



CANADA'S PERIODICAL ON REFUGEES REFUGE

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NEW CARGO: THE GLOBAL BUSINESS OF TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN

Introduction

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By the time you read the current issue of *Refuge*, much of the effort implicit in the reams of email, Internet searches, international courier deliveries, and good old-fashioned editing will have disappeared within these pages. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to work on this issue. I have been immeasurably supported by many, but special appreciation must go to those who volunteered so much time and expertise to see this project through: Stefanie Gude, my assistant editor, and Kelly Mannix, Emma Rhodes, Ayesha Shamim, and Peter Madaka. We have learned so much from our contributors—they have been generous with their knowledge and tenacious in their commitment to justice.

I first had the idea of doing this special issue of *Refuge* while attending an excellent international workshop, co-sponsored by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Resettlement Section with Citizenship and Immigration Canada, entitled "Evolving Approaches to the Protection of Women at Risk." Several participants from various countries articulated concerns about the limited nature of exist-

ing definitions of the terms "refugee" and "women at risk." As the discussion developed, it seemed to me that economic forces were being cited, more often than the forces of war, as being responsible for the production of refu-

gees. Indeed, the fledgling "women at risk" refugee programs, originating in Canada and now operating in Australia, New Zealand and the United States, were designed to save women in danger, and yet are failing to protect

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