



The International Forum for Child Welfare (IFCW) 

Migrant Children and Youth: A Global Crisis

Position Paper
June 2014

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Introduction

The International Forum for Child Welfare (IFCW), asserting that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (henceforth referred to as the CRC) mandates that States prioritize the human rights of children, and ensure their physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing, recognizes the unique risks migrant children and youth face, particularly unaccompanied minors, separated children and asylum-seeking or refugee children.¹ Migrant minors, as broadly defined by the United Nations, include any individuals under the age of 18 who are:

- (a) “Persons who are outside the territory of the State of which they are nationals or citizens, are not subject to its legal protection and are in the territory of another State;
- (b) “Persons who do not enjoy the general legal recognition of rights which is inherent in the granting by the host State of the status of refugee, naturalized person or of similar status;
- (c) “Persons who do not enjoy either general legal protection of their fundamental rights by virtue of diplomatic agreements, visas or other agreements.”²

These children traverse great distances with or without their families, from their homelands to other countries or regions within their own countries, either voluntarily or because they have been coerced. They experience the hardships of transit in places unfamiliar to them and, because they are children, are especially vulnerable to predation, violence and abuse during travel and migration processes.

As an organization dedicated to improving children’s lives, upholding their human rights and fundamental freedoms, ensuring they share equal opportunities, and maximizing their potential, IFCW:

1. Urges the nations and States of origin, transit and destination countries to extend legal protections and social and educational support services to all migrant minors so that they enjoy their full rights set by the CRC;
2. Urges States to discontinue policies that criminalize undocumented migration;
3. Encourages states to adopt the most favorable interpretation of immigration and child welfare laws for migrant minors, regardless of their documentation statuses, reflective of the fact that they are first and foremost children;
4. Urges all States to enact and implement anti-human trafficking laws and policies and incorporate penalties for persons convicted of trafficking offenses while maintaining the primacy of individual victims’ wellbeing in all proceedings;
5. Recommends that governments, international and regional anti-crime agencies, and human rights organizations pool their resources and share data more fluidly to effectively combat traffickers; and

1 Herein, “minors” are individual persons under 18 years of age, as recognized by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989. UN General Assembly (20 November 1989). Convention on the Rights of the Child. United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1577. Retrieved 26 June 2013 from <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx>

2 Gabriela Rodríguez Pizarro (9 August 2002). Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights in A/57/292, Human rights of migrants, Note by the Secretary-General. Retrieved 26 June 2013 from http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/policy_and_research/un/57/A_57_292_en.pdf. IFCW recognizes that not all countries use the same domestic legal terminology to identify “migrants” and that they therefore attribute different sets of rights to children, particularly regarding refugees and asylum-seekers. For example, Australia no longer grants asylum status to any migrant person who arrives on its shores without prior visa approval, redirecting non-visa asylum-seekers to Papua New Guinea. Conversely, while the United States and the European Union reject the respective majority of applications for asylum each receives, it is possible for someone seeking asylum to obtain refugee status by arriving in Europe or the United States without pre-authorization for entry. IFCW has made an effort herein to adhere to the international definition of “migrants” as outlined above in accordance with the U.N. Special Rapporteur of the High Commission on Human Rights.

6. Urges States and national governments that have not done so, to sign and ratify the CRC and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as other international and regional instruments protecting the rights of children.

IFCW urges all national governments and states to incorporate specific provisions in their immigration laws to maximize the rights of migrant minors.

National legislations, including immigration codes and civil, criminal and family law statutes, should prioritize:

- (1) protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially for women and children;
- (2) non-refoulement of any child actively-seeking asylum or whose reasons for migrating necessarily qualify him or her as an asylee;³
- (3) family reunification, when possible and when it is determined to be in the best interests of the child, and in accordance with Priorities (1) and (2), and either in the country of origin—provided relocation of the child would not violate the non-refoulement principle—or the destination country;⁴ and,
- (4) legal recourse for trafficking victims against their traffickers, including both criminal prosecution and civil reparations, when doing so aligns with the best interests of individual victims.



3 UNESCO defines “refoulement” as “the expulsion of persons who have the right to be recognized as refugees.” See “refoulement.” United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Glossary. Retrieved 26 June 2013 from <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/international-migration/glossary/refoulement/>. See also: UN General Assembly, Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees 28 July 1951, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, 137. Retrieved 26 June 2013 from <http://www.unhcr.org/3b66c2aa10.pdf>. See also: *Geneva Convention (IV) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War*. Geneva, 12 August 1949. Art. 45.

4 Family reunification in a destination country would be advisable, for example, when a child is fleeing a conflict such as a civil war or ethnic strife from which his or her family is likely to suffer harm.

Crossing Lines, Costing Lives



Migrant minors cross borders throughout the world, typically from developing countries to developed countries. They may travel with family members or transit guides, or alone. Children and youth migrate for a myriad of reasons, such as, but not limited to

- poverty
- hunger
- homelessness
- natural disasters
- civil wars
- gang violence
- government oppression
- political, religious or ethnic persecution
- child soldiering
- lack of economic opportunity

As global migration has expanded,⁵ many destination countries for migrants have become increasingly hostile toward foreign-born residents, asylum-seekers and new immigrants.⁶ The global economic crisis has

5 Migration rates of the global population increased only 0.2 per cent between 1990 and 2010, but the raw numbers of migrants increased from 156 million to 214 million persons. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) (2009). "Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2008 Revision." United Nations: New York. Retrieved 12 July 2013 from <http://esa.un.org/migration/index.asp?panel=1>

6 Examples of this reactionary phenomenon include Denmark, Italy and the United States, among others. See Ted Brader, Nicholas A. Valentino and Elizabeth Suhay (2008). *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 52, No. 4, October 2008, Pp. 959–978. Retrieved 12 July 2013 from http://www.lsa.umich.edu/UMICH/polisci/Home/People/Publications/Abstracts%20for%20Publications%202012/What%20Triggers%20Opposition%20to%20Immigration_Brader_Article.pdf; Yvonne Markaki and Simonetta Longhi (4 September 2013). "What Determines Attitudes to Immigration in European Countries? An Analysis

pushed many democratic states in Europe and North America to the political “right” resulting in more restrictive immigration policies and reduced support for effective economic and cultural integration of immigrants.⁷

While adult migrants generally face enormous difficulties and discrimination, child migrants often experience magnified challenges. Children are more likely to fall prey to exploitative transit guides, slavery and trafficking rings, and sexual predators than are adults. Because of the desperate situations that drive these children from their homes and families, they frequently rely on the whims of the people and forces that carry them to their destinations, sometimes at terrible costs. Unaccompanied migrant children experience higher-than-average rates of child labor—children may work because of coercion or may do so out of necessity in order to survive in a new country.⁸ Additionally, their transit routes may be dangerous in and of themselves—for example in recent years, boats carrying migrants from Iran, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka traveling from Indonesia to Australia or Indonesian migrants to Malaysia have wrecked or capsized on multiple occasions, leaving dozens dead, many of them children.⁹

Unaccompanied international migrant minors without adult care or supervision fall into three classifications:

- (a) children who have migrated without a guardian or family member;
- (b) “separated” children who migrated with an adult, but whose family members or guardians have subsequently been deported, detained, or otherwise removed from a position of care; and
- (c) “trafficked” children, whom another person has forcibly removed from their place of origin through deceit, coercion or as chattel, or who may fall under the description of other “children on the move,” as trafficking is not always evident.¹⁰

Upon arriving in destination states—usually wealthier countries, such as the United States, Germany, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia or Singapore, or states with high rates of child exploitation,

at the Regional Level.” University of Essex Institute for Social and Economic Research, Oxford University Press. Retrieved 19 September 2013 from <http://migration.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/09/04/migration.mnt015.full.pdf+html>; Menasce Horowitz (12 January 2010). “Widespread Anti-Immigrant Sentiment in Italy.” Pew Research Global Attitudes Project. Retrieved July 12 2013 from <http://www.pewglobal.org/2010/01/12/widespread-anti-immigrant-sentiment-in-italy/>; and Freedom House (2013). “Freedom in the World: Denmark.” Freedom House.org. Retrieved July 12 2013 from <http://www.freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2013/denmark>

7 See Thomas Huddleston, Jan Niessen with Eadaoin Ni Chaoimh and Emilie White (2011). *Migrant Integration Policy Index III*. British Council and Migration Policy Group. MIPEX.eu. Retrieved 19 July 2013 from http://www.mipex.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/migrant_integration_policy_index_mipexiii_2011.pdf

8 Hans van de Glind (September 2010). “Migration and Child Labour: Exploring Child Migrant Vulnerabilities and Those of Children Left-Behind (Working Paper).” International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) Geneva: ILO. Retrieved 11 July 2013 from <http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/download.do?type=document&id=14313>

9 For insight into the problem of children from other countries traveling from Indonesia to Australia via boat, see Farmer, Alice (24 June 2013). *Barely Surviving: Detention, Abuse and Neglect of Migrant Children in Australia*. Human Rights Watch. Retrieved 13 July 2013 from <http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/indonesia0613webwcover.pdf> and Matt Siegel (27 July 2013). “U.N. ‘Troubled’ by Australia’s New Policy on Asylum Seekers.” *The New York Times*. Retrieved 3 August 2013 from http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/26/world/asia/un-troubled-by-australias-new-policy-on-asylum-seekers.html?_r=0. For an example of the hazards of transit between Indonesia and Malaysia see Associated Press (3 August 2013). “Indonesians missing after boat sinks off Malaysia.” BBC News Asia. Retrieved 3 August 2013 from <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-23558833>

10 IFCW includes trafficked children as a subset of unaccompanied children because, while traffickers may be adults, they do not act as guardians, nor do they serve the interests of the children they control. For more insight regarding the complexities of properly identifying and classifying “children on the move” as trafficked, see: Shuteriqi, Mirela (2013). Challenges faced in protecting children on the move: an NGO perspective. In the report: Children on the Move. International Organization of Migration (IOM). pp. 81-91.

though all countries serve as destinations for migrant children—unaccompanied migrant children who are undocumented frequently wind up in detention centers designed for adult immigrants or criminals (even in cases where states have special provisions for dealing with undocumented children).¹¹ They are often subject to criminal judicial processes without adequate—if any—legal representation, stigmatized, and isolated. Ultimately, destination states may deport minors back to their countries of origin—typically poorer states than destination countries—where the aforementioned crises await them. For many children, deportation can end up being a death sentence.

Children and youth who are able to stay in destination countries encounter a host of challenges that restrict their ability to access services and assimilate. A 2012 presentation by Nadine Liddy of the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network in Australia highlighted problems facing young refugees migrating to Australia, but which are common to children migrating to any new country:

- “learning a new language and negotiating education and employment pathways;
- “understanding and negotiating a new culture and establishing new peer networks;
- “navigating unfamiliar and complex social systems and laws;
- “understanding and managing pre-settlement trauma;
- “negotiating new or changed family structures, roles and responsibilities; and
- “juggling individual, family and community expectations.”¹²

Added to the fraught and perilous nature of their unaccompanied status, these challenges can be daunting for minors without a guardian or family support. Restrictive immigration policies only serve to compound these problems by prolonging family separation, delaying minors’ access to education, particularly if states detain them, or leaving them in dangerous care situations. Parents and guardians who fear deportation may leave their children in a destination country, either alone or in questionable care, hoping they will have better lives than in their countries of origin.¹³ Governments too frequently tear migrant families apart by deporting parents or confining them to long-term detention, leaving children to fend for themselves or be designated wards of the state.¹⁴ Relatives of unaccompanied migrant minors are often unable to immigrate to destination countries for years, if ever.

11 E.g. the United States. See Jessica Jones and Jennifer Podkul (October 2012). *Forced from Home: The Lost Boys and Girls of Central America*. Women’s Refugee Commission: New York. Retrieved 10 June 2013 from https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&ved=0CCwQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwomensrefugeecommission.org%2Fresources%2Fdoc_download%2F844-forced-from-home-the-lost-boys-and-girls-of-central-america&ei=f2kCUrLYMOugyAHP4IGoAg&usg=AFQjCNGyUNrT-zl77L54Nx8eTSjh2PqO0g&sig2=MYnaHTX-w3gsEcuDUtgXkA&bv=50310824.d.aWc

12 Nadine Liddy (November 2012). “Plenary 1: resources, instruments and structures of social support for families.” Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network Presentation. International Forum for Child Welfare: Naples, p. 2.

13 Emily Butera (2010). *Torn Apart by Immigration Enforcement: Parental Rights and Immigration Detention*. Women’s Refugee Commission: New York. Retrieved 30 May 2013 from http://womensrefugeecommission.org/component/docman/doc_download/667-torn-apart-by-immigration-enforcement-parental-rights-and-immigration-detention?Itemid=155

14 E.g. Between 1998 and 2007, the United States government deported “108,434 parents of U.S. citizen children.” Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General. (January 2009) “Removals Involving Illegal Alien Parents of United States Citizen Children.” (OIG-09-15) p. 4. Retrieved 10 July 2013 from http://www.oig.dhs.gov/assets/Mgmt/OIG_09-15_Jan09.pdf

Slavery and Trafficking: A Global Epidemic



A large, specially victimized subgroup of migrant minors winds up in bondage as victims of the international slave trade, frequently known as “human trafficking.” Human trafficking is an omnipresent global issue. Victims come from virtually every country in all regions and subcontinents, such as El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in Central America; Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and the Mekong Region in East Asia; Bangladesh and India in South Asia; Bulgaria, the Russian Federation and Ukraine in Eastern Europe; or Ethiopia, Sudan and Zimbabwe in sub-Saharan Africa.¹⁵

While most trafficking routes are intraregional, some of the world’s richest countries are major destination of trafficking victims from all over the world.¹⁶ Traffickers compel their victims into transit through physical force, psychological coercion “debt bondage” or under false pretenses.¹⁷ Examples of recruitment methods include bogus advertisements for overseas work or study, false marriages and even the “purchase of children from their guardians.”¹⁸

Slavery is also a hugely profitable global illicit industry. Although data on the subject is incom-

plete or unspecific, a large body of evidence ranks human trafficking as the third most profitable illegal international business after the international drug and arms trades.¹⁹

15 Sandeep Chawla, Angela Me and Thibault le Pichon Eds. (February 2009). *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2009*. United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking. Retrieved 26 April 2013 from http://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Global_Report_on_TIP.pdf

16 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2012). *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2012*, pp. 40-44, 48. (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.IV.1) Retrieved 3 July 2013 from http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glo-tip/Trafficking_in_Persons_2012_web.pdf.

17 Nattasuda Taephant, Ph. D. (2010). *IOM Training Manual on Psychosocial Assistance for Trafficked Persons*. International Organization for Migration: Bangkok. pp. 1, 6. Retrieved 9 July 2013 from <http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/activities/health/mental-health/IOM-Training-Manual-Psychosocial-Assistance-for-Trafficked-Persons.pdf>

18 Kristiina Kangaspunta et al. (2008). “Human Trafficking: An Overview.” United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: New York, p. 11. Retrieved 3 July 2013 from <http://www.ungift.org/docs/ungift/pdf/knowledge/ebook.pdf>

19 United States Department of State (2005). “Trafficking in Persons Report.” p. 14. Retrieved 8 July 2013 from <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/47255.pdf>. The statistics underlying this claim may be inconsistent or inaccurate, because some states and organizations define “human trafficking” to include “human smuggling.” For our purposes, “trafficking” implies the *forcible* movement of people who would not otherwise migrate.

- Trafficked victims of forced labor account for \$31.6 billion in global profits each year.²⁰
- In 2011, over 9 million people were trafficked as slaves from their places of origin.²¹
- **More than 27 per cent of victims were under the age of 18, accounting for almost 2.5 million children, globally.**²²
- Trafficking victims most often wind up as domestic servants, forced laborers, or sexual slaves.²³

Because traffickers often work in well-financed and organized networks, they possess considerable resources that enable them to undermine states' efforts to pursue them, particularly in poor countries. Traffickers are able to elude justice by concealing their activities and bribing or intimidating public officials.²⁴ The vast scope of the issue, and the continued growth of human trafficking as an international criminal enterprise, indicate that states just are not doing enough to combat this issue and protect children.



20 Belser, Patrick (March 1, 2005). "Forced Labour and Human Trafficking: Estimating the Profits." Working Paper 42, International Labour Organization: Geneva. Retrieved 27 June 2013 from <http://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1016&context=forcedlabor>

21 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2012), p. 68.

22 Ibid. The U.N. estimate may be conservative. U.S. Department of State data indicate that child trafficking rates are more than 50 per cent of all trafficked persons in many places. See U.S. Dept. of State (2005).

23 UN News Centre (13 May 2013). "UN Member States Appraise Global Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking." Retrieved 28 June 2013 from http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=44885#.UcnoN_nqk6s

24 Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and its Explanatory Report, Warsaw, 16.V.2005. Retrieved 13 July 2013 from http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/trafficking/Source/PDF_Conv_197_Trafficking_Erev.pdf

Intra-Jurisdictional Issues



Not all cases of enslavement, trafficking and exploitation of children are transnational; criminal networks and abusive regimes also move children from their homes within a single state's jurisdiction. Many countries have significant instances of internal trafficking as well, including states as widely varied geographically, culturally and politically as Afghanistan, Brazil, Chad, India, North Korea (DPRK), Papua New Guinea, Romania and Tajikistan.²⁵ India suffers from particularly acute issues of trafficking and forced labor within its borders: U.S. Department of State reports estimate internal trafficking accounts for 90% of trafficking in India, with millions of child victims suffering each year as a result.²⁶

Even countries with strong institutions can have significant internal trafficking problems. UNICEF Canada has noted that, "organized crime networks are actively trafficking Canadian-born women and

children, primarily for the sex trade."²⁷ According to the British Columbia Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons (OCTIP), "Canada is also a source of trafficked persons and has experienced cases of domestic trafficking within its borders."²⁸

Some countries have mounted prosecutions of trafficking victims for prostitution and other offenses, which they committed under coercion, and have thereby discouraged victims from coming forward and seeking help. Others have proven unable or unwilling to curtail forced labor practices within their borders. Still others, like North Korea, force children into labor and commit other human rights abuses as part of governmental forms of oppression and control.²⁹

25 United States Department of State (June 2013). *2013 Trafficking in Persons Report*. pp. 66, 103, 126, 195, 221, 295, 309. Retrieved 6 August 2013 from <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2013/> (Embedded URLs for different sections of report).

26 U.S. Dept. of State (2013), p. 195. "An estimated 20 to 65 million citizens constitutes India's largest trafficking problem; men, women, and children in debt bondage are forced to work in industries such as brick kilns, rice mills, agriculture, and embroidery factories. A common characteristic of bonded labor is the use of physical and sexual violence as coercive means. Ninety percent of trafficking in India is internal, and those from India's most disadvantaged social strata, including the lowest castes, are most vulnerable."

27 UNICEF Canada (2013). *Protecting Children from Trafficking*. Retrieved 26 July 2013 from <http://www.unicef.ca/en/policy-advocacy-for-children/children-from-trafficking>

28 British Columbia Ministry of Justice Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons (OCTIP) (2013). *Human Trafficking in B.C.* pssg.gov.bc.ca. Retrieved 26 July 2013 from <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/octip/>. Although trafficking is not limited to one group, it disproportionately affects Indigenous Canadian children. This concern was brought forth in a 2007 House of Commons Report of the Standing Committee on the Status of Women, where it acknowledged: "According to the Department of Justice and other witnesses, Aboriginal girls and women are at greater risk of becoming victims of trafficking within and outside Canada." House of Commons Canada (2007). Report of the Standing Committee on the Status of Women, p. 9.

29 Human Rights Watch (13 June 2012). "North Korea: Economic System Built on Forced Labor." Hrw.org. Retrieved 6 August

An International Legal Mandate



While UN States Parties first ratified the CRC in 1989, international human rights instruments have instituted special protections for children since the early Twentieth Century. To date, 193 countries have ratified and accepted the CRC as international law, establishing a global norm for the legal treatment of minors under the age of 18. (The only United Nations member countries that have not ratified the convention as of this writing are Somalia, South Sudan and the United States.)

Prior to the 1989 treaty, the 1924 Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the 1959 Declaration of the Rights of the Child previously enshrined children's international rights.³⁰ The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and common standards adopted by international agencies and international and regional organizations working toward child welfare all recognize specialized rights standards for children, differentiating them from those for adults.³¹ In 1990, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, guaranteeing the human rights of migrants as a paramount international value.³²

2013 from <http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/06/13/north-korea-economic-system-built-forced-labor>

30 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Preamble, para. 8, 9, 10.

31 Ibid.

32 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families Adopted by General Assembly resolution 45/158 (18 December 1990). Retrieved 26 June 2013 from <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cmw/cmw.htm>

Prioritizing Family and Human Rights



Governments must establish and implement formal procedures on how to assess and determine the best interests of a child before making decisions on his or her migration status—return to their country of origin or asylum protections and immigration procedures in the destination country. In cases where family reunification is possible and beneficial—this excludes instances of child abuse or sexual exploitation—destination countries should make every attempt to bring parents, children and siblings together. Policies for dealing with unaccompanied migrant minors should be consistent with human rights instruments that protect the rights of children.

States can make family reunification an operative priority by:

- Instituting less punitive detention methods for undocumented migrant parents, so that they can continue caring for their children even while going through migration processes;
- Establishing protocols to ensure consistent communication between a State’s immigration and child welfare agencies in cases where detained parents have children in-country; and

- Provide free information sessions to immigrant communities about State immigration laws and enforcement policies.³³

A fundamental step toward making migration safer for children is for all governments to decriminalize undocumented migration by minors and adults. Largely, governments do not design criminal justice processes and detention centers to handle migrants whose only offense is entering a country without proper documentation—nor should they. International recognition that migration is a human rights issue and that natural migration flows are conducive with global health will better position governments to deal with migrant children in constructive, progressive ways. Decriminalization of migration will allow more families to assimilate to life in destination countries together, instead of being arbitrarily fragmented because of draconian penalties for being undocumented. Furthermore, it will help families stay together, preventing unnecessary separation of parents from their children.

Decriminalization of immigration is imperative to children’s health. The American Academy of Pediatrics made the following recommendations to “address how immigration policies can support child health and well-being.”³⁴

33 Brown, Jocelyn, MD, MPH (personal communication, October 14, 2013)

34 American Academy of Pediatrics. “Policy Statement: Providing Care for Immigrant, Migrant, and Border Children.” Council on Community Pediatrics. *PEDIATRICS*. Vol. 131, No. 6, June 2013, e2028-e2034. DOI: 10.1542/peds.2013-1099. ISSN: Print,

- “The health, well-being, and safety of children should be prioritized in all immigration proceedings. Whenever possible, the separation of a child from his or her family and home environment should be prevented, and family reunions should be expedited.
- “In no circumstances should a child have to represent himself or herself in an immigration proceeding.
- “Health care facilities should be safe settings for immigrant children and families to access health care. Medical records and health care facilities should not be used in any immigration enforcement action.”³⁵

One innovative option for constructive inclusion of unaccompanied migrant minors unable to return to their home countries is a coordinated social service strategy, developed by the Council of Europe in 2007, entitled the “Life Project.”³⁶ A life project would set various short and long-term goals for an unaccompanied child, without necessarily granting him/her residency or designating him/her for deportation. The Life Project “is drawn up and negotiated between the minor and the authorities in the host country, represented by a designated professional, with contributions from a variety of other professionals.”³⁷ Creative social service solutions to the problems migrant children encounter while assimilating new national identities will be crucial in bettering these children socially and legally in the years ahead.



0031-4005; Online, 1098-4275. Retrieved on 14 October 2013 from <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/>

35 Ibid.

36 European Committee on Migration (2007). “Explanatory Memorandum to the Recommendation CM/REC(2007)9 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on Life Projects for Unaccompanied Migrant Minors.” Council of Europe: Strasbourg. Retrieved 10 July 2013 from <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home/opendocPDFViewer.html?docid=50a65b-b69&query=migrant%20minors>. See also: Louise Drammeh (2010). *Life Projects for unaccompanied migrant minors: A handbook for front-line professionals*. Council of Europe: Strasbourg. Retrieved 10 July 2013 from http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/migration/archives/Source/ID10053-Life%20projects_GB.pdf

37 European Committee on Migration (2007).

Recognizing the Scope of the Issues: Prevention through Action



The international migration of minors is not an isolated issue; rather, the surging rates of migrant minors, particularly of unaccompanied minors, and the unfettered growth of human trafficking as an illicit industry are indicative of, related to, and precipitate overlapping international crises. Extreme poverty in developing countries, sectarian strife in divided societies, and gang violence, pervasive crime, corruption and institutional impotence all force children to travel from their homes or precipitate their internment and enslavement.

States need to take preventative and humane measures to bring down high rates of unaccompanied migrant minors. Children who wind up in precarious and sometimes dangerous situations as migrants are usually fleeing situations brought on by poverty. Trafficking victims are also most frequently poor. By enacting progressive policies that enhance social mobility, open equitable access to resources and increase educational opportunities for children, States can deconstruct the entrenched poverty that leads children to migrate alone or compels people to turn to criminal enterprises like human trafficking to make money.

Additionally, the hand of justice should fall swiftly and firmly on traffickers. Although 134 countries and territories “have criminalized trafficking by establishing a specific offence, in line with the [Trafficking in Persons Protocol],” and trends in trafficking convictions have increased in recent years, most countries continue to report very low prosecution and conviction rates of traffickers, and many still fail to prosecute traffickers at all.³⁸

States must require a guardian or representative be appointed to an unaccompanied or separated child immediately after identification, prior to initiating any legal proceedings. In too many instances, a child’s wellbeing falls by the wayside because of a lack of advocates in his or her “corner.” States should modify their legal codes to maximize punishments for traffickers and slavers and devote significant resources to combating traffickers in order to deter participation in this criminal activity and show that they are serious about enforcement. Because slavery is a transnational and transcontinental issue, governments, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations should establish an advanced and reliable data-sharing

38 UNODC (2012), p. 14. “Of the 132 countries covered in this report, 16 per cent did not record a single conviction for trafficking in persons between 2007 and 2010.”

International Action



system to more effectively combat traffickers.

As more countries experience the problems associated with unaccompanied children and the blight of human trafficking, more governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), research institutes and other civil society actors have become involved in efforts to ensure migrant minors are safe and their rights protected.

CBOs and NGOs in various countries are providing services and housing to trafficking victims and unaccompanied migrant children. Legal service organizations have taken up *pro bono* cases to advocate for the rights of migrant families. Regional organizations, such as MERCOSUR and the European Union have taken up migration and trafficking as major human rights issues that their State members can most effectively address by working together.³⁹

In the years ahead, IFCW member organizations and the greater civil society and activist community will need to coordinate efforts and forge stronger connections to build on the efforts organizations put forward alone. Migration and trafficking issues are not geographically isolated. Only through partnerships and networks that connect direct service, legal and advocacy organizations in different countries can the service community make greater strides to protect human rights.

³⁹ Please consult Appendix II of this document for a list of international and non-governmental actors involved in the welfare of migrant children.

Action Steps for IFCW



As an international advocacy organization, IFCW will use its 2014 WorldForum to initiate a multi-pronged approach among its member organizations.

IFCW members will:

- Advocate for States to ratify the CRC and International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
- Encourage States to adopt legislation, policies and programs that protect and ensure the rights outlined by the CRC and other international human rights instruments and ensure that these protections are fully extended to migrant populations, particularly children, within their borders;
- Advocate for States to adopt broader domestic asylum provisions, so that no child seeking refuge from unsafe conditions in his or her homeland will be turned away from safer shores;
- Establish an annual work plan to promote this policy position globally and encourage its member organizations to take similar steps locally;
- Develop youth engagement strategies to further profile and mobilize support for the position ; and
- Pool their data and resources relevant to migrant children to build a data collection resource on migration issues.

By instituting humane and best practices to prevent discrimination, exploitation and family separation, major migration destination States can support healthier and safer migration for children and families.



Appendices

Appendix I: Source List

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Appendix II: Organizations and International Bodies Working on Migration and Trafficking Issues⁴⁰

International and Regional Organizations

- [Inter-American Commission on Human Rights \(IACHR\)](#) — The IACHR is a principal and autonomous organ of the Organization of American States (OAS) whose mission is to promote and protect human rights in the American hemisphere. The IACHR mounts petitions and monitors the human rights situations in its Member States.⁴¹ Phone: 202-370-9000 Email: cidhdenuncias@oas.org Website: <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/>
- [International Labor Organization \(ILO\)](#) — The ILO aims to ensure that it serves the needs of working women and men by bringing together governments, employers and workers to set labor standards, develop policies and devise programs. The very structure of the ILO, where workers and employers together have an equal voice with governments in its deliberations, shows social dialogue in action. It ensures that the views of the social partners are closely reflected in ILO labor standards, policies and programs. The ILO encourages this tripartism within its constituents and member States by promoting a social dialogue between trade unions and employers in formulating, and where appropriate, implementing national policy on social, economic, and many other issues.⁴² The ILO publishes data and reports regarding migration and trafficking and develops international strategies to combat human trafficking.⁴³ Switchboard: +41 (0) 22-799-6111 E-mail: ilo@ilo.org Website: www.ilo.org
- [MERCOSUR \(Mercado Común del Sur\)](#) — MERCOSUR is a regional integration organization comprised of the Republic of Argentina, the Federal Republic of Brazil, the Republic of Paraguay, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Plurinational State of Bolivia.⁴⁴ Member States have signed bilateral, regional and sub-regional agreements that recognize the human rights of migrants independently of their immigration status, apart from other international human rights treaties.⁴⁵ Phone: +598-2412-9024 Email: secretaria@mercosur.org.uy Website: <http://www.mercosur.int/>

40 Please note: This should only be considered a preliminary working list of organizations involved in issues affecting migrant children, and is in no way comprehensive at the local, U.S. or international levels. All descriptions of organizations listed in this appendix are verbatim or near-verbatim from their official websites.

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- [UNICEF](#) — UNICEF is committed to protecting children the world over, including the millions of children who are affected by migration. With interagency cooperation between the United Nations, government and civil society partners, UNICEF provides leadership at the country and global levels in developing evidence-based, action oriented policy to secure the basic rights of children, adolescents and women affected by migration.⁴⁶ UNICEF works with partners on a number of issues by strengthening child protection systems and promoting positive social norms in all contexts—development and emergency—to prevent and respond to violence, exploitation and abuse directed at children.⁴⁷
- [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](#) — The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees leads and co-ordinates international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. It strives to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another State, with the option to return home voluntarily, integrate locally or to resettle in a third country.⁴⁸ Phone: +41-22-739-8111 Website: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c2.html>
- [United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights](#) — The Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) leads global human rights efforts and speaks out objectively in the face of human rights violations worldwide. The OHCHR provides a forum for identifying, highlighting and developing responses to today’s human rights challenges, and acts as the principal focal point of human rights research, education, public information, and advocacy activities in the United Nations system. Since Governments have the primary responsibility to protect human rights, the OHCHR provides assistance to governments, such as expertise and technical trainings in the areas of administration of justice, legislative reform, and electoral process, to help implement international human rights standards on the ground. The OHCHR also assists other entities with responsibility to protect human rights to fulfill their obligations and individuals to realize their rights.⁴⁹ Civil Society Section Phone: +41-22-917-9656 Email: civilsociety@ohchr.org Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Pages/WelcomePage.aspx>
- [United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants](#) — The Special Rapporteur sends appeals and communications to concerned Governments to clarify and/or bring to their attention migrant human rights cases. He analyzes States’ policies regarding human rights issues, including migration and trafficking, and makes policy recommendations based on a State’s standing to ensure that the State is complying with international norms.⁵⁰ Civil Society Section Phone: +41-22-917-9656 Email: civilsociety@ohchr.org Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Migration/SRMigrants/Pages/SRMigrantsIndex.aspx>

46 “UNICEF and Migration.” UNICEF Social and Economic Policy. Web 19 July 2013. http://www.unicef.org/socialpolicy/index_migration.html

47 “Child Protection Issues.” UNICEF Child Protection from Violence, Exploitation and Abuse. Web 25 September 2013. http://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_57977.html

48 “What We Do” (2013). UNHCR: The UN Refugee Agency. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c-3646cbf.html>

49 “What We Do” (2013). United Nations Human Rights. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/AboutUs/Pages/WhatWeDo.aspx>

50 “Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants” (2013). United Nations Human Rights. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Migration/SRMigrants/Pages/SRMigrantsIndex.aspx>

International Non-Governmental Organizations

- [Amnesty International](#) — Advocates for dignity and respect for human rights of migrants, particularly their right to claim asylum and to seek justice for abuses they suffer from immigration officials, through letter-writing campaigns and by providing information for recourse to victims of human rights abuses.⁵¹ Phone: Telephone: +44-20-7413-5500 Web form: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/contact> Website: <http://www.amnesty.org/>
- [Covenant House](#) — Provides services and administers programs for homeless, abused and disadvantaged children and youth. Services include outreach, housing, medical care, education programs, legal information, counsel and advice, and job training. Covenant House provides specialized services to children that are trafficking victims.⁵² New York Office Phone: 212-727-4021 Email: GOrtiz@covenanthouse.org
- [Human Rights Watch](#) — Human Rights Watch’s expert staff includes country specialists, lawyers, journalists, advocates, and academics of diverse backgrounds and nationalities. These experts conduct fact-finding missions and investigate human rights abuses, including those of trafficking victims, refugees and other migrants, impartially reporting on the human right conditions in some 90 countries. Their facts are then used in our targeted advocacy to promote human rights and justice around the world.⁵³ New York Office Phone: 212-290-4700 Web form: <http://www.hrw.org/contact/new-york> Website: <http://www.hrw.org/>
- [International Justice Mission](#) — International Justice Mission is a human rights agency that brings rescue to victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression. IJM lawyers, investigators and aftercare professionals work with local officials to secure immediate victim rescue and aftercare, to prosecute perpetrators and to ensure that public justice systems - police, courts and laws - effectively protect the poor. IJM’s justice professionals work in their communities in 16 field offices in Asia, Africa and Latin America to secure tangible and sustainable protection of national laws through local court systems.⁵⁴ Phone: 703-465-5495 Email: contact@ijm.org Web form: <http://www.ijm.org/contact> Website: <http://www.ijm.org/> Washington, D.C.
- [International Organization for Migration](#) — Collects comprehensive global migration data and conducts and supports activities to promote healthy and safe migration and to combat forced migration and human trafficking.⁵⁵ Conducts both quantitative and qualitative research as an essential information source to improve its—and others—fight against human trafficking.⁵⁶ IOM efforts to support safe migration of children include, health and resettlement-related activities; reception and integration in the country of destination; return and reintegration in the country of origin or a third country; family tracing and reunification; and research and information campaigns.⁵⁷ Phone: +41-22-717-9111 Email: hq@iom.int Website: <http://www.iom.int/cms/en/sites/iom/home.html>

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52 “Programs that Serve Homeless Kids.” *Covenant House — Opening Doors for Homeless Youth*. Covenanthouse.org. Web 19 July 2013. <http://www.covenanthouse.org/>

53 <http://www.hrw.org/our-work/experts>;

54 “Who We Are” (2012). International Justice Mission. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.ijm.org/who-we-are>

55 International Organization for Migration (IOM). “What We Do.” <http://www.iom.int/cms/activities>

56 IOM. “Counter-Trafficking” <http://www.iom.int/cms/countertrafficking>

57 International Organization for Migration (IOM) (2011). “Unaccompanied Children on the Move: The Work of the International Organization for Migration (IOM)” International Organization for Migration: Geneva http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Full%20Report_614.pdf

- [International Rescue Committee](#) — Responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to refugees forced to flee from war or disaster. The IRC serves thousands of refugees, asylees and victims of human trafficking.⁵⁸ Phone: 212-377-4728 Email: NewYork@rescue.org Website: <http://www.rescue.org/>
- [Love146](#) — Love146 provides holistic care for survivors of child sexual exploitation and journeys with them as they are reintegrated back into communities; reaches out to youth in schools, group homes and community settings, teaching them how to protect themselves and their friends from trafficking; trains professionals who encounter children, such as teachers and social workers, as well as grassroots aftercare workers, giving them tools to prevent the trafficking of children, as well as identify and support victims; and seeks to rise up and equip new Abolitionists as well as give greater momentum to effective grassroots efforts.⁵⁹ Phone: 203-772-4420; Email: info@love146.org Website: <http://www.love146.org/>
- [Oxfam International](#) — Oxfam is an international confederation of 17 organizations networked together in more than 90 countries, as part of a global movement for change, to build a future free from the injustice of poverty. They work directly with communities and seek to influence the powerful to ensure that poor people can improve their lives and livelihoods and have a say in decisions that affect them. Oxfam promotes human rights and gender justice; provides disaster and conflict relief; lobby governments, international organizations and corporations for fairer land policies and action on climate change; rescues global food supplies to curb hunger; and secures adequate financial flows to sustain basic services for poor people.⁶⁰ Oxfam International Secretariat Contact: Phone: +44-1865-339-100; Email: information@oxfaminternational.org; Website: <http://www.oxfam.org/>
- [The Polaris Project](#) — The Polaris Project is a leading organization in the global fight against human trafficking and modern-day slavery. By successfully pushing for stronger federal and state laws, operating the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline, conducting trainings and providing vital services to victims of trafficking, Polaris Project creates long-term solutions that move our society closer to a world without slavery.⁶¹ National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline: 1-888-373-7888 Email: info@polarisproject.org
- [Safe Horizon](#) — Provides services to victims of trafficking, “including intensive case management, shelter, legal services, and mental health care.” Safe Horizon coordinates “efforts with local and Federal law enforcement, to ensure that victims’ needs are addressed and that the criminal justice system holds traffickers accountable.” The organization has a New York City Anti-Trafficking Network, “a coalition of diverse service providers whose mission is to combat trafficking and ensure trafficked persons’ needs are recognized and addressed.”⁶² New York Office: Phone: 212-577-7710 Email: info@safehorizon.org Maria.Corral@safehorizon.org
- [Save the Children International](#) — Provides direct education, food and health care services to children, while strengthening child protection systems and helping parents provide for their children in nurturing ways. Save the Children also conducts lobbying campaigns to combat issues that harm

58 “Our Impact” (2013). International Rescue Committee. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.rescue.org/irc-fast-facts>

59 Love146 (2013). Love146. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.love146.org/>

60 “How We Fight Poverty” (2013). Oxfam International. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.oxfam.org/en/about/how-oxfam-fights-poverty>

61 “About Us” (2013). Polaris Project: For a World without Slavery. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.polarisproject.org/about-us/overview>

62 “Safe Horizon: At a Glance” (2013). Safe Horizon. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.safehorizon.org/index/about-us-1/who-we-are-52/safe-horizon-at-a-glance-28.html>

children, such as trafficking and child pornography.⁶³ Save the Children United States Phone: 203-221-4000 Website: http://www.savethechildren.org/site/c.8rKLIXMGIpI4E/b.6115947/k.8D6E/Official_Site.htm

- [Vera Institute for Justice](#) — The Vera Institute of Justice combines expertise in research, demonstration projects, and technical assistance to help leaders in government and civil society improve the systems people rely on for justice and safety. Vera is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit center for justice policy and practice, with offices in New York City, Washington, DC, New Orleans, and Los Angeles. Their projects and reform initiatives, typically conducted in partnership with local, state, or national officials, are located across the United States and around the world.⁶⁴ Phone: 212-334-1300 Web form: <http://www.vera.org/contact> Website: <http://www.vera.org/>

Greater United States Organizations

- [CAASE](#) — Chicago Alliance against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE) addresses the culture, institutions, and individuals that perpetrate, profit from, or support sexual exploitation. Their work includes prevention, policy reform, community engagement, and legal services.⁶⁵ Phone: 773-244-2230 Email: info@caase.org Website: <http://caase.org/> Chicago, IL
- [Child Welfare Information Gateway](#) — Child Welfare Information Gateway connects child welfare and related professionals to comprehensive information and resources to help protect children and strengthen families. They feature the latest on topics from prevention to permanency, including child abuse and neglect, foster care, and adoption.⁶⁶ Phone: 800-394-3366 Email: info@childwelfare.gov Website: <http://www.childwelfare.gov>
- [Children of the Night](#) — Located in California, Children of the Night is the only full-service program in North America designed specifically for American children who have been forced to prostitute right here in the United States—girls and boys. Their Without Walls (WOW) program offers teenagers living on the streets access to birth certificates, school records, social security cards, government issued photo identification, transportation to critical social services, case management including comprehensive mental health services, résumé preparation, job placement and educational services including academic assessments, preparation, tutoring and support services to test for the GED (General Education Diploma). Children of the Night offers math and reading programs, a patented keyboarding program (Keyboarders Gone Ballistic), life skills curriculum, a parenting class designed specifically for teen moms and dads, access to college and funding for college books and school supplies.⁶⁷ 24-hour Hotline: 1-800-551-1300 Email: lee@childrenofthenight.org Website: <http://childrenofthenight.org/index.html> Van Nuys, California
- [Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking](#) — The mission of the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) is to assist persons trafficked for the purpose of forced labor and slavery-like practices and to work toward ending all instances of such human rights violations. CAST's activities

63 "Child Protection" (2013). Save the Children. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.savethechildren.net/what-we-do/child-protection>

64 "About Us" (2013). Vera Institute of Justice. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.vera.org/about-us>

65 "Mission and Vision" (2013). C.A.A.S.E. Web 25 September 2013 <http://caase.org/our-work>

66 Child Welfare Information Gateway (2013). "About Us." U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Web 25 September 2013 <https://www.childwelfare.gov/>

67 "Children of the Night Without Walls" (2013). Children of the Night: Rescuing America's Children from Prostitution. Web 25 September 2013 <http://childrenofthenight.org/wow.html>

are interconnected by a client-centered approach that seeks to empower survivors of trafficking to fully realize their individual potential while advancing the human rights of all trafficked survivors. CAST is providing the momentum for these survivors to plant the “seeds of renewal” that will give them the freedom to grow in the direction of their potential and dreams.⁶⁸ Phone: 213-365-1906 Email: info@castla.org Website: <http://www.castla.org/> Los Angeles, CA

- [F.A.C.E.S.S.](#) — Freeing American Children from Exploitation and Sexual Slavery (F.A.C.E.S.S.) provides a loving, caring, family atmosphere that will meet the needs of rescued children. F.A.C.E.S.S. also collaborates with other agencies to provide additional services including but not limited to, counseling, equine therapy, art classes and social outings. They provide children with relationships, mentorship, family-style outings and activities.⁶⁹ Phone: 855-690-4860 Email: info@facess.org Website: <http://www.facess.org/> Chino, CA
- [Loyola University of Chicago Center for the Human Rights of Children](#) — The Center for the Human Rights of Children (CHRC) engages in a variety of programs and activities, both in the United States and internationally. These include providing training and technical assistance, conducting research, sponsoring conferences and symposia, advocacy, consultation, and educational campaigns.⁷⁰ The CHRC facilitates registration of legal and social service providers who administer services for victims of human trafficking in the United States.⁷¹
- [MISSEY](#) — MISSEY is a community-based organization in Alameda County, CA, founded in 2007 to respond to this heartbreaking epidemic of sexual exploitation. MISSEY provides comprehensive services in a safe environment to support and serve sexually exploited youth. They provide information to the community and government about the commercial sexual exploitation of children.⁷² Phone: 510-251-2070 Email: info@missey.org Website: <http://missey.org/> Oakland, CA
- [National Organization for Women](#) — The National Organization for Women (NOW) is the largest organization of feminist activists in the United States. NOW has 500,000 contributing members and 550 chapters in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Since its founding in 1966, NOW’s goal has been to take action to bring about equality for all women. NOW works to eliminate discrimination and harassment in the workplace, schools, the justice system, and all other sectors of society; secure abortion, birth control and reproductive rights for all women; end all forms of violence against women; eradicate racism, sexism and homophobia; and promote equality and justice.⁷³ Phone: 212-627-9895 Email: contact@nownyc.org Website: <http://nownyc.org/>
- [Slavery No More](#) — The mission of Slavery No More is to resource a diversity of the most effective organizations working to combat and abolish modern-day slavery and human trafficking, and to create awareness and a diversity of opportunities for meaningful personal engagement.⁷⁴ Phone: 818-741-3101 Email: info@slaverynomore.org Website: <http://www.slaverynomore.org/> Calabasas, CA

68 “What We Do” (2013). CAST: Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking. (Site by B1STR0.) Web 25 September <http://www.castla.org/advocacy>

69 “Our Mission” (2013). F.A.C.E.S.S. Freeing American Children from Exploitation and Sexual Slavery. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.facess.org/about/>

70 Center for the Human Rights of Children (2013). “In Action.” Loyola University of Chicago. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.luc.edu/chrc/centerevents.shtml>.

71 Center for the Human Rights of Children (2013). “Legal Services Assessment for Child Trafficking Survivors.” Loyola University of Chicago. <http://www.luc.edu/chrc/homerightcolumn/legalservicesassessmentforchildtraffickingsurvivors/>

72 “Making a Difference” (2013). MISSEY: Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting & Serving Sexually Exploited Youth. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.missey.org/>

73 “About NOW.” National Organization for Women. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.now.org/organization/info.html>

74 Slavery No More (2013). Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.slaverynomore.org/>

- [StreetLight USA](http://www.streetlightusa.org/) — StreetLightUSA Center for Excellence and Treatment has redefined its three-tier strategy of Awareness, Prevention, and Direct Care. StreetLightUSA's Ambassadors for Change Program brings national Awareness to the sex trafficking and exploitation of minors by engaging the public in grassroots efforts to implement positive change. Prevention efforts include partnering with universities and subject matter experts to develop healing programs, piloting best practices through our Direct Care residential program, and evaluating the outcomes to maximize success. Additionally, we work with branches of the United States justice system to protect children from further sexual exploitation. Direct Care services, through StreetLightUSA's residential program, provide a healing and safe environment for girls age 11-17 who have been rescued from sex trafficking throughout the United States.⁷⁵ Phone: 623-435-0900 Email: lea@streetlightphx.com Website: <http://www.streetlightusa.org/> Peoria, AZ

Local (New York, New Jersey and Connecticut Tri-State Area)

- [City Bar Justice Center](http://www2.nycbar.org/citybarjusticecenter/projects/immigrant-justice/immigrant-women-a-children-project) — City Bar Justice Center's Immigrant Women & Children Project offers free legal assistance to immigrant survivors of violent crimes, including domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse and human trafficking. Volunteer attorneys assist clients with the preparation of immigration applications, including special immigration relief under the Violence Against Women Act through self-petitions and battered spouse waivers. The Project also assists applicants with U & T visas, for survivors of violent crimes who cooperate with law enforcement.⁷⁶ Phone: 212-382-6600, 212-382-6710 (Immigration Intake Line); Email: lkelly@nycbar.org, efriedman@nycbar.org Website: <http://www2.nycbar.org/citybarjusticecenter/projects/immigrant-justice/immigrant-women-a-children-project>
- [The Door](http://www.door.org/) — Provides a wide range of services to meet the needs of New York City youth aged 12-21, including College Advisement & Tutoring, Counseling, Creative Arts, English Language (ESOL), Foster Care, GED training, Health & Dental Services, Jobs & Internships, Leadership training, Legal & immigration Services, LGBTQ services, Recreation activities, Runaway and Homeless Youth services, Sexual Health & Birth Control services and Supportive Housing.⁷⁷ Website: <http://www.door.org/> Phone: (212) 941-9090 Email: smeckler@door.org, info@door.org
- [Girls Educational & Mentoring Services \(GEMS\)](http://www.gems-girls.org/) — GEMS is the only organization in New York State specifically designed to serve girls and young women who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking. Rachel Lloyd, a young woman who had been sexually exploited as a teenager, founded GEMS in 1998. GEMS has helped hundreds of young women and girls, ages 12-24, who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking to exit the commercial sex industry and to develop to their full potential. GEMS provides young women with empathetic, consistent support and viable opportunities for positive change.⁷⁸ Phone: 212-926-8089 Fax: 212-491-2696 <http://www.gems-girls.org/>
- [International Institute of Buffalo](http://www.internationalinstituteofbuffalo.org/) — Since 1918 the International Institute of Buffalo has strengthened Western New York by assisting refugees and immigrants to become independent, informed and contributing members of the community, and by promoting and supporting cultural competence, multiculturalism and global connectedness throughout the region. Phone: 716-883-1900

75 "About Us" (2013). Streetlight USA. Web 25 September 2013 <http://streetlightusa.org/about-us/>

76 "Immigrant Women & Children Project" (2013). City Bar Justice Center. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www2.nycbar.org/citybarjusticecenter/projects/immigrant-justice/immigrant-women-a-children-project>

77 "Programs and Services" (2013). The Door. Web 25 September 2013. <http://www.door.org/programs-services>

78 "Mission & History" (2013). GEMS. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.gems-girls.org/about/mission-history>

x304; Email: ehassett@iibuff.org, reception@iibuff.org; Website: <http://www.iibuff.org/>

- [My Sisters' Place](#) — For more than 35 years, My Sisters' Place (MSP) has worked to end violence in intimate relationships and combat the effects of domestic violence on women and children throughout Westchester County. MSP has evolved from a grassroots task force and drop-in center into a cutting edge leader and resource in the field of domestic violence advocacy, shelter and legal services and education and prevention. Based on the tenet of taking a holistic approach and addressing the root causes of family violence, MSP is continually expanding in order to effectively respond to the increasing and changing needs of individuals in crisis. MSP's mission is to engage each member of society in our work to end domestic violence, so that all relationships can embrace the principles of respect, equality, and peacefulness.⁷⁹ Phone: 914-683-1333; Email: lpesso@mspny.org; Website: <http://mspny.org/>
- [New York Asian Women's Center](#) — The New York Asian Women's Center helps women and their children overcome domestic violence and other forms of abuse by empowering them to govern their own lives. The Center provides a safe haven through multi-lingual support programs and shelter services. In addition, the Center works to raise public awareness about violence against women, advocates for the rights of survivors, and acts as an agent of social change.⁸⁰ Phone: 212-300-2092 Email: nkubon@nyawc.org Website: <http://www.nyawc.org/>
- [Paul and Lisa, Inc.](#) — Provides Community Court-based Rehabilitation for women arraigned for prostitution; empowers youth, families and communities through Prevention Education about the dangers of running away, the role of drugs in sexual exploitation, the profile of chronic run-away behavior, and how to prevent abduction; and does Outreach and Streetwork by establishing rapport with sexually exploited street children, youth and young adults, connecting them to safe home arrangements, health care and assistance in returning home, when feasible.⁸¹ Email: support@paulandlisa.org Website: <http://www.paulandlisa.org/>
- [The Price of Life](#) — The Price of Life: NYC is a city-wide, campus-based, faith-inspired campaign addressing human trafficking in all its forms, spearheaded by InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in partnership with 75+ diverse organizations. The Price of Life seeks to bring together campus and student leaders with business leaders, professionals, churches, scholars, and local and international non-profits to educate and mobilize the community to fight modern day slavery.⁸² Phone: (212) 248-6621 Email: priceoflifeny@gmail.com, pappas.beth@gmail.com Website: <http://priceoflifeny.org/>
- [RedLight Children](#) — Creates global awareness about the prevalence and extent of human trafficking as an international humanitarian problem. To create awareness, RedLight (1) utilizes the power of film and mass media, (2) disseminates resources about trafficking issues via its website, Facebook and other social media sites, (3) participates in events focused on trafficking, such as panel discussions, conferences, screenings, film festivals and fundraisers and (4) fundraises for anti-trafficking initiatives.⁸³ Email: admin@redlightchildren.org, jen.munz@redlightchildren.org

79 "Who We Are" (2013). My Sister's Place. Web 25 September 2013 <http://mspny.org/about-us/who-we-are/>

80 "What We Do" (2009). New York Asian Women's Center. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.nyawc.org/about/what-we-do.html>

81 Paul and Lisa (2013). Paul and Lisa. Web 25 September 2013 <http://www.paulandlisa.org/what.html>

82 "What Is the Price of Life?" (2012). The Price of Life. (Created by InterVarsity.) Web 25 September 2013 <http://priceoflifeny.org/about/>

83 "Expose It: Raising Awareness." Redlight Children. Web 25 September 2013. <http://redlightchildren.org/about-us/current-initiatives/>

- [Restore NYC](#) — Restore NYC's mission is to end sex trafficking in New York City and restore the well-being and independence of foreign-national survivors. To this end, they deliver complete care, addressing physical, emotional and spiritual needs; provide survivors with a community and safe, long-term housing; increase awareness and understanding about trafficking in the greater community; and advocate for effective policies and legislation on the issue. Phone: 212-300-2092 Email: info@restorenyc.org Website: <http://www.restorenyc.org>





The International Forum for Child Welfare (IFCW)

The International Forum for Child Welfare is an international nongovernmental organization dedicated to the promotion of the rights and well being of children globally which recognizes the contribution of effective leadership in the challenge of making the world a better place for children.

IFCW is founded on respect for children's rights and committed to responding to their needs. Comprised of leading child welfare organizations throughout the world, the IFCW believes that by strengthening the capacity of organizations through leadership development, identification and exchange of effective practice and promoting collaborative partnerships, the well being of children can be significantly improved.

Membership

Any national non-governmental organization (NGO) that includes the welfare of children as part of its mandate of direct or indirect service may be a voting member of IFCW upon application to and acceptance by the IFCW Executive Committee.

Any foundation or funding agency, state or national governmental agency, academic institution and any international agency may join the IFCW as a non-voting associate member upon application to and acceptance by the IFCW Executive Committee.

Any individual who is not associated with an entity eligible for membership may join the IFCW as a non-voting individual member upon application to and acceptance by the IFCW Executive Committee.

A member of IFCW is automatically registered as a member of the appropriate IFCW regional forum.

For all membership categories, current IFCW members in an applicant's country are consulted as part of the application procedure and prior to consideration by the Executive Committee.

Information and application forms for IFCW membership can be obtained by e-mailing membership@ifcw.org, or visiting www.ifcw.org.

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This publication is co-sponsored by



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Hispanic Children
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