



INCLUDES LEGISLATION AND  
RESOURCE UPDATES (2012)

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE UNITED STATES

OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Outcomes of the Proceedings of the National Conference  
on Child Trafficking and Exploitation in the United States

Convened at Loyola University Chicago  
School of Law  
September 22-23, 2010



*Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives*



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# HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE UNITED STATES

Human trafficking is one of the most serious human rights violations of our time. It is a form of modern day slavery, where men, women, and children are compelled to perform labor and/or sexual services. This includes (but is not limited to) work in factories, restaurants, domestic service, agriculture, peddling, meat packing plants, exotic dancing, and prostitution.

Various statistics have been published documenting the scope and impact of human trafficking around the world. Current estimates indicate that there may be between 12 to 27 million men, women, and children who are being trafficked around the world today.<sup>1</sup> UNICEF estimates that as many as two million children are subjected to prostitution in the global commercial sex trade. According to a recent International Labor Organization (ILO) report, there are 115 million child laborers worldwide who are working on conditions hazardous to their health.<sup>2</sup> The United Nations and other experts estimate the total market value of illicit human trafficking competes with both drug and arms trafficking. The crime of human trafficking is international in scope, and is prevalent everywhere, including the United States.

The term “trafficking” is misleading in that it is often assumed to imply movement across international borders. Physical transport of a person, however, is not necessary. This often surprises United States citizens, as many people associate the crime of human trafficking with places outside of the United States, such as brothels in Thailand, sweatshops in China, or prostitution rings in Eastern Europe. But in fact, we have a serious human trafficking problem right here in our own cities, suburbs, and countryside.

The United States government currently estimates that of the 14,500-17,500 men, women, and children are trafficked into the U.S. each year.<sup>3</sup> This statistic does not include United States citizens who are victims of human trafficking, as this area has not been adequately researched. In 2004, the National Runaway Switchboard estimated there to be approximately 1.3 million homeless, throw-away, and runaway children living unsupervised. They often lived on the streets, in abandoned buildings, in shelters, or in transitional housing situations such as with friends or strangers. Research indicates that 30% of the children in shelters and as many as 70% living on the streets are victims of commercial sexual exploitation.<sup>4</sup> They may



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of Children*

engage in or be coerced into prostitution or “survival sex” to meet their daily needs for food and shelter. These children and youth may be controlled through physical, verbal, or sexual abuse; they may receive threats of violence against their families; or they may have pornographic images taken and used against them as blackmail. Child labor is rarely discussed in the United States, and cases of children forced to work as domestic servants, in factories and restaurants, and on farms are often hidden in the dark shadows

<sup>1</sup>Global Report on Forced Labour, International Labor Organization (2005) from [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_norm/@declaration/documents/publication/wcms\\_081882.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_norm/@declaration/documents/publication/wcms_081882.pdf); Bales, K. (2004). *Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press

<sup>2</sup>Accelerating Action Against Child Labor, Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (2010), from <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?productId=13853>

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report, 2009*; A child victim of human trafficking in the U.S. is defined as any child not yet attaining the age of 18 engaged in commercial sexual exploitation (regardless of force, fraud, or coercion) or one who performs any type of labor by force, fraud, or coercion. Victims of child trafficking are protected by law under the Federal Victims of Trafficking and Victims Protection Act of 2000 and subsequent reauthorizations (2003, 2005, 2008).

<sup>4</sup>Estes, R. & Weiner, N. (2001). *The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico*. The University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work

of our economy. Very little research has been conducted about child labor in the United States.

Children and youth currently represent the smallest victim class of human trafficking victims identified by the United States government. These children often fall through the cracks and do not receive the protections that they are afforded under international, federal, and (some) state laws.

This systemic crisis was the genesis of the conference entitled, “Human Trafficking and Exploitation of Children and Youth in the United States,” held at Loyola University Chicago on September 22-23, 2010, sponsored by the Center for the Human Rights of Children. The purpose of the conference was to bring national, multi-sector and interdisciplinary experts and participants together to discuss the plight of children being trafficked to and within the United States.

This was the first such forum to address human trafficking of children and youth in a broader human rights framework within the United States, looking at all forms of human trafficking affecting children (both United States citizens and non-citizens), including labor and commercial sexual exploitation. The conference title and theme included “exploitation” as well as human trafficking, as some forms of child exploitation, such as child sexual exploitation, can also be considered to be in the same category. Moreover, some forms of child exploitation, including child labor and pornography, can make children more vulnerable to human trafficking situations.

The goal of the conference was not only to present an overview of child trafficking in the United States, but also to provide an

# 14,500-17,500

## ESTIMATED MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN ARE TRAFFICKED INTO THE U.S. EACH YEAR

*This statistic does not include United States citizens who are victims of human trafficking*

opportunity to initiate dialogue among a network of professionals and to actively engage in advancing the movement to combat child trafficking in the United States. Participants included 200 representatives from community organizations, government agencies, and law enforcement, including social workers, attorneys, scholars, students, advocates, medical professionals, and concerned citizens from around the country. Speakers at the conference were asked to address the state of the issue, promising practices, challenges, and action steps to improve the situation for child trafficking victims in the United States. Topics presented included: methods of investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of human trafficking, current research, factors contributing to child trafficking and exploitation, recovery services for child victims, and legislative and policy issues.

To build on the momentum and activism demonstrated at the conference, the Center for the Human Rights of Children has created this Outcome Document. The Document summarizes the information presented during the conference about the current state of child trafficking and exploitation, promising practices, challenges, resources, and action items. The Document reflects

information and opinions presented by expert panelists, as well as information submitted by participants during question and answer sessions, evaluations, and a questionnaire (See “Methods”). The first panel presentation, “Challenges in Identifying Child Trafficking Cases,” sets the stage for the conference and the Document, highlighting some of the larger systemic challenges addressed in more detail in subsequent panel presentations and workshops. There were reoccurring issues and themes throughout the conference that are reflected in this Outcome Document.

This Document is not intended to be a comprehensive overview of child trafficking. It reflects the presentations, discussions, and reflections during the two-day September conference, and is designed to be a practical starting point for future dialogue and efforts to combat child trafficking in the United States. Please note that while this Document uses the term “victim,” a legal term used to describe a wronged party, we recognize and respect the resiliency and perseverance of child survivors of human trafficking and exploitation. We hope this document can be a guide for future advocacy, scholarship, research, and collaboration on the issues of human trafficking and exploitation of children and youth in the United States.

**Katherine Kaufka Walts**  
*Director, Center for the Human Rights  
of Children*

## METHOD

Information for this document was collected from the national conference, “Human Trafficking and Exploitation of Children and Youth in the United States,” held at Loyola University Chicago on September 22-23, 2010, sponsored by the Center for the Human Rights of Children. A brief questionnaire was provided to moderators, student volunteers, and participants. The questionnaire consisted of four questions for each panel and workshop that addressed the broad categories included in the outcome document:

1. What are the main and/or contemporary issues identified by each speaker to address child trafficking and exploitation?
2. What are some of the promising practices being employed?
3. What are the challenges identified?
4. Please identify “action” or next steps to advance the movement combating child trafficking and exploitation.

Responses were not limited to any particular format. Most of the responses summarized points speakers made. In some

cases, distinct issues were identified in response to the questionnaire, electronic survey, Q&A sessions, and evaluations.

### PARTICIPANTS AND PROCEDURE

Participants responding to the questionnaire included panel and workshop moderators, as well as student volunteers. All participants were asked to take detailed notes, and use them to complete the questionnaire for each panel or workshop to which they were assigned. As a secondary measure, an electronic version of the form was created on SurveyMonkey.com and emailed to the approximately 200 participants who attended the conference. Each individual panel and workshop had a separate, designated page, and participants were asked to respond to the same four questions for each event they attended. All responses were manually transferred and combined into a single document. The document was subsequently organized by the following categories: primary issue(s) addressed; promising practices and resources; challenges; and next steps. Participant evaluations for each panel presentation and workshop were also reviewed and incorporated into this document. There were a total of 174 evaluations submitted at the conclusion of the conference.

The results provided in this document are not inclusive of all potential issues, challenges, promising practices, and resources and reflect only those discussed or identified during the course of the conference. We encourage those interested in the issue of child trafficking to explore and research the issue further. This report has been produced without formal editing.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The national Human Trafficking and Exploitation of Children in the United States conference (September 22-23, 2010) was sponsored by the Center for the Human Rights of Children, in collaboration with the



Center for the Advancement of Research, Training and Education (CARTE) of the College of Arts and Sciences, Marcella Neihoff School of Nursing, Stritch School of Medicine, School of Law Civitas ChildLaw Center, and School of Social Work at Loyola University Chicago. The CHRC would like to thank the speakers who presented at the conference for their invaluable expertise and contributions to the movement to eradicate child trafficking and exploitation.

We would like to thank all of the moderators and student volunteers who participated at the conference, as well as the following individuals: Aggeliki Gikas, Assistant, Center for the Human Rights of Children, for managing the logistics of the conference and its volunteers, and David Matthew Doyle,

**Reverend C. Kevin Gillespie**  
SJ

Doctoral Student in Social Psychology, Tulane University, Graduate Fellow for the Center for the Human Rights of Children from October 2009 – July 2010, for participating in the initial planning efforts for the conference and assistance with reviewing the Outcome Document.

We would like to thank the Human Trafficking and Exploitation of Children in the United States Conference Steering Committee: Diane Geraghty, Director, Civitas ChildLaw Center, Loyola University School of Law, Anita Weinberg, Clinical Professor, Director, Child-Law Center Policy and Legislative Programs, Loyola University School of Law, James Garbarino, PhD, Professor, Loyola University Chicago, Arthur Lurigio, PhD, Professor, Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Loyola University Chicago.

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THE FOLLOWING IS A PARTIAL LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING AND PRESENTING AT THE CONFERENCE:

ABA Center on Children and the Law, U.S. Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Cook County State's Attorney Office, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Illinois Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Justice, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Safe Horizon (NY), ECPAT-USA, FBI (Headquarters and Northern Illinois District Office), Immigrant Child Advocacy Project, Wisconsin Department of Justice, National Immigrant Justice Center, Illinois Criminal Justice Authority, Farm worker Legal Services of New York, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Chicago Public Schools, AYUDA, Howard Brown Health Center, La Rabida Children's Hospital, Notre Dame University, International Organization for Adolescents (IOFA), Salvation Army STOP IT Program, Heartland International, Catholic Charities, Volunteer Lawyers Project, UMOG Latina Resource Center, Chicago Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, John H. Stroger Hospital, Dept. of Psychiatry, UIC Jane Addams College of Social Work, SlaveFree Madison, Tulane University, University of Michigan, Sisters of Christian Charity St. Aloysius, Kent Law School, Children's Cove, National Youth Advocate Program, University of Pennsylvania



“Child trafficking has a significant negative impact, first and foremost on the trafficked children and their families, but also on their communities and on the nation as a whole. We must work together to reduce vulnerabilities that make children susceptible to trafficking, including strengthening laws, policies and services including, improving child labor standards, and supporting access to education.”

– UNICEF



## CHALLENGES IN IDENTIFYING CHILD TRAFFICKING CASES

### SPEAKERS

#### Carol Smolenski

Director, ECPAT-USA

#### Marianne Skelly

MSW, Child Protection Specialist, U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services, Trafficking Unit

#### Howard Davidson

Director, ABA Center

on Children and the Law

### ISSUES

Identification of human trafficking victims, especially children, requires dramatic improvement in the United States. The U.S. Government and other non-governmental organization (NGO) sources estimate that women and children comprise the majority of human trafficking victims in the United States. However, children and youth comprise the smallest population of human trafficking victims identified by the government since the passage of the trafficking victims protection act (2000).

### CHALLENGES

1. There are common misconceptions that human trafficking victims are only foreign nationals, when in fact, both U.S. citizen and non-U.S. citizen children are trafficked within the United States.

2. Victims of sex trafficking are traditionally treated as perpetrators and prosecuted for prostitution, rather than being identified as victims. This occurs more frequently on a state level. While federal law may identify a child as a victim of sex trafficking, states often charge the child with juvenile prostitution. For example, in 2008, children were three times more likely to be arrested for prostitution than to be identified as a victim of a crime.

3. Children are hard to find. They often act and dress like adults, especially those in the commercial sex trade. They are uninterested in being “rescued” because most adults in their lives have failed them, and many of them are teenagers who have suffered abuse.

4. Child trafficking cases, particularly those involving international victims in the United States, can be ambiguous as to whether they should be considered smuggling or human trafficking schemes. Sometimes they are both smuggling and trafficking, and it is often challenging to identify the trafficking within a smuggling scheme. The Department of Health and Human Services receives most of its referrals via law enforcement agents who are breaking up smuggling or trafficking rings. Currently, the majority of international child trafficking cases originate from border states or states with heavy migrant worker populations. Here, we are seeing new trends, such as hostage-taking, more complex indentured servitude and drug trafficking by using children in smuggling schemes. A considerable portion of international human

### UPDATES SINCE 2011 EDITION

- > As of May 2011, Vermont has signed into law House Bill 153
  - <http://www.leg.state.vt.us/database/status/summary.cfm?Bill=H.0153&Session=2012>
- > As of July 2011, Minnesota has signed into law the Safe Harbor Law
  - <http://ecpatusa.org/2011/07/minnesota-legislature-passes-safe-harbor-law/>
- > As of November 2011, Massachusetts has signed into law H.3808
  - <http://www.malegislature.gov/Bills/187/House/H03808>
- > As March 2011, Florida’s HB99 and SB202 passed the House and Senate. It is awaiting the signature of Governor Scott, and is expected to take effect by January 2013.
  - The bill: <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loadoc.aspx?FileName=h0099er.docx&DocumentType=Bill&BillNumber=0099&Session=2012>.
  - ECPAT-USA’s summary of the bill: <http://ecpatusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Highlights-of-FLORIDA-Safe-Harbor.pdf>
- > Various other updates on legal reform efforts can be found on ECPAT-USA’s Resources by State page
  - <http://ecpatusa.org/what-we-do/helping-children-in-america/law-project/state-law-project/>

trafficking cases are children coming from Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and Chile, being trafficked for labor.

5. Children (both United States citizens and non-citizens) often have multiple encounters with officials before they are correctly identified as child trafficking victims, specialized training for law enforcement in strategies for identification of trafficking victims.

6. Currently, there are legal and systemic gaps in the child protection system to address child trafficking as an issue. While child protection agencies are often the first point of contact for abused and neglected children, these agencies are not identifying child trafficking cases or distinguishing them from other forms of abuse or neglect. There is a need to engage child protective services to actively screen and appropriately serve child trafficking victims.

7. Providing comprehensive services (social, mental health, legal) to victims of human trafficking is often challenging; this is especially true when the victims are children.

## PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. Safe Harbor Laws decriminalize child prostitution at the state level, which puts state laws on par with international and federal anti-trafficking legislation. As of 2009, New York, Connecticut, Illinois, California, and Washington have passed Safe Harbor laws.

- <http://www.cga.ct.gov/2010/ACT/PA/2010PA-00115-R00SB-00153-PA.htm>
- [http://g.virbcdn.com/\\_f/files/98/FileItem-147964-ILSafeChildrenActSummaryNov2010FINAL.pdf](http://g.virbcdn.com/_f/files/98/FileItem-147964-ILSafeChildrenActSummaryNov2010FINAL.pdf)
- [www.polarisproject.org/storage/documents/policy\\_documents/Issue\\_Briefs/issue%20brief%20-%20safe%20harbor%20-%20april%202012.pdf](http://www.polarisproject.org/storage/documents/policy_documents/Issue_Briefs/issue%20brief%20-%20safe%20harbor%20-%20april%202012.pdf)

2. There are several existing federal programs and policies that support child trafficking victims in the United States:

> *Interim Assistance for children who may have been subjected to human trafficking:* the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACS), and Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) all have a Child Protection Specialist Team, which reviews child trafficking cases, certifies children who are eligible for benefits, and works with the service providers to assist children who are victims of human trafficking. An individual may request assistance from HHS/ORR on behalf of a child when credible information indicates that the child may be a victim of trafficking.

- Submission of a *Request for Assistance for Child Victims of Human Trafficking form* can facilitate the determination of the child's eligibility for assistance. Obtain a form at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking>. Submit requests by e-mail to [ChildTrafficking@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:ChildTrafficking@acf.hhs.gov) or by fax to 202.401.5487. An HHS/ORR Child Protection Specialist will respond to requests and may be reached by phone at 202.205.4582. HHS/ORR issues an Interim Assistance Letter to a foreign child who may have been subjected to trafficking, which allows the child to receive benefits and services for a 90-day period.

> *Protection from re-traumatization:* Under federal law, non-US citizen children are not required to cooperate with law enforcement to receive immigration relief, nor are they required to have been granted Continued Presence or a T nonimmigrant visa by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to receive humanitarian assistance.

> *National Hotline:* The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services supports the National Trafficking Human Resource Center, which has a national hotline that is serviced seven days a week, twentyfour

hours a day: 1-888-3737-888

> *Federal foster care for child trafficking victims:* Under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACS), Division of Refugee Assistance, the Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URM) program provides foster care to eligible, unaccompanied child trafficking victims. Children in the URM program are placed in licensed foster homes or other care settings according to individual needs. They receive the full range of services available to other foster children in the State, as well as special services to help them adapt to life in the United States and recover from their trafficking experiences. Safe reunification with parents or other appropriate relatives is encouraged. To access the URM program for a child victim of trafficking, call an HHS/ORR Child Protection Specialist at 202.205.4582. Children can remain in care up to the age of twenty-one.

> *Connecting victims to services:* Through a contract with HHS/ORR, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) works with Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee Services (LIRS) to provide services to foreign national survivors of trafficking in the U.S. and its territories. USCCB/LIRS administers the program through partnerships with local social service organizations across the country by subcontracting with them to provide comprehensive case management services to survivors. They provide coordination, training, per-capita funding, and monitoring to subcontractors, and partner with experts in the field to provide specialized assistance.

> *Building capacity of child welfare and protection professionals:* There are new initiatives to build capacity and train child welfare and protection professionals on a state level in Illinois, New York, Florida, Georgia, and Connecticut.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Provide more specialized training for first responders, including service providers, law enforcement agents, hospital staff, social workers, counselors, and teachers. Training should be mandated when possible, and any new legislation addressing child trafficking should include appropriations to support such trainings. Training curricula should include warning signs for both labor and sex trafficking victims, interviewing skills that are developmentally and culturally appropriate, short- and long-term recovery resources, and care options on local, state, and federal levels.

2. Conduct community-level outreach to help combat the preconceived stereotypes about the sex trade, and mobilize community members to identify and help child victims of trafficking. Even increasing awareness of the issue on the community level would be a promising next step.

3. Improve efforts to stop child abuse as a prevention measure against child trafficking. Abused children are at higher risk of exploitation and homelessness, which makes children more vulnerable to human trafficking.

4. Amend state and federal laws to identify and aid child trafficking victims:

> Amend the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act to include the following provisions:

- Youth entering any federally funded shelter should be screened for human trafficking.
- Require an annual report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO).
- Provide funding to support safe houses and other programs for victims of trafficking.

> Amend the Child Abuse and Prevention

Treatment Act (CAPTA) to include the following provisions:

- Ensure that child abuse and neglect definitions include human trafficking.
- Include mandates to provide specialized services and training on human trafficking.
- Assure immediate reporting to police and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) of any runaway youth or child who goes missing.
- Create special child welfare units to address the problem of chronic runners from care, who research indicates are at higher risk of human trafficking.



**Honorable Virginia Kendall**  
Judge, Northern District of Illinois

> Amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act to include the following provision:

- Require county, state, and federal data collection and reporting on those missing from child welfare agency care and supervision.

5. Federal criminal and immigration laws should be amended to provide better and more complete protection to child trafficking victims.

6. Legislatures should mandate that police academy basic training includes child trafficking identification and rights under state and federal law.

7. Provide appropriations for children's advocacy centers to be trained on child trafficking issues.

8. While Safe Harbor laws passed in several states are an improvement, all Safe Harbor laws should include the following eight components (currently, no state has all eight components):

> Children must never be arrested for prostitution, but rather, placed into protective custody.

> If a child is under 18 years of age, they should be immune from prosecution for commercial sex acts due to their developmental inability to consent. This component would put states on par with federal legislation and policy concerning sex trafficking.

> If an arrested child is charged, it should only be as a juvenile status offender.

> Status offenses and dependency laws should be amended, regardless of whether or not parents were complicit amended, regardless of whether or not parents were complicit.

> Suspicions of human trafficking should require a mandate report to child protection services and a prompt investigation.

> Public child welfare must have a clear legal mandate to provide services, but only using specialized units.

> A mandate and funding should be specified for short-term secure safe houses, long-term residential facilities, and programs that police or child protection services can access.

> Children involved in human trafficking should be considered to be victims, and listed as such in any legal records.

## RESEARCH ON CHILD SURVIVORS OF TRAFFICKING FOR SEXUAL AND LABOR EXPLOITATION

### SPEAKERS

**Dr. James Garbarino**

*PhD, Loyola University Chicago*

**Dr. Richard Estes**

*MSW, PhD, University of Pennsylvania*

**Nyssa Parampil**

*Associate Director of U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), MRS, Anti-Trafficking*

**Jessica Reichert**

*Manager, Research and Evaluation Center, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority*

### ISSUES

Very little empirically-based research has been conducted on child victims of human trafficking; of the existing research published, very few studies are peer-reviewed. And almost no research exists on contemporary child labor issues in the United States.

Trafficking is only one category of abusive child practices and forms of exploitation by adults that offend the fundamental rights of children. Human trafficking can be seen as an extreme form of abuse and maltreatment on a continuum of violations against children. Human trafficking discourse, however, is often absent from existing policy and discussion regarding maltreatment and abuse of children.

Child trafficking victims are often misidentified by law enforcement and within traditional child protection systems.

The average U.S. citizen enters into prostitution during adolescence. In a Chicago study, over half of the sample indicated experiencing violence or other forms of coercion to keep them in prostitution, combined with “source” factors making them vulnerable to traffickers (including drug addiction, history of child and sexual abuse, and perceiving no other resources or social or systemic networks for protection).<sup>5</sup>

Psychological maltreatment is often understated in child trafficking cases, and can have powerful, longterm, negative impacts on children and adolescents throughout their adult lives.

### CHALLENGES

1. Child trafficking victims have unique experiences and are difficult to quantify, as there is no single “profile” of child trafficking cases. There is considerable variability among different patterns of child trafficking into the United States from different regions of the world. Methods of recruitment can involve family members, peers or outside agents, and often vary depending on region of origin. These factors make traditional research challenging.

2. In cases where traffickers are family members or intimate partners, children

often do not identify themselves as “victims,” which frequently puts them at odds with service providers and caregivers attempting to provide assistance.

3. The psychological impact of human trafficking on children can cause them to feel rejected and undesirable, not only to peers, but society as well, which makes them vulnerable to re-trafficking.

4. Child survivors of human trafficking are often isolated from normal childhood experiences, which can affect their ability to seek assistance or recognize alternative lifestyles.

5. While there are always opportunities to identify more child trafficking victims, the lack of training, streamlined processes and information-sharing across agencies causes children to slip through the cracks. This results in long delays to access recovery services, protection, and care. For example, child trafficking victims are often misidentified within traditional child protection systems. Additionally, law enforcement often misidentifies child trafficking victims as offenders under criminal or immigration law (or sometimes both).

### PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. The National Institute of Justice of the Office of Justice Programs has several publications and research reports documenting



the nature and extent of human trafficking in the United States.

- <http://www.nij.gov/nij/topics/crime/humantrafficking/nature-extent.htm>

2. Other examples of existing research addressing child trafficking within the United States:

> “Closing the Gaps: The Need to Improve Identification and Services to Child Victims of Trafficking” (Gozdziak, E., MacDonnell, M., 2007)

- [http://globalchild.rutgers.edu/pdf/Closing\\_the\\_Gaps.pdf](http://globalchild.rutgers.edu/pdf/Closing_the_Gaps.pdf)

> “Child human trafficking victims: challenges for the child welfare system” (Fong, R., Berger Cardoso, J. 2009)

- <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19716601>

> “On Challenges, Dilemmas, and Opportunities in Studying Trafficked Children” (Godziak, 2008)

- [http://http://muse.jhu.edu/login?auth=0&type=summary&url=/journals/anthropological\\_quarterly/v081/81.4.go-dziak.pdf](http://http://muse.jhu.edu/login?auth=0&type=summary&url=/journals/anthropological_quarterly/v081/81.4.go-dziak.pdf)

3. NEXUS Institute: The Intersection of Analysis and Solutions to End Modern Slavery

- <http://www.nexusinstitute.net>

4. Humantrafficking.org: Web resource for combating human trafficking

- [http://www.humantrafficking.org/content/combat\\_traffickingcombat\\_trafficking/research](http://www.humantrafficking.org/content/combat_traffickingcombat_trafficking/research)

> Includes a section specifically for domestic human trafficking

> UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre’s



ChildTrafficking Research Hub

- See <http://childtrafficking.org/home.html>

5. FBI Resources:

- [http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/vc\\_majorthfts/cac/crimes\\_against\\_children](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/vc_majorthfts/cac/crimes_against_children)

6. U.S. Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons:

- <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/>

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Support valid and reliable quantitative and qualitative research to provide macro- and micro-level understanding of human trafficking for both labor and sex in the United States, especially as it relates to children and youth. Employ multi-method approaches, including case studies, surveys, interviews, and evaluations.

2. Conduct more follow-up, longitudinal studies, and research with larger samples. This will allow a more accurate view of child trafficking and its trajectory, providing

information for further exploration into intervention and prevention strategies.


3. Research-informed therapeutic programs for child survivors are important, especially as national efforts are underway to fund residential shelters and expand services for children who are victims of sex trafficking.

4. Create a (multi-agency) collaborative and confidential database to learn more about child trafficking cases in the United States.

5. Conduct further research about the pathways to human trafficking of children. Current research shows there are various pathways to human trafficking victimization, including homelessness, statelessness, history of abuse/neglect, and isolation. Research results could impact future child trafficking prevention initiatives

6. Create prevention and education programs about human trafficking for children ages 14-17, especially for populations of youth at risk. For example, in the United States, current research indicates runaway and abused youth are at a much higher risk for being trafficked.

<sup>5</sup>Raphael, J. & Ashley, J. (2008). Domestic Sex Trafficking of Chicago Women and Girls. Chicago, IL: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority & DePaul University College of Law

A young girl with dark skin and curly hair in two pigtails is seen from behind, standing in a field of tall grass. She is wearing a white t-shirt and pink pants. Her right arm is raised, holding the string of a colorful kite that is flying in the sky. The kite is diamond-shaped with a rainbow pattern. The sky is a clear, light blue with some soft, wispy clouds. The overall scene is bright and cheerful, suggesting a sunny day.

“Human trafficking, whether of children or of adults, is a gross violation of human rights. In the case of people who have not yet attained the age of majority, it additionally violates their rights as children, in particular their right to be protected from exploitation.”

## INTERSECTION OF CHILD WELFARE AND CHILD TRAFFICKING

### SPEAKERS

#### Howard Davidson

*Director, ABA Center on Children and the Law*

#### Cheryl Peterson

*Children's Justice Administrator, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services*

#### Katherine Kaufka Walts

*Director, Center for the Human Rights of Children*

#### Shelby French

*Executive Director, International Organization for Adolescents*

### ISSUES

Identification of human trafficking victims, especially children, needs dramatic improvement in the United States, as cases are currently severely underreported. Children and youth comprise the smallest population of human trafficking victims formally identified by the U.S. Government since the passage of the trafficking victims protection act (2000).

Although the child welfare system is tasked with assisting abandoned, abused, or neglected children, to-date there have been little-to-no systematic efforts to identify and provide recovery services to child trafficking victims.

There is a strong association between sexual abuse at home and sexual trafficking. While many trafficked children have had contact with child protection services

at some point, child protection regulations and protocols are sorely outdated and ill equipped to respond to child trafficking.

Child protection agencies rarely participate in human trafficking task forces in the United States. Children are still often treated as "offenders," whether as "child prostitutes" or as "illegal immigrants/aliens," even within the child protection system.

### CHALLENGES

1. Formal tracking methods employed by local and federal authorities to identify child trafficking cases are inconsistent. Non-U.S. citizen victims receive an "eligibility letter" to assist them in obtaining benefits and interim assistance [that presumably U.S. citizens already qualify for], and can apply for a "T visa" to remain in the United States. Eligibility letters and T visas are often cited as data points for non-U.S. citizen child trafficking figures in the United States. As U.S. citizen children do not require special visas, their cases are formally identified as "human trafficking" only if their case triggers an investigation and response from the criminal justice system as a human trafficking case. Additionally, child protection systems do not identify potential human trafficking cases as a distinct maltreatment, making it difficult to track and distinguish from other forms of reported abuse or neglect.

2. Training child protection professionals on human trafficking will have a limited impact unless it is standardized and mandated within state-operated child protection systems.

3. The child protection system is designed to respond to abuse and neglect by family members and qualified caretakers. Often, but not always, the trafficker and/or perpetrator of abuse/neglect is not a qualified care taker. In some cases, traffickers may be posing as parents or caretakers.

4. Child protection systems are underfunded and overwhelmed by current mandates that do not include child trafficking.



#### Howard Davidson

*Director, ABA Center on Children and the Law*

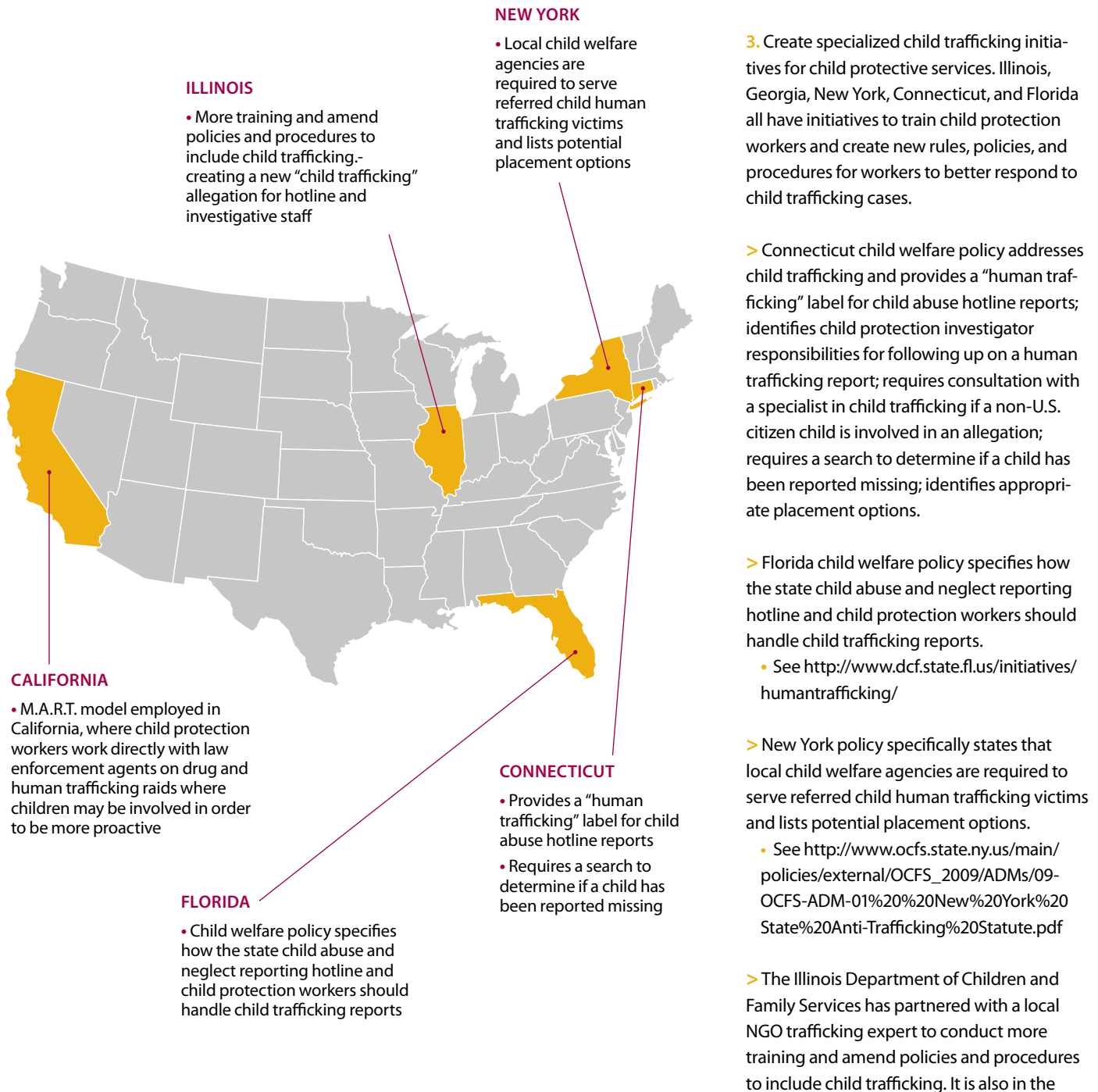
### PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. Utilize international and federal law to prevent immigrant child victims from being classified as offenders. Refer to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (Article 8) and the Victims of Trafficking Protection Act, Section 107.

2. Provide every immigrant child an advocate for their court cases. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) requires



## STATE CHILD WELFARE INITIATIVES ADDRESSING CHILD TRAFFICKING



states to provide a Guardian Ad Litem (GAL), Attorney, or Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for every child involved in an abuse or neglect related juvenile court proceeding.

3. Create specialized child trafficking initiatives for child protective services. Illinois, Georgia, New York, Connecticut, and Florida all have initiatives to train child protection workers and create new rules, policies, and procedures for workers to better respond to child trafficking cases.

> Connecticut child welfare policy addresses child trafficking and provides a “human trafficking” label for child abuse hotline reports; identifies child protection investigator responsibilities for following up on a human trafficking report; requires consultation with a specialist in child trafficking if a non-U.S. citizen child is involved in an allegation; requires a search to determine if a child has been reported missing; identifies appropriate placement options.

> Florida child welfare policy specifies how the state child abuse and neglect reporting hotline and child protection workers should handle child trafficking reports.

- See <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/initiatives/humantrafficking/>

> New York policy specifically states that local child welfare agencies are required to serve referred child human trafficking victims and lists potential placement options.

- See [http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/policies/external/OCFS\\_2009/ADMs/09-OCFS-ADM-01%20%20New%20York%20State%20Anti-Trafficking%20Statute.pdf](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/policies/external/OCFS_2009/ADMs/09-OCFS-ADM-01%20%20New%20York%20State%20Anti-Trafficking%20Statute.pdf)

> The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services has partnered with a local NGO trafficking expert to conduct more training and amend policies and procedures to include child trafficking. It is also in the

process of creating a new “child trafficking” allegation for hotline and investigative staff. It is also considering replicating the M.A.R.T. model employed in California, where child protection workers work directly with law enforcement agents on drug and human trafficking raids where children may be involved in order to be more proactive.

- See <http://www.luc.edu/chrc/Monograph.shtml>

4. Amend the definition of child abuse to include child trafficking. For example, the Illinois Safe Children Act amends the definition of an abused child for child protection purposes, and includes all household members as possible perpetrators of abuse, not just a parent or qualified caretaker. The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services is currently working to create a new allegation of abuse entitled, “human trafficking.” Connecticut has created a “human trafficking” allegation for child protection hotline professionals, and requires consultation with a specialist in child trafficking. New Florida child welfare policy specifies how child abuse hotline staff and investigators handle alleged child trafficking cases. New York and Illinois laws specifically state that local child welfare and protection agencies are required to serve referred child trafficking victims.

5. Collaborate with professionals from other disciplines to create an interdisciplinary network to tackle various child trafficking issues. The American Humane Society has an interdisciplinary network of professionals working together to address the intersection of child welfare and migration issues. Their website includes several toolkits and resources for professionals.

- See <http://www.americanhumane.org/children/programs/child-welfare-migration/>

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Improve the coordination of efforts of professionals working in the child protection system and those working in the fields of human rights, child trafficking and exploitation.
2. Conduct specialized human trafficking training with child welfare and protection professionals. Child protection professionals working with vulnerable children and youth are in a unique position to improve identification of child trafficking cases in the United States. In a study conducted by the International Organization for Adolescents analyzing pre- and post-training questionnaires from training sessions conducted with child protection officers between 2005-2007, affirmative responses to the question, “Do you think you have ever come across a victim of human trafficking?” increased over 200% after a single training was conducted.
3. Ensure that child welfare agencies serve child immigrants victimized by abuse, neglect, or abandonment, or otherwise fleeing violence in their families, as child protection cases. This will allow them to have all of the required services/referrals that are available to U.S. citizen children without constraints on agency/caseworkers.
4. Ensure that child welfare agency policies and protocols align with rights of immigrant

children under international and federal law. State/county child welfare agencies should be required to serve immigrant children and families regardless of immigration status, and accept prompt custody (including foster care, if necessary) of unaccompanied or separated children to assure child’s safety, permanency, and well-being.

5. Encourage each state to review their child protection statutes and regulations to ensure that specific protections for children who are trafficked are included for both labor and sex trafficking, and for U.S. citizen and non-citizen children. Connecticut, Illinois, Florida, and New York are states that have currently undertaken initiatives to address child trafficking.

### > New York:

- [http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/policies/external/OCFS\\_2009/ADMs/09-OCFS-ADM-01%20%20New%20York%20State%20Anti-Trafficking%20Statute.pdf](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/policies/external/OCFS_2009/ADMs/09-OCFS-ADM-01%20%20New%20York%20State%20Anti-Trafficking%20Statute.pdf)

### > Florida:

- <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/initiatives/humantrafficking/>

### > Illinois:

- <http://www.luc.edu/chrc/pdfs/MonographHandout.pdf>
- [http://g.virbcdn.com/\\_f/files/98/FileItem-147964-ILSafeChildrenActSummaryNov2010FINAL.pdf](http://g.virbcdn.com/_f/files/98/FileItem-147964-ILSafeChildrenActSummaryNov2010FINAL.pdf)



Panel

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE - THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX WITH INVESTIGATIONS & PROSECUTIONS

### SPEAKERS

#### Edward Chung

*U.S. Department of Justice,  
Human Trafficking Unit*

#### Cathy Ruiz

*FBI, Chicago*

#### Catherine Cornell

*Child Forensic Specialist, Office of  
Victim Assistance, FBI Headquarters*

#### Lou Longhitano

*ASA, Cook County State's Attorney's  
Office, Organized Crime and Cold  
Case Homicide*

### ISSUES

In many child trafficking cases, the key component of a successful human trafficking investigation and prosecution is the victim as the primary witness. Sometimes, they are the only witness.

Often, children do not perceive themselves as "victims." In some cases, due to severe psychological disorientation, the victim forms an emotional attachment to the trafficker.

Child trafficking is still an underreported crime, and identification efforts need to be improved.

### CHALLENGES

1. It is highly probable that the child victim will be revictimized by having to relive the traumatic experience during the criminal justice process. This makes a key witness very unstable and thus very unreliable.

2. Many victims of child trafficking do not trust law enforcement, either due to their cultural upbringing, or because their traffickers have told them not to trust law enforcement and/or instructed them what to say or do if questioned. In some cases, especially with U.S. citizens, children may have had previous negative encounters with either child protection or law enforcement, which influences their ability to trust the "system" or authority figures.

3. Children who have been trafficked can have large educational and/or developmental gaps, making their cooperation in an investigation difficult.

4. The paradigm of human trafficking cases runs counter to traditional cases that law enforcement officials commonly encounter. Typically, there is a presumption of individual free will and choice, especially in the United States. In human trafficking cases, the individual's free will is removed. Children are coerced or forced into situations, including



#### Lou Longhitano

*ASA, Cook County State Attorney's Office,  
Organized Crime and Cold Case Homicide*

illegal activities. This is compounded by the power dynamic between adults and children – children may not believe they have a choice and follow "rules" or orders adult traffickers provide them.

5. Effective multilateral investigations are ideal, but often hard to achieve due to bureaucracy and sometimes territorial nature of different agencies.

### PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. Maximize first points of contact. Build trust

and don't expect too much information in the early stages of investigation.

2. When possible, utilize experienced child forensic interview professionals.

3. Empower the child as much as possible during the criminal justice process. Share updates about the case regularly, and provide options and choices whenever possible.

4. Employ a "victim-based" versus "victim-centered" approach. Instead of building a case solely around victim testimony, focus on "following the money" and other physical evidence:

> Review telephone records, mortgage documents, bank records, tax returns, and school enrollment documents.

> Research the potential existence of any child protection services reports.

> Use other advanced techniques such as grand jury, surveillance, undercover agents, wiretaps, etc.

> Investigate whether the trafficker withheld travel documents or other forms of government identification (e.g., driver's license, school or state ID, social security card).

5. Utilize a multilateral, multi-agency approach. For example, involve the Department of Labor to conduct wage/hour assessment in labor trafficking cases. Ensure that service providers are involved to provide recovery assistance and services as well as legal assistance and advocacy during the criminal justice process. Access to critical social, medical, and legal services almost always helps the child become a stronger and more stable victim-witness.

6. Establish trust accounts for child trafficking victims for settlements or restitution



**Michelle Nasser**  
U.S. Attorney's Office,  
Northern District of Illinois

orders. Ensure any settlements or restitution orders take into account overtime wages and long term educational, medical, and mental health costs that may be needed as a result of the trafficking and exploitation.

7. Be prepared to address various claims and defenses from traffickers. Perpetrators in cases involving immigrant children often assert that "It's part of our culture" or "She had it worse in her home country" as a defense during criminal justice proceedings. These defenses are rarely, if ever, successful. However, prosecutors working child trafficking cases involving non-U.S. citizens should prepare for these defenses, as well as statements about not knowing the legal status or age of the victim.

8. The U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division's Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section can be resources to both federal and local officials in working child trafficking cases.

- See <http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/crm/httpu.php> and <http://www.justice.gov/criminal/ceos/>.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Improve training for law enforcement. Training should include:

> How to employ developmentally- and culturally appropriate forensic interviewing strategies and techniques.

> Education on how trauma impacts statements made by children during the criminal justice process.

> How to identify and build resiliencies during the criminal justice process.

2. Increase opportunities for responsible information sharing between non-governmental organizations, service providers and law enforcement.

3. Reduce family violence. Child abuse leads to running away from home and criminal activity, which puts children at a higher risk of exploitation and human trafficking.

4. Create prevention and education programs in schools about human trafficking, focusing especially on those at risk of abuse and running away.

5. Improve recovery assistance options and referrals for trafficked youth, especially long-term and short-term housing. It is difficult to advance a successful investigation against a potential trafficker if the victim does not have stable housing and access to services.

6. Analyze local and state legislation to ensure that they are on par with federal laws, including harsher penalties for traffickers and protections (including immunity from prosecution) and services for child trafficking victims.

## PROMISING PRACTICES IN IDENTIFYING CHILD TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PART 1 - PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES TO CHILD SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

### SPEAKERS

**Johannah Westmacott**

*Safe Horizon, Streetwork Project*

**Dana Anderson**

*MA, LLPC, Bethany Christian Services, Unaccompanied Minor Refugee Program*

**Erin Knowles**

*MSW, LSW, STOP-IT Program, Salvation Army*

**Ellen Chiocca**

*RN, Niehoff School of Nursing, Loyola University Chicago*

### ISSUES

There are currently limited resources to provide the necessary comprehensive services to victims of child trafficking.

There is confusion and misinformation about existing services and programs available for victims of child trafficking. All minors are equally protected under federal anti-trafficking law; the criminal anti-trafficking statutes do not distinguish between foreign-born youth and U.S. citizens or between young people of different genders with respect to victim status.

Medical professionals are often first

responders to child abuse and neglect cases, and can provide critical services during both the initial crisis-intervention stages of a case, as well as long-term medical needs of child trafficking victims.

### CHALLENGES

1. Many service providers working with vulnerable populations may not be aware of what human trafficking is, and thus do not know to distinguish it from other crimes and abuses. For example, staff members at domestic violence shelters may be working with trafficked women and children and not even know it.
2. While we still need to improve and increase existing services available to victims of human trafficking, many people aren't familiar with those that are already in place. These include the federal Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) program for immigrant victims of child trafficking and grants available to local organizations to provide short and long term services to both U.S. citizen and non-citizen children.
  - See <http://www.usccb.org/mrs/trafficking/services.shtml>.
3. Because immigrant child victims are in need of extra care due to language barriers and lack of immigration status, there are misconceptions about "more services" being

available them, above and beyond what is commonly provided for the average U.S. citizen. Federal anti-trafficking laws provide immigrant children who are potential or identified victims of human trafficking access to short-term refugee/asylee benefits and immigration protection in the form of special visas. These are public assistance programs and benefits that (presumably) U.S. citizens already qualify for (e.g., Food stamps, Medicaid, TANF).

4. There are simply not enough shelter options for children and youth, regardless of immigration status. This is especially true for older adolescents, as it is often more challenging to place older children in foster homes, and bed space in residential and emergency shelters is very limited around the country.
5. It is often difficult for service providers to establish trust with child trafficking victims. Victims may be hostile to those who attempt to assist or too scared or traumatized to trust another adult.
6. Trafficked victims may have multiple chronic health issues that require immediate attention. Without proper training, these health issues may be overlooked by first responders in child trafficking cases.

7. If children are identified as a victim or possible victim of trafficking, there is no uniform response by state and federal systems in providing emergency residential care.

## PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. Under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), the ORR (Office of Refugee Resettlement) provides certification and eligibility letters that allow victims who are not U.S. citizens to access the same services and benefits that are provided to refugees and asylees.

- See [www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/Attachment\\_B\\_-\\_Request\\_for\\_Assistance\\_form.pdf](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/about/Attachment_B_-_Request_for_Assistance_form.pdf)

2. The federal Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) program provides services to refugee or immigrant victims of child trafficking. It offers cultural and linguistic competence in foster care treatments, trauma-focused care, wrap-around model of care, and safety planning.

- See [http://icpc.aphsa.org/home/Doc/KelleyCPC\\_ReviewingPractices.pdf](http://icpc.aphsa.org/home/Doc/KelleyCPC_ReviewingPractices.pdf) and [http://www.oes.ca.gov/WebPage/oeswebsite.nsf/ClientOESFile/Human Trafficking/\\$file/MinorVictimsof Trafficking - Refugee Benefits.pdf](http://www.oes.ca.gov/WebPage/oeswebsite.nsf/ClientOESFile/Human%20Trafficking/$file/MinorVictimsofTrafficking-RefugeeBenefits.pdf)

3. The Safe Horizons Streetwork program in New York City provides a support system and place to stay for teens without a home, including trafficked youth. It also helps to reintegrate victims into society. The program model consists of voluntary, client-centered services. The Street Work program has a policy of strict confidentiality – no disclosure (except mandatory reporting) without youth permission. The program provides long-term (until the age of 24), comprehensive services, including safety planning, counseling, housing and employment assistance. The



**Johannah Westmacott**  
*Safe Horizon,  
Streetwork  
Project  
New York, NY*

program employs an empowerment-based model and has a successful track record of engaging youth and providing long-term services.

- See <http://www.safehorizon.org/index/whatwe-do-2/helping-youth-14/streetworkproject-141.html>

4. The Salvation Army Stop-It program has a 24-hour hotline (1.877.606.3158) and a network of referrals throughout the region. It conducts direct outreach to youth to provide necessary services to those who may be trafficked.

- See [http://www.usc.salvationarmy.org/usc/www\\_usc\\_stopit.nsf/vw-text-index/6a7cf13e072e66e6862573d200681f71?opendocument](http://www.usc.salvationarmy.org/usc/www_usc_stopit.nsf/vw-text-index/6a7cf13e072e66e6862573d200681f71?opendocument)

The program employs a client-centered services model. Salvation Army is leading a local, Chicago-based multiagency collaborative to address child sexual exploitation entitled, “P.R.O.M.I.S.E.” (Partnership to Rescue our Minors from Sexual Exploitation).

- See <http://www.sapromise.org/about.htm>

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Utilize a human rights and child rights framework when providing services to ensure that children’s political, civil, social,

and economic rights are being protected during each phase of recovery services. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child can provide a framework for action. These principles can be applied at all levels of child health practice and advocacy.

2. Utilize developmentally-appropriate services, recognizing that a 10 year-old may have different needs than a 16 year-old.

3. Employ research-informed therapeutic programs for child survivors of human trafficking.

4. Support programs with smaller client case-loads to provide a safer space for recovering child trafficking victims.

5. Increase public and government awareness of the child trafficking. Existing child trafficking service providers and programs in the United States need more resources to provide both short- and long-term recovery services.

6. Instruct service providers to provide an environment that emphasizes options and free will whenever possible, especially since trafficked children are often coming from “non-voluntary” situations and systems. Trafficked children are often provided little choice or options within trafficking schemes. Additionally, children involved in active criminal cases may not feel empowered or believe that they have choices during law enforcement interviews or other criminal justice proceedings.

7. Conduct research on health issues that victims of child trafficking face; little has been published on this subject within the United States.

8. Encourage nurses and medical practitioners on the front-lines to learn more about human trafficking.



## LEGAL ADVOCACY AND POLICY PROTECTING CHILD SURVIVORS

### SPEAKERS

#### Jonathan Todres

Associate Professor of Law,  
Georgia State University College  
of Law

#### Sehla Ashai, JD

formerly of the National  
Immigrant Justice Center

#### Lynne Johnson

Advocacy Director, Chicago  
Alliance Against Sexual  
Exploitation (CAASE)

### ISSUES

There are international, federal, and local laws to protect the rights of trafficked children. Some of these laws are misunderstood or misapplied in the United States.

Child trafficking victims continue to be treated as criminals under existing laws – either as “illegal aliens” and/or prostitutes.

Access to competent legal counsel is critical for child trafficking victims. The laws affecting them are complex and invoke human rights, child protection, immigration, family, international, and criminal law.

### CHALLENGES

1. While most countries, including the United States, are signatories to international legal instruments to protect child trafficking victims, many do not apply international law to child trafficking cases.
2. Legal instruments addressing child trafficking, both international and domestic, generally do not discuss the unique attributes and needs of child victims, or the skills that law enforcement and legal providers must have in order to effectively deliver child-friendly assistance and protection.
3. There continue to be issues of prostituted girls being criminal justice system, contrary to federal and (some) state laws.
4. While much progress has been made against child trafficking and exploitation on a federal level, many state systems, including both criminal justice agencies and social services, appear far behind.

### PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. International legal instruments to combat child trafficking and protect victim rights include the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Trafficking

Protocol: the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and other international treaties concerning access to health care and education.

- See <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/crc-sale.htm> and <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/crc.htm>.

2. There are several possible immigration remedies available to non-U.S. citizen victims of child trafficking to allow them to stay in



**Jonathan Todres**

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the United States. Remedies will vary based on facts of the case and the child's best interest. They include:

> Continued Presence (CP): short term legal status (one year) available to potential victim witnesses in a human trafficking case. CP also provides access to short-term public benefits akin to refugee status and employment authorization.

> T visa: longer-term legal status available to victims of human trafficking; includes access to refugee benefits, employment authorization, and eventually legal permanent residency. Children who hold T visas can petition to bring their parents and unmarried minor siblings to the U.S.

> U visa: provides victims of certain crimes (including human trafficking) temporary legal status and work eligibility in the United States for up to 4 years. Eligible family members of children can apply as well.

> Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS): granted to a child for purposes of obtaining relief from abuse, neglect or abandonment. Eligibility for SIJS includes a child who is under the jurisdiction of a juvenile court as a result of abuse, neglect or abandonment; cannot be reunited with a parent; and for whom return to their country of nationality is not in their best interest.

> Asylum: granted to a non-citizen child in the U.S. that is unable or unwilling to return to his/her country of nationality because of persecution (mistreatment/abuse) or a well-founded fear of persecution.

> Violence Against Women Act (VAWA): a child is eligible for filing an immigrant visa petition (selfpetition) under VAWA if they are battered or witnessed spousal abuse of their parent/stepparent, and if the batterer is a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident. VAWA

## Child trafficking victims continue to be treated as criminals under existing laws – either as “illegal aliens” and/or prostitutes.

can also be a form of immigration relief in servile marriage cases.

3. The Illinois Safe Children's Act, passed in August of 2010, protects minor victims of sex trafficking. It represents a big step in the right direction for the protection of minor victims of sex trafficking.

> The Act decriminalizes child prostitution.

> Five prostitution-related offenses targeting pimps and/or “Johns” were enhanced from misdemeanors to felonies.

> Children who have been trafficked or prostituted now fall within the definition of “abused” under the state's Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act and under the purview of Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

> The Act creates funding stream for services for child victims of trafficking via car impoundment fees and fines against “Johns”/ purchasers of sex from minors.

> The Act expands wiretapping authority for criminal investigations of trafficking and prostitution.

counsel is also a right under the Victims of Trafficking Protection Act.

2. Ensure that all non-U.S. citizen children are referred to a competent immigration attorney as soon as possible. 3. Pursue legislative action and policy initiatives that address the demand side of child trafficking and exploitation – increase penalties for “Johns” and pimps.

4. Eliminate the term “juvenile prostitute” from all criminal statutes.

5. For states that have passed Safe Harbor Laws decriminalizing child or juvenile prostitution, recommend implementing an interdisciplinary work group to oversee and evaluate implementation of the law and its progress.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Ensure that all child trafficking victims have access to competent legal counsel. It is important for all children, regardless of immigration status, to have an attorney or guardian advocating for their interests within the criminal justice system. Access to legal



## CHILD LABOR IN THE UNITED STATES

### SPEAKERS

**Maria Woltjen, Director**

*Immigrant Child Advocacy Project*

**Edward Chung**

*U.S. Department of Justice, Human Trafficking Unit*

**Renan Selgado**

*Farmworker Legal Services of New York*

**Dr. Vidal de Haymes**

*Lucien and Carol Matusak Professor of Social Work and Director of the Institute for Migration and International Social Work Institute.*

### ISSUES

Child Labor in the United States is an understudied issue in the human trafficking field, and receives little attention from federal and state governments.

There are a growing number of unaccompanied migrant minors in the United States who are particularly vulnerable to human trafficking. According to the National Center for Refugee and Immigrant Children, 7,000 unaccompanied immigrant children arrive in the United States each year. Many of these children travel to the United States under perilous conditions to escape hardship and abuse in their home countries, and to seek protection or reunite with family members who are already in the U.S.

There continue to be insufficient efforts by law enforcement agencies to identify, investigate and prosecute child labor cases in the United States.

### CHALLENGES

1. Unlike sex trafficking, labor (whether in agriculture or in factories) is often tied to the region's formal economy. Cheap labor leads to larger profits, and one strategy to maintain cheap labor is to pay workers the bare minimum. There is a slippery slope between labor exploitation and labor trafficking.

2. The focus of research, legislation, and action is frequently on the trafficking of minors for sex, which often overshadows the trafficking of minors for labor.

3. Labor violations are not enforced with sufficient rigor in the United States, which, in turn, prevents the accurate detection of potential child labor trafficking cases.

4. The agriculture lobby prevents many necessary reforms to protect children (especially migrant children) engaged in agricultural labor, who comprise a considerable portion of human trafficking cases.

5. The U.S. government does not provide attorneys for immigrant children. Without legal counsel, this population is much more likely to be placed in removal proceedings (e.g., deportation), and is extremely vulnerable to being re-trafficked. While the Trafficking Victims Protection Act states that victims of human trafficking have a right to counsel, the government does not appoint one. Many potential cases are not even identified, due to a lack of legal representation and independent screening.

6. The isolation of domestic servitude victims working within individuals' homes makes it challenging to identify these cases.

7. There is legal ambiguity between "smuggling" cases and "human trafficking" cases involving immigrant children. Many children smuggled into the U.S. suffer similar experiences as trafficked children, including coercion, threats, physical and/or sexual



**Renan Selgado**

*Farmworker Legal Services of New York*

abuse, deceit, and abuse of power. U.S. laws presume that children can consent to being smuggled into the U.S., whereas advocates see many cases where children are forced to migrate by traffickers, parents (who can also be traffickers themselves), or other familiar adults. Additionally, there are few legal protections available to children who are being trafficked to the U.S. but are apprehended at the border. Because there is no proof that trafficking occurred in the U.S., these children are often placed in removal proceedings and returned home. Advocates suspect these children are at risk of reprisal by the traffickers and to be re-trafficked.

8. The trafficking community within the agricultural context is often a very tight-knit community, where many players are involved. As a result, whether it is because they wish to protect their stake in the community, other community members, or their livelihood, witnesses to child trafficking in these contexts will often refrain from reporting offenders.

9. Filial piety and economic ties to family members often prevent victims of child trafficking from being forthcoming about their situation.

10. Child labor trafficking victims often work with other adults and thus, commonly act as adults. Some send small remittances back to families at home. Once identified, these children may have difficulties being reintegrated into society as “children” (i.e. being sent to school versus working and sending money home). This does not apply to all children, but service providers should understand that there is no single “profile” of child labor trafficking cases.

11. The federal anti-trafficking law requires proof of “force, fraud, or coercion” in child labor trafficking cases, calling for a higher burden of proof than child sex trafficking cases (where the law presumes that a minor cannot consent to sexual acts). This makes investigation and prosecution of child labor trafficking cases more challenging.

## PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. The Children’s Act for Responsible Employment (CARE Act), which was introduced in the 109th session of Congress, calls for improving labor laws applied to minors working in agriculture and factories (e.g., age and hour requirements that are applied to children in other sectors). It would also raise

finances for child labor violations, require better data collection on child labor in agriculture by the U.S. Department of Labor, and preserve the family farm exception that excuses children working on their parents’ farms. The CARE Act has not yet been passed.

# 7,000

**Unaccompanied immigrant children arrive in the United States each year. Many of these children travel to the United States under perilous conditions to escape hardship and abuse in their home countries, and to seek protection or reunite with family members who are already in the U.S.**

According to the National Center for Refugee and Immigrant Children

2. Human Rights Watch monitors corporations and industries that engage in child labor, and is an advocate for ending child labor trafficking and exploitation. They recently issued a report highlighting the perils of child labor in the agricultural industry in the U.S.

- See <http://www.hrw.org/en/childrenlabor> and <http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/05/05/fields-peril-0>

3. The 2008 Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) includes a provision for the Department of Health and Human Services to appoint child advocates for trafficking victims and vulnerable unaccompanied children, applying a best interest of the child standard.

4. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has a public service campaign, “Rescue & Restore” Victims of Human Trafficking, which includes free

toolkits and outreach materials to address both sex and labor trafficking.

- See [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/campaign\\_kits/index.html](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/campaign_kits/index.html)

5. The Immigrant Child Advocacy Project of the University of Chicago convenes “Best Interest Determination” (BID) panels for many child trafficking cases. They assemble an interdisciplinary group of child experts to review cases and make recommendations for legal actors to consider, including judges and federal government officials.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Improve outreach efforts regarding child trafficking for labor in the United States.
2. Increase cooperation among community groups, nongovernmental organizations, and local and federal law enforcement agencies to combat child labor trafficking. Interdisciplinary approaches are necessary to effectively target the issue through various pathways for each case of child trafficking. In the larger scheme, further collaboration with scholars and academic endeavors will increase resources and capacity to effectively tackle the issue.
3. Improve screening for human trafficking at borders. Ensure that law enforcement officials are employing developmentally-appropriate screening techniques for children, and working with non-governmental organizations for additional screening.
4. Support the passage of labor policies that provide more protection to vulnerable children and populations such as the CARE Act.
5. Improve the enforcement of labor laws regarding children and improve investigations of violations in this area.

# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND ISSUES FOR CHILD SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION

## SPEAKERS

### Arthur Lurigio

Professor and Faculty Scholar,  
Associate Dean for Faculty Loyola  
University Chicago College of Arts  
and Sciences

### Jose Hidalgo MD

Medical Director – Clinical Services  
Program Director – PATHS to  
Resilience, Latin American Health  
Institute, Boston, MA

### June Parks, MD

Chicago Child Trauma Center,  
La Rabida Children's Hospital,  
Multiply Traumatized  
Children in Foster Care

sexually exploited in the multibillion dollar commercial sex industry (UNICEF). Approximately 695,000 children in the United States were victims of abuse or neglect in 2010.<sup>6</sup>

> Below is a table illustrating the breakdown of the types of maltreatment or abuse experienced by these children.<sup>6</sup>

Neglect	>78%
Physical abuse	>17%
Sexual abuse	10%
Psychological/ emotional abuse	8%
Medical neglect	>2%
Exploitation and trafficking	??



### Jose Hidalgo MD

Medical Director – Clinical Services  
Program Director – PATHS to Resilience,  
Latin American Health Institute,  
Boston, MA

- Social Bankruptcy (e.g., lacking the opportunity to reach milestones or build social capital)

## ISSUES

There is a lack of research on the psychological consequences of trafficking and exploitation, particularly the long-term effects of trauma on children and youth affected by this criminal activity.

Existing treatment models used in other contexts can be helpful in providing mental health treatment and support to child trafficking victims.

## CHALLENGES

1. Child trafficking is ubiquitous. It occurs throughout the world and in the United States at numbers and levels that are not captured in traditional victimization studies. Worldwide, there are an estimated 2.5 million children, the majority of them girls, who are

2. The abuse that occurs in child trafficking cases is varied, severe, unrelenting, and occurs in several domains:

> Abuse: sexual abuse, corporal punishment, and servitude

- Physical
- Psychological (e.g. verbal and psychological abuse)

> Neglect: Failure to provide adequately for a variety of needs

- Physical (e.g., lack of food, clothing, hygiene)
- Educational (e.g., failure to enroll child in school, lack of tutelage, or a home environment not conducive to learning)
- Emotional (e.g., lack of nurturing and affection)
- Medical (e.g., lack of access to healthcare for acute and chronic conditions)

3. Child trafficking is pervasive. Victims of trafficking and exploitation are highly likely to experience various types of childhood victimization with little or no opportunity for mental health or other remedial services. They may suffer from pervasive psychological issues and experience symptoms of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), or sleeping and eating disorders.

4. Child survivors of the sex industry often suffer from health issues that remain untreated, such as sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, unwanted pregnancy, pelvic pain, rectal trauma, and urinary difficulties.

5. Child survivors of the labor industry,

working long shifts in dangerous agriculture, sweatshop, or other manual labor conditions, can suffer from severe health issues as well (e.g., chronic back, hearing, cardiovascular or respiratory problems).

6. Child survivors of labor or sex trafficking often suffer from poor self-esteem and confused cultural, social, and personal identities.

7. It is possible for the victim to refuse treatment, and to thus be uncooperative. There are several possible reasons for this, including, but not limited to, the following:

> Traffickers might be family members, or be perceived by the child as family.

> The victim could believe themselves to be “in love” with the trafficker.

> The victim could be scared to leave the situation, and not want to testify against their former captors.

8. Often, because of the environment and the will to survive, child victims of trafficking

adapt by resorting to criminal activity. Maltreatment early in life increases the likelihood of serious juvenile delinquency and police contact as well as arrests for violent crime. For women, maltreatment elevates the likelihood of arrest by 77%.<sup>7</sup> In one study, sexually abused children were 27.7 times more likely than a control group of nonabused children to be arrested for prostitution as an adult.<sup>8</sup>

9. Trauma that occurs early in childhood often results in mental health issues that persist even after survivors are taken out of the dangerous environment. The majority of trafficking survivors lack access to any type of mental health services. Even for those rare cases that have access to treatment, symptoms are often difficult to treat, especially since a majority of trafficking survivors lack learned coping strategies and skills.

10. Traffickers frequently dehumanize victims, and treat them as simply “commodities and cargo,” to the extent that victims can lose their identities and self-worth, which often results in identity confusion/erosion in survivors.



**June Parks, MD**  
Chicago Child Trauma Center, La Rabida Children's Hospital, Multiply Traumatized Children in Foster Care

11. Unstable residences: Victims are likely deficient in the necessary funds to live autonomously, often lacking homes, and are instead forced to change locations often. This environment is obviously not ideal in the maintenance of mental health, even after psychological treatment. Thus, many survivors that are returned to these environments will once again become victims.

12. Cultural shock: The psychological adaptation that allowed the victim to survive in the harsh and possibly abusive environment makes it more difficult for them to transition into a new life outside of the trafficking situation.

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## UPDATES SINCE 2011 EDITION

> A more recent study conducted by Wilson & Widom in 2010 found that individuals with documented cases of child abuse and neglect were over twice as likely as controls to have engaged in prostitution. This relationship held for childhood physical abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect. Moreover, all types of childhood abuse and neglect were associated with early sexual initiation, running away, and juvenile crime.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau. (2011). Child Maltreatment 2010. Available from [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats\\_research/index.htm#can](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/index.htm#can). Retrieved from the Children's Bureau website: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm10/cm10.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup>Widom, C.S. (1992). *The Cycle of Violence*. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice

<sup>8</sup>Widom, C.S. (1995). *Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse – Later Criminal Consequences*. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice

<sup>9</sup>Wilson, H.W. & Widom, C.S. (2010). The Role of Youth Problem Behaviors in the Path From Child Abuse and Neglect to Prostitution: A Prospective Examination. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*, 20(1), 210-236

## In order to promote active healing, it is important to focus on the strengths and resilience factors of the trauma survivors, rather than the traditional deficit approach to treatment.

13. Often, the criminalization of victims results in their incarceration, which subsequently prevents child trafficking survivors from obtaining the appropriate mental health services they need.

14. This is often a hidden population, so we need better, more creative methodologies and tools to reach out to child trafficking victims.

### PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. Trauma Systems Therapy (TST): A heuristic for understanding the experiences of trauma victims and how their experiences relate to their treatment and recovery. TST teaches practitioners and social service providers to identify situations that may represent a traumatic stressor for a particular child survivor. It suggests specific techniques to help the child not go into survival-in-the-moment responses, since the child is no longer in a threatening situation.

2. Trauma-focused treatment, which involves moving through phases that include symptom stabilization, building relationships/establishing safety and trust, focusing on the traumatic experience in order to create an integrated narrative of the experience and identify dissociative aspects, and preparing survivors for the future.

3. Programs with a scientific rating of 1 (well-supported by research evidence)

> Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)

4. Programs with a scientific rating of 2 (supported by research evidence)

> Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP)

5. Programs with a scientific rating of 3 (shows promising research evidence)

> Alternatives for Families: A Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (AF-CBT)

> Sanctuary Model: A trauma-informed method for creating or changing an organizational culture in order to more effectively create an environment within which healing from psychological and social traumatic experiences can be addressed

> Structured Sensory Therapy for Adjudicated Adolescents in Residential Treatment (SITCAP-ART)

### RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. In order to promote active healing, it is important to focus on the strengths and resilience factors of the trauma survivors, rather than the traditional deficit approach to treatment.

2. Individuals and groups that are out in the field (e.g., social service providers, community organizations, mental health professionals, etc.) should be made aware of telltale signs of trafficking victims, and how to respond with a trauma-informed approach.

3. Support research on mental health



**Arthur Lurigio**

*Professor and Faculty Scholar, Associate Dean for Faculty Loyola University Chicago College of Arts and Sciences*

programs and how they treat child survivors of trafficking. We need to increase the number of evidence-based treatments for survivors. The methodology of the current research is less stringent than it should be. It is important to keep accurate data on child trafficking and victimization.

4. Support employment of comprehensive interventions. In order to have an effective intervention, it is crucial to build a relationship with the client, and to establish safety and trust. Assess any need for other treatment (mental health or otherwise). In preparation for the future, the trafficking survivor will likely need assistance in their assimilation back into society (e.g., employment, homes, finances, etc.). It will be important even after treatment to educate survivors of trafficking on predicting future symptoms, and how to know when to return to therapy.

5. Identify existing networks of agencies and professionals working with trauma and youth, and involve them in antitrafficking initiatives, coalitions, task forces, and recovery services.

## PROMISING PRACTICES IN IDENTIFYING CHILD SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING PART 2 - MAXIMIZING FIRST POINTS OF CONTACT OF CHILD WELFARE AND CHILD TRAFFICKING

### SPEAKERS

**Sacha Coupet, PhD, JD**

*Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine*

**Catherine Connell**

*Forensic Interview Specialist, FBI Headquarters, Victim Witness Unit*

**Dr. Mark Cichon, DO**

*Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine*

### ISSUES

The first point of contact and intake/interview can be a determining factor in identifying a child trafficking victim.

Children are often misidentified due to poor screening or interviewing during the initial identification stages of a case, which can be a contributing factor to the low identification rates of child trafficking cases in the U.S.

Medical professionals, especially emergency room personnel, are an untapped resource/potential first responder to identify a potential child trafficking case.

Interviewing survivors of child trafficking and exploitation is extremely difficult, especially when the victim is very young.

### CHALLENGES

1. Emergency Rooms, which can be a first point of contact for a child trafficking victim, are often understaffed and under-resourced.
2. Victims may not report to emergency room staff that they need help as a result of fear, or because it is very difficult to physically separate the victim from the perpetrator in an emergency room setting.
3. Emergency room staff may have a hard time identifying victims because not all bruises can be classified as abuse (e.g., some may be cultural marks inflicted on the child).
4. Victims of child trafficking and exploitation may not see themselves as “victims.” Therefore, they may not share any information if treated as such.
5. Traffickers generally do a very good job of instructing their victims of what (not) to say or do if encountered by police, emergency services, and social service personnel.
6. First responders will often need to conduct multiple interviews to gain the trust of former and/or current victims of trafficking. This often creates tension between child victims (and their advocates) and criminal justice professionals eager to move forward with investigations quickly.

7. Children’s desires to please adults might cause a bias or influence the accuracy of the interview. Children are normally socialized to provide a questioning adult with an answer, irrespective of its accuracy.

8. Language is shaped by experience. Children may lack the experience necessary for translating events into vocabulary. For example, these differences manifest in expressions reflecting concepts of time, size and distance. These concepts are highly subjective and require cognitive maturity to understand fully. A child’s ability to order events is based on an evolving sense of time, typically not reaching an adult level of understanding until the age of twelve. Even younger children who are able to tell time may not accurately place events in the appropriate context of time and duration.

### PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

1. *Employing the Phased Interview:* A phased interview structure minimizes suggestive influences and empowers adolescents to be informative. These goals are accomplished by three major guidelines:

> Children/adolescents receive clear information about the interviewer’s job and the ground rules for the interview.



> The interviewer builds rapport in a way that encourages children/adolescents to talk.

> The interviewer elicits information using the least directive question formats.

**2. The FBI Child Forensic Interview Protocol:**

This protocol was adopted from the Forensic Interview Protocol and training package by Debra Pool, PhD. The protocol employs a victim-centered, hypothesis-testing rather



than hypothesis-confirming approach in order to keep interviewers opened-minded (and to avoid bias in questioning or non-verbal cues). The protocol also utilizes a hierarchy of interview questions: Free narrative and other open-ended questions (questions phrased in a way that they require elaboration), specific or focused but non-leading questions, and then closed-ended questions (e.g., yes or no questions, fact-collecting questions).

**3. Hospital emergency protocol:**

Emergency room staff are trained to identify and respond to suspected child abuse and exploitation, including burns, and bruises/lacerations/abrasions. These are physical indicators that could signify various forms of child abuse including child trafficking. In suspected child abuse cases, hospital protocols involve other agencies and systems, including law enforcement, child protection, service agencies, and specialized medical

professionals, such as pediatric centers and child abuse pediatricians.

4. Useful resources for all individuals, agencies, etc.: *Interviewing children: Handbook on Questioning Children: A Linguistic Perspective* by Anne Graffam Walker.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Ensure that any type of “first responder” agency that may come in contact with children receive training on developmentally appropriate interview skills and tactics.

2. Educate professionals and first responders, such as law enforcement, medical professionals, and social services, who may come into contact with child trafficking victims. They should be familiar with effective interviewing techniques for children, and various strategies for identifying and interviewing possible trafficking victims. Interviewers should be knowledgeable of the linguistic and cognitive levels of the child survivor, and how to obtain accurate information from children of all ages.

3. Instruct those interviewing potential child trafficking victims to stay away from blame words, such as “pimp” or “prostitute” during any initial or subsequent intake/screening. Use whatever terms they are using (i.e., if they have not referred to themselves a prostitute, you should not either). Or if they call their trafficker their “boyfriend,” you should refer to him as such when interviewing the victims - this will build trust and rapport with the victims.

4. Create protocols and systems to avoid re-traumatization of potential child trafficking and exploitation victims. This includes limiting the number of times a child will be asked to retell their story with multiple

people and agencies. Interviewing in a room with a two-way mirror may be a way for various helping agencies to glean the information they need without it being necessary to have multiple adults speak directly with the victim.

5. Incorporate child trafficking identification protocols into existing child abuse protocols. This is the most cost and time-efficient strategy to identify and address possible trafficking victims, especially considering the limited resources of Emergency Room centers.

6. When a potential victim is encountered in an Emergency Room center, they should be referred to the appropriate child protection or medical professionals if:

> The physician is unsure of the situation and whether or not the child is a victim, and/or if the child is in danger.

> The patient is too young to care for him or herself.

> There is a recurrent injury pattern.

> There are signs of alcohol/drug abuse.

7. Utilize competent medical professionals to provide forensic medical examinations, as well as any necessary follow-up care for child trafficking and exploitation cases.

8. Ensure that human trafficking task forces and coalitions include competent medical professionals and experts as part of their referral networks.

9. Create a multi-disciplinary workshop with experts in the fields of social work, psychology, law, and criminal justice to focus on this specific issue: interviewing skills and improved identification of crimes, including child trafficking.

## PREVENTION OF CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION, BEST PRACTICES AND RESEARCH

### SPEAKERS

#### Jonathan Todres

Associate Professor of Law, Georgia State University College of Law

#### Carol Smolenski

Director, ECPAT-USA, New York City

#### Dr. Shweta Singh

PhD, School of Social Work, Loyola University Chicago

#### Jessica Boland, MA

Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work

#### Dominique Covington

Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Student

different sectors, some less apparent than others, which makes it difficult to address and prevent every form of trafficking:

- > Commercial sexual exploitation
- > Domestic child labor
- > Child labor working in unorganized sector (mines, brick, carpet, garment)
- > Organ transplantation
- > Child / forced marriages
- > Trafficking of children for adoption
- > Begging rackets
- > Domestic help, restaurant work, child care

2. There are several “push” factors that maintain child trafficking in supplier communities:

> In many communities around the world, female children and minorities are a low developmental priority, so sexual trafficking

or labor trafficking in this population is accepted.

> Some cultures support the act of child marriage, which can lead to sexual trafficking and exploitation. Child marriage is more prevalent in families that are at an economic disadvantage, as the dowry is an incentive to marry off children.

> Structural imbalance in power and rights of children. Although most countries around the world have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (with the exception of the United States and Somalia), many do not implement its tenants or actively support child rights.

> In many communities, there is a lack of a strong political will and weak law enforcement to fight against child trafficking and exploitation, so perpetrators have little incentive to stop.

> The expanding sex industry has resulted in the increase in entrapment of a large number of minors.

> Continued lack of awareness of human trafficking.

3. There are several “pull” factors that provide incentive to continue child trafficking.

> Globalization has resulted in higher numbers of workers migrating, demand for cheap labor increasing, and easier mechanisms for traffickers to transport people between countries.

### ISSUES

Prevention is a vital piece in the United States efforts to eradicate child trafficking and exploitation. However, the government’s current policy is to prioritize criminal justice and social service responses to existing child trafficking cases over prevention of new cases.

There are very few human trafficking prevention initiatives targeting children and youth in the United States.

Evaluating and measuring outcomes of prevention initiatives is often extremely challenging.

### CHALLENGES

1. There are various types of trafficking in



Carol Smolenski  
Director,  
ECPAT-USA





**The government’s current policy is reactive to the issue - prioritizing criminal justice and social service responses to existing child trafficking cases. This is important, but we need to also emphasize preventing cases before they happen.**

> Developmental policies promoting tourism, industrialization, and rural to urban migration generate demand.

> There are an increasing number of male “buyers” preferring children because

- It is believed they are less likely to be infected with HIV/AIDS.
- In some countries, there is a myth that sex with a virgin invigorates men.
- In some countries, there is a myth that sex with a virgin cures AIDS.
- Demand for cheap labor of children.

4. Sexual tourism involving children still flourishes due to anonymity, cultural ignorance, rationalization (“helping” poor children by giving them money for performing sex acts), and a sense of superiority.

5. In the United States, research and responses to human trafficking cases are often generalized to include all victims (adults and children), and there is an overwhelming lack of research focusing on children and youth. This makes it difficult to

understand the distinct paths to trafficking, and subsequently create effective prevention campaigns and initiatives.

6. There is little mention of U.S. citizen human trafficking victims in the Victims of Trafficking Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, the main federal anti-trafficking legislation. This is an indicator of the government’s hesitancy to address trafficking as a problem within our borders, committed by U.S. citizens and residents against citizens and residents. While subsequent reauthorizations of the TVPA have addressed the trafficking of U.S. citizens especially children, more can be done.

7. The large discrepancies in numbers of estimated child trafficking victims in the United States imply a lack of accuracy in identification.

8. Even when numbers of prosecutions increase, the number of victims referred to services does not.

9. There are few, if any programs aimed at

addressing vulnerability to child trafficking and exploitation, or reshaping societal attitudes that support demand.

PROMISING PRACTICES AND RESOURCES

*Note from Editors: This section is primarily comprised of resources identified that include prevention components, including international and national government reports, treaties, and legal instruments. This list is not comprehensive. As indicated by the speakers, there are very few identifiable prevention initiatives addressing child trafficking and exploitation in the U.S.*

> UNODC What is Human Trafficking Page

- See <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/what-is-human-trafficking.html>

> UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking, Especially of Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations

Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, December 2000

- See <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/protocoltraffic.htm>

> South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution

- See <http://www.saarcsec.org/userfiles/conv-trafficking.pdf>

> Juvenile Justice Act 2000 (India)

- See <http://wcd.nic.in/childprot/jjact2000.pdf>

> Immoral Traffic Prevention Act (India)

- See [http://ncpcr.gov.in/Acts/Immoral\\_Traffic\\_Prevention\\_Act\\_\(ITPA\)\\_1956.pdf](http://ncpcr.gov.in/Acts/Immoral_Traffic_Prevention_Act_(ITPA)_1956.pdf)

> U.S. Government resources, statutes, policies, and reports

- See <http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/crm/htpu.php>

> Several U.S. municipalities have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), including New York City and Chicago.

- See <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/crc.htm>

> “Rescue and Restore” outreach campaign, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Family Services

- See <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking/>

> Academic articles addressing prevention of child trafficking and exploitation

- Jonathan Todres, *Moving Upstream: The Merits of a Public Health Law Approach to Human Trafficking*, 89 NORTH CAROLINA LAW REVIEW 447 (2011), <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1742953>
- Jonathan Todres, *Taking Prevention Seriously: Developing a Comprehensive Response to Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation*, 43 VANDERBILT

JOURNAL OF TRANSNATIONAL LAW 1 (2010), <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1544301>

- Jonathan Todres, *Law, Otherness, and Human Trafficking*, 49 SANTA CLARA LAW REVIEW 605(2009), <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1362542>
- Jonathan Todres, *The Importance of Realizing “Other Rights” to Prevent Sex Trafficking*, 12 CARDOZO JOURNAL OF LAW & GENDER 885(2006), <http://ssrn.com/abstract=912250>

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

1. Identify communities vulnerable to child trafficking and exploitation, and create targeted prevention initiatives, both within the United States and internationally.

For example, in the United States there is research indicating that chronic runaway youth are more vulnerable to human trafficking. Intervention programs should be created (and measured) for this population.

2. Improve child protection and welfare systems, especially for older children. Advocates working with child victims of sex trafficking have observed that these children are often former victims of child abuse and other maltreatments.

3. Apply human rights based framework as part of international and state business treaties and deals (e.g., establishing living minimum wage, establishing right to health and education for children).

4. Develop minimum standards at all levels for rehabilitation after recovery services are provided, victims of trafficking are often vulnerable to being re-trafficked or other forms of exploitation due to poverty, trauma, lack of social networks and support, limited life and employment skills, or chronic medical issues as a result of trafficking.

5. Governments should improve access to education, training and employment opportunities for children and youth in the United States and around the world.

6. As part of the U.S. government’s prevention efforts, the State Department should encourage programs that improve rates of both birth registration and marriage registration. Children without identification are often considered “invisible” and preyed upon by traffickers. Marriage registration will help prevent child marriage, which can lead to servile marriage and sexual slavery situations.

7. Review and strengthen existing legislative frameworks at federal and state levels to include prevention initiatives.

8. Improve accountability for police to respond immediately to cases of missing children.

9. Advocates can use the anti-trafficking language in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Article 35) to request state/local intervention and for training school officials.

10. The U.S. Department of Education should provide resources for school officials, including identification techniques, examples of prevention activities, and referrals and recommendations for what to do if a school official suspects child trafficking. School boards should include training and workshops for school faculty and staff on human trafficking of children.

11. Prevention programs should be more child-centered, and incorporate the input of child trafficking victims and other children.

12. Increase penalties for those who purchase sex from minors, and improve law enforcement’s ability to investigate and prosecute child trafficking cases, for both labor and sex.

SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2010

Loyola University Chicago

Philip H. Corboy Law Center

25 E. Pearson St.

Chicago, Illinois 60611

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE AGENDA

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WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2010

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8:00 AM – 9:15 AM

**REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

*Kasbeer Hall, 15th Floor*

9:15 AM – 9:30 AM

**WELCOME AND CONFERENCE OVERVIEW**

*Kasbeer Hall, 15th Floor*

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

**Anita Alvarez**, Cook County State's Attorney

**Honorable John Cullerton**, Senator, State of Illinois

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**PLENARY PANEL A: CHALLENGES IN IDENTIFYING  
CHILD TRAFFICKING CASES** *Kasbeer Hall, 15th Floor*

**Moderator: Honorable Virginia Kendall**, Judge,  
Northern District of Illinois

**Carol Smolenski**, Director, ECPAT-USA

**Marianne Skelly**, MSW, Child Protection Specialist,  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Trafficking Unit

**Howard Davidson**, Director, ABA Center on Children and the Law

This panel will provide an overview of the status of children who have (and have not) been identified as victims of trafficking in the United States, address challenges in identification, including multi-sector response, NGO/law enforcement collaboration, gaps in policies and services, and also provide current practices and methods of identification across states and by the federal government.

CLE CREDIT HOURS: 1

CEU CREDIT HOURS: 1

11:00 – 11:15 AM

**COFFEE BREAK**

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

**PLENARY PANEL B: RESEARCH ON CHILD SURVIVORS OF TRAFFICKING FOR SEXUAL AND LABOR EXPLOITATION** *Kasbeer Hall, 15th Floor*

**Moderator: Dr. Shweta Singh**, Ph.D, LUC School of Social Work

**Dr. James Garbarino**, PhD, Loyola University Chicago

**Dr. Richard Estes**, MSW, DSW, University of Pennsylvania

**Nyssa Parampil**, Associate Director of US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), MRS, Anti-Trafficking

**Jessica Reichert**, Manager, Research and Evaluation Center, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

This panel will provide a macro level overview of the notion of the child and adolescent as a victim of crime, and then focus on national research conducted on trafficking and exploitation of children in the US, followed by an overview of research conducted on the topic of child trafficking in the state of Illinois. Panelists are encouraged to include data/summaries of research analyzing both sexual and labor trafficking and exploitation as possible.

CEU CREDIT HOURS: 1

12:15 – 1:30 PM

**LUNCH BREAK – (ON OWN/OFF-SITE)**

1:30 – 3:00 PM **BREAK-OUT SESSION 1:**

**WORKSHOP A: INTERSECTION OF CHILD WELFARE AND CHILD TRAFFICKING** *Kasbeer Hall*

**Moderator: Anita Weinberg, JD/MSW**, Civitas ChildLaw Center, Loyola University Chicago  
**Howard Davidson**, Director, ABA Center on Children and the Law  
**Cheryl Peterson**, Children’s Justice Administrator, IL Dept of Children and Family Services  
**Katherine Kaufka Walts**, Director, Center for the Human Rights of Children  
**Shelby French**, Executive Director, International Organization for Adolescents

Although the child welfare system is tasked with assisting abandoned, abused, or neglected children, to-date there are little-to-no systematic efforts to identify and provide recovery services to child trafficking victims. This panel will provide an overview of existing efforts conducted by various states and NGOs to engage and build capacity of child protection and welfare professionals to better respond to child trafficking cases.

CLE CREDIT HOURS: 1.25  
 CEU CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

**WORKSHOP B: CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE - THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX WITH INVESTIGATIONS & PROSECUTIONS** *Room 522*

**Moderator: Michelle Nasser**, U.S. Attorney’s Office, Northern District of Illinois  
**Edward Chung**, U.S. Department of Justice, Human Trafficking Unit  
**Cathy Ruiz**, Special Agent, FBI, Chicago  
**Catherine Cornell**, Child Forensic Specialist, Office of Victim Assistance, FBI Headquarters  
**Lou Longhitano**, ASA, Cook County State Attorney’s Office, Organized Crime and Cold Case Homicide

Engaging children as victim-witnesses through the criminal justice problem can be challenging. Proper support systems need to be in place, as well as strategies to minimize trauma for the victim. This panel will address promising practices, challenges, and case examples of investigative and prosecutorial techniques by federal and state criminal justice experts in the field. Topics covered will include child labor, financial crimes associated with child trafficking cases, child sexual exploitation, and effective interviewing skills.

CLE CREDIT HOURS: 1.25

3:00 PM – 3:15 PM  
**COFFEE/TEA BREAK**

3:15 – 4:45 PM **BREAK-OUT SESSION 2:**

**WORKSHOP C: PROMISING PRACTICES IN IDENTIFYING CHILD TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PART 1- PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES TO CHILD SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING** *Kasbeer Hall*

**Moderator: Barbara Bolsen**, Vice President of Programs, Night Ministry  
**Johannah Westmacott**, Coordinator for Trafficked Minors, Safe Horizon Streetwork Program, NYC  
**Dana Anderson**, Foster Care Supervisor, Bethany Christian Services, Unaccompanied Refugee Minor Program  
**Erin Knowles**, MSW, LSW, STOP-IT Program, Salvation Army  
**Ellen Chiocca**, RN, Loyola University Chicago School of Nursing

This workshop will discuss various models of case management and recovery services for survivors of human trafficking and exploitation, especially for children. Topics will include utilizing a harm reduction model, providing services to refugee/immigrant children under the federal URM program, an overview of interim results of a federally funded demonstration grant to identify and assist US citizen child trafficking victims in Illinois, and health/medical issues of children and women who have been trafficked.

CEU CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

**WORKSHOP D: LEGAL ADVOCACY AND POLICY PROTECTING CHILD SURVIVORS** *Room 522*

**Moderator: Stacey Platt**, ChildLaw Center, Loyola University Chicago  
**Jonathan Todres**, Associate Professor of Law, Georgia State University College of Law  
**Sehla Ashai**, JD, formerly of the National Immigrant Justice Center  
**Lynne Johnson**, Advocacy Director, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE), “Illinois Safe Harbour Law: Illinois Safe Children Act”

This workshop will provide an overview of international, federal, and state protections and policies addressing child trafficking cases for US citizens and non-citizens, including children’s rights under international criminal, and immigration law, the role of child welfare institutions, benefits available to children, and emerging policies decriminalizing child prostitution.

CLE CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

5:00 – 6:00 PM

**RECEPTION (WINE, BEVERAGES AND LIGHT APPETIZERS)**

*Rooms 303-304*  
*Terry Center (26 E. Pearson, across the street from conference site)*  
 All conference participants are invited to attend

6:30 – 8:00 PM

**FILM & DIRECTOR COMMENTARY** *Free/open to conference participants.*

Guy Jacobson, Director, presenting his film projects, “Holly” and “RedLight Children Project”, highlighting the issue of child exploitation and slavery. <http://www.redlightthemovie.com/credits.html>  
*Reception and film/discussion sponsored by: the Center for the Human Rights of Children, ECPAT-USA, the International Organization for Adolescents, the Salvation Army STOP-IT Program*  
*With support provided by Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE) and Free the Slaves, Loyola University Chicago Chapter*

SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2010

Loyola University Chicago

Philip H. Corboy Law Center

25 E. Pearson St.

Chicago, Illinois 60611

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE AGENDA

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THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

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8:15 AM – 9:00 AM

**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

*Kasbeer Hall, 15th Floor*

9:00 AM

**OPENING REMARKS & INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

*Kasbeer Hall, 15th Floor*

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

*Kasbeer Hall, 15th Floor*

**Kelly Heinrich**, Legal Counsel, United States State Department,  
Global Trafficking Unit

9:30 – 10:30 AM

**PLENARY PANEL A: CHILD LABOR IN THE UNITED STATES**

**Moderator: Maria Vidal de Haymes**, PhD, Loyola University  
Chicago School of Social Work

**Maria Woltjen**, Director, Immigrant Child Advocacy Project

**Edward Chung**, U.S. Department of Justice, Human Trafficking Unit

**Renan Selgado**, Farmworker Legal Services of New York

Child labor in the United States is one of the least studied/research areas of child exploitation and trafficking. Each panelist /expert works with victims of child labor in various capacities, including domestic servitude, child labor in agricultural contexts, and unaccompanied minors entering the United States for the purpose of forced labor. The panelists will provide an overview (via case studies/examples) of cases in the U.S., trends, and existing research of this phenomenon.

CLE CREDIT HOURS: 1

10:30 – 10:45 AM

**BREAK**

10:45 – 11:45 AM

**PLENARY PANEL B: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND ISSUES FOR CHILD SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION**

**Moderator: Dr. James Garbarino**, PhD, Loyola University Chicago

**Arthur Lurigio**, Professor and Faculty Scholar,

Associate Dean for Faculty College of Arts and Sciences

**Jose Hidalgo**, MD, Medical Director - Clinical Services Program Director -

PATHs to Resilience, Latin American Health Institute, Boston, MA

**June Parks**, MD, Chicago Child Trauma Center, La Rabida Children's

Hospital, Multiply Traumatized Children in Foster Care

Mental health services and issues integral to overall recovery services of survivors of human trafficking. This panel will provide an overview of appropriate considerations, techniques, and recommendations for addressing the diversity of mental health issues affecting children who are victims of serious crime, including trafficking and sexual abuse and exploitation. Panelists will discuss the short and long term effects of trauma on children (especially those engaged in the criminal justice process), a case study employing a trauma-assistance therapy model, and challenges, promising practices, and techniques to assist children in their recovery process.

CEU CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

11:45 – 1:00 PM

**LUNCH – ON OWN/OFF-SITE**

1:00 – 2:30 PM **BREAK-OUT SESSION 1:**

**WORKSHOP A: PROMISING PRACTICES IN IDENTIFYING CHILD SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING PART 2 -MAXIMIZING FIRST POINTS OF CONTACT** *Kasbeer Hall*

**Moderator: Dr. Robert Lombardo**, PhD, LUC Criminal Justice Department

**Sacha Coupet**, PhD, JD, LUC ChildLaw Center, "Interviewing Child Victims of Violence – A Developmental Approach"

**Catherine Connell**, Forensic Interview Specialist, FBI Headquarter, Victim Witness Unit

**Dr. Mark Cichon**, DO, Loyola Stritch School of Medicine, "Emergency Room Response"

As the conference description notes, children represent the potentially largest class of victims of trafficking and exploitation, yet currently comprise the smallest group of those identified. This workshop will address challenges and promising practices in maximizing first points of contacts, including effective interviewing techniques, assessments by medical professionals in emergency rooms/health settings, as well as incorporating a child development approach for all sectors working with child victims of crime.

CLE CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

CEU CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

**WORKSHOP B: PREVENTION OF CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION, BEST PRACTICES AND RESEARCH** *Room 522*

**Moderator: Soledad McGrath**, ChildLaw Policy Fellow, Civitas ChildLaw Center

**Jonathan Todres**, Associate Professor of Law, Georgia State University College of Law

**Carol Smolenski**, Director, ECPAT-USA, New York City

**Dr. Shweta Singh**, PhD, School of Social Work, Loyola University Chicago

**"Integrating Human Trafficking Prevention within K-12 Education"**, **Dominique Covington** (LUC School of Law) and **Jessica Boland** (LUC School of Social Work)

Much of the current emphasis on responding to HT/exploitation of children and youth is focused on assisting survivors and prosecuting perpetrators. The purpose of this workshop is to explore opportunities and promising practices of prevention programs, campaigns, and techniques to stop the problem before it begins.

CEU CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

2:30PM – 2:45PM

**COFFEE/TEA BREAK**

*Kasbeer Hall*

2:45 PM – 3:45 PM

**PLENARY: WORKING TOGETHER TO COMBAT CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION IN THE UNITED STATES**

*Kasbeer Hall (all participants)*

**Moderator: Katherine Kaufka Walts**, Director, Center for the Human Rights of Children

**Presenters:** Representatives from the U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Illinois, Cook County State's Attorney's Office, Loyola University Chicago, local and national NGOs, and panelists from 2-day conference.

Q&A from audience to discuss models for collaboration between government, non-government, and academic sectors, policy changes, action steps, and active case questions.

CLE CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

CEU CREDIT HOURS: 1.5

3:45 PM – 4:00 PM

**WRAP-UP AND EVALUATIONS**



**John P. Pelissero**

*Provost and Chief Academic Officer at Loyola University Chicago*



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## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN THE UNITED STATES BIOGRAPHIES

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



#### **Anita Alvarez, Cook County State's Attorney, Illinois**

Anita is a career prosecutor and a life-long Chicagoan who was born and raised in the Pilsen neighborhood. She received her undergraduate degree from Loyola University of Chicago and she earned her Law Degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law. Anita presently

holds the rank of Chief Deputy State's Attorney, the third ranking post in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

Anita began her career in the State's Attorney's Office in 1986 and has steadily worked her way up through the ranks, handling hundreds of felony cases ranging from homicide, narcotics, armed robbery, criminal sexual assaults and domestic violence. She has argued before the Illinois Appellate Court and tried more than 50 felony jury trials. Prior to attaining her present position of Chief Deputy, Anita served as the Chief of Staff to the Cook County State's Attorney; Chief of the Special Prosecutions Bureau; Deputy Chief of the Narcotics Bureau, and Supervisor of the Public Integrity Unit. She also spent 3 ½ years in the Gang Crimes Unit where she prosecuted gang-related homicides.

Anita was promoted to the Supervisor of the Public Integrity Unit in 1996, where she was responsible for prosecuting city, county, and state employees who committed felonies and violated the public trust. She personally tried police officers on corruption charges. In 1999, she was promoted to Deputy Chief of the Narcotics Bureau where she supervised the prosecution of drug cases as well as long term narcotics investigations in conjunction with Chicago and suburban police departments. Anita became the Chief of the Special Prosecutions Bureau in 2001. The Bureau consists of the Arson Unit, Organized Crime/Cold Case Unit, Auto Theft Unit, Public Corruption and Financial Crimes Unit, Gang Crimes Unit,

and the Professional Standards Unit.

Also in 2001, Anita tried the case of the People of the State of Illinois v. Patrick Sykes which was commonly referred to in widespread media as the "Girl X Case" Her successful prosecution of Sykes resulted in his conviction for the predatory criminal sexual assault of a 9-year-old-girl who was left paralyzed, blind, without speech and confined to a wheelchair after the brutal attack in the Cabrini Green housing project. Anita's tireless work and dedication ensured that, despite the victim's daunting physical challenges, she was able to come to court and fearlessly face her attacker.

Anita has been honored by various groups and organizations throughout her career. In 2001 she was named Person of the Year by Chicago Lawyer Magazine. That same year, she was honored for her work in the Girl X case by the Council for Disability Rights for precedent setting advocacy. In 2002 she was the recipient of the Professional Achievement Award from Chicago-Kent College of Law. In 2005 Anita was named Person of the Year by the Latin American Police Association and also named States Attorney of the Year by the Illinois State Crime Commission. Anita is a frequent speaker and lecturer to many organizations and from 2002 to 2005 was an adjunct professor at John Marshall Law School.

#### **Honorable John Cullerton, Senator, President of the Illinois State Senate**

A native of Chicago, State Senator John J. Cullerton earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Loyola University Chicago, as well as a Juris Doctorate from Loyola University's prestigious School of Law. While a student, he served as President of the Loyola University Chicago Student Bar Association.

Cullerton began his career in law by serving as a Chicago Assistant Public Defender for five years before he started with Chicago's law firm of Thompson Coburn Fagel Haber, where he continues working as a partner. In 1976, Cullerton's service in public office began after being elected to the Illinois Delegation to the Democratic National

Convention. In 1979, he was elected to the Illinois General Assembly and served as a member of the House of Representatives for 12 years. Throughout Cullerton's 6-term career in the Illinois House, he served as the Speaker Pro Tempore and Democratic Floor Leader.

In 1991, he was appointed to fill Dawn Clark Netsch Senate seat. The following year Cullerton was elected to the Illinois Senate, representing the state's 6th Legislative District. Because of his knowledge of the law, Cullerton served as the Democratic Co-Chairman on the Senate's Judiciary Civil Law Committee. He also served as Vice-Chairman on the Insurance

Committee, as well as a member of the Judiciary Criminal Law Committee and the Revenue Committee. Senator Cullerton served as the Senate Majority Caucus Whip from January 2007-January 2009.

Cullerton's contribution to the Illinois State Senate has been dedicated to issues such as traffic safety, public health, gun control, and the reform to the criminal justice system. At the conclusion of both the 93rd and 94th General Assembly, Cullerton was recognized for sponsoring more bills than any other legislator as well as having the most bills signed by the Governor. On January 14, 2009, Cullerton was inaugurated to his first two-year term as President of the Illinois Senate. In this capacity, Cullerton led the Senate during the impeachment trial and removal of former Governor Rod Blagojevich. Since his inauguration, President Cullerton has labored to change the political tone of Springfield by encouraging bipartisanship and cooperation among leaders. An unfortunate byproduct of this dysfunction was General Assembly's failure to pass a capital construction plan. Fulfilling a promise made in his inaugural speech, in 2009 President Cullerton successfully led the charge to pass the first capital jobs plan in ten years.



**Kelly Heinrich, Senior Counsel, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U.S. Department of State**  
Kelly Heinrich is Senior Counsel to the Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the U.S. Department of State. For over a decade, she has played an integral role in local, state, national, and

international efforts to combat human trafficking both inside and outside of government. She has worked on the issue through the Clinton-era President's Interagency Task Force on Women, at the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, as a leading victims' attorney, and as an internationally-recognized counter-trafficking consultant. She has been sought out to draft and advise on state anti-trafficking legislation; develop anti-trafficking training for law enforcement, attorneys and service providers; assess government policies and implementation efforts; and provide technical assistance

to law enforcement and non-governmental organizations. She has extensive knowledge of providing legal and social services to traumatized persons within marginalized communities. Additionally, she published a series of field manuals as well as to the first law review article about the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. Ms. Heinrich received her JD from the Washington College of Law at American University in Washington, DC and her B.A. in International Studies from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. She is a member of the State Bar of California.

## PANELISTS & WORKSHOPS

### **Dana Anderson, MA, LLPC, Bethany Christian Services, Unaccompanied Minor Refugee Program**

Dana Anderson has worked in the Refugee Foster Care Program for over 7 years. She began her work as a Licensing Specialist, recruiting/licensing foster homes and placing youth in foster care. She then moved to supervising the licensing program within the Refugee Foster Care. For the last 2 years she has developed and supervised our Therapeutic Foster Care program (Casa Agape). The clientele in Casa Agape is primarily DUCS (Division of Unaccompanied Children's Services) youth that are placed in foster care by ORR (Office of Refugee Resettlement). Many of the youth have been trafficked into the country and are working through not only the trauma of those events but also working to secure legal residence in the US. Once our youth receive residency, they are then eligible to be re-classified into the URM (Unaccompanied Refugee Minors) program.

### **Sehla Ashai, JD**

Sehla Ashai is an attorney specializing in immigration and criminal justice system advocacy for victims of human trafficking. Prior to working as a solo practitioner, she worked as a staff attorney for the National Immigrant Justice Center's Counter-Trafficking Project, where she provided legal services to more than 40 adult and child victims of human trafficking. She has also been a legal consultant and trainer for Heartland Alliance's child trafficking prevention project, which commenced after the January 12, 2010, earthquake in Haiti. She is a graduate of University of Michigan Law School, and was a recipient of the Henry Bates and Clara Belfield Overseas Fellowship to conduct research on gender discrimination and citizenship law in Indian-Administered Kashmir. Her research there resulted in an article entitled, "The Jammu and Kashmir State Subjects Controversy," published in the Drexel Law Review Symposium on South Asia and the Law, Spring 2010.



**Barbara Bolsen, Vice President of Programs, The Night Ministry**

Barbara Bolsen is Vice President for Programs at The Night Ministry. She began at The Night Ministry as a street outreach worker to at-risk youth and later directed the mobile Outreach and Health Ministry bus program. Barb serves on the boards of the Lakeview Action Coalition (a community organizing group that advocates for affordable housing, access to health care, and an end to police misconduct against homeless youth) and the Urban Clinical Pastoral Education Consortium (which prepares ministers for leadership in urban settings). Before joining The Night Ministry, Barb edited *American Medical News*, a national weekly newspaper for physicians. She's a graduate of Northwestern University and Chicago Theological Seminary, and is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.

**Ellen M. Chiocca, MSN, RNC, CPNP, School of Nursing, Loyola University Chicago**

Ms. Chiocca received her bachelor's degree in nursing from St. Xavier University in 1982, master's degree in child health nursing from Loyola University Chicago in 1991, and earned a post-master's certificate as a pediatric nurse practitioner (PNP) from Loyola University Chicago in 1999. Since that time, she has been certified as a PNP through the National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Nurses. Since becoming a nurse, she has worked as a staff nurse in general pediatric, pediatric intensive care, pediatric emergency room, and neonatal intensive care settings. Since March of 1999, she has worked as a PNP in a domestic violence shelter, providing health maintenance and acute care health care to the children of the women there, some of whom have been victims of human trafficking. Ms. Chiocca has authored over twenty five articles in nursing, and published a textbook on pediatric health assessment in March, 2010.

**Edward K. Chung, JD****United States Department of Justice- Civil Rights Division**

Edward K. Chung is a Trial Attorney with the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice. As part of the Criminal Section, Edward prosecutes human trafficking, hate crimes, color of law, and other civil rights criminal cases throughout the United States. Prior to his current position at the Department of Justice, Edward was an Assistant District Attorney with the Manhattan District Attorney's Office in New York, New York. Additionally, Edward is an adjunct instructor at American University's Washington College of Law in Washington, DC. He received a B.A. in Political Science from Boston College, an M.A. in International Affairs from the George Washington University, and his JD from the Georgetown University Law Center.

**Mark E. Cichon, DO, FACEP/FACOEP, Professor of Surgery, Emergency Medicine, Division Director, Emergency Medical Services, Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University Chicago**

A native of Chicago, Dr. Cichon did his undergraduate studies at Loyola University Chicago graduating with a BS in Biology. He earned his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree at Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine – Midwestern University. After completing a residency in Emergency Medicine and obtaining his EM Board Certification he has been a practicing clinician in several hospitals in the Chicago and suburban area. For the last 16 years, Dr. Cichon has served as Director of Emergency Medical Services at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood. He is a Professor of Surgery – Emergency Medicine at Loyola's Stritch School of Medicine. As Division Director for EMS, he is responsible for the medical care and direction of the Paramedic (pre-hospital) program, the Emergency Department, the LIFESTAR flight program, the Emergency Medical Services for Children Grant in Illinois, and the regional disaster preparedness program for the Illinois Department of Public Health. Dr. Cichon has published articles pertaining to pre-hospital care, pediatric emergency care, and in his research interests pertaining to biomarker use for the early detection of cardiac injury and developing sepsis. Dr. Cichon has served on National, state and local committees in his fields of interest and in community interests.

**Catherine Connell, LMSW, Federal Bureau of Investigation - Office of Victim Assistance**

Catherine Connell is a state licensed Clinical Social Worker. Ms. Connell received her Bachelor's of Social Work at Michigan State University. She received her Masters of Social Work, at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Connell is currently employed with the FBI as a Child/Adolescent Forensic Interviewer with the Office of Victim Assistance. She provides interviews, consultation and training for FBI Agents, Assistant United States Attorney's, and other federal and state law enforcement. Prior to the Bureau Ms. Connell was the Director of Intervention and Treatment, at CARE House, a Child Advocacy Center in Pontiac, Michigan. She was responsible for the collaboration of the multidisciplinary team, conducting and supervising forensic interviews, and the coordination of follow-up services for child victims and their families. Prior to this, she was the Forensic Interviewer for 7 years, in Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Ms. Connell was on the Executive committee for MACE, a multi-jurisdictional task force for Internet crimes. She developed an Internet Safety program for professionals and the community to educate regarding dangers children encounter on the Internet. Ms. Connell has been qualified as an expert witness on multiple subjects in civil and criminal cases, in Federal and local jurisdictions. She is adjunct staff at the Macomb County Police Academy. Ms. Connell frequently provides training for a

wide variety of professionals including law enforcement, the FBI and the State Department.

**Sacha Coupet, JD, PhD, School of Law, Loyola University Chicago**  
Professor Coupet joined the Loyola law faculty in 2004. She received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Michigan in 1997 after completing her dissertation research on African-American kinship caregivers. During her doctoral program, she served as a psychological consultant to the Michigan Child Welfare Law Resource Center, the Child Advocacy Law Clinic at the University of Michigan Law School, county juvenile court and state human service departments. While at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, she continued her psychological practice, consulting with both the Consortium Children's Growth and Development Program and Children's Service Incorporated, treatment agencies serving at-risk children in Philadelphia. In law school, she served as an Associate Editor of the University of Pennsylvania Law Review and was awarded the James Wilson Fellowship. Upon graduation, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Theodore A. McKee of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in Philadelphia, and then as a law clerk to the Honorable Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey. She went on to become a Dean's Fellow at the University of Michigan Law School, where she taught for two years in the Child Advocacy Law Clinic. Professor Coupet's research focuses on policy and practice issues in child and family welfare and juvenile justice. Her approach aims to incorporate empirical inquiry into legal discourse with a particular emphasis on the use of social science research in the development of law and policy.



**Howard Davidson, JD, American Bar Association- Center on Children and the Law, Director**

Howard Davidson has been actively involved with the legal aspects of child protection for over 35 years. He has directed the American Bar Association's Center on Children and the Law since its 1978 establishment. He served

as chair of the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, is a founding board member of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, on the board of ECPAT-USA, and is a member of the Maryland Children's Justice Task Force. He was named by the Mayor of Philadelphia to a Department of Human Services Community Oversight Board to help guide improvements in that city's child protection system. Howard also served as U.S. delegate to the first World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.

He has authored many legal articles on child maltreatment as well as legal commentaries to chapters of the American Psychiatric

Association book, *Family Violence: A Clinical and Legal Guide*. His most recent writings include *Racial Disparities in the Child Welfare System: Reversing Trends*, in the Center's ABA Child Law Practice publication, *A Common Bond: Maltreated Children and Animals in the Home—Guidelines for Practice and Policy*, and *International Legal Principles for Judges and Child Welfare Agencies to Apply with Unaccompanied and Undocumented Immigrant Children*. In 2009 the ABA published a book co-edited by Mr. Davidson, entitled *Children, Law, and Disasters: What We Have Learned from Katrina and the Hurricanes of 2005*, and his 2008 article, *Federal Law and State Intervention When Parents Fail: Has National Guidance of Our Child Welfare System Been Successful*, was published in the 50th anniversary issue of the *Family Law Quarterly*.

**Richard J. Estes, MSW, PhD, University of Pennsylvania**

Richard J. Estes is Professor of Social Work in the School of Social Policy and Practice of the University of Pennsylvania. He holds an A.B. degree from La Salle University in Philadelphia and graduate degrees in social work from the University of Pennsylvania (Master of Social Work) and the University of California at Berkeley (Doctor of Social Welfare). He also holds a post-master's Certificate in Psychiatric Social Work from the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kansas. Dr. Estes conducted the first region wide study into the nature, extent, and severity of child sexual exploitation in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The major findings from this U.S. Department of Justice sponsored study appear in *Medical, Legal & Social Science Aspects of Child Sexual Exploitation: A Comprehensive Review of Child Pornography, Child Prostitution, and Internet Crimes Against Children* (with Cooper, Sharon W., Angelo P. Giardino, Nancy D. Kellogg & Victor I. Vieth (Editors)-- Two volumes (St. Louis MO: GW Medical Publishing), 2005 and *Child Sexual Exploitation: Quick Reference for Healthcare, Social Services, and Law Enforcement Professionals* (with Cooper, Sharon W., Angelo P. Giardino, Nancy D. Kellogg & Victor I. Vieth).

Dr. Estes has been the recipient of many awards and grants for his research on international social work and comparative social development including two Fulbright-Hays Senior Research Awards (Iran, 1978 and Norway, 1979) and a Fulbright Scholar Award to Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea (1994). In 1992, he was elected Social Worker of the Year by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers for his international activities. In 1996 he received the Alumni Recognition Award from the University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Work. In 1997 he was awarded the Distinguished Recent Contribution to Social Work Education Award by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the International Rhoda G. Sarnat Award of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the Best Article in Social Indicators Research Award of the International Society of Quality of Life Studies (ISQOLS). In 2002 he was appointed Distinguished Visiting Scholar of United College of

the Chinese University of Hong Kong where he served as an External Examiner for the University's Department of Social Work until 2008. In 2005, the Global Commission on the Council on Social Work Education awarded Dr. Estes its Partner in International Education Award. In 2009, he received the Distinguished Quality of Life Research Award of the International Society for the Quality of Life Studies (ISQOLS) in Florence, Italy.

**Shelby French, MA/MSc, Executive Director,  
International Organization for Adolescents**

Ms. French has 20 years of experience in the fields of non-profit management and development, social service provision, economic and community development, and the identification and treatment of trauma in vulnerable populations. Currently, she is the Executive Director for The International Organization for Adolescents (IOFA) and before that served on the IOFA board for two years. For over four years, she worked for The Rotary Foundation first as the Program Officer for Humanitarian Grants, and then as their Economic and Community Development Specialist. Shelby also worked for seven years with CARE in the area of resource development, as the manager for CARE's first overseas volunteer program and as an emergency response team member in East Timor and Eritrea. Additionally, Shelby has served as the social services manager for the anti-trafficking program at Heartland Alliance and as a therapist for multi-cultural populations, working with victims and offenders of sexual abuse and violence at the Center for Contextual Change. She has an MA in social work from the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, and an Master of Science in Development Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London.

**James Garbarino, PhD, Loyola University Chicago**

Dr. James Garbarino holds the Maude C. Clarke Chair in Humanistic Psychology and was Founding Director of the Center for the Human Rights of Children at Loyola University Chicago. Previously he was Elizabeth Lee Vincent Professor of Human Development and Co-Director of the Family Life Development Center at Cornell University. He earned his B.A. from St. Lawrence University in 1968 and his PhD in Human Development and Family Studies from Cornell University in 1973. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. Dr. Garbarino has served as consultant or advisor to a wide range of organizations, including the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, the National Institute for Mental Health, the American Medical Association, the National Black Child Development Institute, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the FBI. In 1991 he undertook missions for UNICEF to assess the impact of the Gulf War upon children in Kuwait and Iraq,

and has served as a consultant for programs serving Vietnamese, Bosnian and Croatian child refugees.

Dr. Garbarino serves as a consultant to television, magazine, and newspaper reports on children and families, and in 1981, he received the Silver Award at the International Film and Television Festival of New York for co-authoring "Don't Get Stuck There: A Film on Adolescent Abuse." In 1985, he collaborated with John Merrow to produce "Assault on the Psyche," a videotaped program dealing with psychological abuse. He also serves as a scientific expert witness in criminal and civil cases involving issues of violence and children. The National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect honored Dr. Garbarino in 1985 with its first C. Henry Kempe Award, in recognition of his efforts on behalf of abused and neglected children. In 1987, he was elected President of the American Psychological Association's Division on Child, Youth and Family Services. In 2000, he received the President's Celebrating Success Award from the National Association of School Psychologists and in 2003 the Outstanding Service to Children Award of the Chicago Association for the Education of Young Children.

**Dr. Jose Hidalgo, MD, Latin American Health Institute**

Dr. Jose Hidalgo is the medical director of Latin American Health Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. In July 2008 The Office of Refugee and Resettlement awarded him a grant to develop a national program to improve the capacity of the Division of Unaccompanied Children Services to deliver trauma-informed mental health services. He previously directed Project REACH, the only national program that offered specialized crisis mental health services to survivors of slavery, human trafficking, and sexual and labor exploitation. Dr. Hidalgo received his medical degree from New York University School of Medicine in 1990 followed by medical internship at Massachusetts General Hospital. He completed psychiatry residency at Boston University School of Medicine. He is Board Certified in Psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

**Lynne Johnson, JD, Chicago Coalition Against Sexual Assault**

Lynne Johnson has been working in the violence against women movement for over 12 years. As an attorney in Maryland, Lynne represented battered women in Protective Order hearings and also worked in Baltimore City's Juvenile Court system representing children in the foster care system. Since relocating to Chicago in 1999, Lynne managed domestic violence and rape crisis programs and has advocated for improved community responses to violence against women. Lynne holds her 40 Hour Crisis Intervention certifications in both domestic violence and sexual assault. Lynne is a trainer for the Chicago Rape Crisis Hotline and the University of Chicago's Resources for Sexual Violence Prevention program. Lynne joined Chicago

Foundation for Women in 2005 as the Program Officer, and later served as its Director of Advocacy, working in areas of reproductive justice, violence against women, and women's health. In June 2009, Lynne joined the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation as the Advocacy Director where she leads the End Demand Illinois statewide campaign. Lynne holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and a Juris Doctor from the University of Baltimore's School of Law. Lynne lives in Chicago with her beautiful 5 year old son, Caleb.



**Katherine Kaufka Walts, JD, Director,  
Center for the Human Rights of Children,  
Loyola University Chicago**

The Center for the Human Rights of Children represents, coordinates, and stimulates efforts of the Loyola University community to understand and protect the human rights of children utilizing an interdisciplinary

approach. Prior to joining Loyola, Ms. Kaufka Walts served as the Executive Director of the International Organization for Adolescents (IOFA). At IOFA she developed several projects in the US and abroad advancing the rights of children and youth, including a program to develop the capacity of child welfare and protection system to better respond to child trafficking and exploitation cases. Prior to IOFA, Ms. Kaufka Walts managed the Counter-Human Trafficking project at the National Immigrant Justice Center, where she led a multi-disciplinary team and worked with several local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies on single and multiple-victim cases, and successfully represented dozens of victims of human trafficking in the United States. She has been recognized as a national expert on human trafficking issues, has provided expert testimony to local, national, and international governmental bodies, including the U.S. Senate, Judiciary Subcommittee on Human Rights. Ms. Kaufka Walts continues to provide technical assistance, training and consultation to law enforcement, service providers, task forces and coalitions, government agencies, federal and local law enforcement, members of U.S. Congress, and media in the US and internationally on the subject of human trafficking. She has authored *The Commodification of Domestic Care: Illegitimacy of Care Work and the Exploitation of Migrant Workers* (Georgetown Immigration Law Journal), and *T Nonimmigrant Visa and Protection and Relief for Victims of Human Trafficking, A Practitioner's Guide* (Immigration Briefings, September 2006). She received her JD from the University of Wisconsin, and her B.A and B.S. from the University of Michigan.



**Honorable Virginia M. Kendall**

Judge Kendall was appointed to the federal bench in January 2006. Prior to her appointment she worked at the United States Attorney's Office in Chicago for over ten years where she served as Deputy Chief in the Criminal Division, Child Exploitation Coordinator, and Coordinator of *Project Safe*

*Neighborhoods*. Prior to working with the United States Attorney's Office, Judge Kendall clerked for Hon. George Marovich in the Northern District of Illinois. She currently serves on the Codes of Conduct Committee for the federal judiciary, the Seventh Circuit's Civil Jury Instruction Committee, and has sat with both the Seventh Circuit and the Federal Circuit Courts of Appeal as a visiting judge.

Judge Kendall has been an adjunct professor at Loyola University School of Law for the past sixteen years and an adjunct professor of law at Northwestern University Law School for the past five years. She has published law journal articles on a variety of topics including child molestation statutes, human trafficking and community reform projects. She currently lectures extensively in the areas of electronic discovery, internet and computer investigations, intellectual property case management, ethics, and victims' rights. She has traveled to Nairobi, Kenya where she has trained investigators, trial attorneys, and judges how to effectively use the recently-enacted Kenyan public corruption laws and sexual offense laws. She has lectured at Cornell University on human trafficking as part of the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice, served as a delegate to the Vital Voices Global Partnership to End Violence Against Women international summit, and spoken at the Inaugural Conference of the Avon Global Center's Symposium on Post Conflict Violence Against Women. She has traveled to Zambia to teach judges there about crimes against women and will travel later this year to continue her training on anti-human trafficking laws and procedures through the State Department and Lawyers without Borders.

As a trial attorney, Judge Kendall tried a variety of federal jury trials involving white collar fraud, insurance fraud, police corruption, public corruption, child molestation and racketeering. While a federal prosecutor, she served on the *United States' Attorney General's National Advisory Committee* responsible for reviewing all nationwide child exploitation investigations and coordinated the federal program *Project Safe Neighborhoods* designed to reduce gun violence within the city of Chicago.

Judge Kendall has participated in a number of service projects that support high school students, including moderating service trips to Peru, establishing trial training programs in both Chicago Public Schools and the federal courts, and developing awareness and support programs to curb gun violence and aid offender re-entry into

the community. She opens her courtroom regularly to students from around the Chicago area where she enjoys teaching them about the judicial system. She tutors inner-city students after hours and continues to make public presentations to encourage professionalism in the field and to support underprivileged children who seek to gain a legal education. She was awarded the Chicago Crime Commission's *Star of Distinction Award* for her work in law enforcement, Loyola University Law School's *Robert Bellarmine Award* for her distinguished legal and service contributions to the community, the Rape Victim Advocates *Visionary Award* in recognition of her work on behalf of survivors of sexual assault and abuse, and DePaul University School of Law's *Women and Gender Right's Leadership Award*.

**Erin Knowles, MSW, LSW, The Salvation Army, Family and Community Services**

Erin Knowles is an outreach worker for The Salvation Army's initiative against human trafficking in Chicago. As a social worker with expertise in the area of community planning, she was a key player in the development and implementation of the STOP-IT program. One of her major roles is providing training to various professional and community groups about all aspects related to the trafficking of humans. Furthermore, she provides direct outreach to potential victims of trafficking and organizations who work with at-risk populations. When clients are identified, STOP-IT uses motivational interviewing techniques with individuals who are currently being exploited. The primary goals of this program are to identify and assist those who have been trafficked, as well as raise awareness about trafficked persons in our own communities. Her previous professional experience includes working with at-risk youth and families. Erin earned an MSW from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



**Lou Longhitano, Cook County State's Attorney Office**

Assistant State's Attorney Lou Longhitano is currently assigned to the Special Prosecutions Bureau of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. In his current assignment, he is involved daily in the prosecutorial efforts of the Office's Human Trafficking Initiative. Mr.

Longhitano has been a prosecutor for seventeen years, and an Assistant State's Attorney in Cook County for the past ten years working in the felony trial division and, more recently, the Cold Case Homicide / Organized Crime Unit. Prior to joining the Office, Mr. Longhitano served as a Manhattan Assistant District Attorney where he worked in the homicide unit, firearms trafficking unit and served as a supervisor of Domestic Violence. Mr. Longhitano holds a Juris Doctorate from New York University and received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Illinois. He is an active member of the Chicago Bar Association and the National District Attorney's Association, where he also serves as a faculty member.

**Robert Lombardo, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Loyola University Chicago**

Dr. Robert M. Lombardo, a sociologist, is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice and a member of the graduate faculty at Loyola University Chicago. Dr. Lombardo has been teaching at Loyola as an adjunct faculty member since 2001 and was appointed full-time to the faculty in 2005. He received his Ph. D. from the University of Illinois, Chicago in 1994. His dissertation, *Recruitment into Organized Crime: A Study of Social Structural Support of Deviance* earned the prestigious Hans Mattick Award, presented by the Illinois Academy of Criminology, for outstanding contributions to criminal justice research. Dr. Lombardo is a thirty-five year police veteran having served thirty years with the Chicago Police Department and five years as the Deputy Chief of the Cook County Sheriff's Police Department. He has worked in all areas of police work including patrol, investigations, narcotics, administration, and organized crime. In addition, Dr. Lombardo has taught, as a visiting scholar, at numerous police training academies including the Chicago Police Academy; the Illinois State Police Academy; the Police School of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain; and the Police Staff and Command College, Bramshill, England. Dr. Lombardo was appointed in 2000 by Illinois Governor George Ryan to serve on the Illinois Wireless Enhanced 911 Board and was a member of the Cook County Emergency Telephone System Board from 1997 to 2001. He also served as a consultant to the Illinois Integrated Justice Information Systems Implementation Board from 2002 to 2005. Dr. Lombardo has served as a peer reviewer and guest editor for the *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice* and a book



reviewer for the *American Journal of Sociology*. Dr. Lombardo has just completed a book, *The Black Hand: Organized Crime and the Social Construction of Deviance in Chicago*, forthcoming from the University of Illinois Press.



**Arthur J. Lurigio, PhD, Loyola University Chicago**

Dr. Arthur J. Lurigio, a psychologist, is Associate Dean for Faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences, and a Professor of Criminal Justice and Psychology at Loyola University Chicago, where he received tenure in 1993.

He is also a member of the Graduate Faculty and Director of the Center for the Advancement of Research, Training, and Education (CARTE) at Loyola University Chicago and a Senior Research Advisor at Illinois Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC). In 2003, Dr. Lurigio was named a faculty scholar, the highest honor bestowed on senior faculty at Loyola University Chicago. In recognition of the overall outstanding contributions of his research to criminology and criminal justice practices, Dr. Lurigio was conferred the highly prestigious University of Cincinnati Award in 1996, the Hans W. Mattick Award in 2003, the Champion for Recovery: Excellence in Research Award in 2008, and the University of Illinois Award for Distinguished Contributions to Criminal Justice Research and Practice in 2010. Also in 2010, Dr. Lurigio received a Distinguished Career Award from the American Psychological Association for his contributions to practice through scholarship and pedagogy.

For nearly 20 years, Dr. Lurigio served as the Director of Research and Evaluation for the Cook County (Chicago) Adult Probation Department. In that capacity, he helped launch the country's first specialized unit for adult probationers with mental illness. More recently, Dr. Lurigio was instrumental in designing the Cook County Mental Health Court, which is one of the few that supervises an exclusive caseload of prison-bound, felony probationers. He is also a member of a cadre of researchers evaluating the Chicago Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team for the mentally ill, was the principal investigator on a study of the Cook County Juvenile Court Clinic, which evaluates youth for mental health problems, and is the principal investigator on an evaluation of Mental Health Courts in Illinois.

Dr. Lurigio's research is focused primarily in the areas of offender drug abuse and dependence problems, drug treatment services, mental disorders and crime, community corrections, police-community relations, criminal victimization, and victim services. His ground-breaking research on Project IMPACT in the Cook County Department of Corrections (CCDOC) was praised by the Office of National Drug Control Policy for its innovativeness and relevance

to practice. Dr. Lurigio is currently the director of the Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring Program at the CCDOC where he also has served as the primary evaluator of the Day Reporting Center.

**Soledad A. McGrath, Loyola Civitas ChildLaw Center**

Ms. McGrath is the Post-Graduate ChildLaw Policy Fellow at the Loyola Civitas ChildLaw Center at Loyola University School of Law where she focuses on teaching and policy development. Prior to joining Loyola, she was the primary reporter on the StateBar of Georgia, Young Lawyers Division Juvenile Code Revision Project and was a member of the JUSTGeorgia Legislative Drafting Committee for SB 292, the Child Protection and Public Safety Act. Ms. McGrath was previously a staff attorney with the Barton Child Law and Policy Clinic where she focused on research and editing on various Clinic projects as well as assisting in analyzing and drafting HB 1580, the Foster Parents Bill of Rights. Prior to joining the Clinic, Ms. McGrath was an Associate at Kilpatrick Stockton LLP where she practiced in the Labor and Employment group. During her time with Kilpatrick Stockton, Ms. McGrath also served as a guardian ad litem in custody cases and represented youth through the Truancy Intervention Project. She also represented domestic violence victims seeking temporary protective orders, supervised several of the firm's summer associates handling domestic violence cases, and represented grandparents seeking to adopt their grandchildren through Atlanta Legal Aid's Grandparent Adoption Project. Ms. McGrath received her B.A. from Northwestern University in 1998 and her JD from Emory University School of Law in 2002.



**Michelle Nasser, U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Illinois**

Michelle Nasser has been an Assistant United States Attorney in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Chicago since 2003. She is the coordinator for immigration matters and human trafficking investigations and prosecutions – including sex trafficking and labor trafficking – in the Northern District of Illinois. She is also a Deputy Chief in the General Crimes Section. In her seven years at the U.S. Attorney's Office, she has been involved in a wide variety of investigations and prosecutions, including all types of fraud cases (including bank, mail, wire, tax, mortgage, bankruptcy, healthcare, document, credit card, computer and insurance fraud). She also has been involved in investigations and prosecutions of embezzlement, money laundering, alien smuggling, identity theft, copyright infringement, theft of trade secrets, RICO, VICAR, public corruption, bank robbery, Hobbs Act robbery, arson, narcotics, firearms trafficking, Project Safe Neighborhood cases, terrorism, computer crime,

civil rights violations, child pornography, perjury and obstruction of justice. Michelle has tried eleven federal criminal cases to jury verdict, and prevailed in each of them, and she has successfully briefed and argued eight appeals in the Seventh Circuit. Before becoming an AUSA, Michelle was an associate at Jenner and Block. Prior to working at Jenner and Block, she was a judicial law clerk to the Honorable James H. Alesia, United States District Court Judge in the Northern District of Illinois. Michelle received her JD from Washington University Law School, and her undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame.

**Nyssa Parampil, MSW, Associate Director for USCCB/MRS for the Anti-Trafficking Services Program**

Nyssa has been involved with the program since 2004. In this capacity, she provides overall direction of MRS services targeted to victims of human trafficking. She oversees the US Department of Health and Human Services/ORR Contract that provides case management to foreign national survivors of human trafficking throughout the United States. Ms. Parampil has been with USCCB/MRS since 2002, and has been involved with the refugee resettlement and unaccompanied children service programs. Prior to coming to USCCB/MRS, her work has been focused on immigrant and migrant populations in both rural and urban settings. Prior to coming to Washington, DC, she was a clinician in Boston, providing crisis counseling to children. She earned her MSW at Boston College.

**Cheryl Peterson, PhD, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services**

Cheryl Peterson, PhD is the Children's Justice Administrator for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, a position she has held since 1991. She coordinates meetings of the Children's Justice Task Force and oversees implementation of numerous federally-funded projects related to the multidisciplinary investigation of child abuse cases. Over the past 19 years, she has directed the DCFS program initiative for the development and support of Children's Advocacy Centers—a program that has grown from 8 model Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) to 32 fully accredited CACs, 5 developing CACs, and 1 statewide organization, the Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois. More than 90 of Illinois' 102 counties are now served by a CAC.

Dr. Peterson also serves as the Coordinator of Citizen Review Panels for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. She organizes the DCFS Citizen Review Steering Committee and prepares the Annual Report. Since 1998, she has worked with the three Citizen Review Panels to develop a process that examines DCFS policy and procedure and reviews investigative cases within the Division of Child Protection. In addition, Dr. Peterson has directed

five federally-funded demonstration programs providing services to child sexual abuse victims, drug-exposed infants and their parents, and adoptive families with special needs children. She has provided editorial consultation for several publications, training curricula, and videotapes on the reporting and investigation of child abuse. She received the "Champion of Children" award on May 5, 2005 at the annual Directors meeting of the Children's Advocacy Centers of Illinois in recognition of her exceptional effort and dedication to serve abused and neglected children throughout the state. She was elected in 2008 as the child protection representative to the Board of Directors of the National Children's Alliance, the organization which sets standards and accredits CACs throughout the country.

Prior to joining DCFS, Dr. Peterson worked as a public school teacher, a college professor, and a pre-school director. She holds a B.A. from Hope College, an M.A. from Texas Tech University, and a PhD from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

**Stacey Platt, Clinical Professor of Law, Associate Director, ChildLaw Clinic, School of Law, Loyola University Chicago**

Stacey Platt is a clinical professor of law and the associate director of the ChildLaw Clinic at Loyola University Chicago School of Law, where her focus is the training of law students to represent children in legal proceedings. Professor Platt has dedicated her legal career to representing low-income children and families. At the ChildLaw Clinic, Professor Platt and her students represent children involved in child protection cases and high conflict custody disputes. In addition to clinical supervision, Professor Platt co-teaches the weekly clinic seminar, and serves as a faculty lecturer and trainer in several other law school courses involving child and family law, as well as trial practice. Before joining Loyola, Professor Platt was a staff attorney with the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, where her areas of focus were domestic violence and children's issues. She has extensive experience representing parents, caretakers and children in abuse and neglect proceedings in the juvenile court and in custody and visitation proceedings in the domestic relations court, including work on significant appeals. She has also worked on several class action lawsuits pursuing reform of Illinois' child welfare and education systems.

Professor Platt has co-authored several articles on topics including failed adoption, older youth aging out of foster care, and the educational rights of homeless children. She co-wrote and appeared in a video module of the American Bar Association's National Training Program on the Representation of Children in High Conflict Custody Disputes. Professor Platt serves on the editorial board of *Family Court Review*, a publication of Hofstra University and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC). She received her undergraduate degree in psychology and history from the University of



Wisconsin at Madison. She received her law degree, cum laude, from New York University School of Law.

**Jessica Reichert, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority**

As Manager of the Research and Evaluation Center at the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Ms. Reichert oversees research on crime trends and issues. Recently, she served as the principal investigator of research involving prior victimization of female inmates, as well as the sexual exploitation of children, and has authored a series of eight restorative justice guides. She has conducted numerous national and state presentations on criminal and juvenile justice issues. In addition, Ms. Reichert is an Instructor at Loyola University Chicago in the Criminal Justice Department. She was previously employed at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General and in 2005 received the "Distinguished Service Award" for her work on behalf of citizens of Illinois. She earned her bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Bradley University and master's degree in criminal justice from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.



**Renán Salgado, Farmworker Legal Services of New York**

Renán Salgado was Born in Quito, Ecuador in 1973 and migrated to the U.S. in 1984. He lived in Brooklyn, NYC until 1991 and moved to Binghamton where he attended Binghamton University, receiving a B.A. in Literature/Creative Writing. Fluent in Spanish, French,

and English, he began working at FLSNY (Farmworker Legal Services of NY) on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000 and continues to work there as the agency's investigator/educator/advocate for the Human Trafficking project. Renán is a member of the Western NY Trafficking Taskforce, currently conducting multiple trainings for Law Enforcement and NGOs in Western NY. He has been a panel instructor at various conferences including: The Justice Network Television Civil Rights Division, South Carolina: Human Trafficking & effective outreach techniques ( Feb 14, 2007); The Division of Criminal Justice's New Jersey Conference: Spotlight on Human Trafficking, Atlantic City, NJ (Feb 5-6, 2008); The Madison Wisconsin Conference on Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking (November 13, 2009); the Vera House Annual Conference in 2008; The Commodification of Illicit Flows: Labour Trafficking Conference, Toronto University (October 9-10, 2009), Department of Justice National Conference on Human Trafficking (May 3-5, 2010), and many more. Renán is currently leading multiple investigations of ongoing trafficking cases, partnering with agents from the FBI, ICE and local law enforcement. He is also an active member of the Anti Injustice Movement.

**Shweta Singh PhD, School of Social Work, Loyola University Chicago**

Shweta Singh is an Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work at Loyola University Chicago. Dr. Singh obtained her Master's degree in Social Work from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India. Her Doctorate in Social Work is from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, USA. Shweta teaches courses on global feminism, and India Studies within International and Area studies and in social work research and policy. Her research and scholarship is interdisciplinary and incorporates methods from anthropology, communication, and psychology in addition to social work and feminist thought. Her ongoing work includes research projects with women from Asia around issues of migration, work, education, and health. Dr. Singh is also involved with documentary work and web media projects on women's rights and health. Her international work experience includes consultancy work with international development organizations and non profits on issues of environment and disasters, child rights, and corporate citizenships. Singh, S. (2007). *Deconstructing gender and development paradigm for identities of women. International Journal of Social Welfare, 16(2), 100-109.* Singh, S., & Hoge, G. (2010). Debating Outcomes for 'Working' Women - Illustrations from India (in print), *The Journal of Poverty, 14 (2).* Singh, S. G. (2010). Women's Autonomy in Rural India: Need for Culture and Context in *International Social Work, 53 (2)*, 169-186. Tsai, J., & Singh, S. (2010). Tracing Identities of Urban-professional women from China: Reframing oppression and empowerment. *Contemporary Social Work.* (In Press); as well as an edited book titled *India Reader* to be published by Lyceum.

**Marianne Skelly, Child Protection Specialist, Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division, HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement**

As a Child Protection Specialist with the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division in the HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement, Marianne Skelly works to review cases of foreign national children who have been discovered in the United States and are potential victims of trafficking. Marianne provides technical assistance and support to a variety of stakeholders in the field to include Immigration & Customs Enforcement, the FBI, NGOs and non-profits, as well as the Division of Unaccompanied Children Services' nationwide network. Prior to working at ORR, Marianne worked for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops on a family reunification program for undocumented children in the United States. Marianne has also worked in South Asia with an international human rights organization on issues of labor trafficking. Marianne holds a Master's Degree in Social Work with a clinical concentration from Michigan State University.



**Carol Smolenski, Executive Director,  
ECPAT-USA**

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. She is a long-time nationally recognized leader working to stop the commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children. 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 groundbreaking 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 has developed and managed projects to stop the commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children in the United States, the Riviera Maya and Cancun sections of Mexico and in Belize and is currently overseeing a similar project in three cities in Brazil. 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 and an M.Phil from Columbia University.



**Jonathan Todres, JD, Georgia State  
University-College of Law**

Jonathan Todres is an Associate Professor of Law at Georgia State University College of Law, where he teaches courses on children's rights, health law, and torts. His research focuses primarily on children's rights issues, in particular (i) trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children; and (ii) domestic interpretations of the international children's rights law.

Professor Todres lectures frequently on children's rights issues and has testified before the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child and in congressional briefings in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate on trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children. He serves as a regular advisor to non-governmental organizations working on children's rights issues, including as Child Rights Advisor to ECPAT-USA. Professor Todres is the author of numerous articles on children's rights and co-editor of the book, *The U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child: An Analysis of Treaty Provisions*

and *Implications of U.S. Ratification* (Brill Academic Publishers, 2006). Professor Todres taught previously at New York University School of Law and Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University, and has been a visiting professor of human rights law at Vytautas Magnus University School of Law in Lithuania. He received his B.A. (International Development) from Clark University and his JD from Columbia Law School.

**Catherine Ruiz, Federal Bureau of Investigation- Chicago**

Catherine Ruiz is a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Chicago, Hate Crimes Division. She conducts investigations in the areas of organized crime, civil rights and human trafficking, foreign counter intelligence, counter-terrorism, and government and financial fraud. Catherine Ruiz is a Certified Public Accountant, and received her Bachelor's in Accounting and Management at Missouri State University. She worked as an auditor for both the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development as well as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), Office of the Inspector General in Kansas City.



**Dr. Vidal de Haymes Maria Vidal de Haymes,  
Lucien and Carol Matusak Professor of  
Social Work; Director, Institute for Migration  
and International Social Work Institute,  
Loyola University Chicago**

Dr. Vidal also coordinates a migration-focused International Social Work of the Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work. Dr.

Vidal de Haymes teaches courses in areas of social welfare policy and migration dynamics and policy. Dr. Vidal de Haymes is the Co-editor of the *Journal of Poverty*, a member of the International Jesuit Migration Studies Steering Committee, and serves on the Board of Advisors for Catholic Charities of the Archdioceses of Chicago.

**Anita Weinberg, Clinical Professor, Director, ChildLaw Policy and  
Legislative Programs, Loyola University Chicago**

Anita Weinberg has worked on behalf of children and families for over 25 years as an attorney and as a social worker. Prior to teaching at Loyola, she served as director of Policy and Planning for the Department of Children and Family Services Office of Inspector General. Previously she was an Assistant Cook County Public Guardian representing abused and neglected children and supervising staff attorneys. She also was a staff attorney with the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago where she represented parents and children in the juvenile court, in class action litigation, and in legislative advocacy. Professor Weinberg was adjunct faculty at the University of Chicago School of Social Services Administration for nine years, where she created and taught a class on social work and the law. As

a social worker she directed the Resources for Permanence Project at the Child Welfare League of America in New York City. Professor Weinberg involves students in interdisciplinary projects in the areas of child welfare and health. Most recently, she and students have been intensively involved in efforts to eliminate childhood lead poisoning in Chicago, an issue that has been linked to special education needs and other medical and behavioral problems that have the potential for limiting children's learning potential and opportunity. She is the recipient of grants from the Chicago Community Trust and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for work on lead poisoning prevention. She serves on numerous committees and councils devoted to children's rights. She has testified before congressional and state legislative committees on child welfare and health related issues.



**Johannah Westmacott, Safe Horizon, Streetwork Project**

Johannah Westmacott is the Coordinator for Trafficked Minors for Safe Horizon Streetwork Project. In this role she provides individual and group counseling as well as other direct services to minors who have involvement in sexual or labor trafficking. She also coordi-

nates concrete services for these young people as well as providing trainings to law enforcement, other service providers, and the community about recognizing and responding to trafficking of minors.

Streetwork has been providing concrete and emotional support to homeless and street-involved youth in New York City since 1984 and includes two drop-in centers, two emergency shelters, an overnight street outreach team, and a peer education program. Streetwork Project provides in-house support to over 1800 individuals and makes over 18,500 outreach contacts annually. Safe Horizon's 80+ programs serve more than 250,000 New Yorkers each year, providing people in crisis with direct resources. Ms. Westmacott began her career in social services at Safe Horizon in 2005 as a Streetwork shelter case manager. During her five years with the program she has worked in different capacities including outreach worker, counselor, case-manager, group facilitator, and needle-exchange worker. She is committed to providing low-threshold, client-centered harm reduction services to the most vulnerable youth in New York City.

**Maria Woltjen, JD, Director, Immigrant Child Advocacy Project, University of Chicago**

Maria Woltjen is the Director and founder of the Immigrant Child Advocacy Project (ICAP) at the University of Chicago. ICAP's primary work is to serve as guardian ad litem (Child Advocate) for trafficking victims and unaccompanied immigrant children pursuant to

the Wilberforce Trafficking Victim Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008. ICAP trains bilingual law students, graduate social work students and lay volunteers to serve as Child Advocates for children in immigration detention, as well as children who have never been apprehended by immigration authorities. The Child Advocates help unravel the children's life stories and ensure that while they are most vulnerable—separated from their families and subject to deportation—decision-makers consider the children's best interests in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Informed by its work on behalf of individual children, ICAP advocates for policy change at the national level and local level. Ms. Woltjen is appointed a Lecturer in Law at the University of Chicago Law School where she teaches in the legal clinic. Ms. Woltjen is a graduate of the Loyola University of Chicago School of Law. She began her legal career in 1987 with the law firm of Coffield Ungaretti Harris & Slavin, where she devoted substantial time to pro bono cases. Since then her career has centered on children's rights. From 1991 to 1996, Ms. Woltjen directed the Children's Advocacy Project of the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, focusing on juvenile justice, health disparities and disability rights.

Additionally, Ms. Woltjen worked for two years as adjunct faculty at the ChildLaw Center at Loyola University of Chicago School of Law. Ms. Woltjen has spoken at numerous national and local conferences on integrating child welfare principles in immigration proceedings for children and youth. Ms. Woltjen serves on boards and committees in the immigration field including the Washington D.C. based Working Group on Unaccompanied Children and the Illinois Task Force on Unaccompanied Immigrant Children. For more information, please see [www.ImmigrantChildAdvocacy.org](http://www.ImmigrantChildAdvocacy.org).





