allegedly hid the table leg that a neighbor used to fatally beat Anselmo Covarrubias, her captor. If forced to return to Mexico, Suarez fears that those connected to Covarrubias will harm her.

Governor Schwarzenegger denied Suarez's request for a full pardon, stating that her parole was conditional on the grounds that she return to Mexico. A hearing to determine whether Suarez will be allowed to remain in the United States is scheduled to take place on April 23, 2004.

## **RESOURCES**

### **RECENT MEDIA PRODUCTIONS**

#### **FILM EVENT: THE SELLING OF INNOCENTS**

*Sponsor: American University, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center  
February 18, 2004*

The Emmy-Award winning documentary, *The Selling of Innocents*, chronicles the trafficking of women and children from Nepal to Mumbai, taking viewers into the homes of young girls who end up in brothels after being sold by their parents. Director Ruchira Gupta also helped establish Apne App: Women Worldwide an Initiative to End Sex Trafficking. The film was screened at the Wechsler Theater at American University in Washington, DC.

For more information or to order a copy in English, Hindi, Nepali, or Bengali for \$100 plus postage contact:

Ruchira Gupta

E-mail: [ruchiragupta@hotmail.com](mailto:ruchiragupta@hotmail.com)

Website: <http://www.apneaap.org>

#### **RADIOBROADCAST INTERVIEW: HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN NEW YORK CITY**

*The Brian Lehrer Show on National Public Radio  
February 4, 2004*

Suzanne Tomatore, Director, Immigrant Women & Children Project, Association of the Bar of the City of New York Fund, Inc. was interviewed on the Brian Lehrer show to talk about human trafficking in New York City.

To hear the full interview, visit the WNYC 93.9FM website at

<http://www.wnyc.org/shows/bl/episodes/02042004>

### **EXPOSE: CAMBODIA SEX INDUSTRY, CHILDREN FOR SALE**

*Dateline NBC  
January 30, 2004*

Chris Hansen, Dateline NBC correspondent, reports on the illegal sex industry in Cambodia and follows the investigative work carried out by the International Justice Mission, a faith based organization working to combat trafficking. This expose infiltrates brothels in Phnom Penh and Svay Pak and contains interviews with an American engaged in sexual tourism and a recently released 14 year-old girl who describes her situation as a sex slave, as well as a videotaped rescue of some 37 children from a "sex party."

Read the full transcript and view video clips at: [www.msnbc.msn.com/Default.aspx?id=4038249&p1=0](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/Default.aspx?id=4038249&p1=0)

### **RECENT PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS & NEWSLETTERS**

#### **WHO ETHICAL AND SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERVIEWING TRAFFICKED WOMEN**

*Health Policy Unit, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; World Health Organization; and Daphne Programme of the European Commission, 2003*

In conjunction with the World Health Organization, the Health Policy Unit of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine has released a guide detailing recommendations for interviewing trafficked women. The guide describes some of the complexities in working with trafficked victims and identifies 10 Guiding Principles aimed at interacting with victims in a safe and ethical manner. The guide elaborates on each principle by providing sample questions, scenarios, and key issues to keep in mind.

The guide is available at:  
[www.lshtm.ac.uk/hpu/docs/WHO.pdf](http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/hpu/docs/WHO.pdf)

**COMPARATIVE REPORT ON THE APPLICATION OF ASYLUM STANDARDS TO PROTECT WOMEN TRAFFICKED FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION: AN ANALYSIS OF THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE, CANADA, LUXEMBOURG AND THE UNITED KINGDOM**

*Dechert LLP: Amy K. Auton, Pascal Bouvy, Jane Bowers, Kathie D. Claret, Logan H. Hennessey, Brian M. McCall, Emmanuelle Trombe; Klasko, Rulon*

*Stock & Seltzer LLP: Suzanne B. Seltzer February, 2004*

This report examines the development of laws pertaining to victims of trafficking derived from laws that protect and define refugees. It focuses on the development of human trafficking laws within the United States, France, Canada, Luxembourg, and the United Kingdom that address issues of persecution and the concept of "on account of" membership in a particular social group.

Read the full report at [www.antislavery.org/homepage/traffic%20news/](http://www.antislavery.org/homepage/traffic%20news/)

**FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY RELEASES REPORT ON STATEWIDE ANTI-TRAFFICKING INITIATIVES**

*Tallahassee, FL February 2004*

The Center for the Advancement of Human Rights (CAHR) at Florida State University has released a new report on human trafficking entitled: Florida Responds to Human Trafficking. This report highlights statewide efforts to combat human trafficking through prevention, protection, and prosecution initiatives, and concludes with recommendations and next steps. One chapter is specifically dedicated to the special issues faced by trafficked chil-

dren, including hypothetical scenarios based on actual trafficking cases.

The full report is available at:  
[www.cahr.fsu.edu/traffickingreport.html](http://www.cahr.fsu.edu/traffickingreport.html)

**COLOMBIA'S WAR ON CHILDREN WATCHLIST ON CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT**

*February 2004*

Primarily focused on violence perpetrated against youth in Colombia, this report touches on human trafficking and cites Colombia as one of the three largest source countries with 35,000 to 50,000 women and girls being trafficked abroad each year. This report provides recommendations on how to address abuses committed against children in Colombia, and lists NGOs that work locally to combat trafficking and other violence.

To read the full report, visit the Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict at:  
[www.watchlist.org](http://www.watchlist.org)

**FEDERAL ANTI-TRAFFICKING NEWS BULLETIN**

*United States Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, Volume 1, No.2 February, 2004*

This bulletin highlights current events and federal developments in the Department of Justice's efforts to combat trafficking in persons, and includes summaries of two trafficking cases and the sentencing of human traffickers Juan Carlos Soto and Kil Soo Lee.

This bulletin also spotlights a trafficking conference organized by the Civil Rights Division that brought together federal investigators and prosecutors from around the country -- including individuals from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service -- for training on investigating and prosecuting human trafficking cases.

To read the full bulletin visit the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division website at:

[www.usdoj.gov/crt/crt-home.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/crt-home.html)

**ESSAY: THE DIFFERENCE BORDERS MAKE: (IL)LEGALITY, MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING IN ITALY AMONG EASTERN EUROPEAN WOMEN IN PROSTITUTION**

*Rutvica Andrijasevic, Uprootings/Regroundings. Questions of Home and Migration, Oxford: Berg 2003*

Rutvica Andrijasevic, a PhD Student at the NOV (Netherlands Research School of Women's Studies) Grantee Open Society Institute, Global Supplementary Grant Program (2002/3), wrote a dissertation regarding sex trafficking in Eastern Europe from a migration and European Union enlargement policy perspective. This piece provides an analysis of official discourse throughout media, feminist and religious non-governmental organizations and other institutions in Italy.

To order a copy of the essay visit Rutvica Andrijasevic's website at:  
[www.let.uu.nl/~rutvica.andrijasevic/personal/](http://www.let.uu.nl/~rutvica.andrijasevic/personal/)

**NEW PUBLICATION ON PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT TO GROUPS OF VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

*International Organization for Migration, Psychosocial Notebook, Psychosocial Support to Groups of Victims of Human Trafficking in Transit Situations, Vol.4 February, 2004*

This journal focuses on the trauma experienced by victims of trafficking during transit stages and various methods for rehabilitation. Articles include: 'In Between'; Working with Survivors of Trafficking in Transit Situations; General Consideration on the Psychological Aspects of the Trafficking Phenomenon: A Systematic and Family-Oriented

Approach; Day Workshop at the Shelter for Survivors of Human Trafficking.

Order a copy of the journal for \$25.00 at [www.iom.int/iomwebsite/Publication/ServletSearchPublication?event=detail&id=3052](http://www.iom.int/iomwebsite/Publication/ServletSearchPublication?event=detail&id=3052)

## **COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES**

*US Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor February 2004*

This report is submitted by Congress to the Department of State entailing by law, "the status of internationally recognized human rights, within the meaning of subsection (A) in countries that receive assistance under this part, and (B) in all other foreign countries which are members of the United Nations and which are not otherwise the subject of a human rights report under this Act." The report is broken into six sections, Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Eurasia, Near East and North Africa, South Asia, and Western Hemisphere.

Read the full report at: [www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2003/](http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2003/)

## **MIDWEST NETWORK AGAINST TRAFFICKING & SLAVERY NEWSLETTER**

*Heartland Alliance Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center, Winter 2004, Issue 1*

The Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights' Victims of Trafficking Program (VTAP) and the Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center (MIHRC) provides services to victims of trafficking. This issue summarizes key provisions of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2003, includes trafficking statistics released by the Department of Health and Human Services, and provides summaries on recent conferences.

Additionally, it includes a referral directory of agencies within a 150-mile radius of Chicago. See In the Spotlight for more information about VTAP and MIHRC.

For more information on the Heartland Alliance, visit: [www.heartlandalliance.org/](http://www.heartlandalliance.org/)

## **IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY NEWSLETTER**

*American Bar Association Section of International Law and Practice Immigration and Nationality Committee, Winter 2004, Volume VII, Issue 1*

This edition highlights the U.S. Visitor and Immigration Status Indication Technology (US-VISIT) utilized at select air and seaports to establish a "check-in/check-out" mechanism intended to record the entry and exit of foreign visitors to the U.S. The technology scans each visitor's fingerprints and photographs against national security and law enforcement databases, and maintains each visitor's U.S. travel history.

The Immigration and Nationality Committee focuses on law and multilateral agreements affecting business and family related immigration into the United States, and on human rights issues affecting the entry of asylum-seekers and other populations.

Read the full newsletter at: [www.abanet.org/intlaw/divisions/public/immigration.html](http://www.abanet.org/intlaw/divisions/public/immigration.html)

## **ANTI-TRAFFICKING NETWORK RELEASES INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER UPDATE AND WEBSITE**

*Florida Freedom Partnership (FFP): Empowerment for Victims of Modern-Day Slavery, Volume 1, Issue 1, January 2004*

The Florida Freedom Partnership (FFP) Update provides information on FFP's anti-trafficking initiatives throughout South Florida. FFP aims to provide

rapid-response, comprehensive support services to victims of human trafficking as well as build capacity and awareness in local communities. FFP works directly with victims of trafficking through the provision of case management, shelter, medical care, legal services, and clinical intervention, assisting every trafficked person to achieve self-sufficiency.

For more information please visit the Florida Freedom Partnership website at: <http://floridafreedom.org>

## **ANTI-TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION LAUNCHES NEWSLETTER**

*Eaves Housing for Women, The POPPY Project, Issue 1 January 2004*

This newsletter focuses on national and international legislation pertaining to human trafficking and service provision initiatives worldwide. The POPPY project is a pan-London research and development project centered around prostitution and the trafficking of women and children into the UK; the project provides outreach and support services to female victims trafficked for sexual exploitation.

To read the full newsletter visit: [www.poppy.ik.com](http://www.poppy.ik.com)

## **COLLABORATIONS: THE KEY TO COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

*Joy M. Braun, Program Specialist, Florida Freedom Partnership, December 2003*

Joy Braun, Program Specialist of the Florida Freedom Partnership, has written an article on trafficking prevention in the United States. Using the 2000 Trafficking Victims Protection Act as a basis, Braun describes the role of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of Victims of Crime in providing services to trafficked victims, and identifies the T visa as an effective

means of legal protection for trafficked individuals. Braun also highlights some of the barriers faced by victims who are receiving services and protection available to them under the law, and emphasizes the importance of inter-agency collaboration as means of effectively targeting human trafficking.

The article is available at:  
[http://policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display\\_arch&article\\_id=173&issue\\_id=122003](http://policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display_arch&article_id=173&issue_id=122003)

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING: A GUIDE TO DETECTING, INVESTIGATING, AND PUNISHING MODERN-DAY SLAVERY**

*Bharathi A. Venkatraman, Federal Prosecutor and Special Counsel for Trafficking in Persons, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, December 2003*

This guide focuses on legal measures for combating human trafficking, with an emphasis on case detection, victim identification, and perpetrator prosecution. The guide describes both the challenges and importance of identifying trafficking cases, and provides practical tips on how to engage in detection and investigation. The guide also outlines key legal statutes relevant to human trafficking, elaborating on critical elements, provisions, and penalties associated with each law.

The guide is available at:  
[http://policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display\\_arch&article\\_id=174&issue\\_id=122003](http://policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display_arch&article_id=174&issue_id=122003)

### **HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO IDENTIFYING VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN THE U.S.**

*Donna M. Hughes, Professor & Carlson Endowed Chair, Women's Studies Program, University of Rhode Island, October 2003*

Donna Hughes has created a guide for identifying victims of trafficking in the United States, with special emphasis to victims of sex trafficking as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000. Hughes elaborates on the definition of sex trafficking and provides both examples and indicators regarding the TVPA's elements of "force, fraud, and coercion". The guide also identifies key locations where trafficked individuals are likely to be found, and provides information on how to report them once identified.

The report can be found at:  
[www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/hiding\\_in\\_plain\\_sight.pdf](http://www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/hiding_in_plain_sight.pdf)

### **RECENT PRESS RELEASES**

#### **US PLEDGES AID TO FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

*MSNBC News, The Associated Press  
February 2004*

John Miller, Director of the U.S. State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, pledged \$100 million to fight trafficking worldwide. The funds will be distributed to provide law enforcement trainings, education and victim assistance in qualifying countries around the world. Miller stated, "The U.S. government is increasing its commitments in the growing movement of governments, activists and law-abiding citizens worldwide to put an end to this modern-day form of slavery."

Read the full article at:  
[www.msnbc.msn.com/id/4284763](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/4284763)

### **ISSUE AND STRATEGY BRIEFING: "INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE BROKER REGULATION ACT OF 2003"**

*The Tahirih Justice Center  
February 2004*

This briefing called for national regulation of the often exploitative and unregulated international marriage broker industry. The International Marriage Broker Regulation Act of 2003 (S 1455/HR 2949) was introduced in July 2003 by Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) and Representative Rick Larsen (D-WA). The Act aims to empower foreign-born women considering marriage to American men by disclosing the marital and criminal histories of prospective husbands. The Act would also provide information to foreign-born women on their legal rights and available resources and services.

For more information about the strategy briefing, e-mail Jeanne L. Smoot, Esq. [jeanne@tahirih.org](mailto:jeanne@tahirih.org), or visit the Tahirih Justice Center at [www.tahirih.org](http://www.tahirih.org)

#### **IOM BELARUS COUNTER-TRAFFICKING CAMPAIGN WINS BEST PUBLIC RELATIONS PROJECT AWARD**

*International Organization for Migration  
February 2004*

IOM's Minsk, Belarus counter-trafficking information campaign won the Best PR Project of 2003 award from the Belarusian Public Relations Association and the Institute of Public Relations. The Belarus counter-trafficking campaign established a hotline and developed several types of awareness tools and materials including brochures, booklets, posters, counter media ads, advertisements for trolleys, and a website <http://www.stoptrafficking.by>. The program also included video and radio public service announcements, lectures, press briefings, and seminars for journalists, NGOs, and civil servants.

## **DIALOGUE ON GLOBAL TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

*The Society for International Development-Washington  
February 2004*

The Dialogue on the Global Trafficking of Women and Children, the third in a series of discussions on human trafficking, was hosted by the Society for International Development in Washington. This meeting focused on issues of human trafficking in the United States, with an emphasis on persons trafficked for domestic labor. Key speakers at the event included Ann Jordan, Director of the Initiative Against Trafficking of Persons, Global Rights (formerly the International Human Rights Law Group), and Joy Zarembka, Director of Break the Chain Campaign.

*For more information about the meeting, send an e-mail to [sid@aed.org](mailto:sid@aed.org), call 202-884-8590, or visit [www.libertadlatina.org/](http://www.libertadlatina.org/)*

## **US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MEMO MOVES TO HALT HUMAN TRAFFICKING NAVY TIMES**

*William H. McMichael  
February 2004*

US Deputy Defense Secretary stated in a memorandum dated January 30, 2004 that trafficking in persons "will not be facilitated in any way by the activities of our service members, civilian employees, indirect hires or DoD contract personnel," and that human trafficking "is a violation of human rights; it is cruel and demeaning; it is linked to organized crime; it undermines our peacekeeping efforts; and it is incompatible with military core values."

The memo was addressed to the Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs, combatant commanders, and Defense Department inspectors and legal specialists, and was formulated as a result of a national security directive signed by President Bush

on February 25, 2003 mandating a "zero tolerance" policy toward human trafficking.

The memo outlines specific plans to combat trafficking at all levels within the U.S. Defense Department including:

- Public education on trafficking to overseas personnel
- Augmented efforts to identify and pursue indicators of human trafficking, making establishments linked to human trafficking off-limits to Department of Defense personnel.
- Compulsory penalties to contractors that participate in human trafficking activities.
- Formulation of strategies measuring the performance of Department of Defense anti-trafficking initiatives.

*Read the full text of this article at: <http://armytimes.com>*

## **INFILTRATION OF COUNTER-TRAFFICKING STRUCTURES BY ORGANIZED CRIME**

*International Organization for Migration, Press Briefing Notes  
February 2004*

The European Parliament and IOM recently hosted a meeting in Brussels to discuss the findings of a 14-month research investigation examining the infiltration by organized crime groups into anti-trafficking administrations and institutions in the European Union (EU) and EU candidate and neighboring countries.

This research project surveyed numerous law enforcement and other agencies combating trafficking. Of the 100 participants surveyed, 25 claimed to have experienced infiltration directly; 37 had indirect experiences with infiltration and knew of specific cases; and 91 out of 100

participants stated that infiltration by organized criminal groups exists.

*Read the full article at: [www.belgium.iom.int/index.asp?Selected=2&News\\_ID=109&sm=132](http://www.belgium.iom.int/index.asp?Selected=2&News_ID=109&sm=132)*

## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: US DEPARTMENT OF STATE ANNUAL TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT**

*U.S. Department of State  
January 2004*

The US Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons solicited information from all organizations involved in anti-trafficking programs for inclusion in the U.S. Department of State Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report. Requests called for information regarding NGO victim assistance, as well as initiatives administered through academic institutions, news media, and by foreign government officials, including immigration and police officers.

*While the deadline for submissions has passed, for more information about the TIP report, email: [TIPREPORT@state.gov](mailto:TIPREPORT@state.gov)*

## **MANUALS, FACT SHEETS, AND OTHER RESOURCES**

### **UK CRIME REDUCTION TOOLKIT: HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

*UK Home Secretary Crime Reduction Website*

Designed for police, immigration officials, victims support and social service agencies, local authorities, and NGO, this toolkit aims to address sexual offences, prostitution, violence against women, child protection, and labor exploitation through strategies to combat

such crimes, fact sheets, and recommendations.

Access the toolkit at:

[www.crimeeducation.gov.uk/toolkits/tp00htm](http://www.crimeeducation.gov.uk/toolkits/tp00htm)

#### **WEBSITE: UNESCO TRAFFICKING PROJECT**

*UNESCO Bangkok*

The website provides information on initiatives to combat trafficking in and around Thailand and provides resources such as a statistics database and fact sheets. Entitled, The UNESCO Trafficking Statistics Project, the database was started in an effort to clarify "the bases on which estimates of the numbers of trafficked persons are derived, and to separate trafficking myths from trafficking realities." The online database can be browsed by Country of Origin, Country of Destination, Category of People, Type of Exploitation or Abuse, and Publication Source. UNESCO does not accept responsibility for the content of the information in the database, as the statistics originate from various sources. The site also offers an interactive map illustrating the growth in HIV/AIDS cases throughout Thailand.

Visit the website at:

[www.unescobkk.org/culture/trafficking/ev.asp?ev=83&id=83](http://www.unescobkk.org/culture/trafficking/ev.asp?ev=83&id=83)

#### **WEBSITE: INFORMATION ON TRAFFICKING PRACTICES IN AFRICA**

*Africans in America, Inc.*

The Africans in America, Inc. website spotlights information on trafficking cases involving African victims and traffickers throughout the continent. Africans in America, Inc. implements a Trafficking Victims Services Program that aims to free victims from captive situations and raise awareness about the plight of trafficked children and other

victims; provide economic support to families at risk; advocate for children's rights; and encourage economic empowerment of women through vocational training and development of trade skills.

For more information on Africans in America, Inc., visit their website site at: [www.aiainc.org](http://www.aiainc.org)

#### **SYMPOSIUM: TO SERVE AND PROTECT: SHOULD NEW YORK CITY POLICE PLAY A ROLE IN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT?**

*Committee on Immigration and Nationality Law, Civil Rights Committee, Association of the Bar of the City of New York New York Civil Liberties Union The New York Immigration Coalition*

*February 2004*

This symposium examined the potential impact of proposed federal legislation to integrate local law enforcement officials into day-to-day immigration law enforcement. This symposium also covered major thematic areas such as police-community relations, immigrant access to public services, racial and ethnic profiling, and police liability for wrongful arrests.

## **LEGISLATION & CASELAW**

#### **SUMMARY OF RECENT NOTABLE PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS**

*U.S. Department of Justice  
January - March 2004*

- Juan Carlos Soto was sentenced to 280 months imprisonment for trafficking women from Mexico and forcing them to engage in sexual activities. Juan Carlos was not alone in committing this crime; six other men, including his two brothers

Armando and Hector Soto, were also sentenced for their roles in the trafficking case. U.S. v. Soto.

- Kil Soo Lee, owner of the Daewoosa garment factory in the American Samoa trafficking case, was found guilty on 14 counts related to the trafficking of over 250 victims. His sentencing date is set for May 6, 2004 in a Hawaii U.S. District Court. Two other defendants in the case have already been sentenced to 51 and 70 months. U.S. v. Kil Soo Lee is the largest human-trafficking case ever prosecuted by the U.S. Department of Justice. U.S. v. Kil Soo Lee.
- Evodio Gonzalez-Garcia and Oscar Romero-Gonzalez pled guilty to smuggling young Mexican women with the intent to force them to engage in commercial sexual acts. In a related case, Domingo Gonzalez-Garcia pled guilty to sex trafficking. U.S. v. Gonzalez-Garcia.
- Barbara Coleman-Blackwell was sentenced to five years and three months for conspiring to smuggle a Ghanaian woman into the U.S. to work as an unpaid domestic servant. Her husband, Kenneth Blackwell, was sentenced to six months of home detention and three years probation. U.S. v. Coleman & Blackwell.
- Two New Hampshire residents were convicted of human trafficking for luring young Jamaican men to work in their tree service business. The young men's documents were confiscated, they were routinely threatened, denied medical treatment, paid minimal wages, housed in a tool shed, and attacked by dogs when they attempted to flee. U.S. v. Bradley.
- Juan, Jose and Raul Reyes Rojas were indicted in Atlanta and charged with conspiracy, sex trafficking, importing and harboring aliens for the purpose of prostitution, alien smuggling and interstate transportation of illegal aliens. U.S. v. Reyes Rojas.

- Maricela Martinez-Uresti and Violeta Juanita De-Hoyos-Hernandez pled guilty to conspiring to smuggle, transport and harbor aliens, importation of aliens for immoral purposes, sex trafficking of children, and transportation of minors for sexual activity. Maricela Martinez-Uresti was sentenced to 108 months imprisonment and Violeta Juanita De-Hoyos-Hernandez was sentenced to seven months (time served) and ordered deported. *U.S. v. Martinez-Uresti and DeHoyos.*
- Pedro Burgos was sentenced to 96 months imprisonment for his involvement in a New Jersey sex trafficking ring. The trafficking ring lured young Mexican women to the U.S. under false pretenses. Five other defendants were also convicted. Librada Jimenez-Calderon and Antonia Jimenez-Calderon, the ringleaders, pled guilty to conspiracy and sex trafficking charges and were sentenced to 17 years imprisonment. Angel Ruiz pled guilty to sex trafficking and was sentenced to 44 months imprisonment. Sergio Farfan pled guilty to conspiring to obstruct justice and was sentenced to 16 months imprisonment. Maritzana Diaz Lopez is still awaiting sentencing. *U.S. v. Jimenez-Calderon, U.S. v. Burgos.*
- Willie and Marie Pompee were indicted by a federal grand jury in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida for smuggling and harboring a young Haitian girl and using her as a household servant. The young girl was concealed from 1996 until 1999 in the Pompees' home, when at the age of 12 local police removed her. *U.S. v. Pompee.*
- Ramiro Ramos and his brother Juan Ramos were found guilty of conspiring to hold workers in involuntary servitude and of harboring undocumented workers. The Ramos brothers were Florida labor contractors who supplied migrant farm laborers to citrus growers. Once the migrant farmers were in Florida, they were forced

to work until they paid off their transportation debt and threatened with violence if they left prematurely. Ramiro Ramos was sentenced to 15 years in prison, fined \$20,000, ordered to forfeit property valued at over \$3 million, and ordered deported. Juan Ramos is scheduled to be sentenced on May 3, 2004. *U.S. v. Ramos.*

- Mariska Trisanti, an Indonesian national pled guilty to holding a young Indonesian woman in involuntary servitude. Trisanti arranged for the young woman to enter the U.S. on a tourist visa, purportedly to work as a nanny and housekeeper. Trisanti confiscated the young woman's documents upon her arrival in the U.S. and forced her to work without compensation. She physically abused and threatened the young woman with arrest if she sought help. Trisanti is scheduled to be sentenced on July 12, 2004 in a Los Angeles District Court. Trisanti could be sentenced for up to 20 years imprisonment, fined up to \$250,000, and ordered to pay restitution to the young woman. *U.S. v. Trisanti.*
- Michael Lewis Clark, the first American citizen to be prosecuted under the PROTECT act, pled guilty on March 17, 2004 to two federal charges of attempting to engage in illicit sexual conduct in Cambodia. Clark was arrested in June 2003 in Cambodia and indicted in September 2003 in Seattle, Washington. Clark flew from Washington to Cambodia and engaged in sexual contact with an estimated 50 boys ranging from 10 to 18 years old, paying them on average \$2 each for sex. Clark faces up to 30 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

*For more information regarding federal trafficking prosecutions see: [www.usdoj.gov/trafficking.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/trafficking.htm) and the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division's Anti-Trafficking News Bulletins.*

## **INDIAN WORKERS FILE CIVIL LAWSUIT SEEKING DAMAGES FOR BEING HELD IN VIRTUAL SLAVERY IN LOUISIANA**

*New Orleans, LA  
February 2004*

Approximately 220 workers from India have filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in New Orleans, Louisiana alleging they were victims of human trafficking and seeking damages of at least \$75,000 each. The complaint alleges that the three defendants interviewed skilled workers of Indian descent in India, Dubai and Singapore promising them jobs for 3 years in Louisiana that would pay roughly \$14 an hour. They were also promised green cards in order to establish permanent legal status in the U.S. To obtain these benefits, the workers were required to pay the defendants \$10,000 to \$20,000. The workers had to borrow this money at extremely high rates of interest, thus rendering them virtual slaves. Upon arriving in Louisiana, the workers were held against their will in out-of-the-way hotels, and were refused food and medical care. Additionally, the workers worked randomly or periodically at the defendants' whim, thus creating a state of dependence on the defendants. This situation left the workers stranded in Louisiana.

The defendants named in the suit along with their companies are: J.B. Singh, reportedly the Canadian owner of NTS Skillforce Resources, Terry Forrester of Idaho who runs Labour Consultants International, and Chad Chandler, president of Falcon Steel Structures in Mississippi.

## **WOMEN IMMIGRANT SAFE HARBOR (WISH) ACT**

Currently before the U.S. House of Representatives, the Women Immigrant Safe Harbor (WISH) Act will restore access to federal public benefits for immigrant victims of trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault. The WISH Act will eliminate current barriers that pre-

clude immigrant victims from accessing critical public benefits such as Medicaid, food stamps, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), state children's health insurance program, and supplemental security income. While some immigrants can obtain these benefits, many are denied access or are subject to a bar that forces them to wait 5 years before they can access federal public benefits.

Key provisions of the WISH Act include:

1. Ensuring that the 5-year bar does not apply to immigrant victims of trafficking, domestic violence or sexual assault;
2. Providing victims, including U visa holders and trafficking victims, with direct access to food stamps and SSI;
3. Providing battered immigrants, including U visa holders and trafficking victims, access to public benefits;
4. Exempting battered immigrants and U visa holders from DHS public charge determinations that could eventually affect their ability to obtain a green card; and
5. Making critical resources available to battered women.

*For more information or to find out what you can do to help pass this bill contact Amanda Baran or Leslye Orloff, NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, at (202) 326-0040.*

#### **CLEAR LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR CRIMINAL ALIEN REMOVAL (CLEAR) ACT**

*Washington, D.C.  
March 2004*

Domestic violence groups and numerous other social service agencies are concerned about the CLEAR Act (H.R. 2671) pending before the U.S. House of Representatives. According to domestic

violence groups, the CLEAR Act will undermine and effectively deter trafficked persons and immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual abuse, and other crimes in seeking assistance from state and local law enforcement. The Act gives state and local police the authority to enforce federal immigration laws. Not only does the Act give law enforcement this authority, but it also requires them to enforce federal civil immigration laws or face losing certain federal funding. While the Act has not yet been signed into law, it remains a priority for anti-trafficking and women's right advocates who are concerned about the harmful consequences this Act will have on vulnerable immigrant women and their children, as well as the chilling effect it would have on identifying and locating trafficked victims.

#### **BUSH URGES SENATE TO OK UN CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME**

*The White House  
February 2004*

President Bush recommended to members of the U.S. Senate that it ratify the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and two supplementary protocols on Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants. The convention and its protocols were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 13, 2000 and was signed by the United States in Palermo, Italy on December 13, 2000. President Bush noted that these documents represent the first international treaties to address the phenomenon of transnational organized crime, and cited the effectiveness of such provisions in the Administration's efforts to combat human trafficking. Bush said, "These provisions will serve to create a global criminal law standard for these offenses, several of which (e.g., trafficking in persons) currently are not criminal in many countries."

*To read the full press release, visit <http://usinfo.state.gov/topical/pol/usandun/04022301.htm>*

#### **UN PROTOCOL AGAINST THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS BY LAND, SEA, AND AIR ENTERED INTO FORCE ON JANUARY 28, 2004**

*Geneva, Switzerland  
January 2004*

The UN Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air, supplementary to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, represents a step toward greater protection of migrants' rights and the disempowerment of organized criminal groups that abuse migrants. The Protocol recognizes the need for a comprehensive international approach to combating smuggling and trafficking, including socio-economic measures that address the root causes of migration. In addition, the Protocol aims to criminalize the smuggling of migrants and those who are involved while also recognizing that illegal migration itself is not a crime and that migrants are often victims in need of protection.

As of 20 January 2004, the Protocol was signed by 112 Member States and ratified by 40 States. These are: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, France, Gambia, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Spain, Tajikistan, Tunisia, and Turkey.

For full text of the UN Protocol, visit: <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/instreet/smuggling.html>

## FAST FACTS

- Since October 2000, the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has issued a total of 502 certification/eligibility letters to victims of trafficking, including 31 minors; 138 are male and 364 female.
- In FY2004 (to date), ORR has issued a total of 54 certification/eligibility letters to victims of trafficking, including 2 minors; 15 are male and 39 female.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement, 23 April 2004

- Since March 2002, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has approved 371 T-visa applications, denied 286 T-visa applications, and granted 41 bona fide applications. Currently, 90 T-visa applications are pending adjudication.
- In FY2003, USCIS received and granted 22 continued presence requests; 88 cases remained active while 63 cases were closed.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 1 April 2004

## POLICY & PROCEDURES

### T. MARCH BELL APPOINTED AS THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'S NEW SENIOR SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR TRAFFICKING ISSUES

*Washington, D.C.  
January 2004*

Assistant Attorney General Alexander Acosta has appointed T. March Bell as Senior Special Counsel for Trafficking Issues to provide additional policy leadership on cases involving trafficking in persons. Prior to his appointment as Special Counsel, Mr. Bell served as Vice President of Interventions for the International Justice Mission (IJM). During his tenure with IJM, Mr. Bell designed and implemented law enforcement rescues of sex trafficking victims in various developing countries. Mr. Bell's prior experience also includes serving as a trial attorney in the Justice Department's Criminal Division and as General Counsel in the Office of Justice Programs.

### LEGAL COUNSEL DENIED ACCESS TO IMMIGRATION INTERVIEW FILES SUIT

*Seattle, WA  
March 2004*

An immigration attorney has filed a lawsuit in a U.S. District Court in Seattle asserting his client's right to an attorney and due process under the law in response to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's refusal to allow him access at an immigration interview that could lead to his client's imprisonment or deportation.

According to a spokesperson for Homeland Security's Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, "The right to counsel is not afforded during the inspection process, unless it involves a criminal investigation and (the suspect) has been taken into custody... But if the inspection process leads to deportation proceedings -- then the person has a right to an attorney." Immigration advocates are protesting that this policy is inconsistently applied and unfair. A number of immigration lawyers nationwide claim that they have also been denied access to these hearings and are following this case closely.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



### HEARTLAND ALLIANCE'S COUNTER-TRAFFICKING PROGRAMS: FIGHTING TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY IN THE MIDWEST

Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights is a service based human rights organization serving the Midwest, providing direct services and advocacy on behalf of people in crisis since 1888. In 1999, Heartland Alliance began to respond to human trafficking and modern-day slavery in its services and advocacy efforts.

Heartland Alliance's counter-trafficking programs include the Victims of Trafficking Assistance Program (VTAP) and the Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center (MIHRC), respectively

providing social and legal services. These programs work jointly to raise awareness of human trafficking at local, state, and national levels through outreach, training and technical assistance. MIHRC provides legal services to victims of trafficking (and other serious crimes) as well as low-income immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers. VTAP is exclusively dedicated to serving victims of human trafficking through an emergency hotline, case management, and social services. MIHRC's training and legal services encompass an eight-state region including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. VTAP provides outreach and direct social services to victims within a 150-mile radius of Chicago, and referral services for individuals within the remaining eight-state region.

VTAP and MIHRC are currently assisting victims of trafficking from nearly a dozen countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern and Southeastern Europe. As a member of the Freedom Network Institute on Human Trafficking, MIHRC has developed a practical training program for frontline advocates and service providers, as well as law enforcement. Last year, MIHRC trained over 1,650 federal, state, and local law enforcement officials, social and legal service providers, community advocates, and migrant worker staff in Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin on the topic of human trafficking and slavery. MIHRC has partnered with agencies such as the Detroit Metropolitan Police Department, the Farmworker Legal Services Program of the Legal Assistance Foundation, the U.S. Attorneys Office for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and various immigrant aid associations in Illinois to conduct larger training presentations.

MIHRC and VTAP routinely conduct roll call presentations on trafficking for the Chicago Police Department and training for Chicago area advocates and service providers. MIHRC and VTAP

receive ongoing requests for additional training, technical assistance, and referrals for possible victims of human trafficking. Participants at these trainings are encouraged to join the Midwest Network Against Trafficking and Slavery (MNATS). Network members include a wide range of entities committed to eradicating human trafficking and assisting individuals who have been trafficked in their communities.

*For more information about Heartland Alliance's counter-trafficking programs, please contact:*

Elissa Steglich  
**Midwest Immigrant & Human Rights Center**  
 208 S. LaSalle, Suite 1818  
 Chicago, IL 60604  
 (312) 660-1354  
 esteglich@heartlandalliance.org

Miriam Torrado, LCSW, Director  
**Victims of Trafficking Assistance Program**  
 (773) 728-5960 ext 249  
 mtorrado@heartlandalliance.org



In the early and late 1990's, two Filipina women from Seattle were murdered by spouses who sponsored their immigration to the U.S. These tragedies moved the Asian & Pacific Islander Women & Family Safety Center ("Safety Center") to develop culturally relevant services specifically for Asian and Pacific Islander immigrant women. Recognizing the unique vulnerabilities faced by immigrant women - including lack of knowledge about the culture, the language, and existing systems or services - the Safety Center is dedicated to supporting women for whom these vulnera-

bilities are exploited by perpetrators of violence, exploitation, and human trafficking or slavery. The Safety Center assists survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, domestic workers and nannies, and other women who have been victimized by forced labor and violence.

In response to increased referrals of trafficked persons rescued from sweatshops, sexual slavery, and domestic work, the Safety Center developed a coordinated community response model -- the Trafficking Response Team (TRT). The TRT began as a collaborative model including Safety Center staff, local and federal law enforcement, prosecutors, and other community-based social service providers. Recently, the Safety Center has been working with the Washington State Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and the Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPF) to develop and coordinate a statewide skills-building conference geared to facilitate the creation of additional TRTs in regions across Washington state.

In 2003, the Safety Center enhanced the Washington state region's capacity to serve victims of diverse languages and ethnic communities by partnering with Refugee Women's Alliance (ReWA) on a project to develop protocols and a guidebook on responding to human trafficking. Together, the Safety Center and ReWA have the capacity to serve victims from 19 Asian, Pacific Islander, African, and Eastern European countries. The Safety Center also conducts community education on human trafficking and has developed "natural helper" and "multilingual access advocacy" skills within Asian Pacific Islander communities in Alaska, Hawaii, and Oregon with the goal of preventing violence against women through the creation of community level outreach and safe responses and promotion of cross-cultural skills within vari-

ous communities and among community partners.

*For further information on the Safety Center or the Trafficking Response Team, please contact:*

Sylvia Uilani Matayoshi at 206.467.9976, or 206.683.7679, or Uilani@apialliance.org

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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### MAY 2004

#### PRESENTATION

##### Trafficking and Prostitution

*Sponsor: Brooklyn Domestic Violence Task Force*

##### Brooklyn, NY

*May 11*

*9:30 - 11:30 AM*

*Location: 350 Jay Street, 19th Fl  
Bob Kaye Training Room*

*Welcome: District Attorney Charles J Hynes*

*Presenter: Wanda Lucibello, Chief, Special Victims Division*

*RSVP by Fax: (718) 250-3306  
Please bring a picture ID*

#### OPEN FORUM

##### Screening of Documentary Film "Trading Women", with panel speakers David Feingold and Angelina Jolie

*Sponsor: U.S. Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons*

##### Washington, DC

*May 25*

*Location: U.S. State Department*

*For more information, contact the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at 202-312-9672*

*Online registration form:*

[www.state.gov/documents/organization/20180.pdf](http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/20180.pdf)

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#### MEETINGS

##### CLINIC Attorney's Meeting

*Sponsor: Catholic Community Services*

##### New York, NY

*May 12*

*1:00 - 4:00 PM*

*Location: Archdiocese of New York, 12th Floor*

*For more information, contact Mark von Sternberg at: 212-371-1011 x2260*



#### NYC Service Network for Trafficked Persons Quarterly Meeting

*Sponsor: Safe Horizon*

*New York, NY*

*May 24*

*2:00 - 5:00 PM*

*Location: Dechert*

*30 Rockefeller Plaza, Conference Room 23 A & B*

*RSVP to Angeli DeLeon at*

*212-577-7358 or [adeleon@safehorizon.org](mailto:adeleon@safehorizon.org)*

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#### TRAININGS

##### Southern Regional Training: Legal Rights of Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Trafficking

*Sponsor: National Network to End Violence Against Immigrant Women*

##### Miami Beach, FL

*May 16, 2004*

*Location: Deauville Beach Resort*

*6701 Collins Avenue*

*Miami Beach*

*Registration Deadline is May 12, 2004.*

*Late registration is possible on-site after May 12. Conference Registration form is available at: [www.nowldef.org/html/issues/imm/training.php](http://www.nowldef.org/html/issues/imm/training.php)*

*For additional information, contact:*

*Harriet Lewis, NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, 1522 K Street, N.W., Suite 550, Fax: (202) 589-0511, Email: [hlewis@nowldef.org](mailto:hlewis@nowldef.org); or conference coordinator Pat White at 512-407-9020 ext 113, or [Pwhite@ncdsv.org](mailto:Pwhite@ncdsv.org).*



### **Providing Services to Victims of Human Trafficking**

*Sponsor: Arizona League to End Regional Trafficking (ALERT)*

#### **Mesa, Arizona**

*May 17-18*

Location: Arizona Golf Resort

Registration materials available at:  
[www.kc-a.com/clients/irc/resettlement-brocure.pdf](http://www.kc-a.com/clients/irc/resettlement-brocure.pdf)

**Please fax registration form to: 480-893-7775.** For more information, contact the IRC Conference office at: **602-433-2440 x 221, 480-893-6110, or by email: [refugeeresettlement@kc-a.com](mailto:refugeeresettlement@kc-a.com).**



### **Working with Refugees and Survivors of Torture**

*Sponsor: Safe Horizon*

#### **New York, NY**

*May 18*

Location: Safe Horizon Conference Center, 194 Joralemon Street (Mezzanine level), Brooklyn Heights, Located near the corner of Court Street and Joralemon Street.

*For registration form or more information, call 1-347-328-8086 or visit: [www.safehorizon.org/page.php?page=trainingregister](http://www.safehorizon.org/page.php?page=trainingregister)*



### **Clinical Work with Survivors of Torture**

*Sponsor: Safe Horizon*

New York, NY

*May 19*

Location: Safe Horizon Conference Center, 194 Joralemon Street (Mezzanine level), Brooklyn Heights, Located near the corner of Court Street and Joralemon Street.

*For registration form or more information, call 1-347-328-8086 or visit: [www.safehorizon.org/page.php?page=trainingregister](http://www.safehorizon.org/page.php?page=trainingregister)*



### **Human Trafficking and Slavery: Tools for an Effective Response**

*Sponsor: Freedom Network Institute on Human Trafficking*

#### **San Diego, CA**

*May 24-25*

Location: San Diego Family Justice Center

*To register, contact: Jenny Stanger at 213-365-1906 x20 or via email: [jenny@castla.org](mailto:jenny@castla.org)*



### **2004 National Sexual Violence Prevention Conference: Building Leadership and Commitment to End Sexual Violence**

*Sponsor: California Coalition Against Sexual Assault*

#### **Los Angeles, CA**

*May 25-28*

Location: TBA

*For more information, contact the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault: 916-446-2520 or email: [dvpinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:dvpinfo@cdc.gov)*

## **JUNE 2004**

### **TRAININGS**

#### **Immigration Remedies for Victims of Domestic Violence, Crime, Human Trafficking and Workplace Abuses**

*Sponsor: CLINIC, Catholic Charities, Cabrini Center for Immigrant Assistance, Houston Catholic Charities, Immigration Counseling Services - Dallas*

#### **Houston, TX**

*June 3-4*

*8:30am - 5:00pm*

Location: AmeriSuites, Hobby Airport, 7922 Mosley Road

Registration Deadline: May 28th, 2004. Registration fee: *(Please note, this is a two-day seminar. No one-day registration fee arrangements.)*

\$200 per person for non-profit agencies  
\$600 cap for non-profit agency staff plus \$60 more per person after the first 3 (for manual and meals)

\$300 private attorneys

*Registration includes manual, continental breakfast and lunch both days.*

This two-day training will bring together social workers, crime victim advocates, attorneys, and immigrant legal service providers, all of whom confront immigrants who have been exploited or victimized in many different circumstances. Participants will learn about remedies under the law for immigrant victims of

crime, human trafficking, domestic violence and workplace exploitation.

For more information, contact Amy Gonzales at (214) 634-7182 Ext 227

## MEETING

### CLINIC Attorney's Meeting

Sponsor: Catholic Community Services

New York, NY  
June 16  
1:00-4:00pm

Location: Archdiocese of New York, 12th Floor

For more information, contact Mark von Sternberg at 212-371-1011 x2260



### NYC Service Network Policy and Advocacy Sub-committee Meeting

Sponsor: NYC Service Network for Trafficked Persons

New York, NY  
June 16  
9:30 - 11:30am

Location: Safe Horizon, 2 Lafayette Street

To RSVP or for more information contact Christa Stewart at [cstewart@safehorizon.org](mailto:cstewart@safehorizon.org) or Angeli DeLeon at [adeleon@safehorizon.org](mailto:adeleon@safehorizon.org)

## WORKSHOP

### Workshop on Human Trafficking

Sponsor: National Crime Prevention Council, Outreach to New Americans Program

Atlanta, GA  
June 25-26

Location: TBA

For more information, contact: Marouf Jwanmery at 202-261-4123 or email: [mjwanmery@ncpc.org](mailto:mjwanmery@ncpc.org)

## CONFERENCES

### 8th Annual Collaborating to STOP Violence Against Women Conference

Sponsor: Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault

Baton Rouge, LA  
March 3-5

Location: Marriott Hotel

For more information, contact Louisiana District Attorney Association at (225) 343- 0171 or [roxie@ldaa.org](mailto:roxie@ldaa.org).



### 2004 National Refugee Program Consultation

#### "Achievement and Challenge "

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement

Washington, DC  
June 23-25

Location: Marriott Wardman Park Hotel 2660 Woodley Road, NW

The consultation is open to all Refugee Program participants. Registration deadline: June 1, 2004.

For more information, please contact Esmee Arthurton at (301) 270-0841, ext. 257, or Faith Dates-Ogbonna at (301) 270-0841, ext. 207. Both Ms. Arthurton and Ms. Dates-Ogbonna can be reached via e-mail at:

[ORR2004Consultation@afyainc.com](mailto:ORR2004Consultation@afyainc.com)

## JULY 2004

## CONFERENCES

### 2004 SCORR/ARHC Conference Keeping the Beacon Bright: Building a Resilient Refugee Resettlement Program

Sponsors: The State Coordinators of Refugee Resettlement (SCORR) and the Association of Refugee Health Coordinators (ARHC)

Coral Gables (Miami), FL  
July 12-15

Location: The Biltmore Hotel

For more information, contact conference management at 1-850-656-0025. Online conference registration is available at: [www.MeetingMakersInc.com](http://www.MeetingMakersInc.com)

For hotel reservations, call: 1-800-727-1926 and ask for the SCORR/ARHC conference



## Annual Conference on Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation: Challenges of Evaluation Research

Sponsor: *The National Institute of Justice, US Department of Justice*

Washington, D.C.  
July 19-21

Location: JW Marriott Hotel

Online conference registration is available at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/>. Registration fee is \$175 until Jun 11th; \$200 thereafter. Fee is waived for Federal Government Employees. Hotel reservations are available by calling 202-393-2000 or 800-228-9290. Mention that you are with "DOJ Conference".

Online hotel reservations can be made at: [www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com).

For government per diem rate, use group code: LAWLAWA.

For more information, contact NIJ's Professional Conference Series contractor at: 703-684-5300 or by email: [nijpcs@ilj.org](mailto:nijpcs@ilj.org)

## MEETINGS

### NYC Service Network Quarterly Case Management Sub-committee Meeting

Sponsor: *NYC Service Network for Trafficked Persons*

New York, NY

July 14

10:00am - 12:00pm

Location: Catholic Charities -1011 First Ave at 55th Street (12th floor)

To RSVP or for more information contact Nadra Qadeer at Safe Horizon, [nqadeer@safehorizon.org](mailto:nqadeer@safehorizon.org)

## TRAININGS

### Identifying Victims of Human Trafficking & Slavery in the Juvenile Justice System

Sponsor: *Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles/Slavery Training and Outreach Project; Legal Aid Society of New York; Correctional Association of New York*

New York, NY

July

Date and Time TBA

For more information, contact Michel Favis at [mfavis@lafla.org](mailto:mfavis@lafla.org) or (213) 640-3937



### Identifying and Assisting Victims of Human Trafficking and Slavery: A Training for Legal Services Providers

Sponsor: *Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles/Slavery Training and Outreach Project; Legal Aid Society of New York; Legal Services for New York*

New York, NY

July

Date and Time TBA

For more information, contact Michel Favis at [mfavis@lafla.org](mailto:mfavis@lafla.org) or (213) 640-3937

TRAFFICKING WATCH is a quarterly newsletter that reports primarily on news and developments relevant to human trafficking in the United States and also includes a compilation of resources drawn from diverse sectors and fields at the local, national, and international levels to promote the exchange of information, strategies, and good practices in order to effectively combat trafficking.

Managing Editor  
Jane S. Kim

Editor  
Mollie Ring

Contributors  
Candice Sirmon  
Debbie Landis  
Jimmy Wong

Design  
Kristy Gladfelter

Send comments, suggestions or announcements to: [listserv@ftp.theirc.org](mailto:listserv@ftp.theirc.org). To subscribe to Trafficking Watch, send an email to: [listserv@ftp.theirc.org](mailto:listserv@ftp.theirc.org).

In the body of the message type:  
Subscribe traffickingwatch-list  
Firstname Lastname

Trafficking Watch can be downloaded from the IRC website ([www.theirc.org](http://www.theirc.org))

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The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is the leading nonsectarian, voluntary organization providing relief, protection and resettlement services for refugees and victims of oppression or violent conflict. The IRC is committed to freedom, human dignity and self-reliance. This commitment is reflected in well-planned global emergency relief, rehabilitation assistance, resettlement services and advocacy for refugees.



International Rescue Committee

122 East 42nd St, 12th Floor

New York, NY 10168

Tel: 212-551-3000

Fax: 212-551-3181

Web: <http://www.theirc.org>

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