



**THE ANGLICAN CONSULTATION ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING
2-7 NOVEMBER 2009 * HONG KONG**



¹ UNICEF

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CONFRONTING “the EVILS of BUYING and SELLING, of CHILDREN LIKE A BOTTLE of JUICE, to QUENCH THIRST”!



JUSTIFICATION

The theological grounding used for The Anglican Consultation on Human Trafficking derives from the Biblical passage in Genesis which reminds us that:

Genesis 1: 27 “God created man (human beings) in His own image, in the image of God He created Him; male and female He created them.” As the bearers of God’s image, human beings have a dignity and worth guaranteed by the Creator.”²

Thematically, it emerged from recognizing that an addressing of the specific impact, context and manifestations of Trafficking in Human Persons as regarded children, and especially the Girl Child, was identified as a gap in the MDG child related goals. It was also an issue of critical concern raised by the Anglican Churches in Asia, which requested that it be prioritized by the Anglican UN Observer.

² Bishop Ambala, Himalaya Diocese-India, Delegate to AUNO Consultation on Trafficking in Children Hong Kong, 2009.

Finally, the Consultation was informed by mandates set forth in the United Nations *“Decade for a Culture of Peace & Non-violence for the Children of the World”*, which publicly stated the need to develop a *“World Fit for Children.”* A plan of action, adopted by the ACC at the 2002 meeting in Hong Kong (ACC-XII) includes financial & other support directed to children as the most vulnerable in society & disproportionately impacted by all development issues.

PROCESS

The Anglican Human Trafficking program was conceived as a small consultation to be held in a region that is generally seen as the epicenter for trafficking. Delegates from Africa, USA, Canada, UK, Latin America and Central Europe were brought in to broaden the scope, cross learning and for comparison. There was a deliberate effort to draw in other Non-Governmental and UN entities in the region that were working around the same issue, namely: UNICEF, ECPAT and the UNIAP in Myanmar, as well as civil society initiatives.

The event aimed at supporting and giving the churches in the region the opportunity to address the evils, as so eloquently stated by Bishop Ambala, of *“buying and selling of children like a bottle of juice, to quench thirst!”*

The consultation was structured to give personal testimonies and stories of those most affected but often least equipped to fend for their own rights. Each day started with theological reflection that was followed by presentations and discussions organized around a theme.

Through country and status reports, the consultation was able to document new lessons, highlight research-based advocacy issues and concerns, and strategies for sharing best practices and challenges. The program facilitated the development of partnerships in advocacy and lobbying, re-imaging the girl child and restoring the dignity of those who had been dehumanized and debilitated by the trade.



HISTORY OF TRAFFICKING

Trafficking is:

“The recruitment, transport, transfer, harboring or receipt of a child (anyone under 18 years) for the purpose of exploitation even if this does not involve force, fraud or coercion.”



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Trafficking in persons has existed for centuries and has grown over the years, both in magnitude and scope. Genesis records the first transaction between the Ishmaelites and the ruling house of Pharaoh in Egypt. In Africa trafficking dates back to the slave trade days.

Although trafficking seems to imply people moving across continents, most exploitation takes place close to home. Trafficked children age range is often between 5-18 years though those trafficked for “adoption” are often between 1-5. In Zimbabwe and Ghana, girls as young as 8 years old are sold as brides for their ‘Purity’- playing on peoples’ fear of HIV infection.

³ AmaleeUNICEF; Hong Kong Consultation on Trafficking, 2009

FORMS OF TRAFICKING



Ms. Anna Gula presenting the United States status report.

Data show intra-regional and domestic trafficking are the major forms of trafficking in persons. There are also notable cases of long-distance trafficking. Some institutions and organizations have quantified the numbers involved but statistics is elusive given for example that some trafficking takes place between rich and poor relatives and this is often not documented. Various studies have established trafficking routes across all continents.

Both cross-border and internal trafficking are often the result of both forced and voluntary migration in a desperate attempt to seek a more decent life. Then there are organized groups that are involved in illegal recruitment for sex, labor, adoption, mail-order and child marriage, begging, street vending, factories, fishing, construction, agriculture and sale of human organs, to list a few.

Human Trafficking is now the second most wide-spread and lucrative of all illegal enterprises, having surpassed Arms Sales and second only to the Drug Trade.



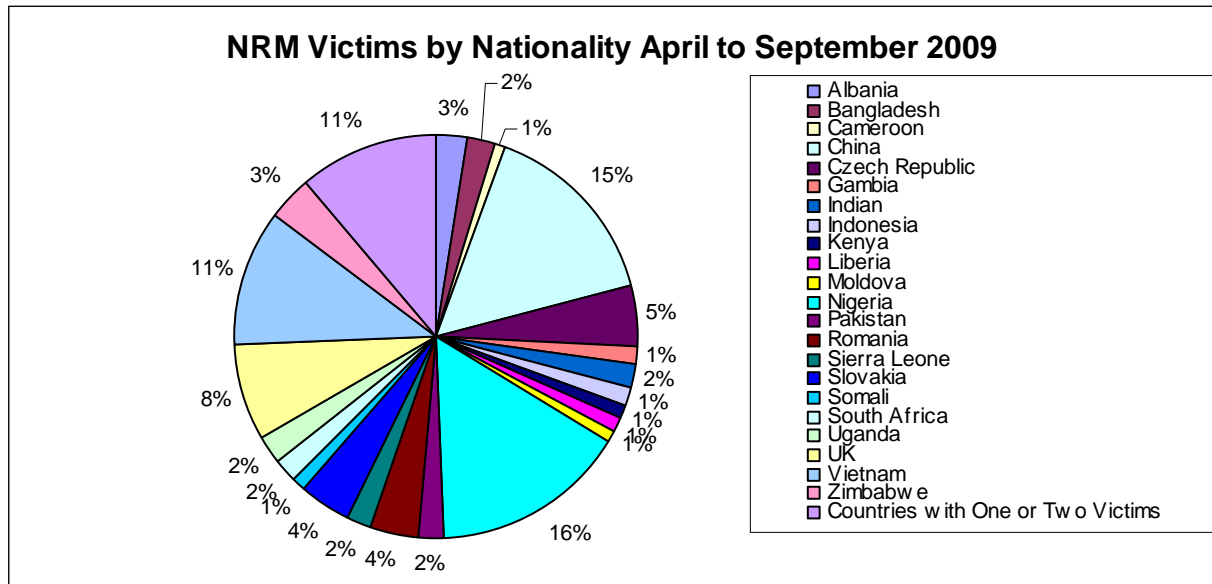
The ANPPCAN Research in East Africa, involving over 200 children in selected sites revealed that in Uganda, the trafficked children age range was 5-18 years. Those trafficked at the age range 5- 12 consisted of 31% and majority of this range were boys (59%). In Kenya the age range of trafficked children was 8- 19 years and the majority trafficked were between the ages of 13- 15 years (80%). In Tanzania age range was 12- 17 years majority of the children trafficked were at the age of 12- 17 years (44%). In Zimbabwe and Ghana, girls as young as 8 years old are sold as brides for their 'Purity'- playing on peoples' fear on HIV infection.⁴

Whereas for many of the trafficked girls, the end point is the brothel, for boys it can be a workplace where their helplessness can be exploited by putting them to hard labor on nominal or no wages, and bad work conditions. Several young girls working as domestic help are exploited sexually and sometimes found dead in mysterious conditions

Internal trafficking of Indian women and children is widespread. At least 25000 children are engaged in prostitution in the major metropolitan cities. 50000 girl children below 18 years are victims of trafficking within India and sold into brothels. Thousands of young boys migrated to these cities in search of employment are exploited in their workplaces. Europe is the destination for victims from the widest range of origins, while victims from Asia are trafficked to the widest range of destinations.

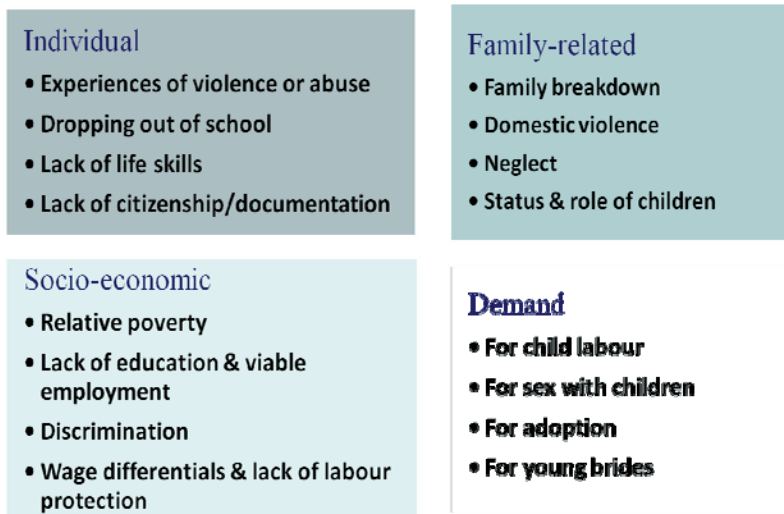
⁴ Rev Canon Grace Kaiso; AUNO Consultation on Trafficking; Hong Kong, 2009

COUNTRIES OF SOURCE



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MAIN CAUSES



6

The other reasons are:

Gender inequality that are often further exacerbated by class or cultural or caste discrimination directed to tribal groups. In Pakistan girls are sold to settle feuds. The status of the girl child, who is more often regarded as a liability especially in some parts

⁵ Cynthia

⁶ UNICEF

of Asia, makes them an especially vulnerable target. In addition, gender discrimination is prevalent in the social milieu, and different forms of violence against women like infanticide, female feticide add to the vulnerability. This is further accentuated during periods of acute economic distress, for example during drought, flood or food shortage.

Ignorance on the part of families and children is often exploited by rich relatives or traffickers. This was the case with Sussana at 14:

A person from a neighboring village approached her Father to say there was work in North India. She would earn 2000 rupees a month which will be sent directly to her father. That was a lot of money! He gave her father 1000 rupees as an advance and she was then taken away. She was happy to be able to work and earn some money to help her family.

After some days, Sussana called from a public phone in the market place just three and a half kilometers away from her home to say, "Father, they have cheated us....I am being forced to marry a man of 65 I have been told that If I report I shall be mutilated, packed in a bag and sent back to you!"

After two years, Sussana was rescued by the Church. She has an 18 month old baby. Every night, she prays, "...bless me with death, for me and my child, and let not the light of the next morning be seen for both of us!"



The demands for cheap and submissive child labor especially in the informal economic sectors, plus the modern day “entertainment”, recreation, the fashion and tourist industries combine to create the demand that the trade thrives on. This is further facilitated by easy means of travel and communication and easy access of children to abusive images (media); poor law enforcement and inadequate political commitment.

Vulnerability does apply to all categories but children constitute the largest contingent and especially handicapped children and deportees.

In some countries, the debt crisis has exacerbated economic deprivation and the subsequent collapse of social security systems has even further spurred migration. But what was shocking to discover was the demand for human organs and body parts to be used in the health and cosmetic sectors!

CHALLENGES TO ENDING TRAFFICKING

Paedophilic networks are thriving on internet and modern communication systems. This is the direct outcome of globalisation. The same goes for Sex Tourism internationally. These are areas that are difficult to monitor or legislate against.

It is not easy to spot traffickers and to contain cross boarder trade if it goes through a third-party Country of Transit (for example UK Heathrow), creating lost opportunities for tracking. Many countries do not have specialised and trained Police or other law enforcement and immigration agents equipped to spot signs of trafficking.

Applying protection against trafficking for those who are categorised as alien/migrants is extremely difficult. There are often no social service specific programmes for trafficked children. Long term separation of children from families also creates a challenge for return or onward patriation, especially once they reach age 18 years. Some countries claim they have limited resources for such a complex issue.

There are no specific laws that prohibit Human Trafficking in the Immigration Ordinances and Crime Ordinances of countries. National laws and procedures prevent effective cooperation in victim identification process, investigation and prosecutorial process (e.g. Mutual Legal Assistance law).

Data collection remains unsystematic and incomplete and yet it is vital for providing evidence based prosecution and advocacy. To date, trafficking interventions have generally targeted almost everybody other than those who benefit most from the trafficking crime – the exploiters



EXAMPLES OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

1. UNICEF

<p>Justice for children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutionalized child sensitive procedures & in-service trainings w/in the justice system: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam
<p>Social welfare for children & families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported capacity bldg for teachers, health professionals, counsellors, social workers: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam • Strengthened recovery & reintegration services (e.g. min. standards, manuals): Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam
<p>Social behaviour change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported media campaigns & TV dramas on risks of trafficking & CSEC: Lao PDR, Indonesia

2. UN INTER-AGENCY PROJECT ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING (UNIAP)

UNIAP has a Regional Plan of Action covers every aspects of trafficking interventions which includes the following programmatic areas:

- **POLICY and TECHNICAL**
 - Training and Capacity Building
 - National Plans of Actions
 - Multi-sectoral and Bilateral Partnerships
- **PROSECUTION**
 - Legal Frameworks, Law Enforcement and Justice
- **PROTECTION**
 - Victim Identification, Protection, Recovery and Reintegration
- **PREVENTION**
 - Preventive Measures
 - Cooperation with the Private and Tourism Sector
- **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

3. ANGLICAN DIOCESE of EASTERN HIMALAYA-INDIA

In 2005, the Bishop of Himalaya and Bishop Ambala began to mobilize their members and to a consietize them. They began with women and youth. These were then organized into small economic work groups and VIGILANTE CELLS. The Vigilante cell groups would monitor the movement of girls in their locations. They would also look out for traffickers.

4. The CHURCH in KOREA

Anglican Church of Korea (GFS) has been looking into migrant marriage by Aliens to Korean spouses. Such women often do not understand the Korean culture of what is expected of a wife.

5. SAFE HOUSES for EMPOWERMENT and ADVOCACY

Bethune House was establish in order to provide concrete assistance to displaced women and children and to work in partnership with churches, women's groups and advocates for service delivery. The center also conducts trainings that can develop their skills. In the process the victims of trafficking and exploitation are able to realize the strength of united women through self-help organizations

WHAT CAN WE DO?



- ❖ Raising public awareness against this evil: to hold A GLOBAL ANGLICAN CONFERENCE and set aside an ANTI-TRAFFICKING SUNDAY
- ❖ Partnerships that will bring government representatives, UN agencies, Community Based Organizations, faith groups on board.
- ❖ Advocate for national laws and trained enforcement agents.
- ❖ Promotion of education as a preventive strategy.
- ❖ Strengthening of partnerships and co-operation. (Multi-sectoral, cross borders).
- ❖ Harmonization of legislation within regions.
- ❖ Promote government ownership and response to trafficking.
- ❖ Establishment of legal frameworks and provisions to deter trafficking and prosecute traffickers and their accomplices.
- ❖ Strengthen socio economic interventions and children welfare programs and minorities while advocating for government and commitment.



The Co-host and Co-sponsor, The Most Reverend Paul Kwong, Archbishop and Primate of Hong Kong Province



Bethune Women's Shelter

