

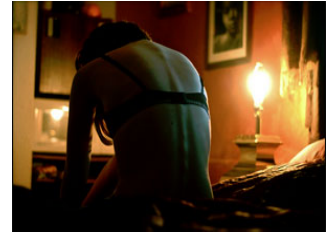
IFUW Blog

Empowering women & girls through lifelong education

6.9 million women slaves ... in 2010

Posted on [3 November 2010](#)

Human trafficking is the illegal trade in human beings for the purposes of sexual exploitation or forced labor. This “modern-day slavery” is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world. Around 12.3 million adults and children are in forced prostitution or in forced or bonded labor.



The majority (56%) of the trafficked victims are women, mainly from developing countries sold by their families or friends; lured away with promises of employment, education and a better life; or simply kidnapped.

To prevent and combat trafficking, “destination countries” must work with “countries of origin”. Stronger laws with immediate enforcement and longer prison terms are needed. Community awareness and education programs for parents and teachers are key together with comprehensive training for grass-roots professionals who come into contact with trafficked women and girls.

Coalition building on the local level, between police, government and NGOs can help trafficking victims, for example by setting up shelters that provide psychological and vocational assistance and services.

Funding is fundamental for media campaigns to educate girls about the dangers of travel and trafficking and to offer vocational training to prevent poverty and thus trafficking.

Is trafficking a problem in your country? What could your NFA do at a local level to prevent trafficking?

Based on the contribution from Camille Macdonald-Polski

[\(More trafficking stats\)](#)

Like

Be the first of your friends to like this.

This entry was posted in [Employment](#), [Family](#), [Human Rights](#). Bookmark the [permalink](#).

6 Responses to 6.9 million women slaves ... in 2010



Judith Hernández Genis says:

4 November 2010 at 21:04

El tipo de educación que se imparte en mi país, no está siendo la adecuada, debido a que las chicas universitarias, no

aplican lo mínimo en la seguridad de las relaciones humanas y sexuales.

La educación sexual, se ve trunca por la misma educación que reciben de costumbres y tabus en sus familias y aunque lleguen a estudios superiores un 70 % de las alumnas de nuevo ingreso a las universidades están teniendo embarazos no deseados y en consecuencia están recurriendo al aborto, que afortunadamente en la Ciudad de México es legal, pero esa no es la solución, ya que esto las lleva a la infertilidad, malos tratos, discriminación en escuelas y casa y en consecuencia menos posibilidades de desarrollo profesional cuando son madres.



Jeanette Westbrook says:

5 November 2010 at 14:56

6.9 Million Unacceptable Lives in Slavery

The continuing worldwide and growing criminal enterprise of Human Trafficking must be made a first priority by the UN and by NGO's worldwide to bring pressure on those who in whole or by collusion benefit from the enslavement, torture, and profits made on the suffering of millions. The feminization of poverty and growing marginalization of women and children contribute greatly to the issues surrounding Human Trafficking. However, growing research and evidence has pointed to the need for addressing the issue of demand. 80% of Human Trafficking victims (half are under the age of 13 years) are funneled into the lucrative slave markets of Sex Trafficking. Questions arise concerning the huge numbers of mostly men who purchase children and women for sex with little societal or legal consequences. The Who, What, When, Where and Why of Sex Trafficking as it applies to the John's -(buyers of sex and torture of young children) – needs much more research and attention. What are the societal, moral, ethical, and legal barriers that men cross in the commission of these criminal acts? Some research points to the issue that they do it simply because they can with out negative consequence. Power structures, educational access, financial freedoms, and gender bias within societies and in the lives of women and children all contribute to the horror of Human Trafficking making Human Trafficking one of the most complicated issues facing the world.

Jeanette Westbrook



Cleta says:

5 November 2010 at 20:51

Human trafficking and prostitution are intertwined. One cannot thrive without the other, especially in places where prostitution is legal. Local girls and women cannot or will not service the seemingly endless demand. Legalized prostitution areas attract human traffickers as war zones attract arms dealers. To achieve success in combatting human trafficking we must also combat prostitution. I recommend the approach implemented in Sweden for the past 10 years. The Swedish government has reported recently on the results and lessons learned from their 10 years of experience in attacking the demand for prostitution – and for the most part they are on the right path to significantly decreasing human trafficking and street prostitution through reducing demand from “johns” and extending supports for prostitutes to exit/avoid the business. This summer the Canadian Federation of University Women passed a resolution at our AGM urging our federal government to adopt the Swedish model. We will be using this resolution as a basis for our advocacy work on prostitution and human trafficking. This resolution came from the Vancouver club, which is active in community coalitions working on this subject. Our participation has helped to increase the public profile on this issue and this approach. An unanticipated benefit has been the energizing effect on both our own club and the women's and community organizations with whom we are working. The cause is growing in interest and concern to ordinary people and to our political leaders. We are a part of this change and that is important for the relevance and viability of our local, national and international university women's organizations and for the efficacy of all of our advocacy work. I urge the IFUW and compliment the CFUW and IFUW for

advocating on this cruel barrier to women's equality.



Mallika Chellappa says:

6 November 2010 at 15:00

Unfortunately, young people at an impressionable age are sold on the glamour of recreational sex and recreational drug use, and also urged to aspire to conspicuous consumption linked to celebrity lifestyles and premium products, which are beyond the reach of the average human being. We need to work with the manufacturers of these products, who fund the advertisements that seduce both the victims and the consumers of the trafficked, to somehow bring in an awareness of ethics and morality. It is probably just as much hard work to earn an honest living as to "earn" a dishonest living, but the disproportionate media attention accorded the latter is again seductive. These are areas where we should provide intervention.



Jennifer Strauss says:

8 November 2010 at 10:58

Can I remind members that we have longstanding resolutions on this issue of trafficking and suggest that you might cite the ones below in advocacy or look to them for possible actions:

Human trafficking violates human rights (2010)

The 30th IFUW Conference resolves that:

1. National Federations and Associations (NFAs) educate their members about the issue of trafficking as it relates to their countries, including addressing the primary causes that contribute to the practice;
2. NFAs urge their respective governments to ensure that they have not only signed, but have also ratified the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons (2003); if their countries have done so, NFAs monitor the status of their government's implementation of the Protocol and take appropriate action where needed; and
3. IFUW use its standing committees, its consultative status with ECOSOC, its website and member networks to advocate for measures that would reduce the incidence of trafficking.

Trafficking and Exploitation of Women and Children (1998)

The 26th Conference of IFUW resolves that NFAs:

-urge their governments to support and implement the Declaration and Actions of the World Declaration Against Commercial Exploitation of Children, Stockholm, Sweden, 1996; and

-urge their governments to protect women and children, both male and female, from exploitation by:

- 1.. implementing and enforcing laws prohibiting any type of exploitation of women and children especially trafficking and enforced prostitution;
- 2.. developing and supporting educational and training programmes to raise women and children's awareness of how they can avoid becoming victims of trafficking and ensnared or enforced prostitution;
- 3.. developing and supporting educational and training programmes to raise public awareness of the social, cultural and financial implications of sex trafficking and other forms of sexual exploitation;
- 4.. implementing and enforcing laws prohibiting sex tourism to foreign countries;
- 5.. ensuring that work permits, if applicable, for foreign workers are not just shields for exploitation of women and children; and
- 6.. assisting those who become victims of trafficking and exploitation.



Lourdes Enríquez. *says:*

22 November 2010 at 06:53

En México se promulgó la Ley Federal para Prevenir y Sancionar la Trata de Personas en Noviembre del año 2007. Se aborda el fenómeno desde la perspectiva del Derecho Penal, es decir, desde la sanción de conductas que son consideradas delito y el auxilio y atención de las victimas. Una vez causado el delito, se busca la reparación del daño en clave patrimonial bajo la lógica del intercambio. Se utiliza el poder punitivo del Estado, sin criticar las relaciones de poder que tienen lugar en la sociedad.

Considero que es necesario replantear el papel que juega y que se ha atribuido al Derecho en las sociedades contemporáneas, ya que no se cuestiona a sí mismo ni a sus propios mecanismos de conformación y aplicación, mucho menos ejerce la crítica en contra de las instituciones que establece y mediante las cuales produce y reproduce mecanismos de exclusión, que operan a través de la vigilancia, el control y la corrección.

Es tiempo de que las sociedades exapropien la noción de justicia del ámbito legal y estatal, establezcan vinculos con los otros de formas distintas, para pasar de una sociedad mediada y gobernada por las instituciones estatales a otro tipo de sociedades donde problemas como el de la explotación sexual y laboral de personas pueda evitarse, aún sin la intervención del Estado, conformando nuevas maneras de relacionarse, en el ejercicio crítico respecto de cualquier forma de sometimiento y de naturalización de la violencia, en el ejercicio de la crítica de género que ponga en cuestión modelos tradicionales de dominación, que en su conjunto produzcan relaciones más justas don independencia de la ley y sus aplicaciones, para permitir una mejor humanidad por venir.

IFUW Blog

Proudly powered by WordPress.