

Irene Beatriz Castillo, Licensed Sociologist



In collaboration with

“National Network to Stop Trafficking and Sexual
Exploitation of Children in Argentina”

Humanity is not





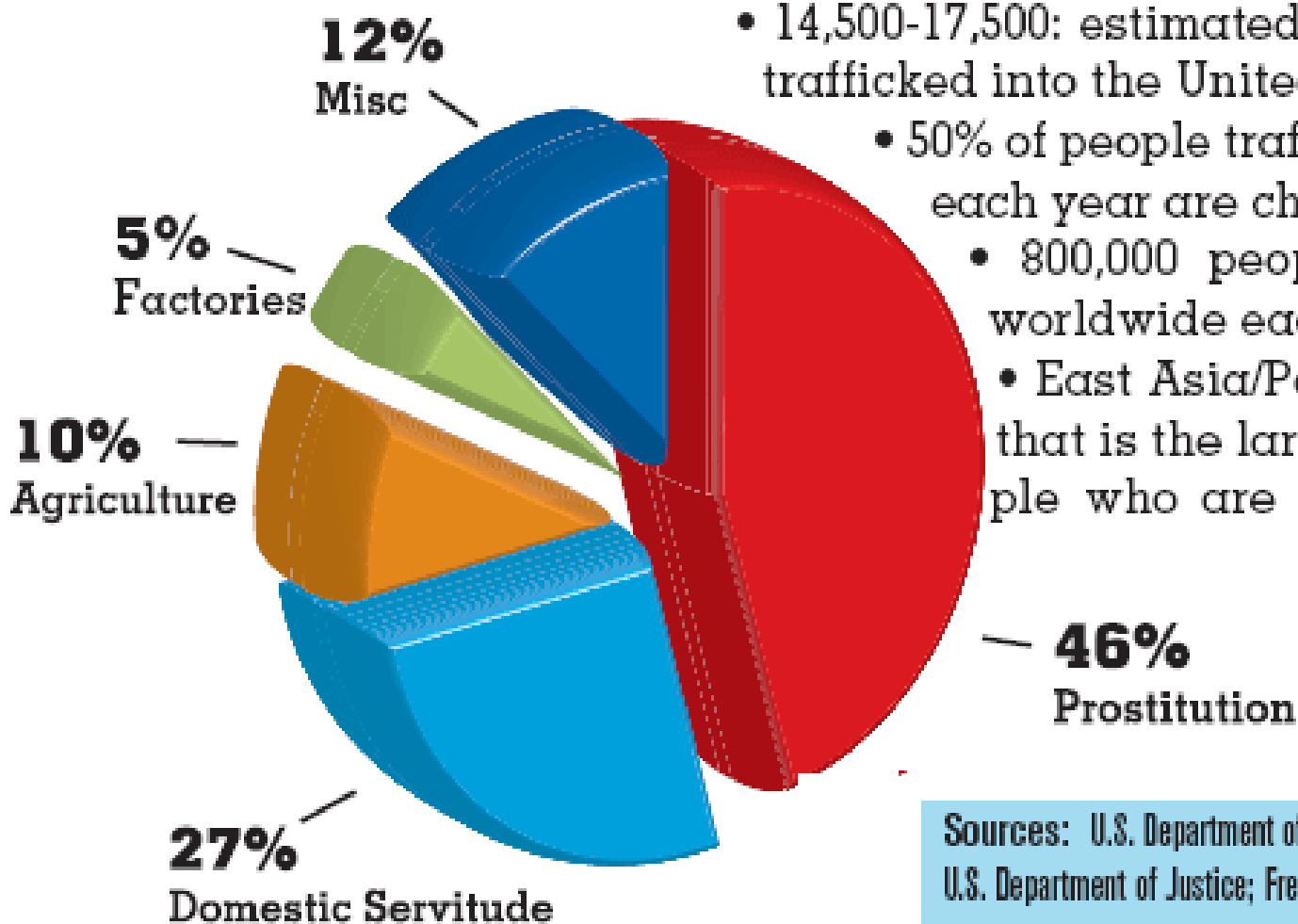
**HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS
MODERN-DAY SLAVERY**

Thousands of children, teenagers and women from Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and the Americas are sold into the global sex trade every year. Often they are kidnapped or orphaned, and sometimes they are actually sold by their own families.

According to the data of U.S Department of State "An estimated 600.000 to 820.000 men, women and children are trafficked across international borders each year. Approximately 70 per cent are women and girls and up to 50 per cent are minors."

The data also illustrates that the majority of transnational victims are trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation. Young women and girls are often lured to wealthier countries with promises of money and work and then reduced to sexual slavery.

An estimated 500.000 women from Central and Eastern Europe are prostituted in the European Union alone.



- 14,500-17,500: estimated number of people trafficked into the United States each year
- 50% of people trafficked into the U.S. each year are children
- 800,000 people are trafficked worldwide each year
- East Asia/Pacific is the region that is the largest source of people who are trafficked into the U.S. each year.

Sources: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Justice; Free the Slaves

Human slavery derived from sexual exploitation, is a massive profit making enterprise and has become one of the major interests of the transnational organized crime.



Unlike drugs and guns, women and children can be sold multiple times in multiple ways, and the criminals receive less punishment and shorter sentences.





Who will you spend £15 on this Christmas?



There are 8,500 trafficked prostitutes in London charging £15 a time for sex.

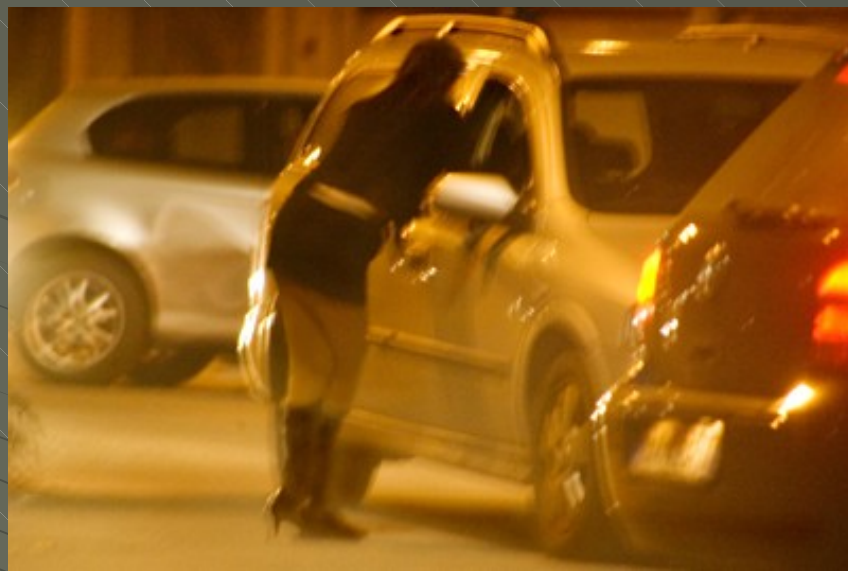
Raising awareness of sex trafficking

The demand for prostitution promotes trafficking. It's a fundamental human right to be free of sexual exploitation in all forms. Women and girls have the right to sexual integrity and autonomy. Commercial sexual exploitation of women and girls of all ages, including prostitution, pornography, the internet bride industry, and sex tourism, is one of the most devastating and escalating practices of gender based violence and assaults their human rights and dignity. No society that intends to uphold gender equality should tolerate and accept sexual exploitation of women and girls. This is why trafficking is a gender issue.

Looking at this issue through a gender perspective, allows us to understand what needs to be transformed: a new global condition of sexual workability for women, girls, boys, adolescents and men; that we can also call sexual integrity.



The distinction "Gender" as a social category has been one of the latest and most significant theoretical contributions of sociology.



Gender is a structure based on a social, historical and political interpretation of roles, identities and values attributed to women and men. The power of genders, as well as the practices, symbols, representations, norms and social values are relevant to one gender or the other and vary according to the different cultures, historical moments, social classes, ages, ethnicities and religions.



Mary Sullivan, Coalition against Trafficking in Women, Australia (2005) says: "The Victorian State Government, despite more and more evidence that legalization has failed to achieve any of its aims, continues in its belief that prostitution can be regulated like any other industry. Victoria's legitimization of prostitution created a prostitution culture throughout the State and made it acceptable for Victorian men to purchase women for sexual gratification. Legalization has offered nothing for women caught up in this system of exploitation. Legitimizing prostitution as work has simply worked to normalize the violence and sexual abuse that they experience on a daily basis. Victoria must not be seen as a model for other countries attempting to deal with the escalating trade in women and children for sex. Legalized prostitution is government-sanctioned abuse of women and violates their right to equality and safety."

Gender inequality is inherent in the promotion and normalization of prostitution.

Men's rights or anybody's right to buy women is a direct contradiction to a society based on gender equality.

Prostitution and trafficking promotes sexism and racism as men are encouraged to see women from poorer foreign countries as less as "others" and as legitimate targets for exploitation.





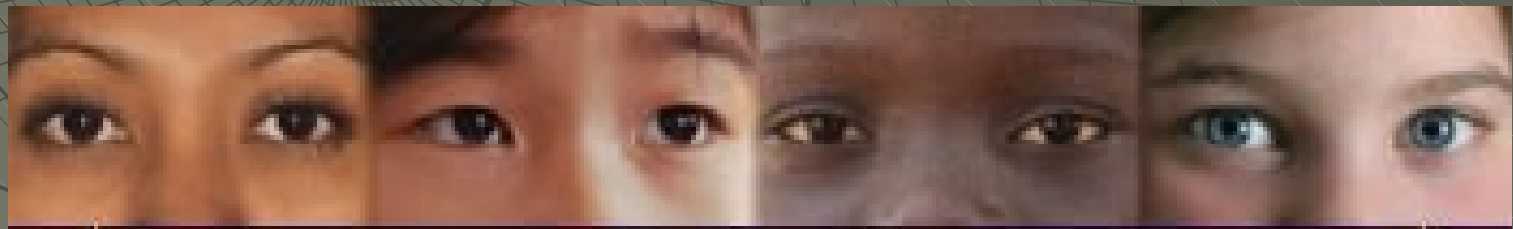
The simple fact is that where sex exploitations are tolerated, exploitations of children are facilitated. By insisting on an absolute separation of children and adults, the argument to extent protection to 18 is undermined, and implicit -but deeply problematic - the logic is re-enforced. Kelly & Reagan said: "How can it be that on one day when the young person is 15 or 17 their involvement in the sex industry is exploitation and illegal, but on the next day -their birthday- when they are 16 or 18, this becomes not just legal but legitimate, a matter of choice, a form of work? What process can occur in 24 hours that transforms something in inherently exploitative into an issue of choice and consent?"



The false distinction promotes the idea that prostitution and trafficking are not connected, we must distinguish between forced and free prostitution. There is no country in the world that is free from human trafficking. Around the world the organized crime that manages prostitution and human trafficking is connected to the legal and political powers. Unicef's report about sexual exploitation of girls, boys, and adolescents in Argentina revealed the aspect that is common to all regions: the interventions of legal authority is limited, ineffective and corrupted.

Before 2001 Argentina was a destination for human trafficking. The 2001 socio-economic crisis made Argentina into a country where trafficking is also originated from. This means that currently Argentina exports boys, girls and women into other countries, and not only receives but also transports into different places, even within the country.

There is no official statistics, but approximately between 500 to 600 girls, boys, adolescents and women disappear every year and are possible victims of human trafficking.





Although 80% of human trafficking in Argentina are victims of sexual exploitation in all its forms; we know of the existence of 130,000 people victims of labor exploitation, for example immigrants from Bolivia that work in illegal textile factories.



To fight Human trafficking involves punishing the traffickers, protecting victims and mobilizing the government and the public, to come together through campaigns and actions against this new form of slavery. Given the characteristics of this transnational crime, all the countries need to act in cooperation and to report the trafficking routes, taking the traffickers to court and jails and protecting and reintegrating to society the victims of human trafficking.



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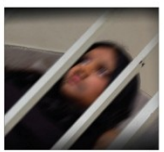
CONGO (KINSHASA)



Background
Close to the capital city of Kinshasa, northeast Congo, is where the majority of trafficking for forced labour and sexual exploitation takes place. Armed men raiding in groups capture women and children, forcing them to serve as labourers, porters, domestics and sex slaves.

- Pray for**
- Congo (Kinshasa) and Angola Territory's Women's Ministries Department, which became involved in the fight against sex trafficking two years ago
 - reinforcement of education and awareness about sex trafficking
 - substitution of sex trafficking with fair, profitable, commercial activities or vocational training
 - victims of trafficking who can't plead for themselves

UK



Background
The UK is significantly affected by the problems of prostitution and trafficking – a survey in November 2005 indicated that nearly one in ten men

- admitted to paying for sex.
- Pray for**
- centres and individuals working with trafficked women and those trapped in the sex industry
 - exit routes from prostitution
 - the Army's continued representation on the police force's UK Human Trafficking Unit based in Sheffield
 - the new Anti-Trafficking Strategy recently approved by THQ cabinet

EASTERN EUROPE



Background
Initial investigations revealed the large-scale problem of sex-trafficking, particularly in Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Romania and Ukraine.

- Pray for**
- Major Mary Capsey (Assistant Director, Salvation Army International Development, UK) as she leads talks focusing on the Army's next steps in these countries
 - investigations to continue as the territory takes action

CHINA



Background
Increasing poverty fuels China's trafficking problem. A number of villages have been left devoid of women after they were easily coerced by traffickers, preying on the ill-treatment they receive from society.

- Pray for**
- ongoing funding – the area and the problem are widespread
 - trauma care taking place for fathers, husbands and children left behind
 - education to help protect future generations and potential victims
 - teams travelling to hard-to-access areas to deliver programmes
 - railway workers undergoing training to identify trafficked people and the 660 community leaders being educated about trafficking

THE PHILIPPINES



Background
People have been trafficked out of the Philippines into 168 other countries; there are currently 80,000 undocumented Filipinos in Korea and 250,000 in Japan.

- Pray for**
- Bethany Children's Home cares for children affected by trafficking and aims to protect them from traffickers. Particularly pray for the ten clients each year undergoing intensive rehabilitation programmes
 - the 8 workshops in 8 divisions training 1,280 people to educate others about trafficking
 - a larger, sustainable education awareness programme
 - further co-ordination with the Government, NGOs and other religious groups to upscale preventative action to human trafficking
 - increasing awareness of the value of children and protection of them

MALAWI



Background
Mchinji border town is one of the main routes for trafficking young children from Malawi to Zambia, where they are increasingly engaged in exploitative labour, including prostitution, and working in tobacco estates or as domestic servants.

- Pray for**
- the reuniting of victims with their families
 - the equipping of targeted communities, government officials and Army officers to combat child-trafficking
 - the ongoing partnership with the Ministry of Gender and Social Welfare
 - increased resources for the Army's temporary safe accommodation and for education and skills training for victims

SOUTH AFRICA



Background
Children are trafficked to South Africa to work in mining towns and are vulnerable for various reasons, including the myths about HIV/Aids. A common belief is that people can be cured by having sex with a virgin – many children and babies are abused as a result.

- Pray for**
- child survival programmes working with orphans and other vulnerable children
 - the Army's HIV/Aids-focused education on sexual abuse and coercion and its programmes to help victims work through the trauma of having been abused

MUMBAI



Background
Nepalese and rural Indian women and young girls are trafficked for sexual exploitation into the city famous for its extremes of wealth and poverty.

- Pray for**
- increasing influence and effectiveness in outreach – particularly with the 1,000 girls and women in 4 identified red-light areas
 - transformation in victims as a result of self-help groups and exit routes provided, such as microcredit schemes created by the Army
 - an increased capacity for local teams to work with trafficked women and girls

SRI LANKA



Background
The scale of the problem indicates that 80 per cent of prostitutes are boys or girls, approximately 30,000 of whom are trafficked for sexual tourism – mainly European businessmen.

- Pray for**
- the local teams as they face such a huge project
 - opening of opportunities for the Army in anti-trafficking responses
 - victim protection and their ongoing healing
 - education awareness programmes taking place in every corps in the territory in the next 18 months



Let's fight it together
Thank You



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