

**Engaging Christian Communities in Ending Human
Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation:
Supplemental Information**



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Religious Statements Against Sexual Exploitation

United Methodist Church

“Therefore, be it resolved, that The United Methodist Church, through education, financial resources, publication, lobbying, and the use of every relevant gift of God, shall join in the active battle against the modern-day enslavement of humans for commercial sexual exploitation, i.e., sex trafficking.”¹

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

“The system of sexual exploitation corrupts God’s wonderful gift of sexuality by reducing it to a marketable item. It separates sex from mutual relationships of trust, love, and equality intended by God. Those who sell sex use their bodies for sex they do not want, seeking only the money, gifts, drugs, or shelter they receive in payment. To survive they dissociate their business transactions from the rest of their identity. As their sexuality becomes a separate reality from who they are as persons, many face the threat of personal disintegration and its lifelong effects.”²

Presbyterian Church USA

“The General Assembly has historically acted to condemn trafficking, sexual exploitation, and slavery of women and children. Since 1983, the General Assemblies of PCUS, UPCUSA, and PCUSA have adopted reports and statements condemning sexual exploitation, prostitution, and abuse of women and children. Recognizing that 80 percent of sex trafficking involves females, the scope of the focus on sex trafficking of children needs to be expanded. Including women in our targeted ministries will ultimately impact and improve the lives of children.”³

Church Women United

“WHEREAS, many studies, notably *The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in the US, Canada, and Mexico* (Drs. Richard Estes and Neil Wiener, University of Pennsylvania, 2001), confirm that between 300,000 and 400,000 North American children are victimized by sexual abuse each year, and ECPAT (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes—USA, Inc.) reports two million children are exploited in the child sex trade worldwide.... THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Church Women United units will work to eliminate the trafficking of children for sexual purposes in both the US and worldwide.”⁴

National Council of Churches

“Human trafficking devalues human life and treats people as commodities—selling them to the highest bidder; women, children, and people from poor nations make up the largest percentage of victims of human trafficking and are the most vulnerable to it; trafficking of humans is the third largest criminal industry in the world, surpassed only by drug trafficking and the illegal arms trade; the involuntary bondage and sale of human beings is a crime against humanity and a sin against God.... Therefore, be it resolved: the member communions of the National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA, will educate their congregations about human trafficking and advocate for policies that will bring an end to these corrupt activities.”⁵

¹ United Methodist Church, *General Board of Church and Society* (adopted 2008).

² Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (November 11, 2001).

³ Advocacy Committee for Women’s Concerns, Presbyterian Church, USA, excerpted from proposed resolution of the 218th General Assembly of ACWC.

⁴ Common Council of Church Women United (July 30, 2004).

⁵ National Council of Churches, *Resolution on Human Trafficking* (approved at the governing board meeting, October 22, 2008).

Faith-Based Programs and Curricula

Freedom Begins Here

This faith-based program for sexual addiction provides resources and a safe place where people can find help with their struggle, equips church leaders with powerful tools to address the addiction, educates professional counselors with in-depth clinical training, and builds a movement of people who are willing to take a stand against sexual harm. For additional information, go to <http://www.freedombeginshere.org/>.

Porn and Pancakes

Pornography is a \$57-billion-a-year worldwide business. Everywhere we go, we are confronted with sexual images and dialogue. While having breakfast, men and boys in junior high and older meet with church counselors to discuss the harms of pornography and sexual addictions. Porn and Pancakes encourages and teaches men of all ages to overcome sexual addictions and pursue healing. For more information, go to <http://www.xxxchurch.com/pornandpancakes/>.

Set the Captives Free

This eight-week Bible study guide can be used for group study to enhance participants' Biblical understanding of human trafficking. The guide helps the reader turn knowledge into action in the fight against slavery. It is used along with the book *Not for Sale* (listed in the Books section) and addresses issues such as doubt and feelings of helplessness, justice, fasting, personal responsibility, the causes of modern slavery, personal goals and convictions, how to confront suffering, and much more. For more Information, go to http://www.notforsalecampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/nfs_bible_study.pdf.

The Not for Sale Campaign also offers resources for participation in their Freedom Sunday annual awareness-raising event. Go to <http://freedomSunday.org> for information.

Simply Youth Ministry

There are students in your youth ministry who are desperately hurting from the pain of a broken home or struggling with depression, abusive relationships, or other life challenges. Life Hurts God Heals is a comprehensive eight-step recovery program providing lifelong tools to students suffering from pain and addiction. For more information, go to <http://www.lifehurtsgodheals.com>.

Stop the Traffik Faith Resources

These resources include a Bible study comparing human trafficking to slavery, guides for praying for the people and issues involved, and a video and song that can be used for church groups or individuals looking to inspire participation in a campaign of awareness or education. Stop the Traffik also offers a packet of information to event organizers with many ideas for ways groups can take action. For more information, go to <http://www.stophetraffik.org/resources/faith.aspx>.

Wise as Serpents

Whether they are approached by a pimp at a vulnerable time or discover pornography on the Internet, youth face situations they may not be equipped to handle. Wise as Serpents is a six-lesson curriculum for junior high youth. It provides a forum for discussing the ways young people might be affected by

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the sex industry and how their faith guides them to respond. For more information, go to http://www.adultssavingkids.org/wise_as_serpents.html.

International Faith-Based Organizations

International Justice Mission

International Justice Mission is a human rights agency that secures justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation, and other forms of violent oppression. IJM lawyers, investigators, and aftercare professionals work with local officials to ensure immediate victim rescue and aftercare, prosecute perpetrators, and promote functioning public justice systems. For additional information, go to <http://www.ijm.org/>.

Salvation Army

The Salvation Army believes that all abuse and exploitation of human beings is an offense against humankind and against God. Due to the inherently abusive and exploitative nature of human trafficking, they consider all forms of trafficking in persons abhorrent. For additional information, go to <http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/trafficking>.

Stop the Traffik

Stop the Traffik is a global coalition of organizations working together to fight human trafficking, with a special focus on advocacy and education. There are currently more than 300 member organizations, including businesses, faith groups, community groups, and charities. For additional information, go to <http://www.stophetraffik.org>.

The Well

Each year thousands of women and girls from impoverished towns and villages in Thailand flock to cities like Bangkok and Pattaya to work in bars, go-go bars, brothels, and massage parlors. Some are sold outright by their families as slaves. The Well is a Christian ministry in Thailand (operating under *Servantworks* and other partner organizations) that provides counseling, training, job development, and other services to women and their families. For additional information, go to <http://www.servantworks.org/well>.

World Vision

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to tackling the causes of poverty and injustice worldwide to help children, families, and communities reach their full potential. It has dedicated projects and websites for child sex trafficking. For additional information, go to <http://www.worldvision.org/content.nsf/learn/globalissues-childprotection-sexexploit>.

Advocacy Organizations Working on Sexual Exploitation Issues in Chicago

Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation envisions a community free from all forms of sexual exploitation, including sexual assault and the commercial sex trade. CAASE addresses the culture, institutions, and individuals that perpetrate, profit from, or support sexual exploitation. Their work includes prevention, policy reform, community engagement, and legal services. As the lead agency for the End Demand Illinois campaign, CAASE seeks to refocus law enforcement's attention on pimps, johns, and traffickers, while proposing a network of support and services for survivors of the sex trade. For more information, go to <http://www.caase.org> and <http://www.enddemandillinois.org> or call (773) 244-2230.

Salvation Army's Partnership to Rescue Our Minors from Sexual Exploitation (PROMISE) is a Chicago faith-based organization working against the sexual exploitation of minors. Its mission is to address, in a holistic manner, the commercial sexual exploitation of youth under 18 in the Chicago area by focusing on prevention, intervention, outreach, and service provision. For more information, go to <http://www.sapromise.org> or call (312) 286-2011.

Prostitution Alternatives Round Table is a network of governmental and private nonprofit organizations and survivors of prostitution dedicated to addressing the many issues surrounding prostitution and homelessness in Chicago. PART is a project of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless and is led by an active Steering Committee and Committee of Survivors of Prostitution. For more information, go to <http://www.chicagohomeless.org> or call (312) 435-4548.

Soroptimist is an international volunteer organization composed of professional women working to improve the lives of women throughout the world through raising public awareness, fundraising, programming, and membership. For more information, go to <http://www.soroptimist.org/>.

Traffick Free is dedicated to raising awareness about human trafficking by conducting presentations for churches, schools, and groups. They also serve as a liaison with the community, linking community members with trafficking service providers for training, education, and volunteer opportunities. For more information, go to <http://www.traffickfree.org>.

Outreach and Direct Services for Survivors of the Sex Trade in Chicago

Anne’s House—Salvation Army’s Partnership to Rescue Our Minors from Sexual Exploitation is Illinois’s only long-term, trauma-informed, residential program for young women and girls who have been affected by sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. The program offers comprehensive services including individual and group therapy, life-skills training, support with academic and vocational goals, social and recreational activities, and spiritual guidance. For more information, go to <http://www.sapromise.org/anne.htm> or call (312) 291-7916.

Center on Halsted has a legal clinic that provides free and confidential information and referrals to local volunteer attorneys and legal organizations. The center has an education and victim advocacy team that works to reduce bias and violence in the lives of LGBT, queer and questioning, and HIV-affected people. The center also has an anti-violence project that offers a 24-hour crisis hotline, counseling, incident reporting assistance, court accompaniment, and victim advocacy to LGBTQ survivors of abuse and violence. For more information, go to <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/EVA.html> or call (773) 472-6469.

Dreamcatcher Foundation is an agency run by survivors of the sex trade. It provides health services, counseling, referrals to transitional housing and addiction treatment facilities, employment placement, and educational support for young women between the ages of 12 and 25 who have survived the sex trade. For more information, go to <http://www.dianetye.com/dreamcatcherfoundation/index1.html> or call (773) 936-9898.

Footprints offers hope and rehabilitative services to girls and women traumatized in the sex trade. It also facilitates prevention for substance abuse and HIV for women arrested for prostitution in Cook County. For more information, go to <http://www.cchc-online.org> or call (773) 533-5600.

Heartland Alliance’s Families Building Communities (FBC) program provides supportive services for women and their families, including those affected by prostitution, in their transition from shelters to permanent housing. FBC uses a strengths-based family-case-management model, providing intensive, home-based case-management services, a rental subsidy for 12 months, and 12 months of follow-up case management. The program also includes additional mentorship and trauma-recovery resources for women who have been charged with prostitution. For more information, go to <http://www.heartlandalliance.org> or call (773) 624-8148 ext. 1955.

Heartland Alliance’s National Immigrant Justice Center—Counter-Trafficking Project provides comprehensive legal services and case management for children and adult survivors of human trafficking. Attorneys and paralegals guide trafficking survivors through the process of obtaining T-visas. For more information, go to <http://www.immigrantjustice.org>.

Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault (ICASA) is a not-for-profit that oversees and convenes 33 community-based sexual-assault crisis centers working together to end sexual violence. Each center provides 24-hour crisis-intervention services and counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual assault and their significant others; presents prevention education programs in Illinois communities; and must

meet ICASA's training and service standards, including approved standards for its centers that offer services for prostituted and trafficked people. For more information, go to <http://www.icasa.org>.

The Northern Tier Anti-Trafficking Consortium (NTAC) is administered by Heartland Human Care Services and provides comprehensive trauma-informed, client-centered, culturally competent case management to foreign-born human trafficking survivors throughout 14 states and Puerto Rico, as well as training, technical assistance, and capacity building for organizations. For more information, call (800) 837-5345.

National Runaway Switchboard helps keep America's runaway and at-risk youth safe and off the streets. Their 24-hour crisis line has experienced front-line team members ready to help. Their services are anonymous, confidential, and free. For more information, go to <http://www.1800runaway.org> or call (800) RUNAWAY.

National Immigrant Justice Center ensures human rights protections and access to justice for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers through direct legal services, policy reform, impact litigation, and public education. For more information, go to <http://www.immigrantjustice.org>.

The Night Ministry connects with Chicago's vulnerable youth and adults through street outreach, youth shelter and supportive services, and their mobile health outreach bus. They provide basic resources, free healthcare, housing, and supportive services for youth and referrals to other agencies for specific resources. For more information, go to <http://www.thenightministry.org> or call (773) 784-9000.

Pillars provides comprehensive mental-health services, including a 24-hour hotline and crisis intervention, for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Pillars runs the Constance Morris House, a domestic-violence shelter, and offers legal advocacy and counseling for women and children experiencing domestic and sexual violence, including child sexual assault, incest, rape, and sex trafficking. For more information, go to <http://www.pillarscommunity.org/services/DomesticandSexualViolenceServices.asp> or call the 24-hour domestic violence hotline at (708) 485-5254 or the 24-hour sexual violence hotline at (708) 482-9600.

Prologues is an outreach team that travels throughout the city to provide HIV-prevention and support services for people involved in the commercial sex trade. For more information, call Lucretia Clay-Ward at (773) 317-8711.

Salvation Army's STOP-IT builds relationships with suspected trafficked persons through street outreach. It serves both children and adults who are affected by sex or labor trafficking. STOP-IT offers service referrals and ongoing support to people who are currently being victimized or who have survived trafficking. They also conduct training seminars to raise awareness about human trafficking and offer practical assistance to community service providers. Contact the 24-hour hotline at (877) 606-3158 to report a suspected case of human trafficking, including commercial sexual exploitation of children, sex trafficking, and labor trafficking. For more information, call (773) 275-6233 ext. 3029.

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Young Women’s Empowerment Project is a community-based, youth-led project that was founded in 2001 by a radical feminist and harm-reduction-based collective of women and girls involved in the sex trade or street economy and their allies. It was created by women and girls who believe that any girl can be empowered and that all girls are priceless, creative, and smart and can be leaders in their communities. YWEP offers girls involved in the sex trade and street economy ages 12 to 24 a place for nonjudgmental support, harm-reduction information, and other resources. For more information, go to <http://www.youarepriceless.org>.

Must-Read Books

A Crime So Monstrous: Face-to-Face with Modern-Day Slavery

Author: E. Benjamin Skinner (Free Press, 2008)

Journalist E. Benjamin Skinner gives several accounts of current slaves and traffickers but emphasizes slavery victims in Haiti, Sudan, Romania, and India. Their stories and conditions are recorded and analyzed.

A Piece of Cake

Author: Cupcake Brown (Crown Publishers, 2006) Cupcake's story encompasses foster care, child abuse, rape, drug dealing and addiction, alcoholism, gang activity, prostitution, and homelessness. In this original narrative, the author describes overcoming these obstacles with the help of both friends and strangers.

Bodies and Souls

Author: Isabel Vincent (HarperCollins Publishers, 2005)

The story of Jewish women victimized into the sex trade from the late 1860s to the beginning of the Second World War is told through academic studies and biographical accounts. In South America, South Africa, India, and New York, these women, shunned by the Jewish community, formed their own Jewish order spreading love and acceptance.

Listening to Olivia

Author: Jody Raphael (Northeastern University Press, 2004)

Jody Raphael gives voice to a former prostituted woman and stripper from Chicago, Olivia, who suffered from drug addiction, abuse, and poverty. Olivia overcame her obstacles and now works to help women escape the sex trade and leave behind a life of shame and pain.

The Natashas

Author: Victor Malarek (Arcade Press, 2004)

This book examines women forced into the Eastern European sex trade—how they get there, what happens, how they survive—as well as the impact of globalization.

Not for Sale: The Return of the Global Slave Trade and How We Can Fight It

Author: David Batstone (HarperCollins Publishers, 2007)

Journalist, professor, and editor David Batstone profiles the new generation of abolitionists who are leading the struggle to end modern-day slavery.

Prostitution, Trafficking, and Traumatic Stress

Editor: Melissa Farley (The Haworth Maltreatment & Trauma Press, 2000)

This book analyzes all aspects of the sex industry, from impoverished Mexican prostituted women to those trafficked around the world, and highlights the various forms of trauma they face.

Sold

Author: Patricia McCormick (Hyperion, 2006)

SOLD is the fictional story of 13-year-old Lakshmi, a Nepalese girl sold into prostitution and held against her will in an Indian brothel as a means to secure money for her family. This book is suitable for young adults.

The Johns: Sex for Sale and the Men Who Buy It

Author: Victor Malarek (Arcade Press, 2009)

Journalist and author of *The Natashas* writes another exposé on the sex industry, its customers, and the women who are trafficked from around the world into sexual slavery to meet the demand for paid sex.

The Macho Paradox

Author: Jackson Katz (Sourcebooks, Inc., 2006)

In this book, Katz speaks to all men, who, he argues, have a role to play in preventing male violence against women. His basic assertion is that rape, battering, and sexual abuse and harassment are so widespread that they must be viewed not as issues relevant only to troubled individuals but rather as a social problem rooted in our culture.

Must-See Films

Bangkok Girl

Nineteen-year-old Pla tells of her experience trying to avoid prostitution while working in a bar in Thailand since the age of 13. The film shows how, with time, she will inevitably be forced into the trade. (42 min)

Call and Response

CALL+RESPONSE is a first-of-its-kind feature documentary film that reveals the world's 27 million dirtiest secrets: there are more slaves today than ever before in human history. CALL+RESPONSE goes deep undercover where slavery is thriving from the child brothels of Cambodia to the slave brick kilns of rural India to reveal that in 2007 slave traders made more money than Google, Nike, and Starbucks combined. (89 min)

Demand

This documentary exposes the men who buy commercial sex, the vulnerable women and children sold as commodities, and the facilitators of the trade within the marketplace of exploitation. (45 min)

Holly

An American stolen-artifacts dealer comes across a 12-year-old Vietnamese girl sold by her family into prostitution. The film focuses on his attempt to bring the girl to safety and raise awareness about child trafficking. (114 min)

Lilya 4 Ever

At 16 in the former Soviet Union, Lilya is left by her mother and tricked into prostitution. The film tells the story of the horror Lilya's life soon becomes. (109 min)

Not for Sale

This documentary investigates the 27 million individuals ensnared in the modern-day slave trade. Undercover footage covers trafficking operations and what today's abolitionists are doing to fight the rampant terrors of human trafficking in the US and abroad. (85 min)

Svetlana's Journey

Based on a true story, this drama describes the experience of a young Bulgarian girl sold by her adopted parents to a pimp for only 10,000 euros. (40 min)

Trade

A girl from Mexico City is abducted into modern-day slavery, and her brother goes on a quest to rescue her. (119 min)

Turning a Corner

This documentary tells the stories of those affected by the sex trade in Chicago and examines efforts to implement policy reforms necessary to end the harm experienced by those in prostitution. (60 min)

Very Young Girls

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This film follows 13- and 14-year-old girls in New York and addresses the mistreatment and abuse that they endure as prostituted young women. Rachel Lloyd, a survivor herself, runs GEMs, a recovery center dedicated to supporting young girls as they exit the sex trade. (84 min)