



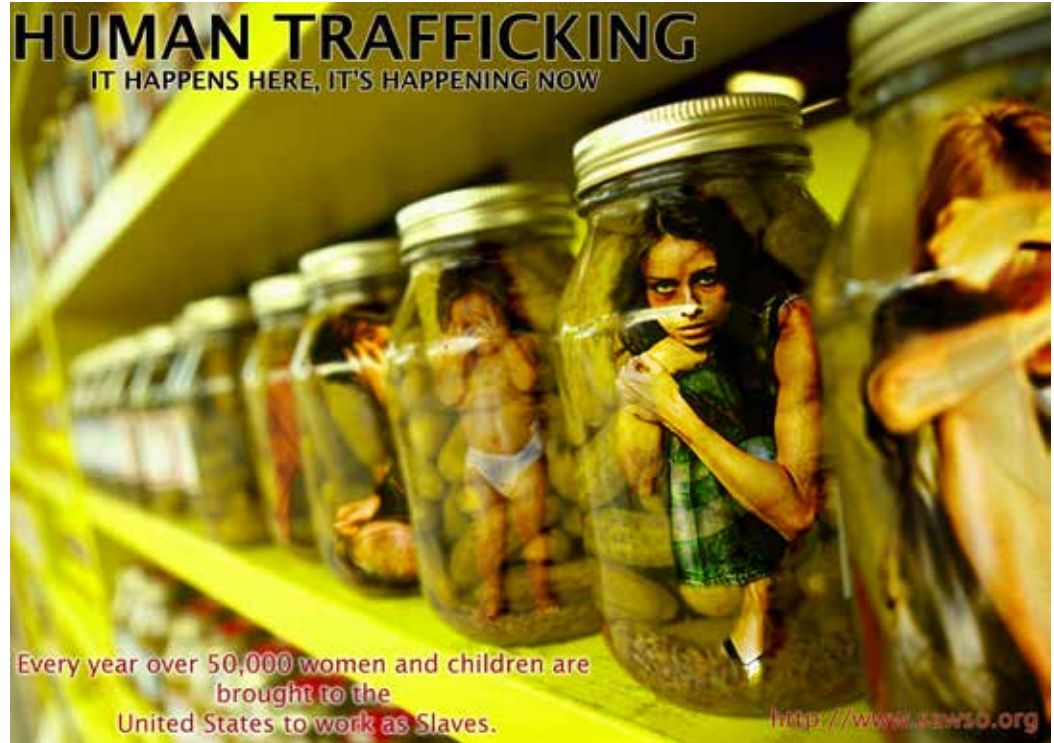
carmelngo

BULLETIN OF THE CARMELITE NGO

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"In our city there are people committing human sacrifice, killing the dignity of these men and women, these girls and boys that are submitted to this treatment, to slavery. Everyone must do what they can, but without washing their hands of it, because otherwise we are complicit in this slavery."

Francis I
Interview, Vatican Insider



www.sawso.org

New Orleans, USA Community

Mobilizing to Prevent and End Trafficking in Our Midst

The Carmelite NGO and the Jesuit Social Research Institute joined with the Leadership Conference of Women Religious Region 5, Loyola University College of Law, the Women's Resource Center at Loyola University and many congregations of women religious and other interested partners in holding a conference on human trafficking, *Preventing Human Trafficking at the Super Bowl and Beyond*.

Human trafficking, especially sex trafficking, increases around sporting events; such as, the World Cup and the Olympics. The Conference focused on the National Football League's major sporting event – the Super Bowl that was held in February of 2013 in New Orleans.

The Conference had three goals including:

- Raise awareness that will lead to action regarding human trafficking locally and internationally.
- Provide an opportunity for potential volunteers to get involved with organizations working to end human trafficking.
- Increase coordination between the various actors working to end human trafficking in metro New Orleans (law enforcement, survivors, elected officials, service providers, faith communities, researchers, community members).

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The Conference began on Wednesday night with an overview of human trafficking by keynote speaker Ms. Holly Burkhalter, vice president of government relations for the International Justice Mission (IJM). Before joining IJM Ms. Burkhalter served as the U.S. Policy Director of Physicians for Human Rights. Following a question and answer session with Ms. Burkhalter the award-winning documentary *Not My Life* was shown.

Saturday was dedicated to creating an awareness of and action against sex trafficking in metro New Orleans. The day began with a presentation titled “The Game – Domestic Sex Trafficking” by Lt. William Hare of the Jefferson Parish Sheriff’s Office. Lt. Hare has been involved with over 2,000 prostitution cases from street and internet prostitution to escort service investigations. Following Lt. Hare was Ms. Alliece Cole of Healing Place Church who spoke on “Child Sex Trafficking in the U.S. and Louisiana.” Ms. Cole served for 20 years with Child Protection Services as a crisis investigator. She presented on identifying and rescue of victims of sex trafficking. The final morning session was given by Ms. Deena Graves of Trafficking911. Ms. Graves initiated the efforts against sex trafficking at the last Super Bowl that was held in Dallas, Texas. She reported on what was effective in Dallas and what was not.

The afternoon session was dedicated to law enforcement and service providers. We were fortunate to have an excellent group from law enforcement to explain the law regarding sex trafficking and the penalties imposed by the law. Law enforcement speakers included:

“ I urge all Americans to educate themselves about all forms of modern slavery and the signs and consequences of human trafficking. Together, and in cooperation with our partners around the world, we can work to end this terrible injustice and protect the rights to life and liberty entrusted to us by our forebears and owed to our children. ”

President Obama, Dec 30, 2011

Hon. Jim Letten, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana, Agent Amanda Smith, United States Department of Homeland Security, Rep. Neil C. Abramson, Louisiana State Representative -District 98 and Professor Hiroko Kusuda, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law.

Human trafficking is a federal offense. The federal law defining trafficking is *The Trafficking Victims Protection Act* (TVPA) passed in 2000. TVPA is the first comprehensive federal law to address human trafficking or “trafficking in persons” (TIP). The law provides a three-pronged approach including prevention, protection and prosecution and was reauthorized through the *Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act* (TVPRA) in 2003, 2005 and 2008. Under U.S. federal law, “severe forms of trafficking in persons” include sex trafficking and labor trafficking.

TVPRA defines sex trafficking as the recruitment, harboring, transporting, provision or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age.

TVPRA defines labor trafficking as the recruitment, harboring, transporting, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

After a time for question and answers, a panel of service providers from local non-profits working with survivors of human trafficking described their respective organizations and how volunteers could assist their efforts.

Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery. It is a crime under U.S. federal law and international law. Each country must define its human trafficking law and how it is enforced.

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) or write to us by email (jremson@carmelitengo.org) or by regular post at 1725 General Taylor Street; New Orleans, LA 70115; USA)

Websites Against Human Trafficking:

International Justice Mission
www.ijm.org

US Department of State: Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons
www.state.gov/j/tip

USCCB Committee on Migration: Statement on Human Trafficking "People on the Move" (Dec 2007)
www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/migrants/pom2007-105/rc_pc_migrants_pm105_statement-human-barnes.html

Caritas International: Statement on Human Trafficking
www.caritas.org/activities/women_migration/caritas_migration_trafficking_and_women.html?cnt=641

Lutheran World Federation: Human Trafficking
www.lutheranworld.org/lwf/index.php/tag/human-trafficking

For more detailed information about the content of these Side Events, check the Carmelite NGO website: carmelitengo.org or www.unesd2012.org/meetings_sideevents.html



\$32 Billion Industry

Today's Slave Trade Comes in Many Forms, Responding to Market Demand

After years of pleading ignorance about the issue, the world is waking up to the reality of what it now recognizes as a modern form of slavery. People are becoming more aware that humans prey upon humans for money. Modern slavery comes in many forms. People are held in involuntary servitude in factories, farms, and homes; bought and sold in prostitution; and captured

to serve as child soldiers. Human trafficking is a crime that mocks human rights, degrades public health, corrupts government officials, and laughs at the rule of law. Human trafficking is fluid, responds to market demand and operates in areas of impunity that are created by loopholes in laws, weak penalties, natural disasters, and economic instability.

The term human trafficking can be misleading because it places emphasis on the transaction aspect of a crime that is more accurately described as enslavement - the exploitation of people, day after day for years on end. Human trafficking affects every country around the world, regardless of socio-economic status, history, or political structure. Human traffickers have created an international market for the trade in human beings based on high profits and demand for commercial sex and cheap labor. Trafficking is estimated to be a \$32 billion industry, affecting 161 countries worldwide. An estimated 12.3 million men, women and children are trafficked for commercial sex or forced labor around the world today. Victims are trafficked both within and across international borders. Migrants as well as internally displaced persons are particularly vulnerable.

“We believe:

1. Human trafficking is a form of slavery.
2. Human trafficking reflects a very low level of moral integrity.
3. Human trafficking is based on demand.
4. Human trafficking flourishes where there is poverty.
5. Human trafficking takes the form of trafficking of women, children and men for the purpose of sexual exploitation, warfare, begging and cheap labor.
6. Human trafficking must be outlawed as a crime.” – statement, Carmelite NGO

Trafficking research indicates that any migration project requires financial and social capital. Trafficked victims do not have access to such capital and thus fall prey to criminal groups or individuals that exploit their poverty. Trafficked victims are more vulnerable than other migrants. They are badly informed about legal employment opportunities abroad and more often come from remote areas and lack a social network. The majority of trafficked victims come from the poorest countries and the poorest strata within a country. Many find it necessary to borrow money to pay for their transportation to their “new opportunity.” Poverty is not the only root cause. Other factors such as discrimination, corruption and weakly functioning labor markets contribute to human trafficking.

Women held in modern slavery through deceit and force are working; picking cotton, mining minerals, harvesting rice, toiling as domestic workers, dancing in nightclubs, exploited for pornography, and offered for commercial sex. Domestic workers frequently experience unique vulnerabilities, such as sexual abuse and long working hours, while working in the home. Unfortunately many countries do not offer adequate legal protection to domestic workers. The feminization of modern slavery has been aided by growing numbers of women migrating for work and the increasingly unscrupulous and coercive nature of recruiting.

Fraudulent recruitment practices affect both female and male workers. These prac-

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10 Little Known Facts About Human Trafficking

- Approximately 75-80% of human trafficking is for sex.
- There are more human slaves in the world today than ever before in history.
- Human trafficking not only involves sex and labor, but people are also trafficked for organ harvesting.
- Human traffickers often use a Sudanese phrase “use a slave to catch slaves,” meaning traffickers send “broken-in girls” to recruit younger girls into the sex trade.
- Eighty percent of North Koreans who escape into China are women. Nine out of 10 of those women become victims of human trafficking, often for sex.
- Approximately 30,000 victims of sex trafficking die each year.
- Eighty percent of those sold into sexual slavery are under 24, and some are as young as six years old.
- A human trafficker can earn 20 times what he or she paid for a girl.
- Researchers estimate that more than 80% of trafficking victims are female. Over 50% of human trafficking victims are children.
- Many rebel groups in regional conflicts turn to human trafficking to fund military actions and garner soldiers.
- The Taliban buys children as young as seven years old to act as suicide bombers. The price for child suicide bombers is between \$7,000-\$14,000.
- UNICEF estimates that 300,000 children younger than 18 are currently trafficked to serve in armed conflicts worldwide.
- Pregnant women are increasingly being trafficked for their newborns. Babies are sold on the black market.
- More than 30% of all trafficking cases in 2007-2008 involved children being sold into the sex industry.
- The Western presence in Kosovo, such as NATO troops and civilians, have fueled the rapid growth of sex trafficking and forced prostitution.

<http://facts.randomhistory.com>

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tices include: work offers that misrepresent conditions, excessive recruitment fees, written contracts that workers cannot understand, and the switching of terms of employment after the original contract has been signed. In the sex industry, recruiters do not merely make promises of a better life; they weave a tale of love and glamour that is quickly replaced by dependency and the abuse of what has been called "seasoning" – a term that is itself as offensive as the practice it describes. Traffickers are also changing their methods of control: they are using more female recruiters, more subtle forms of exploitation, and greater psychological abuse. These techniques demonstrate how interconnected sex and labor trafficking are, as more and more cases are brought to justice involving sexual abuse of women who migrated on domestic worker visas. Too many migrant women have been raped and threatened with harm by supervisors who control their work environment.

What Can I Do? We are not powerless to stop human trafficking. The first thing to do is to identify the problem and call it for what it is - slavery. Educate yourself on human trafficking at the local level. Gather information about human trafficking in your city by looking for articles in your local newspaper or watching reports on your local TV station. Contact your elected officials and ask if they have any information regarding human trafficking in your state. Include human trafficking in your daily prayers and speak about it with your family, friends, neighbors and at church. Encourage your local church to educate its members about human trafficking. Help survivors of human trafficking by supporting organizations that work on this issue.

by Jane Remson, O. Carm. - Main Representative



Keti Koti - Break the Chain

Dutch Celebrate Beginning of Lent at Detention Center for Political Detainees

On Ash Wednesday, members of the Dutch Province's Justice and Peace Commission joined with members of the Catholic Worker movement and the Justice and Peace Commission of the Dutch religious to hold a wake at the Judicial Detention Center at Amsterdam's Schipol airport. This center is for political detainees.

"A good number of people are seeking political assailment in our country. They are refugees from their own country, afraid of being killed or persecuted when staying there. So they leave their families behind. They are alone and feeling lonely and desperate. They are innocent people and being detained here and treated like criminals and sometimes even worse. They are forced to stay inside for sometimes a year or

even longer. For them a traumatic experience on top of their problems at home," explained Arie Kuil, a representative of the European Union Region to the Carmelite NGO.

The group used the beginning of the forty days period of preparation for Easter as a way of supporting these people and to give them the feeling that they are not alone in their suffering. The group was at the center each Sunday of Lent and every 2nd Sunday of the month during the year.

While they were not allowed inside the detention center but only outside, they were able to have a liturgical celebration on Ash Wednesday, complete with the blessing and distribution of ashes.

Despite the cold, some 52 people, seven of them Carmelites participated in the Ash Wednesday service. The detention center is new. The last center burned, killing 11 people.

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