Annotated Guide to Internet Resources on Trafficking in Women

Kelly Mannix and Ayesha Shamim

Abstract

A carefully selected introduction to current research available on the Internet about trafficking in women, this annotated list contains international responses to the global scope of the flesh trade. Articles contain vivid accounts of the violence, degradation and poverty inherent in sexual exploitation, and provide analysis and possible courses of action. Hundreds of websites offering research and promoting activism to combat global prostitution and trafficking already exist and more are being created. Some of the resources are located on "gateway sites," which contain valuable links to related sites.

Precis

Une introduction prudemment selective des recherches detailles sur la traite des blanches presentement disponibles sur Internet. Cette liste notee de sources demontre clairement l'ampleur du rayonnement au plan global du commerce de la chair. Les articles contiennent des descriptions saisissantes de la pauvrete, de la violence et de la degradation inherentes a l'exploitation sexuelle, et fournissent des analyses ainsi qu'un apercu des solutions envisageables. Des centaines de sites presentent des resultats de recherches et font la promotion de l'activisme contre la globalisation de la prostitution, et leur nombre ne cesse de croitre. Certaines de ces ressources sont localisees sur des "sites d'entree" (gateway sites).


Coalition against Trafficking in Women-Asia Pacific. Sex:from intimacy to "sexual labour" or is it a human right to prostitute? http://www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/catw/sexhtm [September 8, 1998] A focus on the controversial debate about the "human right to prostitute." The economic side of selling sex is explored, including the claim that the industry does produce huge profits. Various viewpoints are discussed, including the pro-prostitution stance, which argues for the right to self-determination, the right to work, and the right to freedom of expression.

CWIHP. Coalition of the World's Women against Racism. Women and Nationalism. http://www.cwihp.umn.edu/wwar/wwar17.1a.html [August 25, 1998] among others, an exploration of the increasing trend of trafficking in women in Europe, the article discusses the idea of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation. The discussion addresses the increase in European trafficking, as well as naming countries involved in global trafficking, and pinpointing the prime targets of the industry.

Communication of trafficking in women for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

http://europa.eu.int/en/record/otherwomens.htm#c1 [September 10, 1998]

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into an industry which exists not only for the purpose of prostitution, but also to supply labour for construction, fishing, and domestic work. Other aspects of the trafficking phenomenon are explored, including transportation, employment, arrest, and the possibility of return to Cambodia.


This report by the Foundation of Women’s Forum is a thorough documentation of research concerning trafficking in women. Having surveyed two hundred NGOs, government institutes, and research agencies in the region, the forum concludes that lack of action to end trafficking is a problem which plagues European alliances. The forum identifies possible strategies to combat trafficking, and reports on current programs, including links to the study’s official website (questionnaires are available).


The article explores the dangerous avenues for trafficking and sexual exploitation opened up by the Internet, including bride trafficking, sex tours, promotion, exchange of information, and live conferencing. It acts as an illustration of the ways in which new technology can be to promote global trafficking and the sexual exploitation of women.


An examination of the increase in the number of migrant women being trafficked from Central and Eastern Europe, the article begins with a description of several women’s experiences, followed by a discussion of the differences between trafficking from Central and Eastern Europe to trafficking from other developing countries. The study concludes with suggestions for steps to be taken, in order to fight trafficking in Central and Eastern Europe.

The International Organization for Migration. 1996. Trafficking in women from the Dominican Republic for sexual exploitation. http://www.iom.int (click on Publications; go to Books, Surveys, and Studies; click on Trafficking in Migrants and Other Forms of Irregular Migration) [September 10, 1998]

This article explores the growing phenomenon of women migrating for prostitution. A discussion of the problem is undertaken through a presentation of interviews with trafficked women, representatives of a major NGO, social workers, and several government authorities. The causes underlying an increase in trafficking are explored, as are the ways in which women become involved in this industry, the countries commonly “chosen” as destinations, and the consequences faced by women upon a return to their home country. The article concludes with a discussion of several policy recommendations forwarded recently in the Dominican Republic, as part of an effort to fight the wave of migration.

The International Organization for Migration. 1996. Trafficking in women to Italy for sexual exploitation. http://www.iom.int (click on Publications; go to Books, Surveys, and Studies; click on Trafficking in Migrants and Other Forms of Irregular Migration) [September 10, 1998]

A description of trafficking in women to Italy, the article explores various ways in which women are recruited and transported, controlled and exploited. Integral to this discussion is an examination of the role of traffickers.

A description of trafficking in women to Austria, the article explores the socio-economic context of prostitution in this European country. Interviews with prostitutes shed light on the realities of trafficked women, including the ways in which women are contacted in foreign countries and how they come to be involved in prostitution in Austria. Prostitution is discussed within a legal framework, as is the significance of a recently established, ministerial group committed to confronting the problem of trafficking in Austria.


Offering a working definition of sexual exploitation, the author establishes prostitution as a form of slavery and makes a clear, significant distinction between “forced” and “voluntary” prostitution. The work of the Coalition is also discussed.


A discussion of trafficking in the Indian subcontinent, this article describes the difficult reality faced by young Nepa-
lese village girls sold into prostitution in India. Upon contracting the AIDS virus or the "Bombay disease," many girls return home to die, and find themselves ostracized by the people of their villages. The plight of such girls is detailed, in the hopes of illustrating what the Nepalese law is lacking, as well as highlighting necessary changes.


Describing the conditions in which the prostitutes of Bombay live, the author discusses the sexual exploitation and trafficking rampant in this Indian city. Included is a brief summary of the strategies being employed at present to fight trafficking. Throughout the article, the author reinforces her belief in a longterm rehabilitation strategy.


In this overview of trafficking in women in Asia, the author describes the conditions which allow the trafficking ind ustry to flourish. A discussion of the very concept of "trafficking" is included, as is an excerpt from the Platform of Action in the Beijing Declaration.


Offering a description of the global trafficking of poor Slavic women, the article explores reasons for the growth in trafficking in this part of the world. The argument is made that the Ukraine and its Slavic neighbours have replaced Thailand and the Philippines as centres of global trafficking.


A discussion of changes in the trafficking of women which have occurred in

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Edited by Robert H. Keyserlingk


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**Available from:**
Centre for Refugee Studies
Fax: (416) 736-5837  •  Email: refuge@yorku.ca

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  - Western and Southeast Asian Perspectives

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- Implications for the Future of Refugees

**Module 3: Summary and Group Remedies for Refused Refugee Claimants:**

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<tr>
<td>Asylum seeker</td>
<td>$400</td>
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