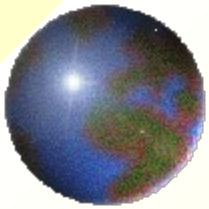
Child Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE): An Overview of Promising Practices for Prevention, Recovery, and Reintegration



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"An International Shame" *(UNODC)*

"One of the most egregious violations of human rights which the United Nations now confronts" (Kofi Annan)

Magnitude

- The exact number of people who are trafficked annually worldwide is not known
  - Unreliable data
  - Clandestine nature
  - Uncoordinated data collection
  - No standard definition

Girls

The largest subset is young women and girls for commercial sexual exploitation

Girls

Sex slavery accounts for 79% of all human trafficking

- 98% are women and girls

Forced marriage…..Begging

Facilitators

A range of individuals and groups:

- Men who purchase sex with children;
- Members of organized crime networks;
- Sex tour operators;
- Brothel owners;
- Corrupt officials in law enforcement, immigration and the judicial system;
- Family members, friends, relatives.

Recruitment Methods

- Blatant violence
- Familiarity
  - Gain trust
  - Skilled sales pitch
  - False promises
    - well paying jobs, residency documents, marriage.

Ongoing Physical/Psychological Abuse

Abuse –

- *Persistent*
- *Extreme*

Destroys defenses

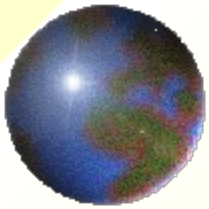
- *Psychological*
- *Physical*

Somaly Mam…Ongoing Sexual Abuse

"Life in a Brothel is a Living Hell"

Impact on Children

(1) Deprives them of their Human Rights
(2) Educational Deprivation
(3) Physical Health Problems
(4) Emotional Health Problems
(5) Behavioral Problems



Combating Child Trafficking: The International Human Rights Framework

A Human Rights Based Approach

Provides a framework within which ***law enforcement*** and ***victim-focused responses*** can be developed, implemented, and evaluated.

The Ultimate Goal…..

Promising Strategies for Prevention: Applying the Spectrum of Prevention as a Conceptual Framework

Rafferty, Y. (2013). *Ending child trafficking as a human rights priority: Applying the Spectrum of Prevention as a conceptual framework*. In J. Segal and F. Denmark (Eds.), Violence Against Women Across the Life Cycle: An International Perspective (pp. 133-174). Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger

The Spectrum of Prevention: 6 Levels

- Has been endorsed and applied in a variety of disciplines including public health and community psychology
- Offers a comprehensive strategy that delineates a systems approach to prevention practice

Level 1: Strengthen Individual Knowledge and Skills

- Enhance an individual's capability of preventing violence

Promising Strategies

- Promote Empowerment through Expanding Access to Education and Training
- Enhance Competence through Life Skills Development

Level 2: Promote Community Education

- Reach groups of people with information and resources to prevent violence and promote safety

Promising Strategies

- Children Planning to Migrate
- Family & Community Members
- Workers Likely to Come into Contact with Victims
- Those who Might Exploit Children who have been Trafficked

Level 3: Educate Providers

- Inform providers who will transmit skills and knowledge to others and model positive norms

Promising Strategies

- Provide Adequate Training to Law Enforcement Personnel to Foster Effective Coalitions and Networks for Demand
- Train Teachers and Other School Staff to Address Discriminatory and Sociocultural Attitudes through School-Based Interventions

Level 4: Foster Coalitions and Networks

- Bring together groups and individuals for broader goals and greater impact

Promising Strategies

- Promote Empowerment through Economic and Social Cooperatives
- Enhance Effectiveness through Interagency Collaboration and Communication
- Foster Collaboration among Governmental Agencies and/or NGOs
- Develop Effective Partnerships Through Interagency Collaboration/Communication

Level 5: Change Organizational Practices

- Adopt regulations and shape norms to prevent violence and improve safety

Promising Strategies

- Social Responsibility for Corporations
- Codes of Conduct for Tourism Industry

Level 6: Influence Policy and Legislation

- Enact laws and policies that support healthy community norms and a violence-free society

Promising Strategies

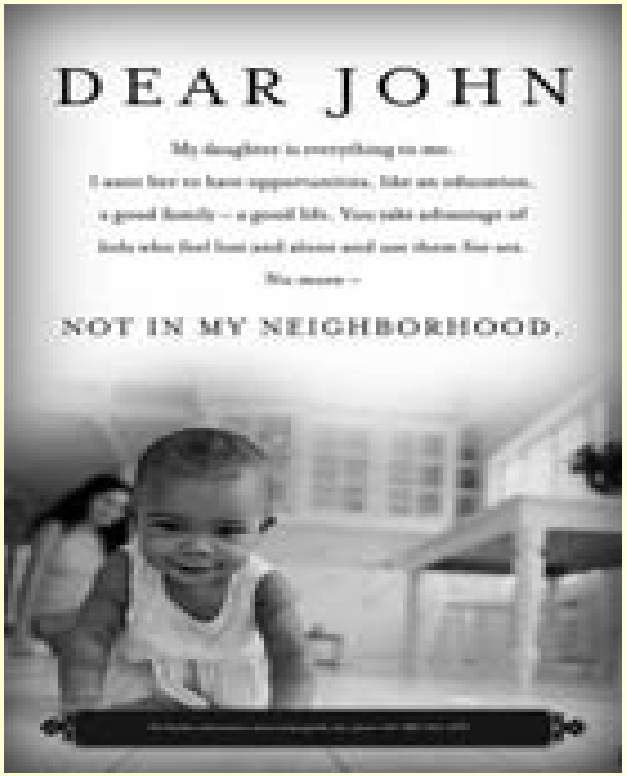
- Implement a Human Rights-Based Approach to Prosecution of Traffickers and Their Associates
- Create Development and Employment Opportunities
- Challenge Discriminatory Social and Cultural Norms

Conclusions

- The Spectrum of Prevention is comprised of six inter-related action levels of increasing scope and is designed to support developing comprehensive efforts on multiple levels.
- Activities at each of these six levels have the potential to support each other and effectively combat child trafficking and CSE.
  - For example, efforts to influence policy (Level 6) will have a better chance of being enacted when public awareness and support are garnered through education (Level 1, 2) and a variety of partners in different sectors are working to effect the desired change (Level 3, 4, 5).

Facilitating a Human Rights Approach

Fight Demand: Combat the Crime of Human Trafficking



Create Awareness of Crime

Build a Protective Environment

Recognize that abuses are rooted in the marginalization of girls and women, gender politics, sexual inequalities, gender-based discrimination, and patriarchal structures that do not condone the commercialization of women and girls.

Facilitating a Human Rights Approach

Victim Support and Empowerment

Ensure adequate training of law enforcement personnel and other front line staff facilitating a Human rights Approach

Second…Intervention Strategies

Based on models of good practice:

- Identify;
- Interview;
- Assist;
- Reintegrate

STOP
THEIR
FUTURE
IS IN OUR
HANDS