

# STOP THE TRAFFIK

## WHAT IS STOP THE TRAFFIK?

A global Coalition:

- Exposing people trafficking
- Leading governments to action
- Unlocking freedom

STOP THE TRAFFIK is a major global coalition working together to help stop the sale of people, to see the traffickers prosecuted and to protect the victims of human trafficking and those vulnerable to this crime.

STOP THE TRAFFIK will raise awareness of the problem of human trafficking and call for change through the education of people in source and receiving countries as well as by equipping them to be advocates for change. The initiative will also encourage and help to finance grass roots anti-trafficking projects around the world. The initiative will culminate in "Freedom Day" on March 25th 2007 (the Bicentenary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade), which will be a day for everyone to celebrate liberty and commit to bringing that freedom to all men, women and children across the world, particularly by ending the terrible abuse of human rights, which is human trafficking.

## BRIEF SYNOPSIS

On 25th March 2007 the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade will be remembered in many countries around the world. STOP THE TRAFFIK will use this anniversary as a catalyst for an initiative whose goal is to cry for freedom for every human caught in trafficking around the world, with a particular focus on children and young people. The conviction that freedom is a human right drove both black and white abolitionists in the 18th and 19th centuries. That same conviction drives the STOP THE TRAFFIK coalition in the 21st century.

STOP THE TRAFFIK is built around 4 integrated goals;

- **Advocacy**
- **Education**
- **Fundraising and Practical Support**
- **Freedom Day**

### Advocacy

STOP THE TRAFFIK will call for the human rights of all those affected by human trafficking to be upheld, with a particular focus on children and young people. It will articulate the nature of human trafficking and call for action by The United Nations, as well as individual domestic governments and major corporations to implement legislation and policies against such injustice.

At the heart of the advocacy will be the **STOP THE TRAFFIK Declaration**, which we hope will be signed by millions of people around the world and will be delivered, via national STOP THE TRAFFIK offices, to the Secretary General of the United Nations, with copies to the respective heads of state, (details to be announced), following Freedom Day:

**PEOPLE TRAFFICKING IS WRONG,  
PLEASE STOP THE TRAFFIK:**

- 1 Prevent the sale of people
- 2 Prosecute the traffickers
- 3 Protect the victims

## **TOP Education**

Our goal is to create increased public awareness of what is, at the moment, a little known or understood injustice. STOP THE TRAFFIK will link together organisations that already work in the field of human trafficking and will compliment their efforts through creating a big media “platform”. As one voice, the members will effectively touch the public conscience in a stronger more powerful way than they could individually.

Throughout the 12-months on this website you will find [resources](#) for download.

## **TOP Fundraising and Practical Support**

STOP THE TRAFFIK places advocacy and education at the heart of its vision. However, we recognise you may want to respond with a financial donation or practical support. Your gifts will be directly channelled to human trafficking projects run by members of the coalition. Projects benefiting from this funding will be required to comply with best practice and tie in with the aims of STOP THE TRAFFIK.

## **TOP Freedom Day**

March 25th 2007 will be Freedom Day – not just as a celebration of history, but a moment to be inspired by the champions of history of the past to help us fight for freedom from the bondage of slavery through people trafficking.

Freedom Day will be celebrated by local, national and international events as the culmination of this 12-month initiative. Our plan is to hold major music concerts and events in London and elsewhere around the world that will attract extensive public attendance, press and media coverage. At the heart of Freedom Day will be tens of thousands of local events organised by coalition members and supporters whether NGOs, local charities, schools, clubs and faith groups etc. around the world.

## **BACKGROUND**

On 25th March 2007 the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade will be remembered in many countries around the world. STOP THE TRAFFIK will use this anniversary as a catalyst for a initiative whose goal is to cry for freedom for every human caught in trafficking around the world, with a particular focus on children and young people. The conviction that freedom is a human right drove both black and white abolitionists in the 18th and 19th centuries. That same conviction drives the STOP THE TRAFFIK coalition in the 21st century.

200 years ago, William Wilberforce realised the shocking news - Britain's slave trade was a growth industry, and the backbone of Britain's economy at that time. A man whose convictions compelled him to act. That same spirit that whispered in his ear to end the slave trade whispers in our ears today. On March 25th 2007 there will a worldwide shout for change – we will raise our voices so that everyone may hear - we will shout with joy to celebrate the traffic that has already been stopped, and shout the call for the release of every trafficked. We will fight for those who cannot fight for themselves.

William Wilberforce was one man who mobilised a swell of voices to speak out against injustice and make a difference that impacted the world. You can be a voice that influences others and get the group or organisation that you belong to to become a member of STOP THE TRAFFIK.

The abolition of the Slave Trade Act (1807) was achieved by a mass movement made up of those who were enslaved, anti-slavery campaigners and ordinary members of the public, black, white, male and female. [www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk), [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org), [www.setallfree.net](http://www.setallfree.net) are excellent websites detailing biographies of a broad range of abolitionists.

## THE PROBLEM TODAY

### *What is trafficking?*

#### **A definition:**

“Trafficking in human beings” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

*Article 3 of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime (Palmero Protocol)*

### **The scale of human trafficking**

Men, women and children are trafficked within their own countries and across international borders. Trafficking affects every continent and most countries.

Due to the hidden and illegal nature of human trafficking, gathering statistics on the scale of the problem is a complex and difficult task. There are no reliable national or international estimates as to the extent of trafficking. Figures are usually counted in the countries that people are trafficked into and often fail to include those who are trafficked within their own national borders. The following statistics may represent an underestimation of trafficking, but are the most credible and frequently quoted.

- **AT LEAST 12.3 MILLION PEOPLE ARE VICTIMS OF FORCED LABOUR WORLDWIDE. OF THESE 2.4 MILLION ARE AS A RESULT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.** *A global alliance against forced labor, International Labour Organisation, 2005*
- **600,000-800,000 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN TRAFFICKED ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS EACH YEAR. APPROXIMATELY 80 PER CENT ARE WOMEN AND GIRLS. UP TO 50% ARE MINORS.** *US Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report 2005*
- **AN ESTIMATED 1.2 MILLION CHILDREN TRAFFICKED EACH YEAR.** *UNICEF UK Child Trafficking Information sheet, January 2003*
- **THE MAJORITY OF TRAFFICKED VICTIMS ARGUABLY COME FROM THE POOREST COUNTRIES AND POOREST STRATA OF THE NATIONAL POPULATION.** *A global alliance against forced labor, International Labour Organisation, 2005*
- **TRAFFICKING IS THE FASTEST GROWING MEANS BY WHICH PEOPLE ARE CAUGHT IN THE TRAP OF SLAVERY.** *Anti-Slavery*
- **HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS THE THIRD LARGEST SOURCE OF INCOME FOR ORGANISED CRIME, EXCEEDED ONLY BY ARMS AND DRUGS TRAFFICKING.** *UN office on drugs and crime*
- **IT IS THE FASTEST GROWING FORM OF INTERNATIONAL CRIME, ALREADY GENERATING 7 BILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDS. THERE ARE EVEN REPORTS THAT SOME TRAFFICKING**

**GROUPS ARE SWITCHING THEIR CARGO FROM DRUGS TO HUMAN BEINGS, IN A SEARCH OF HIGH PROFITS AT LOWER RISK.** *UN office on drugs and crime*

- **PEOPLE ARE TRAFFICKED INTO PROSTITUTION, BEGGING, FORCED LABOUR, MILITARY SERVICE, DOMESTIC SERVICE, FORCED ILLEGAL ADOPTION, FORCED MARRIAGE ETC.**
- **TYPES OF RECRUITMENT; INCLUDE ABDUCTION, FALSE AGREEMENT WITH PARENTS, SOLD BY PARENTS, RUNAWAYS, TRAVEL WITH FAMILY, ORPHANS SOLD FROM STREET OR INSTITUTIONS.**

## **CASE STUDIES**

*\*Names have been changed to protect the identities.*

### **Sokha, Cambodia**

Tourist guides call Poipet the 'Wild West' of South-East Asia, on account of its roaring sex trade and gambling scene. People also come here to buy or abduct children. Girls as young as five are trafficked over the border into Thailand. Sokha\* and Makara\* were sold to a trafficker who promised good jobs for the girls in Thailand. Sokha explains that her mother was ill with a liver complaint. The family needed money to pay for drugs to treat her, and they also hoped to buy some land to build a home. But, reality turned out to be very different. There were no 'good jobs' for the girls, Sokha's mother died within a year, and the family couldn't afford to buy land. Sokha, now 17, says, 'I felt cheated. The traffickers used us for slave jobs, and whilst they earned lots of money we only got enough to feed ourselves each day.' She explains how she and Makara, 16, were given jobs selling fruit, but it did not pay enough. Soon their bosses forced them into sleeping with men to pay their way. When they were sold they were 14 and 15 years old. A Tearfund partner provides young girls with sewing skills, counselling and the loving support of a local church. The girls' parents met staff from Tearfund partner, Cambodian Hope Organisation (CHO), and gave them photos to pass on to an organisation in Thailand that rescues girls from prostitution. They found – and duly rescued – Sokha and Makara. By then, the girls' ordeal had been going on for nearly a year. Sokha says, 'It's good to be home. We are grateful to CHO who have brought us back to our home, provided us with counselling, taught us the skill of sewing, and brought us into the church.' When asked what they hope for in the future, Sokha says she hopes to set up her own sewing business and employ and help girls in her situation. 'We were scared all the time in Thailand,' she says. 'Now I'm happy, getting support, living with my family and free to work when I want.'

*SOURCE: Tearfund*

### **Prjua and Ajay, India**

Prjua, aged 9 and her brother Ajay, a boy aged 7, lived on Thane train station in Mumbai, India with their parents who were both alcoholics. Prjua and Ajay were regular attendees of the Asha Deep Day Centre, run by Oasis India, where they learnt to read and write and were given the opportunity to play. After attending daily for 3-months they disappeared. The project staff went to look for them. Prjua and Ajay's father told how a man had come and offered money for them and that he had sold them for the equivalent of \$30. That was the last the father and the staff of Asha Deep Day Centre heard of them. In that area of Mumbai every 2-3 months children disappeared, kidnapped or sold into prostitution, forced labour, adoption or child sacrifice.

*SOURCE: Oasis India*

### **Mary, Mexico**

Mary a 19-year old female came into the United States from Mexico. She was referred to the Salvation Army by a domestic violence shelter where she presently resides with her 11-month-old son. Mary was

persuaded to come to the US with the promise that she would have a better life and be provided a job. Mary was verbally abused and raped several times by her perpetrator - which was the source of her son's conception. Mary reported that she previously had a miscarriage due to the abuse and at times was not allowed to seek medical attention. She was escorted to her job in a factory where she packaged vegetables, but was never paid for her employment. She reports that she was given a white powder (which was suspected to be cocaine), and only later she determined to be drugs. Mary was not allowed to leave the apartment in which she was staying unless she was going to work. The perpetrator threatened her saying that if she attempted to escape she would be deported or hurt by the immigration department. Mary is currently being provided shelter, therapeutic counselling, clothing, food and legal advocacy services. Although the authorities have determined Mary to be a victim of human trafficking, the US Attorney's Office has decided not to prosecute the case. She was therefore denied the expedient route to obtaining legal status and is now applying for a visa, which would allow her to stay in the country for up to 3 years after which she could apply for permanent residency.

*SOURCE: Salvation Army*

## **Sergey, Russia**

Sergey is 27 years old and from Perm in Russia. In 2001 he saw an advert in a local newspaper for a job agency recruiting construction workers to work in Spain. The salary offered was US\$1,200 per month. This was much more than his monthly salary of just \$200 and more than he could ever hope to earn in Perm. He applied to the agency who booked his plane ticket to Madrid on the condition that he would pay back the money when he started work.

On arrival in Spain, Sergey was picked up by a person from the "agency" who took his passport. He was taken to Portugal and forced to work on a construction site without pay for several months. The site was surrounded by barbed wire. Without his passport he was afraid that the Portuguese authorities would arrest him. One day Sergey managed to escape and begged his way to Germany. Because he did not have a passport the German authorities arrested him. He stated the police beat him and took away what little money he had before deporting him to Russia.

Now back home, Sergey is very traumatised by his experience. He suffered psychological problems and for several months was unable to work. He received no counselling or support to help him overcome his ordeal. Meanwhile his traffickers remain unpunished.

*SOURCE: Anti-Slavery*

## **HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

### **Individuals**

Membership of the STOP THE TRAFFIK coalition is open to organisations, but individuals are encouraged to also get involved by joining the contact list by signing our [Declaration Card](#) and sending it online or by post, which will keep you in touch with information and news updates. This will also help us demonstrate the strength of feeling around the world as we talk to governments and those who can make changes. After Freedom day on 25th March 2007 a petition will be sent to the United Nations and governments and your support by joining our contact list will help enormously. At the end of STOP THE TRAFFIK, those who have joined the contact list will be encouraged to continue their support through our members and the central list will be shut down. STOP THE TRAFFIK will, therefore, provide a legacy of increased support through its Coalition members with growing support for the years to come.

### **Organisations**

Please complete the [membership form](#) online or post it to us

## **25 WAYS FOR YOUR ORGANISATION TO GET INVOLVED**

Here are 25 practical ways in which your organisation can get involved. We'll leave it to your imagination to come up with as many more as you can think of, but remember, whatever you do, please keep us in touch:

**1 PUT FREEDOM DAY IN YOUR DIARY** – March 25th 2007. It's the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade and is a great opportunity to highlight the issue of human trafficking. We'll be producing an event organisers' pack over the next few months so come back to find out more. In the meantime, start thinking about what you can do and how you can mobilise your community.

**2 SIGN THE DECLARATION [online now](#)**. This is your opportunity to add your name to the thousands of others who are supporting STOP THE TRAFFIK. The declaration cards will be delivered to the Secretary General of the United Nations after Freedom Day, 25 March 2007, so the more cards we get, the more impact we will have.

**3 GET A GROUP INVOLVED**. Once you've signed the declaration, get a group or organisation that you are part of to **become a member of STOP THE TRAFFIK**. It could be a Scout group, a football team, a school, a church, a youth group – there are loads of possibilities. Get them on board and help them spread the word about STOP THE TRAFFIK.

**4 GET MORE PEOPLE TO SIGN DECLARATION CARDS!** [Download the Declaration card](#) and either print it off at home, or save the file and take it to a printers. Think about where you could hand them out to your friends and family, and to groups or organisations that you belong to. The declaration cards will be delivered to the Secretary General of the United Nations after Freedom Day, 25 March 2007, so the more cards we get, the more impact we will have.

**5 BUY A KEY AND PUT IT ON YOUR KEY RING**. It's a great talking point to explain to other people what it's all about, and every time you use your keys it will remind you of STOP THE TRAFFIK.

**6 FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ISSUES**. Read the stories on this website about how people have been affected by trafficking and what organisations are doing to prevent the sale of people and care for those who have been trafficked.

**7 GET FUNDRAISING**. Raise money for projects that are working to stop trafficking. Here are ten quick ideas to get you started, and we'll be adding more to the site in the coming months. *[coming soon]*

**8 DO AN ASSEMBLY ON THE ISSUE**. There's an outline here *[coming soon]* that you could use or adapt. And it's not just for teachers! If you're a pupil, ask your teacher if you can pass on what you've found out about STOP THE TRAFFIK. Or if you're a schoolworker, talk to the schools that you visit about highlighting STOP THE TRAFFIK in an assembly. You could inspire lots of other people to get involved.

**9 DO A SESSION ON TRAFFICKING AND STOP THE TRAFFIK WITH YOUR YOUTH GROUP**. This meeting outline can be adapted for both secular and church youth groups. *[coming soon]*

**10 ADD A STOP THE TRAFFIK BANNER TO YOUR WEBSITE OR BLOG**. You'll find the code to use [here](#).

**11 PRINT OFF COPIES OF THIS POSTER TO PUT UP** around your school, college or church to publicise STOP THE TRAFFIK. Check whether you need permission to do this, and make sure you get it before you set off with your blu-tack and posters! **[coming soon]**

**12 PLAN TO DO SOME LESSONS** in the autumn or spring terms about human trafficking and how pupils can respond. There are four activity ideas and worksheets here for use with 7-11 year olds with curriculum links included. Lesson plans for secondary school pupils will follow shortly – watch this space!

**13 LET US KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO PUBLICISE STOP THE TRAFFIK AND TO GET MORE PEOPLE ON BOARD.** Let us know what you're planning for Freedom Day. Let us know if there are other resources that you need or ideas that you have. **Send us an email!**

**14 FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF SLAVERY** and what has been done through the years to abolish it. **Set All Free** is a network created up by Churches Together in England. Their excellent website includes lots of useful information about the past and about forms of modern slavery.

**15 IF YOU ARE PART OF A CHURCH, SET UP THESE PRAYER STATIONS** during a service or a housegroup to inform people about STOP THE TRAFFIK and give them an opportunity to pray about the issues. **[coming soon]**

**16 IN SPRING 2007, WALDEN MEDIA, THE MAKERS OF NARNIA FILMS, WILL RELEASE AMAZING GRACE**, a film about the life of William Wilberforce and his efforts to abolish slavery. Find out more about the film from the **Walden website** and let other people know about the film.

**17 CREATE A FREEDOM WALL** – a fantastic way of publicising STOP THE TRAFFIK and getting people to sign up! The idea is to put the text of the declaration onto a wall, and provide a means for people to add their support. Be creative – there are lots of different ways you could do this!

- First, find a wall in a public place – perhaps in your office, your school hall, your college, your church, or in the community. You'll need permission of course, so contact whoever owns the wall.
- Decide when to do it. Choose a time that will have a lot of impact – during a village fete, while a school production is going on. If you want to use a wall outside, it may take a while to get permission from the council so plan ahead.
- How permanent can your Freedom Wall be? If you can, use paint so that it will last and lots of people will see it. You may need to give the wall a fresh coat of white paint to make the declaration stand out. If you can't paint on the wall, use large rolls of paper to cover it.
- Put the text of the declaration in the middle of the wall, using paint or marker pens, or by printing it out.

**"People trafficking is wrong. I support STOP THE TRAFFIK in its call to: Prevent the sale of people, Prosecute the traffickers, Protect the victims."**

- Decide how you want people to add their support.
  - Adults could sign declaration cards and add them to the wall
  - Children could add handprints in paint
- Take photos of the wall so you have a record of it. Send us a copy and we might put it on the website. **Have a look at the Freedom Walls that other people have done here.**
- If you do a paper-based Freedom Wall, you could roll it up and keep it to display at your Freedom Day event.
- At the end, collect in the declaration cards and send them to STOP THE TRAFFIK.

**18 FOR SCHOOL LESSONS ABOUT THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE, VISIT ANTISLAVERY INTERNATIONAL'S BREAKING THE SILENCE WEBSITE.** The site is full of excellent resources including the Up from Slavery activity which enables pupils to hear the part that African slaves played in their own freedom from enslavement.

**19 USE THIS POWERPOINT PRESENTATION TO EXPLAIN WHAT STOP THE TRAFFIK IS ALL ABOUT** to your school, club, church, business or organisation. The script of the Powerpoint is here *[coming soon]*. You could order copies of the Declaration Card to have for people to sign at the end.

**20 IF YOU ARE DOING A SPORTING EVENT**, such as the London Triathlon on 5th or 6th August or the Great North Run on 1st October, then get sponsored for one of the **projects** featured on our website. Contact them to see if they can provide you with sponsor forms, or set up a fundraising page on **Justgiving**. Fundraising in this way makes it very easy for charities to reclaim Gift Aid.

**21 BLOG ABOUT STOP THE TRAFFIK** and set up a link to our website. You could add our **banner** to your blog as well.

**22 IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS ROUND TO WATCH WORLD CUP MATCHES**, talk to them about STOP THE TRAFFIK in the half-time break and hand out declaration cards for them to sign when you pass round the snacks! There is an important link between the two. Many women who have been trafficked to Europe end up in the sex trade and some football supporters will visit them while they are over there for the World Cup games.

**23 HIGHLIGHT STOP THE TRAFFIK AT YOUR COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.** Hand out Declaration cards as people come into a lecture. Invite people round for a pancake party where they make their own pancakes and you tell them about STOP THE TRAFFIK. Wear a heavy chain round your neck for a day (get one from a DIY shop) and when people ask you why tell them about STOP THE TRAFFIK. Use your imagination – we're sure you can come up with better ideas than these. Let us know what they are and we'll add them to the website.

**24 YOU CAN HELP US MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO THE LIVES OF UP TO 40,000 WOMEN** who could be trafficked to Germany for sex with punters during the World Cup this summer. A new campaign is targeting male football fans to remind them that sex with an unwilling trafficked woman is rape and encouraging them not to use these exploited women. We aim to educate men about this injustice before they make the choice to pay for sex.

STOP THE TRAFFIK and The Salvation Army handed out flyers at the England Friendlies at the end of May and beginning of June. Now we are looking for people who can help us do the same at World Cup matches. Volunteers must be 18 years or older. Volunteers will be briefed about the issue of trafficking and who the fliers need to be given to.

If you can help us make a difference please contact [id@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:id@salvationarmy.org.uk) with your name, age and contact number. You can also call 020 7367 4777. We'll get in touch with all the details you need.

**25 TAKE TIME TO REFLECT ON THE ISSUES.** Light a candle and think about, or pray for, people who are trafficked, the reasons why they are trafficked and what you can do to get more involved.