

Internet Trafficking: Local/Global Implications

End Internet Trafficking Coalition
August 5, 2008



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Let's work together:

-Please mute your phones.

Questions and Answers will be done through email. Email your questions to questions@eitcoalition.org

If we are unable to get to a question, they will be addressed on our web forum: <https://www.eitcoalition.org/phpBB3/index.php>

Thank you!

End Internet Trafficking Coalition

August 5, 2008

Speaker: Annie Fukushima





Human Trafficking

The TVPA defines "severe forms of trafficking," as:

- a. Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by **force, fraud, or coercion**, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or
- b. The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of **force, fraud, or coercion** for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

Speaker: Matthew Dorozenski



Human Trafficking & the Internet

“The Internet has become the latest place for promoting the global trafficking and sexual exploitation of women. This global communication network is being used to promote and engage in the buying and selling of women and children. Agents offer catalogues of mail order brides, with girls as young as 13. Commercial sex tours are advertised. Men exchange information on where to find prostitutes and describe how they can be used. After their trips men write reports on how much they paid for women and children and write pornographic descriptions of what they did to those they bought.” – Donna M. Hughes, 1997

Speaker: Matthew Dorozenski





Internet Trafficking

The utilization of the internet as a means to facilitate human trafficking

Things to Note:

Refer to definition on human trafficking established by U.S. policies

Other forms of trafficking via the internet exist (drug, organ, arms), however, EITC focuses on human trafficking

Speaker: Matthew Dorozenski



Sex Tours

Site Sample: Philippines (Farr)

-Philippine Adventure Tour Sex Tours: \$1,645

Prostitutes sold for \$24

-Play Boy: “Why They Love Us in the Philippines... with beaches and bars and girls and everything cheap... [the] last frontier where you can have what you want – get a blow job, see a female boxing bout and oil wrestling, and have fun with LBFMS”

- Child Prostitution: grew from 60,000 to 100,000 (mid 1980s-1990s)



Waiting to take an island tour.

Source: Global Sex Travel . com

Site Sample: Thailand (Kempadoo)

\$5 Billion a Year

Clients: Europeans, Americans, and locals

Other common case samples: Dominican Republic, Thailand and South Korea

Speaker: Annie Fukushima



Mail Order Brides

“For only 5\$ each, some 10 million Filipino women have been lost to mail-order-bride”
– Herrera

Suggested Documentary: Say I Do



Source: Eliza “Neneng” Barrios, Reanne “Immaculata” Estrada and Jenifer “Baby” Wofford have worked collaboratively as Mail Order Brides/M.O.B.

Speaker: Annie Fukushima



Prostitution

Numbers of those trafficked

- Hidden Slaves Reports 44%
- UN estimates that 80% of global trafficking is into prostitution
- 47% of Sex Trafficked Population is from Asia

Venues:

Go-go bars, pick-up trucks, night clubs, massage parlors, saunas, truck stops, restaurants and coffee shops, barber shops, in straightforward brothels which provide no other service, via escort agencies, or on the street



Source: CBS Westfield, "Asian Massage Parlor in Westfield Shut Down", May 8, 2007

Speaker: Annie Fukushima



Pornography

“The Internet allows many predators to remain anonymous and perpetrate a variety of abuses, such as grooming, exposing children to child pornography, and producing, manufacturing, and distributing child pornography. In fact, it is estimated that 20,000 pornographic images of children are posted on the Internet each week. This is a transnational problem not only due to the global dissemination of such pictures, but because some child pornography produced in the West involves children trafficked from other countries.” -- Sara Shapouri



Source: Tessionline. “Is pornography on the Net a social threat? It is rather difficult to ignore the images and links displayed!” April 30, 2007

Speaker: Annie Fukushima



Recruitment

- Chat-rooms / Instant Messaging
- Spam mail
- Internet dating / Marriage Agencies
- Online employment agencies seeking artists, models,
- Email recruitment through social networking sites

Speaker: Andrea Powell



Internet trafficking –Asia-Pacific

“Over 120 men and 2 women customers happily married - are you next?” –
Pleasure Tours

“Trafficking in Persons: U.S. Policy and Issues for Congress,' the CRS had said that the Philippines, Thailand, South Korea, Sri Lanka, and Hong Kong are ``some of the primary Asian destinations for organized sex tours.’” – Kim Yon-se

Speaker: Annie Fukushima



G&F Sex Tours – Equality Now



For over seventeen years Gunter Frenz, the owner/operator of G&F Tours, has been organizing sex tours to Thailand, the Philippines and Cambodia.

“Do you need an innocent in need of seduction or a raw nymphomaniac whore? ... Do you like it nice or nasty? ... Maybe you've heard stories about sample blow jobs...? It's all true!” (G&F Tours website) – Source: Equality Now, October 2005, Action Women’s Action 27.1

Speaker: Annie Fukushima





Sex Tours and the Philippines

“Websites such as Filipinobeauties.com sell not just Filipino but Chinese women as well on the Internet. The charge of 14.95 pounds for a 30-day membership allows access to the name, postal address and full description of the women. Big Apple Oriental Tours in New York advertise the Philippines as a sex tourist spot and organize sex tours for American men to Angeles City (Big Apple Oriental Tours Information and Sign-up Sheet).” -- Jean Enriquez, CATW-Asia-Pacific

Speaker: Annie Fukushima





Internet trafficking –Europe

Mail Order Brides

The USCIS also reports that "... mail-order bride and e-mail correspondence services result in 4,000 to 6,000 marriages between U.S. men and foreign brides each year."

12,000 Russian women are currently being advertised online via www.anastasia-international.com

In the United States, most mail order brides come from Columbia, Venezuela, Thailand, Philippines, Ukraine, and Russia

Speaker: Andrea Powell





Internet trafficking –Europe

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

- Many of the perpetrators come from Western European countries
- Children are generally from Asian and Eastern European countries where lax rule of law allows for such illegal activities

Internet as source for child pornography

- “It appears that much of the new child pornography circulating on the Internet comes from Eastern Europe, predominantly Russia.” - ECPAT International

-Convention on Cyber Crime - 2001

Passed by the Council of Europe, first international document which explicitly links child pornography and computer systems

Serbian Case: October 2005: Serbia - Nikola Bugardzic indicted and sentenced for three years in prison for selling and advertising over the internet the sales of movies and photos of children under the age of 18

Speaker: Andrea Powell





Internet trafficking-U.S.

“...despite its millions of users and various social benefits, there’s a dark side of Craigslist that most users don’t see. In the “Erotic” section, human traffickers have found Craigslist to be one of the most efficient, effective (and free) ways to post children and women for sale.” -Katherine Chon Executive Director and Co-Founder of Polaris Project.

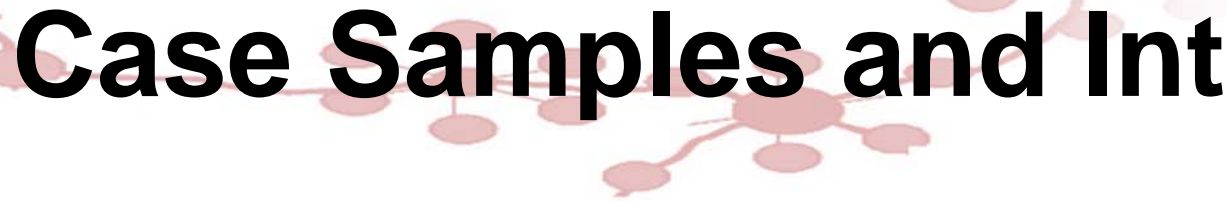
www.Craigslist.com

- Present in 450 cities worldwide, in all 50 US states and over 50 countries.
- More than 9 billion page views per month.
- More than 30 million people each month use craigslist.
- More than 30 million new classified ads each month are self-published

Every 10 days there are 25,000 new ads posted in the erotic services section

Speaker: Kathy Maskell and Somanjana C. Batthacharya



A decorative background graphic consisting of a network of interconnected nodes and lines, rendered in a light red color, positioned behind the main title.

Case Samples and Internet Sites

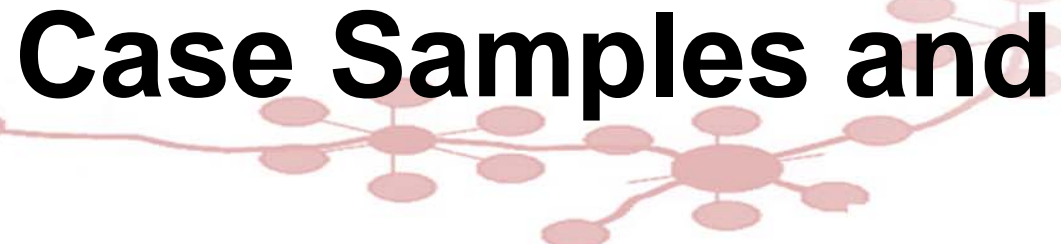
In July 2007...

A 19-year-old woman faces federal charges of recruiting minors for prostitution, after some teenage girls told investigators she was actively recruiting clients for a sex ring she allegedly operated out of a Burnsville motel where she worked.

Investigators believe Justine Alex Reisdorf of Eagan advertised in the "erotic services" section of the Web site Craigslist.org, and more recently on the "Live Links" telephone chat line, according to a statement by FBI agent Lisa Nielsen.

Speaker: Kathy Maskell and Somanjana C. Batthacharya





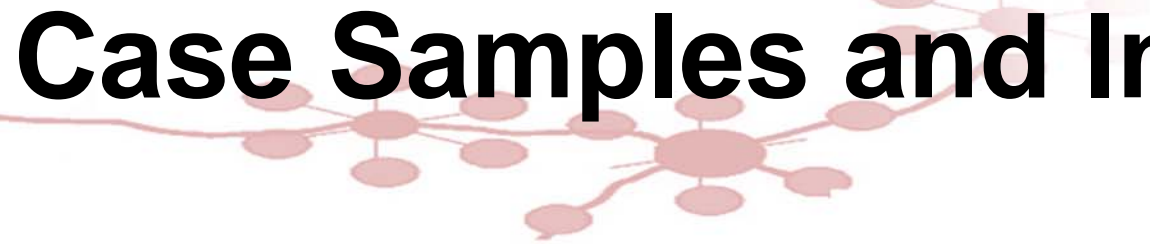
Case Samples and Internet Sites

In May 2008...

The parents of a seven-day old Vancouver girl were arrested after allegedly trying to sell her on Craigslist. "This certainly in my 27 years is one that I thought I would never see," said Constable Tim Fanning of the Vancouver Police Department.

Speaker: Kathy Maskell and Somanjana C. Batthacharya





Case Samples and Internet Sites

Researchers site some of the Internet's most popular online communities, such as Craigslist.org, as a hub for illicit transactions that often involve underage girls. The independent tracking study found that 65 percent of men who inquired about online sex service ads through Craigslist were responsive to listings that specifically offered "young" females.--- February 09, 2008 Atlanta Daily World

Speaker: Kathy Maskell and Somanjana C. Batthacharya



U.S. – East Coast

Advertisement trends on Craigslist by posters

- Some advertisements are in the third person, suggesting that the post was written by someone other than who is pictured
- “Double the fun”: many posts offer multiple girls suggesting a prostitution ring
- The same phone numbers can be found on some advertisements of different females, suggesting that such persons are being exploited by a pimp or trafficker
- Many traffickers and pimps who exploit minors know better than to post a minor. Instead, these pimps will post an 18 or 19 year old for sexual services. Once the pimp is satisfied that the customer is trust-worthy, s/he will then offer the minors to this “john.”

Speaker: Alexis Taylor Litos



U.S. – East Coast

Connecticut Casinos

- The 3 Connecticut Casinos draw demand for paid sex acts
- Many advertisements posted on Craigslist offer out-calls to the casinos, especially Foxwoods

-This is an example of an advertisement on Craigslist:

CT HOTTIE - w4m - 21 (Casino Area)

Reply to: pers-730992566@craigslist.org

Date: 2008-06-24, 1:21PM EDT

Sexy Vanilla here for a short time.

I am 110lb, 34B and 5'1".

I am a freak and love to please.

Call scarlet for info and rates.

860-634-6522 No Blocked call, emails, or texts as they will not be answered.

** This ad was taken from Craigslist in the Eastern CT section on 6/25/08. Notice how the ad refers to another poster. It is unknown whether Scarlet, who appears to be a madam, has minors working for her as the accompanied photo did not show the girl's face.*

Speaker: Alexis Taylor Litos



U.S. – East Coast

WalMart Parking - Suspected Trafficking Connecticut Shoreline, May 2008

-A staff member of the Barnaba Institute witnessed a teenager talking with a man in a SUV. He held a phone in his hand. Then a car drove into the lot and the man in the SUV pointed at the car and the girl walked over to this car and climbed in. She left the car after ten minutes and got into the SUV.

-It is likely that the girl was being advertised over the Internet for sex acts as the engagement appeared to be arranged.

-When the staff member stepped out of her car, the SUV with the girl drove away and she was not able to get the license plate number as it was not posted on the front of the car.

Speaker: Alexis Taylor Litos



U.S. – East Coast

First prosecution under New York's sex trafficking law

A 16 year-old girl was trafficked and prostituted by Woodley Gaston, 22, of Rockaway Boulevard.

Gaston “groomed” the girl by buying her clothes and getting her hair and nails primped at a local salon. He then forced her to solicit sex acts with as many as 10 men per day and kept all of the money. He threatened to kill her if she didn’t comply.

The girl was forced to solicit in South Queens and near Kennedy Airport and Gaston **advertised her sexual services on Craigslist.com.**

Gaston, who is charged with sex trafficking, promoting prostitution, rape and other crimes, faces up to 25 years in prison if convicted.

*As reported in Newsday.com
June 18, 2008 by Anthony M. Destefano*

Speaker: Alexis Taylor Litos



U.S. – East Coast

**Hundreds Seized in Sweep Against Child Prostitution
Reported by Susan Saulny, New York Times
June 26, 2008**



The FBI conducted its largest multi-state sweep ever, rescuing 433 exploited children as a result of the initiative, federal officials said. The initiative was conducted nation-wide in cities including Boston, Atlanta, Detroit, Washington, Miami, Reno and several cities in California.

Officials believe that the rising popularity of Internet-based communication makes it easier for predators to reach more potential victims *and* to advertise victims to “johns.”

F.B.I. director, Robert Mueller, said at a news conference at the bureau’s headquarters in Washington: “What is different as we stand here today is that we are faced with the increasing use of social network sites and other advances in technology to carry out these crimes and facilitate these criminal enterprises.”

Speaker: Alexis Taylor Litos





U.S. – West Coast

In November 2005...

A California woman attempted to pimp her 4 year old daughter by posting an ad in the “Erotic Services” section of craigslist. This ad went unnoticed by craigslist personnel until they were contacted by police investigating the case.

Speaker: Kathy Maskell and Somanjana C. Batthacharya





Possibilities Through the Internet

- Safemodeling.org
- Internet Watch Foundation
- Netsmartz for Kids
- Internet Safe
- Dru's Law (sexual predator online database), part of the 2006 Adams Walsh Child Protection Act

List is not all encompassing

Speaker: Annie Fukushima



Coalition building

The coalition: The Barnaba Institute, FAIR Fund, Love146 and SAFEHS
(Students & Artists Fighting to End Human Slavery)

The Sponsors: Adults Saving Kids, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, Melissa Farley, Prostitution Research Education, Donna M. Hughes, University of Rhode Island, National Organization for Women-CT, Project Free - New York Asian Women's Center, Salvation Army- PROMISE Initiative, Kate Reid from CRTEC, Marisa Ugarte, Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition

www.eitcoalition.org



Speaker: Annie Fukushima & Matthew Dorozenski

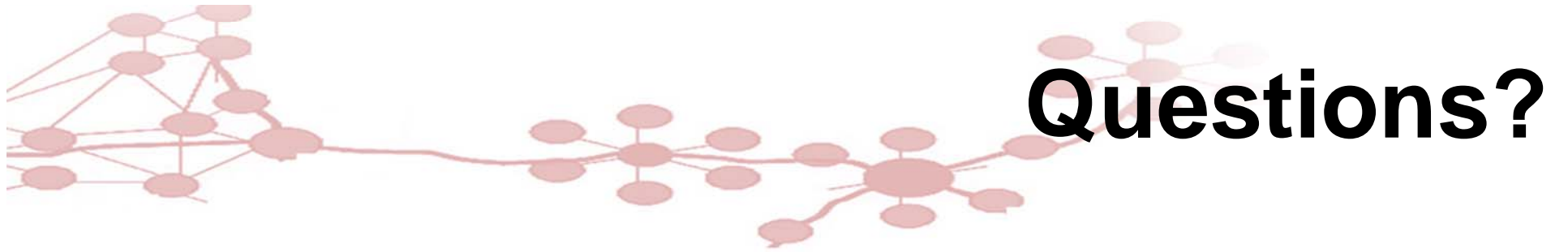


Events to Look out for

The End Internet Trafficking Coalition is holding an in person public forum in the Bay Area on September 26th & 27th. Details coming soon. Visit eitcoalition.org for details

Speaker: Annie Fukushima





Thank you for joining us.

Email questions to: questions@eitcoalition.org

Moderator: Annie Fukushima





The Presenters

Alexis Taylor Litos, Executive Director, The Barnaba Institute

Andrea Powell, Executive Director and Co-Founder FAIR Fund

Annie Fukushima, Executive Director SAFEHS

Kathy Maskell, US Advocacy Director Love146

Somanjana C. Bhattacharya, PR & Communications Division Love146

Matthew R. Dorozenski, Advisory Board Member, The Barnaba Institute

Speaker: Annie Fukushima





Special Thanks to:

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Annie Fukushima for coordinating the participants, moderating and putting the slide together

Alexis Taylor Litos for our organizing our press release and taking on the role as press contact

Mathew Dorozenski for recording the phone / web conference,

Our sponsors and everyone who helped to spread the word!





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