

ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES TO ADDRESSING THIS COMPLEX ISSUE

Sponsored by National Council of Churches – Justice for Women Working Group &
United Methodist Women’s Division United Methodist Seminar Program on
National and International Affairs



United
Methodist
Women

연합감리교회 여성교회
Mujeres Metodistas Unidas

Conference Report

The Ecumenical Conference on Human Trafficking began at 12:30 pm on Monday, September 29, 2008 at the Church Center for the United Nations, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY, 10017 and finished at 12:30 pm on Wednesday, October 1, 2008. There were 72 participants representing 15 different denominations or faith communities, 3 interfaith organizations and 7 secular organizations. Young Adult participants (under the age of 30) comprised 10% of the participants. The conference consisted of worship, panel presentations, site visits and an Open Space strategy session. The full agenda can be found at the end of this report.

On Wednesday morning (Oct. 1st), conference participants were invited to identify issues and/or areas of interest for which they would like further discussion and an opportunity to begin developing strategies. Through the process of *Open Space Technology* – people volunteered to lead discussion topics and then spent 2 ½ hours in various group discussions. Each topic leader was responsible for writing up an Open Space Report. Ten reports were generated on the following topics: (listed alphabetically by convener’s title)

- How can we address the broader issue of modern-day slavery?
- How LGBTQ church members/organizations/allies be involved?
- International Partnerships
- Inspiring individuals to care about human trafficking (and other egregious abuse) that occur overseas.
- Language and Imagery
- Men – Ending Demand
- Rescue/Restore Materials
- Resources and Theology
- Root Causes of Trafficking: How Do We Help Congregations Go Deeper to Engage These?
- Shelter

On the conference evaluation forms many participants indicated the time given for this process was too short and that they were just beginning the conversations. The reports generated will assist the NCC – Justice for Women Working Group and United Methodist Women’s Division United Methodist Seminary Program on National and International Affairs to determine possible next steps to take individually and together. We hope the ideas generated in these reports and throughout the conference will also be picked up by others and new partnerships may be formed. Each report identifies the discussion group leaders and other participants. Feel free to reach out directly to each other as you continue to address this complex topic. If you wish to continue discussion and strategy planning with the NCC contact Rev. Ann Tiemeyer at atiemeyer@nccusa.org and with United Methodist Women’s Division contact Dr. Glory Dharmaraj at gdharmar@gbgm-unc.org

NOTE: the *Shelter* report does not have a list of participants due to a technical problem with the computer on site. The group convener was asked to re-write the report a few days later and no longer had the list of names. If you would like your name added to this report or if your name was left off another report by mistake, please send an email to atiemeyer@nccusa.org.

Several other topics of interest were identified throughout the conference, but because of time constrains they did not generate an Open Space report. A list of these additional topics follows the Open Space Reports.

On the conference evaluations, participants were asked to identify what they would do when they returned home. The responses to this question identified several other positive follow up steps. We have also attached a list of these plans. We encourage you read these responses and reach out to each other in support of this ongoing work.

During the three conference panel discussions a member of the NCC – Justice for Women’s Working Group took notes. These notes are attached for your records.

You can also find news releases that document the conference at the following websites:
<http://www.nccusa.org/news/081001traffickingconference.html>
<http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=1wL4KnN1LtH&b=2433457&ct=6059617>
<http://www.umc.org/site/apps/nlnet/content3.aspx?c=1wL4KnN1LtH&b=1723955&ct=6059571>

Please also continue to check the NCC Women’s Ministry webpage for future information at <http://www.nccusa.org/womensministry>.

Finally, attached you will find a list of conference participants and contact information.

We hope these items will assist you in your work and continue to help us together build a network for the ecumenical community to join together with each other and beyond to speak out and act to end the sin of human trafficking.

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Open Space Report Title:

How can we address the broader issue of modern-day slavery?

Convener:

Anna Speicher, Church of the Brethren, aspeicher_gb@brethren.org

List of participants:

Brigitte Gynther, Ruth Vince, Una Stevenson, Darrell Omanson, Anna Speicher

Discussion and recommendations:

- We talked about the power of using the word “slavery” to help us name and explain the worldwide phenomenon of forced labor. This puts the issue in the context of centuries of the exploitation of human labor.
- Poverty is a major cause, the root of much of the problem of enslavement around the world. We need to get at this root.
- Anti-poverty programs, programs that support women and children, small businesses are key. The Women, Faith, and Development Alliance is working at this. Many other organizations as well.
- Making slavery an explicit objective in anti-poverty action would be helpful.
- Speaking of the exploitation of labor (as opposed to sex trafficking) can broaden people’s understanding of the issue.
- How do we institute fair working conditions for laborers (e.g., end sweatshops)?
- Support passage of the Decent Working Conditions and Fair Compensation Act
- Connect to corporate campaigns (to change corporate practices)
- How do we change our buying habits?
 - Acknowledge our culture of consumerism
 - Oppose NAFTA (“Fair Trade” is not fair for many other countries when we flood their markets with our cheap goods.)
 - Get list of slave-produced products from the Dept. of Labor
 - Buy Fair Trade products.
 - Buy local.
 - Change the mindset of “buy cheap.” (“Slavery is too high a price to pay for cheap goods.” – Kevin Bales)

Open Space Report Title:

How can LGBTQ church members/organizations/allies be involved?

Convener:

Loey Powell powelll@ucc.org

List of participants:

Carmen Vianese, Mary Steufert, participant from Night Light USA

Discussion and recommendations:

- LGBTQ youth are trafficked, may experience further abuse by the systems set up to help victims, or may have difficult times finding safe shelter, safe space.
- Some children/youth who are trafficked for sex exploitation may not – and probably don't have – a sense of their own sexual orientation or identity but are forced to perform either heterosexual or same-sex acts. If they enter recovery and rehab programs to assist victims, issues of their own sexual orientation/identity may be confusing to them given their experience.
- Churches that are welcoming/affirming of lgbtq members could consider providing safe space/shelter for such youth.
- Gay men could be helpful in discussions about the paradigmatic norm of masculinity and the need to open this up, engage with other men in the discussion.
- LGBTQ and gender issues are often closely related in analysis of why men abuse women or use boys/girls/women for sex.
- Congregations can focus on their responsibility to those who are most vulnerable. LGBTQ youth who are trafficked, or who run away from home and end up on the streets selling their bodies should be among those who are most vulnerable – but churches CANNOT try to convert or change such youth. No strings! Just love, support, authenticity.
- This is also an issue in rural areas where there is often little visible support for LGBTQ persons/youth.

Open Space Report Title:
International Partnerships

Convener:

Margaret Larom, International Justice and Peace, The Episcopal Church

List of participants:

1. Canon Margaret Larom, Episcopal
2. Lillian Oats, Presbyterian (U.S.A.)
3. Ruth Vince, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
4. Gozie Udemezue, Anglican, Nigeria
5. Christine Mangale, Methodist
6. Sr. Rose Bernadette Gallagher
7. Rosangela Oliveira, Methodist
8. Joanne Rich, United Methodist
9. Geraldine Kennedy, Catholic
10. Loey Powell, UCC

Discussion and recommendations:

- To have a trafficking conference with more international participants and with a good representation of participants who are in the age range of those being trafficked.
- To develop partnerships with other faith groups to address international trafficking.
- To develop partnerships to address trafficking partnerships to address trafficking at both ends of the trafficking chain. (This would include helping victims and working to address the causes of trafficking, e.g. poverty.

Open Space Report Title:

Inspiring individuals to care about human trafficking (and other egregious abuse) that occur overseas.

Convener:

Jane Tafel, 715-514-2294, Jane.tafel@hagarinternational.org

List of participants:

Jane Tafel

Susan Omanson

LaMarco Cable

Michelle Collins

Discussion and recommendations:

- Need to inspire thinking as part of a global community in as many ways as possible:
- Our Christian faith calls us to do this...concern for those near and far
 - Pastor can provide much inspiration through infusion of international concerns/awareness/issues in as many ways as possible through sermon, worship, etc.
 - Bring stories to the congregation
 - Help everyone to see how individual actions impact people all over the world more and more...’the world is flat’
 - Bring pastors from overseas as ‘missionaries’ to US congregation, to enlighten us with international perspective
 - When possible, transport people overseas as a transforming experience; when not possible bring the world to the congregation through stories, visitors, etc

Open Space Report Title:
Language and imagery

Convener:

Susie Johnson

List of participants:

Darrell Omanson

Nancy

Megan

Geraldine Kennedy

Discussion and recommendations:

- Need to work with young adults/youth to help them understand think about language: through youth groups, school system, and women's wellness centers at universities
- Need to make connections with secular organizations to find, reach, educate non-church related youth and young adults
- Women in domestic violence prefer to be called victim until they are safe from their abuser—then transition to survivor: application to trafficking
- If we use term survivor will the public have an interest?
- How would term commercial paid rape instead of prostitution, or prostituted woman change conversation?
- Nancy Ramos with the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women has done work on this issue.
- Maybe need to use images instead of language
- Term slavery may offer greater opportunities to convey issue than words:
- Use images on billboard campaigns or use of "tourist" oriented publications or general interest magazines in US. Use images to bring issue out into larger public view
- Focus on rights approach changes power dynamic
- Need to convey continuum of harm-women moving toward safety- Capture steps toward survivorhood rather than engaging church women in using words of pity.
- Women oriented language not persuasive to men
- Language can desensitize

Open Space Report Title:
Men – Ending Demand

Convener:

Rev. Ann Hayman

List of participants:

Mikka McCracken

Ericka Miller

Sally MacNichol

Loey Powell,

Carmen FS Vianese

Betty Jones.

Discussion Points:

- Why do men frequent prostitutes?
- Why do men incest their children?
- Why do men create and use pornography?
- Why do men urinate in public?
- Why do men beat their wives, lovers and children?
- Why do men rape women?

- The issue of male privilege and their sense of entitlement were discussed. We don't question the myth that men need sex on demand and we have accommodated them by setting aside a certain segment of our female population to service that "need."
- We need to cultivate the leadership of (feminist) men who are committed to talking with other men – our male allies.
- We need to work with women who are acculturated to take care of and protect men.

Action Plan:

- Host very intentional the(a)ological conversations on the roles of men and women
- Discover and establish resources addressing masculinity
 - Books
 - Organizations
 - Web sites

Open Space Report Title:
Rescue/Restore Materials

Convener: Joanne Reich – jreich@gbgm-umc.org Ministries with Women, Children, and Families also Child Protection and Community Assistance Officer – General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church

List of participants:

Mary Streufert
Shirley Canon
Amy Hartman
Joanne Reich

Discussion and recommendations:

Unfortunately we did not have anyone in the group that has personally used the materials of Rescue & Restore – Dept of Health & Human Services – however we were told that the Episcopal church and Church Women United and the American Baptist women have used some of them.

It was our idea that if member denominations got the word out about these free resources that could be distributed throughout the US at church related community centers, residential facilities, day care programs, health clinics we could put a cover letter with our own denominations commitment to the human trafficking issue along with the material the gov't provides. These resources are good and free and our tax dollars at work ☺ we need to use them!
The website on the posters www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking

Open Space Report Title: *Resources and theology*

Convener:

Inez Torres Davis Inez.davis@elca.org

Nancy Murphy representing Faith Trust Institute

Mary Streufert mary.streufert@elca.org

List of participants:

Joanne Reich, Hugh Dell, Martha, Brigitte, Dorothy, Ana Speicher

Discussion and recommendations:

- Participants would like to see an online “clearinghouse” for resources so that we are not trying to produce things that already exist. Resources would be of all types (online, print, visual media, etc.)
- We suggested resource themes:
 - forced labor
 - sex trafficking
 - commercial sexual exploitation: of adults and of children
 - theological resources
 - worship resources: sermons/homiletical and litanies
 - care and restoration
 - various program curricula:
 - educational: adult, youth, and children
 - for care providers
- We posed questions over possible places this collective list could be kept and maintained:
 - Could this be an active list on the NCCC Web site?
 - Could PolarisProject host this list?
 - Could FaithTrust Institute be the hosting site and give a link to it on the brochure on human trafficking which they are going to develop? (They are going to develop a brochure on trafficking with ECPAT: “What every congregation should know.”)
- We posed guideline parameters:
 - Could we assign names and titles to submissions to the resource list so that others using it for their denominations have a quick way to evaluate the value of a listed resource? (All of us will not have time to review everything.)
 - When we use a resource, could we use a rating system to assign a value to it? For example, give a resource a star rating.
- Could we put on our respective Web sites our top five recommended resources and then link users to this general site of resources? If we do this, we should link directly to the resource.

Open Space Report Title:***Root Causes of Trafficking: How Do We Help Congregations Go Deeper to Engage These?*****Convener:**

Martha Bettis Gee (Martha.gee@pcusa.org)

Glory Dhamaraj (UMC Women's Division)

List of participants: Margaret Larom, Episcopal Church; Meg Gallagher, Catholic; Lamarco Cable, CC(Disciples of Christ); Mary Clark, Reformed Church in America; Dawn Ravella, Reformed Church of Bronxville; Rosangela Oliveria , United Methodist; Glory Dhamaraj, United Methodist; Martha Bettis Gee, PC(USA)

Discussion and recommendations:

- Intersection and interrelated nature of root causes (race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, poverty, globalization, lack of jobs, dire circumstances) over against the incredible profits being made by the traffickers (second most lucrative “business” in the world with huge profits) .
- Poverty is a root cause with high visibility now .Sojourners is focusing on election and asking candidates questions about these issues. Issue of finding common vocabulary to communicate with progressives and evangelicals.
- Other resources: Christian Churches Together, Catholic Alliance, Center for Concern
- Need to get beyond our polities- more than an issue for women's ministries. Need voice of men.
- Also need conversation with the Global South partners.
- Recommendation: May need a separate summit on poverty, globalization as the fertile ground out of which trafficking arises and that sustains and nurtures it.
- This group only was able to briefly sketch some of the issues ; not enough time to really address how to engage congregations.

Open Space Report Title:
Shelter

Convener: Nancy Murphy
List of participants: 10-12

Discussion and recommendations:

- It appears that currently domestic violence and youth shelters are making room to accommodate trafficking victims, however there seems to be serious unmet need.
- At the discussion table were some who have done shelter work for addicts, women coming out of prostitution and safe homes for domestic violence who spoke to the challenges, difficulties and costs of shelter work. There was also some who feel called to enter this arena and were inquiring about the possibilities of an emergent learning experience where
- The recommendations were for:
- A separate conference for those engaged in shelter for trafficked victim/survivors to include:
 - A manual with best practices for shelter
 - A workshop on security
 - A workshop on licensing requirement
 - A workshop on soul care

Topics / Questions / Concerns
Identified on the “Wall” during Conference
but not picked up for Open Space Time
(pages left on the floor)

- How can we create a methodical plan for educating across sections – pastors, colleges & Universities, health providers, etc...
- State – Human Trafficking Task Force – What do they do? How are they funded?
- What can we do to clearly connect the local & personal to the global or international without objectifying the people affected by trafficking “over there”?
- The Rescue & Restore program really caught my attention. I need more details / information on this to take home to my organization & church. (NOTE website for Rescue and Restore is www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/index.html).
- Polaris Project is there an office near you? Find Out! www.polarisProject.org
- Should we host a similar conference with more international participants?
- Are any denominations writing any youth education programs on human trafficking?
- How do we create a clearing house/ gathering place to list and share TIP resources and information?
- How have you seen any strategic connections between addressing sex trafficking and faith-based community organizing?
- What examples do you know for men gathering to address sex trafficking – “demand”, cultural pressure on men to participate.

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Participant Evaluation Responses:

What are you planning to do when you return home to follow up on this conference?

Sift through the information, make calls, visit sites, and then include a project in our Sister Share Program. –Mary Clark

Meet with my denomination's leaders about way we can formally address human trafficking.
–LaMarco Cable

Continue growing my experience & sharing. –Katherine Ward

Put more information on our website. Continue pressing the Canadian Council of Church. Put more emphasis on the topic with ELW. –Ruth Vince

I will be informing my Board of Director members of the information shared so that we, the UMC/UMW and Woman's Division can continue and expand our mission work with women, children, and youth! –
Carmen FS Vianese

Follow up with the organizers to broaden the message and get a statement of faith and action to give to our national leaders. –Tronie Foundation

Share resources –Jane Tafel

Work to ensure more staff to work directly on trafficking and DV and other issues. Further workshops. Possible collaboration with Church of the Brethren. –Mary Streufert

I'll prepare a report for the Church of the Brethren General Secretary and Board. I'll participate in "what's next?" discussions. I'm thinking of doing an article on the relationship of historical slavery to present-day slavery. –Ann Speicher

Bring back to my group and integrate ecumenical practice, use ideas presented by others.
–Amber Petitt

Get my church to plan for presentation by someone I met at this conference. –Lillian Oats

Provide training for staff who might encounter women being trafficked to serve farmworker men. –
Virginia Nesmith

Compile all of my resources I gained and those of others and possibly do a presentation with church and our community. –Ericka Miller

Send resources to home parish in Columbus, OH and display resources at my seminary.
–Juliana Mecera

I am going to write blogs and also to member churches in my sub region (East and Central Africa) to start conversations, workshops, etc and those that have programs that address human trafficking to network/work with other in fighting this vice because East Africa is a hub for sex tourism. –Christine Mahgale

Doing further research and creating an educational workshop for youth and young adults. Also, presenting info from this conference to my ethics class. –Megan Malick

Continue integrating HT in DV. And bring it to the faith communities we work with.
--Sally MacNichol

Continue our work and also plan to open a shelter. –Do Kim

Share the experience with members of the coalition I belong to. Follow up on contact with persons I met during the conference. –Geraldine Kennedy

Work to establish a statement against trafficking in Mennonite Church USA. –Rhoda Keener

Continuing the work . . . –Phil Jones

Bring more awareness to local church. –Betty C. Jones

Share this information with my executive team members as we prepare to share within our congregations and denomination. –Shirley A. Cannon

I am going to begin to make ecumenical connection in my community to see if we can work together on the issue of human trafficking and to encourage other American Baptist Women to do the same. –Barbara Anderson

Talk to my pastor about leading an adult-forum/information session on Human Trafficking.
–Sister Michelle Collins

Prepare and implement education awareness for youth and adults in my church and organizations that I am a part of (Distric, State, and National Conventions).
–Hugh Dell Gatewood

Present to Sunday School class and community college –Rev. Mary M. Finklea

Working with several of the folks in the resource open space to develop resources.
–Brigitte Gynther

Continue feasibility survey with unity coalition. –Ann Hayman

Look for ways to get more information about HT out to community organizations and faith communities that we work with, make the connections with DV etc.

–Sally MacNichol

Report to our board and encourage discussion about how we want to relate ecumenically to the work of preventing sexual exploitation. –Amy Hartman

I'm planning to put the participants' names on my mailing list. –Carol Smolenski

Get more documentations and information to share with our partner church in Africa for their sensitization. Seek more resources for our partner engaged in these activities.

–Robert Kabyla Mpoyo

Order *Rescue and Restore*--look at utilize NCC statement along with UMC statement.

–Joanne Reich

As I missed much of the conference, after reviewing the notes, etc., I would like to meet with other from the New York tri-State area, to see what can be the next steps. –Joan Grimm Fraser

I will be preparing for you, Pastor Ann, and I will also be giving a presentation at Gustavus during the fall semester on the experience. As always, I am challenged and inspired onward! –Mikka McCracken

Connect with LaMarco in our common Global Ministries Office. Talk with staff whose work intersects. Put information on our website. –Loey Powell

Share the intervention strategies that I learned with my group/organization and my church. –Chigozie Udemezue

Write report for the CWU Action Team and the National/Global Concerns Chairperson of CWU. Get responses and act from them. –Una Stevenson

Continue and increase my efforts to raise consciousness among Presbyterians, while, at the same time, continuing to connect and collaborate with our European partners.

–Rev. Jon. T. Chapman

Keep this issue in mind as we go through a strategic planning process. –Kala Ganesh

Ecumenical Conference on Human Trafficking Biographical Information

Presenters on Monday Afternoon – September 28, 2008

Dr. Mary Streufert is passionate about God, the church, women, theology, and gender justice. She completed her Ph.D. in theology at Claremont Graduate University with a focus on contemporary Lutheran christology. She was awarded a prestigious Lilly Fellowship in Humanities and Theology at Valparaiso University, where she taught and wrote in a variety of topics, including atonement theory, christology, systematic theology, and global feminist theology. Mary has a particular interest in and commitment to the ways in which theology matters in people's everyday lives. She is a member of the ELCA, the American Academy of Religion, and Lutheran Women in Theological and Religious Studies. Mary and her spouse have three young sons.

Virginia Nesmith has served as Executive Director of the National Farm Worker Ministry (NFWM) since 1998. NFWM is an interfaith organization whose purpose is to support farm workers as they organize for empowerment and justice. NFWM works nationally and on the local level in North Carolina, Florida, California and Oregon. Virginia graduated from Webster University in 1976 with a degree in Peace and Conflict Studies and later studied in the Master of Divinity Program at Eden United Church of Christ Seminary. She began her work with National Farm Worker Ministry in Florida in 1976, (where she first encountered indentured servitude in farm labor.) She has also served as Director of the Lentz Peace Research Lab and the St. Louis Economic Conversion Project, as the St. Louis Public Action Manager for the United Farm Workers and developed and ran an adult education program on Block Island, Rhode Island. She serves on the Board of Directors of Farmworker Justice and Agricultural Missions and is a member of the National Council of Churches Justice and Advocacy Commission. She is a native of St. Louis, MO where she currently resides.

Helene Hayes, RGS, PhD earned her PhD in Social Policy Analysis from the Boston College School of Social Work in 1993 and holds a Masters Degree in Clinical Social Work from Fordham University. Helene has taught Social Policy Analysis and the Social Welfare System at Boston College and Boston University Schools of Social Work. She is a Sister of the Good Shepherd, an international, Roman Catholic, Religious Community of women located on five continents and sixty seven different countries. Currently she is engaged in research on the global phenomenon of trafficking in women. Helene has traveled to Southeast Asia, Europe and parts of the United States and Saipan to interview sixty five trafficked women and is currently engaged in a country-by-country, in-depth analysis of her data. Helene's prior research on undocumented Haitian, Irish and Salvadoran immigrants in the Boston area was published in 2001 by Praeger Books; [U.S. Immigration Policy and the Undocumented: Ambivalent Laws, Furtive Lives.](#)

Rani Hong combines her nationally recognized business skills with her passion to effect change for exploited women and children. She has contributed to the passage of precedent setting laws in Washington State, making it a national leader for addressing the crime of human trafficking as well as advising U.S. Congress and other parliaments on the issues of human trafficking. Rani has participated as a United States American Embassy speaker for the Department of State domestically and abroad to lobby for human trafficking reform. She and her husband, Trong Hong, founded the Tronie Foundation, a non-profit organization promoting human trafficking education, policy change, and restoration for trafficking survivors. Rani's story has appeared in local, national, and international media, including on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," where she shared her plight as a child slavery survivor in India. Rani has shared her story at numerous speaking panels, trainings, churches, evening events and Press conferences. In addition to being the spokesperson for The Tronie Foundation, Rani works with journalists in print, radio, and broadcast to be a voice for those enslaved. For the past 10 years, Rani has enjoyed sharing her story and working directly with over 50 survivors of human trafficking in 6 different countries.

Presenters on Tuesday Morning – September 30, 2008

As president, **Sonia Ossorio** led National Organization for Women – NYC's year-long campaign to repeal the statute of limitations on rape. A large-scale public education campaign and media campaign were key components to this hard-fought victory for women. Ms. Ossorio crisscrossed the state meeting with legislators, local district attorneys and sexual assault service providers. She garnered support by talking about the devastating effect this outdated law has had on women, families, and society. Overwhelmingly, the public was not aware of the ticking clock rape survivors faced. That outrage translated into action. "Before the law was passed there was no statute of limitations for arson but a five year statute for rape, so if your apartment building was set ablaze in 1980 and the arsonist was found in 2000, he could be prosecuted but if you were raped in that building that same night, you only had until 1985 to find and punish the rapist." At the end of the legislative session the Senate and the Assembly passed a bill eliminating the statute of limitations for rape. In June of 2006, led by Ms. Ossorio NOW-NYC launched its campaign Ending the Business of Human Trafficking in New York City by raising community awareness of human trafficking throughout New York State; advocating on behalf of victims by lobbying legislation; tracking traffickers and educating local businesses about their role in this illegal industry in an effort to break the cycle of that makes New York such a hospitable place to do business. After a year of rallies, public forums, meetings with legislators, law enforcement and Governor Spitzer's new team, the New York Legislature passed a anti-trafficking law in the 2007 legislative session. "There are few states that have as compelling and immediate need for tough anti-trafficking laws. It is happening throughout our community, in

our neighborhoods,” Ossorio said. “New York is no longer a laggard. With the leadership of the new Governor, and agreements with the Senate and Assembly, New York can now begin to work to be a leader in this global fight to end this misery of modern-day slavery.” The next phase in NOW-NYC’s campaign against human trafficking focused on ending newspapers and magazines’ reliance on advertisement revenue from illegal massage parlors and brothels. NOW-NYC is asking local publications to stop doing business with the organized commercial sex industry by signing an anti-trafficking pledge *Trafficking Free, NYC!* So far 15 local publications have agreed to stop taking sex ads, included New York Magazine. In addition to successful campaigns, Ms. Ossorio has helped the chapter return to solvency by aggressively improving fundraising efforts. She has also initiated a project to create personnel policies and volunteer training manuals for a better run operation. First elected President of NOW-NYC in January of 2005, Ms. Ossorio joined the chapter in 1999 and has served on the board of directors in various positions over the past seven years. A former journalist, she has written extensively on women entrepreneurs and women in corporate America, her work has appeared in *USA Today*, *The Denver Post*, *The Journal News*, and the *San Jose Mercury News*, among others. Ms. Ossorio has spoken widely on the subject of women in the workplace, including the keynote address at the 2000 conference of the National Association for the Empowerment of Hispanic Women.

Laura J. Lederer received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in comparative religions from the University of Michigan. After 10 years in philanthropy as director of community and social concerns at a private foundation, she continued her education at the University of San Francisco Law School and DePaul College of Law and received her juris doctorate in June 1994. In 1997, she received the Gustavus Meyers Center for Study of Human Rights Annual Award for Outstanding Work on Human Rights for her work on harmful speech issues. She is the editor of *Take Back the Night*, published in 1980 by William and Morrow (hardcover) and Bantam Books (paperback), and *The Price We Pay: The Case Against Racist Speech, Hate Propaganda, and Pornography*, published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in 1995, and the author of numerous articles on trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children. Lederer founded and directed The Protection Project at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1997. In 2000, she moved The Protection Project to Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). She is adjunct professor of law at Georgetown Law Center, where she has taught for six years, including the first full course on international trafficking in persons offered at a law school. For five years she served as Senior Advisor on Trafficking in Persons to Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs, Paula J. Dobriansky. Currently she is Senior Director of Global Projects on Trafficking in Persons in the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the U.S. Department of State. In addition she has served as Executive Director of the Senior Policy Operating Group on Trafficking in Persons, a high level interagency policy group that staffs the President’s Inter-agency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons.

Carol Smolenski, the Executive Director and one of the founders of ECPAT-USA, has been working in the field of children's rights for eighteen years. At ECPAT-USA Carol oversaw the development of the first research project on child trafficking to New York City and two other research projects about commercial sexual exploitation of children. She was the Project Director for the New York City Community Response to Trafficking Project in New York, a multi-faceted ground breaking project to inform communities at risk for human trafficking about the federal anti-trafficking law and help obtain better protections for victims. The Project specialized in working with grassroots community groups and in facilitating relationships between community organizations and criminal justice agents. She is at the Advisory Committee for the national Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Community Intervention Project, the HHS/USCCB Contract Advisory Board, and the International Human Trafficking Leadership and Training Project Advisory Committee with the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence. She developed the Protect Children in Tourism Project in Mexico and Belize. She has spoken at numerous conferences and has presented testimony in venues ranging from the New York City Council to the United States Congress to the United Nations. Carol has a Bachelors degree from Rutgers University, a Masters Degree in Urban Planning from Hunter College.

Presenters on Tuesday Afternoon – September 30, 2008

Barbara Anderson currently resides in Arlington, Massachusetts with her family where she is an active member of Trinity Baptist Church serving as their Missions Committee Chairperson. She is past president of AB Women's Ministries of Massachusetts and serves as their Director of the MA Break the Chains Project on Human Trafficking. Barbara holds a B.A. Degree in Youth Ministries and a Masters Degree in Education from Gordon College in Massachusetts and work as an Administrator for the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Harvard University.

Ana White was born and raised in Cordoba, Argentina, as been living in the United States since October 2004 and became a U.S. citizen in November 2007. She received an undergraduate degree from the Universidad Nacional de Cordoba and graduated with a master's degree in Latin American Studies/ International Migration from the University of California San Diego (UCSD). Her master's thesis focused on gender and migration issues. She has a background in research in the social sciences, particularly on social issues affecting migrant communities. Ana have experience working in an immigration law firm and on number of research projects that focus on migration issues. She recently moved to Washington D.C., where she worked for the International Migration Organization (IOM), first in the Media and External Relations department and later in the Community Stabilization Unit. Currently, Ana works in the Office of Government Relations of the Episcopal Church as the Immigration and Refugee Policy Analyst.

As a part of the Advocacy Center she works on policy on immigration and refugee issues, including resettlement, comprehensive immigration reform, human trafficking, and refugees and asylum seekers.

Una Stevenson, born in Manchester, England. Married to Archie Stevenson. They have three sons and five grand children. Since 1991, and the birth of ECPAT (End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism), she was volunteer contact for Rev. Ron O'Grady, founder of ECPAT, New Zealand; Virginia Hadsell, founder of the Center for Responsible Tourism, CA.; ECPAT International and ECPAT-USA. In 1994, she was elected Vice Moderator, of Peace and Justice Issues, for the Presbyterian Women - Churchwide Coordinating Team. Una also served as a resource person to the P.W. Global Exchange to Thailand, Cambodia, the Phillipines and California, in 1996-1997.

In 1996, she represented Presbyterian Women and attended the "First World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children," in Stockholm, Sweden. In 1997, Una was lead writer of an Overture, "Recognizing and Action on the Problems of Child Prostitution in Community and Other Countries", from the Presbytery of Utah. Approved with minor changes. In 2004, Una wrote two Resolutions for Church Women United, "Abuse of Immigrant Women and Children" and Sexual Abuse of Children". Both were approved with slight changes. In November, 2004, she was elected Chair for the Church Women United "Trafficking and Abuse of Children" Action Team. This year, 2008, Una was lead writer, together with Voices of Orthodox Women, for an Overture for the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks, "Trafficking of Women: Internationally and Nationally." The Overture passed with minor changes.

Amy Hartman is the National Director of Cherish Our Children, and she is a Diaconal Minister in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Amy has worked within the ELCA for fifteen years, seeking ways to further engage leaders and congregations in the work of preventing sexual exploitation. She graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul in 2006 with a Master of Arts degree. Her MA Thesis was entitled, "Release to the Captives: Preaching on the System of Sexual Exploitation." Amy has presented workshops at numerous synod assemblies, theological conferences, and women's conventions within the ELCA.

NCC Justice for Women's Working Group Conference on Human Trafficking
CCUN – September 29, 2008
NY, NY

Panel Presentation

Facilitator:

Jay Godfrey – United Methodist Women's Division - United Methodist Seminar Program on National and International Affairs

Presenters:

Virginia Nesmith National Farm Worker *Ministry*

Helene Hayes – Sister of Good Shepherd

Rani Hong – Founder of the Tronie Foundation and Homes of Freedom

Helene Hayes – Bio – Presented information about a survey of 65 women who have/are trafficked. Countries chosen for this survey were ones where the Sisters of the Good Shepherd had established relationships with adolescents. In the United States, 10 women were interviewed – NYC, Rochester, MN, Philadelphia, Wash DC. Total # of interviews were 65 – documented victims of trafficking. Women came from 17 different countries. Research examined their life situations pre-trafficking and then after being trafficked. Looked at best practices regarding treatment. Helene is now doing an in-depth analysis of each country.

What was the hardest part of being trafficked?

Direct quotes were shared. Threats, abuse, hazardous working conditions, de-humanizing, silence and fear, compliance and feelings of having no choices. Now, bitterness, hatred – feeling the situation was unreal and in-imaginable, alone, can't forget what happened.

What was your greatest fear?

Feelings of wanting death, insanity, blackmailed, envy of other women who killed themselves, lack of value for their own lives. Dreams were dead. Fear of being raped.

What was the most damaging aspect of being trafficked? Service Providers' testimonies:

Psychologically and physically, women come with nothing. Identity has been stolen. De-humanized, a piece of merchandise, girls lack confidence, brag, shame, parts of personality destroyed, irreparable harm done, capacity to love is gone, great violence, damage to bodies. No freedom...total slavery.

Why did "victims" come forward?

Silence will steal the fate of other women around the women. These women agreed to be interviewed as a visible witness to other women in similar circumstances.

Women are expendable and commodities in the marketplace. Helene hopes to publish a book that documents this crime of dehumanization.

Quote from Martin Luther King: “Our lives begin to end on the day when we are silent on things that matter.”

Rani Hong – bio

Viewed a brief film clip. “Rani and Trong Hong” – from the Oprah Show

Rani shared her life story. Born in India and at the age of 7 was kidnapped, tortured, beaten and psychologically traumatized.

Trong, who was Vietnamese, reported that his father had him go away to avoid being conscripted by the Viet Cong. Trong ended up being trafficked by “pirates”. Saw people raped and murdered before his eyes.

Both Rani and Trong were trafficked and both eventually were adopted by US families. Eventually they met, fell in love, married and had children.

Rani urged participants to speak up. She posed the question – “Why me?” Greed. Opportunistic crime – children at the wrong place at the wrong time, broken promises. Paul, her broker, had to de-humanized her in order to “sell” her as a commodity – sold over and over again. Profit is huge. Drug smugglers – victims are used for the broker’s advantage. Who will pay the highest price? Rani was sold and beaten. Changed her name, took her passport – all in the name of profit. “I became nothing”. “After so long, I lost my value but there was one last thing – sold for an international adoption. Turned out to be a good thing.”

“Traffickers continue not to be prosecuted which is why I’m not staying silent. We need to raise an army of survivors.”

Her adopted mom gave her hope and value and told her she believed in her. Rani has launched a Foundation to address this issue, the Tronic Foundation located in Washington State.

Virginia Nesmith – bio

Presented information about a different kind of trafficking – agriculture slavery. Many farm workers are immigrants and have come from all parts of the world. Many paid to come to US, or some paid with their life. Two to three million farm workers are in the United States and up to 10% are in debt bondage. Particular cases in farm slavery – mass slavery of workers – poor people who needed work, worked 12 hour days, 6-7 days/week, intimidated, pistol-whipped. An advocacy group found out and rescued the workers. Just recently in Florida five brothers

convicted for locking workers in trucks, chaining and beating them. One case involved homeless men who *were* picked up, provided crack cocaine, now addicted, worked in the fields. These men were picking potatoes when discovered.

Virginia gave examples about how this kind of abuse has happened within the systems; one of those convicted for enslaving workers was a labor contractor for an officer of the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association (FFVA) who thought the contractor was fine. Companies like McDonalds, Burger King and others initially thought they could solve problems in the fields by working through the FFVA, rather than in partnership with workers, but obviously that is not the case. Justice Department is getting more aggressive regarding these cases, but not all cases are as visible – some are hidden in rural areas.

What can one do?

- Educate people
- Train people in various languages to deal with this issue – e.g., Spanish
- Know the signs of trafficking

And most important:

- Support the opportunity for legalization for farm workers – farm workers who don't have to worry about having their papers taken away, are much more likely to speak up.
- Support organizing efforts so that workers know their rights and are empowered to address abuses.

Q&A –

Question for Rani: “How was your relationship with your adopted mom?”

Answer: She died when I was 16 and didn't really know about my past. She didn't understand. Rani believed her birthmom was dead and when she found her birthmom, she finally understood. Children can be so misled.

Question: “What is it going to take to truly challenge the traffickers who are making money off this? How do we generate the will in the public?”

Answer (Virginia): More education is needed. Need to look at free trade agreements, multifaceted issue, must address poverty, how do we treat “undocumented people” – do we treat them as normal human beings” We need to organize – work with companies – make sure businesses don't work with traffickers. Work with farm labor organizations. Must support very specific campaigns in farm labor. Pay attention to farm labor camps in your community.

Answer: (Helene) We really need to point to global conditions that traffickers take advantage of – poverty and gender discrimination. Need to take a look at how globalization is feminizing poverty – plus need to address the supply and demand of sex trade. Economic instabilities

within country are fertile grounds. Used Sri Lanka as an example – no law against trafficking so women were arrested as prostitutes and ended up in prison.

We need to challenge men's belief that they have a "right" to sexual favors.

Answer: (Jay) I can say that as a man, I'm very aware of how women are viewed and portrayed as objects.

Question: I'm interested in terminology – "trafficking" and "enslavement" – Seems like people connect deeper with the use of the word "slavery." What's the difference?

Answer: (Helene) There need to be state laws because Federal money doesn't come down to local level. Language is now beginning to be a more known and acceptable term – I use "trafficking as a form of slavery."

Answer: (Virginia) There are several terms – debt bondage, slavery, *indentured* servitude. "We need to create structures which will force people to be good."

Answer: (Rani) We must not victimize the victim. Don't call them prostitutes!

Question: What about the link between domestic violence and trafficking?

Answer: (Helene) I think domestic violence is different. It does not fall under the same definition as trafficking – no profit is involved.

Objectification of Women – Women internalize their own objectification which make trafficking "easier". We need to make connections when children are young – must stop sexualize them!

Resource: STOP WAR Cultures website referenced.

Question: What is the difference between prostitution and trafficking?

Answer: (Helene) It's a matter of "free will." Issue of prostitution is a different one – women are more free to leave. I think very few women actually "chose" prostitution.

Comment: Some of our theology supports misogyny and supports trafficking and the objectification/marginalization of women.

Virginia – need laws that punish traffickers and are tough.

Question: Is there a witness protection program?

Answer: (Helene) Yes, there is a program in Federal government – known as the T-visa. The law was changed recently so the trafficked women don't have to testify against their trafficker. There are shelters for trafficked victims. Traffickers are ruthless – they murder victims who turn them in.

Answer: (Virginia) There are far more arrests and convictions. Coalitions are emerging in various cities. Virginia will provide a list of cities that have formed these coalitions.

Rescue and Restore – HHS – Covenant House provides a safe haven in collaboration with government.

About 36 states that have human trafficking initiative receive money from Federal government. The Polaris Project is a great project. Law enforcement receives insufficient training. Not enough being done with our partner countries and how the US could help enforce this. e.g., sweat shops.

Question: Does anyone know of groups of men getting together to discuss this issue? Anyone done anything with a faith-based organizing model?

Answer:

- Share Hope International
- Take John to John School
- Men Can Stop Rape – DC
- Men Against Domestic Violence – Video called “Tough Guys” - “The Macho Paradox” – box by Jackson Pace.

Answer: (Virginia) We have a very migratory society. In so many countries, people who are isolated are very vulnerable. We also need to work to enable people to have sufficient work in their home countries so they don't have to migrate.

Question: What is the connection with on-line pornography and actual trafficking or in-person sex with another. Our churches could be much more active.

Answer: (participant) Nigeria has really worked against trafficking. In past 3-4 years, a trend has occurred between medical workers and young girls. These medical workers harbor these girls when pregnant - men are hired to impregnate girls, children are born and sold. Birth factories. Americans and Europeans are buying these children.

Resource : WCC Council - PASCT.... www.chaste.org.uk

Focus is to alert churches across Europe of this issue and how to get involved.

National Farmworker Ministry addresses this. www.nfwm.org. Rural immigrant women in Florida and southeast are also being trafficked.

EPCAT is another wonderful resource.

Question: How do we know about the reliability of these website?

Answer: It takes all of us. We need to train our clergy regarding violence and how to handle it. And, clergy need assistance

Question: Have any of the denominations done anything via email?

Answer: (Participant) Disciples of Christ are going to develop a video on this issue. Youtube is a great resource.

Answer: (Ann) NCCJWWG has given this a high priority.

Resource: Maryknoll – “Lives for Sale” DVD.

Question: What about producing curriculum for young people?

Answer: We need to make the connection between oppression of workers and violence.

Answer: (Loey) The UCC Centers for Social Transformation are developing programs for immersions for church folks e.g., immersion in the immigration/migrant issue in North Carolina. And, also doing immersions in Tijuana.

Question: What about statistics on trafficking re: boys?

Comment: (Ann) We need to do the theological grounding when working with clergy and/or laity on this issue.

Comment: (Jay) We need to counteract the dangerous theological language.

Notes taken by Linda Bales

Ecumenical Conference on Human Trafficking -Tuesday September 30, 2008
Panel Secular Organizations Addressing Trafficking

Facilitator: Nancy Murphy – Faith Trust Institute

Presenters:

Laura Lederer – US State Department

Carol Smolenski – ECPAT-USA

Sonia Ossorio

Laura Lederer – Senior Director for Global Projects on Trafficking in Persons, US State Dept
(Resource – Trafficking in Persons Report June 2008 – Dept of State USA)

Hopes for International event in future...

8 yrs into the law

Trafficking Victims Protection Act 2000 – broadened definition to include transporters, buyers etc, - increased penalties to 20 yrs to life – victim centered approach – mandated creation of presidents task force interagency plus policy group www.state.gov type in trafficking and persons – assess and rates every country and produces annual report
tier 3 – loose non humanitarian funds

Definition of Trafficking – every country has its own def and law – UN has a protocol
Grounded in stories

1.1 mil US Govt estimates across international borders.. 17,000 across US borders. doesn't take account internal trafficking.

Only issue that does not have aggregate number to help identify scope of problem.

Dept of Justice has over 40 taskforces that link fed and local law enforcement to assist frontline.

Dept of Health and Human Services – Rescue and Recovery educational materials.

Dept of Labor – will come out with a list of all companies that involve child labor etc.

Training DVD – Border Protection – Homeland Security

Dept of Defense – 100% Tipp training for all military etc. new statute No military to attend brothels while on R&R

Cutting Edge Issues that office is working on
Survivor Center Approaches – great deal to offer in anti trafficking approach. In order to strengthen programs. Double witness statutes were helped identified by survivors. They design most successful reintegration programs. 1,200 T visas we have given.

How can we use new technology to promote safe technologies? Ambassador Legon has met with President Craigslist. Tip Report

Carol Smolenski – Executive Director, End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Child Trafficking for Sexual Purposes USA

First started in 1991 at NCCC in Interchurch Center

originally just focused around sex tourism with children in Asia –

Reason to be optimistic due to additional awareness, enforcement, support for victims etc. Keep up the good work.

What we do in USA – no direct service, research, training, policy
kids who are trafficked into and around US for sexual exploitation, sex tourism.

def in law– has important language around children – under 18 used in commercial sex act then classifies as a victim not a criminal. Problem at state level where some are treated as bad kid who needs to go to jail rather than a victim who needs assistance

Protect Act – Fed leg 2003 – makes it possible to prosecute folks who are involved in sex tourism and come back to US. Extraterritorially legislation etc.

What you can do..... disparity how children and seen and treated – media around pre-pubescent kids who are abused by pedophiles – whole category of child abusers who society doesn't see as a problem– under 18 but post pubescent and integrated into prostitution – with men its ok to be with those women. Talk to men about sex industry in general...not a victimless crime.

Making sure that churches are providing mentoring available for every child – assistance for kids, safe environment, needs to be a conversation with our children.

Sex Tourism – Code of Conduct for Travel Industry – take voluntary steps to not be involved in sex tourism – list of companies who have signed a code. Work with Interfaith Corporate Responsibility group.

Sonia Ossorio – President, National Organization for Women – NY

Working with Publications in NY to get them to agree not to advertisers from sex industry.
Trafficking Free NYC

Adult Sections – so blatant where men would rate brothels etc. They track ads.. Need to do diligence. Need to have a license – you can require proof of license etc.

Public Service Announcement – phone number to call also focus on minority publications.

JFK main entry point in this country

Pass state laws – movement to deal with this..2007 NY law 33rd state to do so. polarisproject.org

Woodley Gaston example – approached 16yr old as she was leaving school. 2 weeks serviced 200 men advertised her on Craig's list.

Safe Harbor Act – gov just signed act for exploited youth – what it does starts to change thinking about how we arrest young people for prostitution providing more services instead of detention. only on first offense and only if under 16.

John Jay College – networked 4,000 kids involved in sex trade in NY – 85% girls 67% African American. 75% street prostitution – pay by hour hotels.

Up State NY more being done by friends , acquaintances and video used etc.

Action – Ask a Cop – crew of volunteers asking on the street a cop a few questions? Information isn't filtering down to front line police.

Check Yellow Pages – Escort - \$45,000 for full page ad. sketches of children.

Female Chauvinists Pigs – areil levy – way to articulate position

Land of Lost innocence – Somali Mam

Questions –

Public/Private Partnerships – need involvement of corporations however it is very challenging. Identify ways to get across message – eradicate illegitimate tourism and promote legitimate tourism.

Any new mechanisms for kids to be recognized other than T-Visa's ? Good news is Dept of Health Human Services/ Homeland Security etc will allow states to identify and certify without going through the law enforcement processes.

TVPRA – 2007 every 2 yrs re-authorization debate over def. of trafficking. forced, fraud, or coercion.

Dept Justice/ Dept of Labor / should provide a state by state analysis similar to trafficking in persons report.

Polaris Project needs a faith based link. They are clearing house.

notes taken by Joanne Reich

Ecumenical Conference on Human Trafficking – Tuesday, September, 30, 2008
PANEL – RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS ADDRESS TRAFFICKING

Facilitator: Loey Powel – United Church of Christ

Presenters:

Ana White – Episcopal

Una Stevenson – Church Women United and Presbyterian Church, USA

Barbara Anderson – American Baptist Church – *Break the Chains*

Amy Hartman – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – *Cherish Our Children*

ANA WHITE – born and raised in Argentina – presented her November 2007 - Power point presentation entitled “Episcopal Church: Taking Action To Stop Modern Slavery” By Addressing Trafficking. Federal legislation and resolutions within the Episcopal Church.

Definitions very important for policy work The definition has 3 important parts:

- Action
- Means
- Purpose

United States definition is very similar (United Nations protocol was based on proposal given by the U.S. in 2005).

Three Resolutions of General Convention - 2000, two in 2003 (both education and condemnation).

2 Diocesan Resolutions have come forward on Trafficking – Iowa and Southwest Florida
Florida Coalition against Human Trafficking

What can faith based groups do?

Advocacy

Education and Awareness

Services and Assistance

Advocacy

On the national level – reauthorization of Trafficking Victims Production Act (TVPA).

State Level – about 30 state legislations have some check on what is being done and is still needed.

Communicate with members of Congress. Use media to spread the word, op ed, letters to the editor and have events.

Education and Awareness

Episcopal Church – 10,000 packets of educational materials were distributed (about 2 ½ yrs ago) – which included a DVD entitled “Restore and Rescue.”

Diocese of Atlanta – College Chapter Forum
Diocese of Southwest Florida – Education Campaign

Original workshops – informational campaigns – forum
Write article.

Service and Assistance

Where national and international organizations can network. We can bring moral support, community to help with reintegration.

Partner with community organizations:

Diocese of Southwest Florida – helped with Filipinos.
Diocese of Pittsburgh – provided assistance to victims in Thailand

Share success stories.

Make the work more sustainable in a shorter period of time.

Episcopal Public Policy Network – (EPPN) – sends alerts. Join EPPN or your denominations policy alert program. Join refugee, immigration, and trafficking network- email Ana at awhite@episcopalchurch.org

Advocacy Immigration Network - she has started to send 1 update a month. Trafficking will be one issue.

UNA STEVENSON- CHURCH WOMEN UNITED – from the United Kingdom – ECPAT Forever

Church Women United – an ecumenical organization – founded in 1941 by 7 members from different states.

Children and children's safety – key issues

We should take same approach. Presbyterians have been working on this since 1983.

In 2006 the Synod of Northwest Maryland – Preventing Trafficking

United Nations Convention on the rights of the child – United States hasn't signed up yet.
Code of Conduct – Carol has work closely with her.

Presbyterian Church Women have asked different departments to take on different aspects of the work. “Overture 2008.”

Mission Response through Investment (MRII) sorts out where dollars are invested. (If not signing code of conduct -)

Christian Education Resources – Sex exploitation in military – bring attention.

3 Work Plans – sound bites for advocacy - Workshop – 3 Faces of Trafficking

2007 Resources – Education and Action. - Resolution to end sweatshops in the developing world asking states to create human trafficking task force. (Polaris)

Send Report 2008-12 – Human Trafficking – Priority. Quadrant (4 years) New York Office did not participate in economic justice.

January 2005 Tsunami – many casualties = children.

23%-25% tourists using these kids are Americans.

Ron O. Grady – 1981 started ECPAT – asked Department to host conference but would not.

Tsunami/Hotels – tourism/sexploitation

Women's Edge – (Organization? Report?)

1st World Congress – ECPAT – Sweden

Una attended, also Laura Lederer

Presbyterians

19 Government Representatives – out of 122 possible governments. 1,100 people attended.

Janet Reno's Asst. Attorney General met with them and ask them “What do you want us to do?”

Plan for action (like Beijing)

Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) - 2000 was the handprint of this - also listed sweatshops

ESP Post Tsunami - 30¢/garment - we pay \$11 each

People sell their kids, desperate to sex traders

Senate Bill 367 – we need some work on the House Resolution 1992

Work Plan 1 - We should pay fair price for import goods (all workers don't receive a fair wage). Church Women United (CWU) sent letters to big box companies, i.e. Wal-Mart, Target, etc.

Tens of thousands of persons working in Jordan. \$1.1 billion is spent on clothing but imports into the U.S. from Jordan are without fee.

Work Plan 2 – learn about victims of trafficking worldwide in the United States and outside. TVPA: what it does and does not do.

United States Department of Justice – How is it helping other states?

Work Plan 3 – Help for Victims

Dr. Richard Estes – University of Pennsylvania

He prepared a 238 page report which showed what help is available for victims.

ECPAT – Who is there to help us? American girls and boys are exploited yet unseen, unheard and unhelped. Create task force in states where they don't have them. Call upon religious leaders to help.

April – Child Abuse Awareness Month

Oct – Domestic Violence Awareness Month

US – 296,000 young people are at risk/affected from domestic violence

BARBARA ANDERSON- American Baptist Church Director - “Break the Chains” – at Harvard for 20+ years. Women's ministry launched campaign - Break the Chains in 2007 and have raised over a two year period \$250,000 and promoted awareness.

Website –Created PowerPoint presentation and script for speakers and biological/stories – of work with and missionary’s in the field. Yearly and national conference/women’s day/missionary’s home on deputation – telling the story.

In Massachusetts they gave presentations at Church association meetings and also did skit and held small group discussions. There was an overwhelming response, request for more presentations. They also added worship and a prayer circle. Used free Rescue and Restore materials from the government –and gave out Break the Chain bracelets.

Town Day – Set up a tent in the town square on lawn – explained all day about the issue which had a huge impact. But what are you going to do next?

Community – Congregation

1st Sunday of Advent – focus on hope. Tree symbolized victims
Issue and our responsibility to offer hope to victims
Ornaments and angels of hope
Chains (made of paper)
Lights in memory of victims

Community Awareness Night

Boston Human Trafficking Task Force (police)
State Representative from Massachusetts
Cable Talk Show Host

Doing Small Part on Huge Issue –

Attacking from top not working – has to come from the bottom
Churches are a great place

Victims – where to bring them?

No safe house in Boston – Organizing a safe house in which there which will bring other faith leaders together in the community. Think about organizations who could collaborate.
Build a network locally
Organize a breakfast for women’s ministries representatives and then statewide

AMY HARTMAN- EVAN. LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA) - CHERISH OUR CHILDREN

From her dissertation – “Release The Captives” – Sex Trafficking – Children
This was her first ecumenical event.

Advocates prayer and action through the congregations – 10 of 65 Synods

Four Components

- began with a task force in Minneapolis
- Intentional prayer for all the children in the congregation from birth to 25. The decision-making part of the brain does not fully develop until we reach 25 years old.
- Education related to sexual exploitation- speak from pulpit twice a year.
- Internet safety training.
- Relationship building – who is also doing this?
- Prevention, intervention services.
- Action – wide open – your congregation ought to be able to figure out what action it will take.
- Legislative advocacy
- Letters and papers. Craig’s List (Internet), etc.

How did Cherish Our Children come about? Since ’93 the women of the ELCA have been addressing commercial sex exploitation of children.

2001 – ELCA Statement

Bishop Craig Johnson of Minneapolis discovered some of his kids in his confirmation class had been recruited for prostitution, etc. He had been thinking about starting a bishop’s task force. The 2003 Church-wide Assembly read a Newsweek article on juvenile prostitution in Minneapolis. He was razzed and started the task force.

Think Tank for Church and Community read the 2001 ELCA Statement and then made a challenge – Make sure you’re taking care of your own kids. (Don’t just think it is just those kids out there.)

Prayer

140 kids in congregation – 95 people praying for them. At the time of baptism/kids are match with person who will pray for them.

Hymnal – congregational prayer for children

Education Curriculum for Junior High School Students entitled “Wise As Serpents.” Parents must be aware of recruitment that is take place over the Internet. Internet Safety Training can be received from local police.

Church found out 1 person does this work on a full time basis. They made connections with Lutheran Social Services –

Safeguarding, God's Children which was developed by Episcopal Church – developed curriculum package/PowerPoint presentation. 36 frames summarized her thesis.

Presented every week

Cherish the Children" publication

Wednesday prayer sent by email.

Every Wednesday prayer ties the issue into the Sunday reading. They can sign up on the website.

Looking ahead to the Sunday Texts – lectionary done for 1 year – It is amazing something connects with children every time.

Parish Nurses – have great ability and insight for conversations.

Actions – connecting with homeless shelters, after school programs for at risk youth.

Oprah had a program on internet predators recently.

Wrote letters regarding Dairy Queen – not good (fish in a barrel)

Working with congregations – bring it to their level.

People will hear, and hearts are touched.

Provide encouragement, suggestions.

How can we get information into the regular parts of our lives.

Training

Leadership - to build teams for the work

Do in depth work in our denominations, and then create ecumenical partnerships.

Connect with people who are doing policy work.

September 10, 2001 – University of Pennsylvania released huge report on sex trafficking in the United States, Canada and Mexico

300,000 children – What if they had a memory wall like 9/11?

notes compiled by Kim Robey

Ecumenical Conference on Human Trafficking
September 29 to October 1, 2008
Church Center for the United Nations

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ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES TO ADDRESSING THIS COMPLEX ISSUE

September 29 to October 1, 2008

Church Center for the United Nations
777 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
CCUN Chapel (1st floor) & 2nd floor Conference Room

**Sponsored by National Council of Churches – Justice for Women Working Group
& United Methodist Women’s Division United Methodist Seminar Program on
National and International Affairs**



United
Methodist
Women

연합감리교회 여성교회
Mujeres Metodistas Unidas

“ . . .that all may have life, and have it abundantly. ” John 10:10

“In faith, responding to our Creator, we celebrate the full humanity of each woman, man, and child, all created in the divine image as individuals of infinite worth, by working for. . . Abolition of forced labor, human trafficking, and the exploitation of children . . .”

A Social Creed for the 21st Century

www.nccusa.org/news/ga2007.socialcreed.html

Monday – August 29, 2008

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 12:00 pm | Registration | <i>2nd Floor</i> |
| 12:30 pm | Welcome and Brief Details
Glory Dharmaraj – Director of Spiritual Formation & Mission Theology, Women’s Division, Global Ministries, The United Methodist Church | <i>CCUN Chapel</i> |
| 12:40 pm | Opening Worship
Kim Robey – NCC, Justice for Women Working Group Co-chairperson and Program Officer: Women’s Ministry & Leadership Development, Mission Leadership Center, The Episcopal Church | |
| 1:00 pm | Break | <i>2nd Floor</i> |
| 1:15 pm | Introductions and Conference Agenda
Ann Tiemeyer – Program Director for Women’s Ministries, National Council of Churches, USA | |

- 1:45 pm** **Introduction to Human Trafficking-Modeling presentation style and process**
Mary Streufer – Director for Justice for Women, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- 2:45 pm** **Break**
- 3:00 pm** **Panel Discussion: Stories of Trafficking Victims/Survivors and Discussion**
Virginia Nesmith – Executive Director, National Farm Workers
Helen Hays – Sisters of Good Shepherd
Rani Hong – Founder of the Tronie Foundation and Homes of Freedom
Panel Facilitator: Jay Godfrey – Seminar Designer, United Methodist Seminar Program on National and International Affairs
- 4:50 pm** **Details for Site visits and evaluation forms**
Jennifer McCallum – Seminar Designer, United Methodist Seminar Program on National and International Affairs
- 5:00 pm** **Sign-up for Site visit locations**
Complete Registrations and Payment – Ann Tiemeyer
Worship Planning – Young Women Participants

Tuesday – September 30, 2008

- 9:30 am** **Worship** *CCUN Chapel*
Young Women Participants
- 10:00 am** **Light Breakfast** *2nd Floor*
- 10:30 am** **Panel Discussion: Secular Organizations Addressing Trafficking**
Sonia Ossorio – President, National Organization for Women-NYC
Carol Smolenski – Executive Director, End Child Prostitution and Child Trafficking for Sexual Purposes
Laura Lederer – Senior Director for Global Projects on Trafficking in Persons, U.S. State Department
Panel Facilitator: Nancy Murphy – Faith Trust Institute
- 12:00 pm** **Lunch**
- 12:40 pm** **Welcome**
Pat Pattillo – Senior Program Director for Communications and Justice & Advocacy Commissions of the National Council of Churches, USA
- 12:45 pm** **Panel Discussion: Religious Organizations Addressing Trafficking**
Barbara Anderson – American Baptist: Break the Chains
Una Stevenson – Church Women United and Presbyterian Church, USA
Ana White – Episcopal Church: Immigration and Refugee Policy Analyst
Amy Hartman – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America: Cherish Our Children
Panel Facilitator: Loey Powell – Justice and Witness Ministries, United Church of Christ

2:15 pm **Directions & Depart for Site Visits**

3:00 -4:30 pm **Site Visits**

Safe Horizon – Travel Leader Jay Godfrey

2 Lafayette Street, 3rd Floor

Covenant House – Travel Leader Jennifer McClallum

5 Penn Plaza

The Door – Travel Leader Ann Tiemeyer

555 Broome Street

Wednesday – October 1, 2008

9:00 am **Breakfast**, informal sharing of site visits experience, add to the wall *2nd floor*

9:30 am **Welcome**

Harriett Jane Olson, Deputy General Secretary, Women’s Division, Global Ministries,
The United Methodist Church

9:40 am **Logistics of “Open Space Process”**

10:00 am **Open Space Process** – development of strategies *2nd floor & break out rooms*

Session A – 10:00 start

Session B – 10:20 start

Session C – 10:40 start

Session D – 11:00 start

Session E – 11:20 start

11:40 am **Break**

12:00 pm **Closing Worship**

CCUN Chapel

United Methodist Seminar Program on National and International Affairs Staff

Piano – Grace Pugh Hubbar

Vocal – Yvette D. Wilson

12:30 pm Bag Lunches available

2nd floor

Conference Closed

1:30-4:30 pm NCC Justice for Women Working Group Convenes

Location: Episcopal Church Center

815 Second Ave., 6th floor

New York, NY 10017