



# CARME *ngo*

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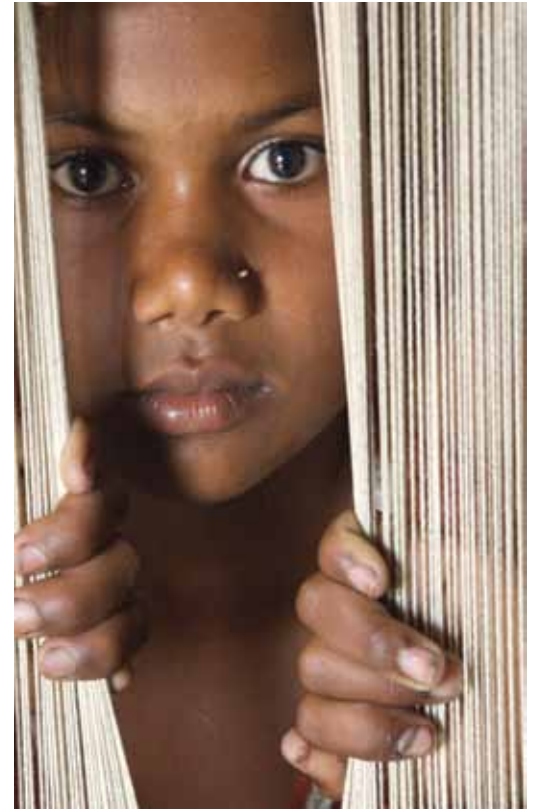
*Human trafficking "constitutes a shocking offense against human dignity and a grave violation of fundamental human rights. In particular, the sexual exploitation of women and children is a particularly repugnant aspect of this trade, and must be recognized as an intrinsic violation of human dignity and human rights."*

*John Paul II*

Generally accepted sources claim some 30 million people living today are victims of modern day slavery. One million people become new victims each year. Some 80% of the victims are women and over 50% are children. At any given time, an estimated 2.5 million people are being trafficked.

But many people feel human trafficking is a problem in other countries or something that occurred only in the past.

It is the second largest and fastest growing criminal operation in the world. Human trafficking is the third most profitable criminal activity, following behind drug and arms trafficking. An estimated 9.5 billion is generated in annual revenue from all trafficking activities. At least \$4 billion is attributed to the worldwide brothel industry.



**THINK HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS EXTINCT?  
THINK AGAIN!**

According to the UNICEF this is a global phenomenon—with countries either being a source, transit, or destination country or some combination of those functions. International borders are porous, allowing an estimated 600,000 - 800,000 victims across each year. Millions more are enslaved with national borders. The Council of Europe claimed human trafficking had reached epidemic proportions over the past decade.

Australia is a destination country for victims trafficked from various parts of Asia as well as Eastern Europe. An Australian NGO Project Respect estimates that 1,000 victims are currently under debt bondage, not including those who have been trafficked but already paid off their debt.

Above Photo: Children like this young girl are prized in the carpet industry for their small, fast fingers. Defenseless, they do what they're told, toiling in cramped, dark, airless village huts from sunrise until well into the night. *Picture Credit: Kay Chernush for the U.S. State Department*



This sign, outside a Hong Kong club, reads: "Young, fresh Hong Kong girls; White, clean Malaysian girls; Beijing women; Luxurious ghost girls from Russia." According to U.S. Government statistics, the majority of victims of human trafficking moved across international borders - about 65% - are trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation. *Picture Credit: Kay Chernush for the U.S. State Department*

The Philippines is a source as well as destination country for human trafficking. It also serves as a transit country. Estimates of Filipino and foreign child victims run as high as 100,000.

Indonesia has 100,000 women and children trafficked annually for commercial sexual exploitation according to UNICEF. Thirty percent of the female prostitutes in Indonesia are below the age of 18 and 40,000–70,000 Indonesian children are victims of sexual exploitation.

One in seven teenagers in the USA—between 1.3 and 2.8 million at any one time—run away from home. They are one of the most at risk populations for exploitation, generally by other Americans.

### How The System Works

Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to enslave a person. Sometimes traffickers use a bond, or debt, to keep a person trapped. Street kids or runaways can fall under the control of traffickers who force them into begging rings.

A woman involved in prostitution in Western Europe is rarely from Western Europe. Brought from another country, she is threatened and intimidated into giving her earnings to her trafficker. Many never overcome the “debt” owed to the trafficker for the trip from their native Africa or Eastern Europe.

A nine year old toils under the hot sun, making bricks from morning

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CarmeNGO is published four times each year and is distributed to those interested in the mission of the NGO. For more information or to add your name and address to our mailing list, please visit our website ([carmelitengo.org](http://carmelitengo.org)) or write to us by email ([jremson@carmelitengo.org](mailto:jremson@carmelitengo.org)) or by regular post at 1725 General Taylor Street; New Orleans, LA 70115; USA)

### Addition Web Resources on HUMAN TRAFFICKING

UN Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking: <http://www.ungift.org>

UNICEF: Unite for Children – [http://www.unicef.org/protection/index\\_exploitation.html](http://www.unicef.org/protection/index_exploitation.html)

humantrafficking.org: a web resource for combating human trafficking: <http://www.humantrafficking.org/>

The Human Trafficking Project: <http://traffickingproject.blogspot.com/>

The Polaris Project– For a World Without Slavery: <http://www.polarisproject.org/>

UNiFeed Story: UN/Human Trafficking Report Wrap – <http://www.unmultimedia.org/tv/unifeed/d/9426.html>

Toolkit to Combat Trafficking of Persons: [http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/HT\\_Toolkit08\\_English.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/HT_Toolkit08_English.pdf)

References to Training Programs and Other Resources: [http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296\\_tool\\_2-14.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296_tool_2-14.pdf)

*For your convenience, these and other resources are linked under "Special Issues" on our website: [carmelitengo.org](http://carmelitengo.org)*

## Oceans, Lakes, Rivers, Streams-- Water Resources

*Let us in spirit make our way to Carmel's mountain height....  
This is indeed a holy place where God has ever reigned;  
Here hearts are healed in silent prayer and strength of mind attained.  
This is where living water flowed to save the thirsting land,  
To clothe the desert with fresh grass with trees the burning sand.  
Cradle of our religious life in Carmel's height austere,  
Wherever Mary turns her gaze flow waters springing clear.*

In the year 2000, the international community pledged to “spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty.” The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) encapsulate the development aspirations of the whole world. They encompass universally accepted human values and rights such as freedom from hunger, the right to basic education, the right to health and a responsibility to future generations.

Ensure environmental sustainability is goal number 7 of the MDGs. A target of goal 7 is to reduce by half the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015. Almost half of the world's population faces a scarcity of water. Water use has grown at twice the rate of the population for the past century. Although there is not yet a global water shortage, about 2.8 billion people, 40% of the world's population, live in river basins with some form of water scarcity.

Water is crucial for preserving biodiversity in all environments – from freshwater lakes and rivers to mountain regions, wetlands, estuaries, coastal zones and oceans. Increasing demand for water is exerting severe pressure on the environment. Freshwater ecosystems are in crisis globally, with many rivers and lakes polluted or severely degraded as a result of diminishing natural ecosystems, such as forests and watersheds.

The decline in the quality and quantity of water resources is causing extinction of freshwater species and a severe loss of biodiversity. Coastal zones, the most productive ecosystems on Earth, are particularly vulnerable because of the decline in rivers as they move towards the sea, threatening human and animal life and entire ecosystems. In recent decades, increasing pollution from inland, along with the loss of coastal habitats that filter pollution, has led to extensive “dead zones” where fish are unable to survive, such as the mouth of the Mississippi River that empties into the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana.

More than half of humanity relies on the freshwater that accumulates in mountain regions. Yet these areas are under pressure from deforestation, agriculture and tourism, which places unsustainable demands on water resources.

In poor nations, degradation of water resources is generally caused by poverty, as short-term survival supersedes long-term resource protection. In more developed countries, degradation of water ecosystems is a result of unsustainable consumption patterns.

### What Can I Do?

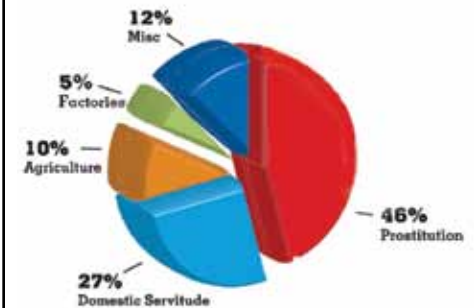
Participate in awareness-raising and community decisions on issues of conservation and management.

Support local integrated planning and management of land and water use within a broader ecosystem context.

*Jane Remson, O. Carm.  
Main Representative of the Carmelite NGO*

## Globalized Human Trafficking

### The Victims:



- The majority of trafficking victims are between 18 and 24 years of age
- 95% of victims experience physical or sexual violence during trafficking
- 98% of those victims of forced sexual exploitation are women and girls
- 56% of those victims of economic exploitation are women and girls
- Many trafficking victims have at least middle-level education
- There are at least 30 million victims of modern day slavery in the world today
- 50% of those in slavery are children
- Each year there are 1 million new victims of human trafficking
- At any given moment, 2.5 million people are being trafficked

### The Traffickers:

- 52% of those recruiting victims are men
- In 54% of the cases the recruiter was a stranger to the victim; in 46% of cases the recruiter was known to the victim

### TO RALLY WORLD

public opinion against human trafficking, UN is launching the Blue Heart Campaign.



By wearing the Blue Heart you raise awareness of this crime and join the campaign to fight it. The Blue Heart represents the sadness of those who are trafficked while reminding us of the cold-heartedness of those who buy and sell fellow human beings. The use of the blue UN color also demonstrates the commitment of the United Nations to combating this crime against human dignity. For more information, go to: [www.unodc.org/blueheart](http://www.unodc.org/blueheart)



This woman used in prostitution in Western Europe is forced through threats and intimidation to give all earnings to her trafficker. The amount varies between 200 and 400 Euro (\$250-\$500 USD) per month. These fees come on top of a huge bogus "debt" typically about \$35,000 Euro (\$44,000 USD) owed by the woman to the trafficker who brought her, usually from Africa or Eastern Europe. Wealthy European countries are magnets for sex trafficking. *Picture Credit: Kay Chernush for the U.S. State Department*

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to night, seven days a week. The child might be trafficked with his entire family from a poor and underdeveloped state in India and sold to the owner of a brick-making factory. With no means of escape, and unable to speak the local language, the family is isolated and lives in terrible conditions.

### NGOs and Others Respond

Non governmental organizations (NGOs) around the world are attempting to confront the trafficking of humans. These organizations are engaged in a variety of activities, including prevention, prosecution, protection, rescues/raids, reintegration, and repatriation. NGOs often work with few resources yet can be effective in complimenting the activities of governments, or even taking the place of government efforts.

As a global institution, the Catholic Church, has denounced human trafficking as an offense against human dignity and fundamental human rights. Its network of agencies and communities worldwide are well positioned to act against this crime. It also provides training and technical assistance to a variety of entities including social service providers, law enforcement, religious communities, local networks and coalitions, and medical and mental health professionals.

Governmental response has greatly varied.

*William J. Harry, O. Carm.*

*Much more on Human Trafficking can be found on our website: [carmelitengo.org](http://carmelitengo.org)*

A Roma (gypsy) child finds herself on the side of a road in northern Italy, ironically wearing a shirt that proclaims, "Outsider." Her family, which fled the ethnic turmoil in Bosnia, is always on the move. Poverty, discrimination, and social customs combine to make Roma children vulnerable to trafficking. *Picture Credit: Kay Chernush for the U.S. State Department*



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