



STOP

**SEX TRAFFICKING
OF CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**



SEX TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN IN INDONESIA

What is child trafficking?

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation.

UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime

A child is anyone under the age of 18 years.

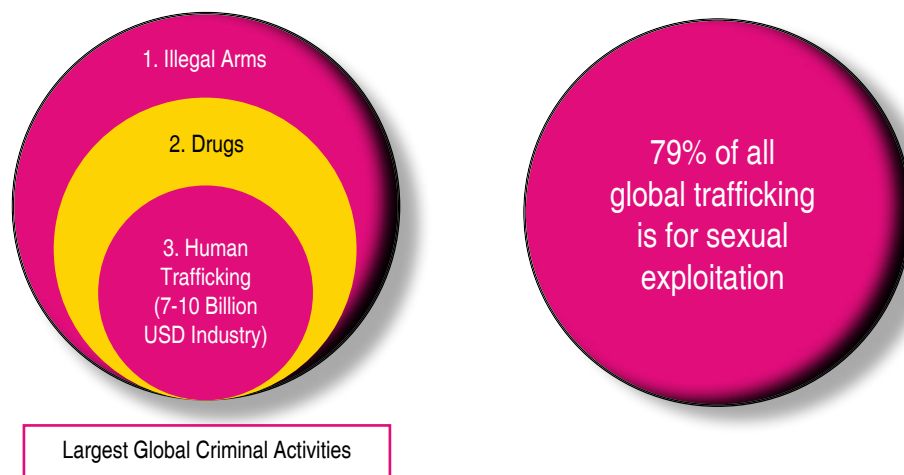
UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

What's the problem?

GLOBAL SEX TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is a complex phenomenon fueled by the tremendous growth in the global sex market. Exploitation is driven by poverty, uneven development, official corruption, gender discrimination, harmful traditional and cultural practices, civil unrest, natural disasters and lack of political will to end it.

The number of child victims trafficked worldwide for sexual exploitation or cheap labour on an annual basis is 1.2 million.¹ Human trafficking, the third largest international crime, following illegal drugs and arms trafficking, is believed to be worth billions of dollars each year. Driving the trade is the demand for commercial sexual exploitation. Seventy-nine per cent of all global trafficking is for sexual exploitation.²



CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING IN INDONESIA

It is estimated that 100,000 children and women are trafficked each year in Indonesia.³ It is also estimated that 30 percent of the women in prostitution in Indonesia are below the age of 18, and 40,000-70,000 Indonesian children are victims of sexual exploitation.⁴ A women's institute in West Java, a source area for trafficking of women and children, reports that some 43.5

percent of trafficked victims are as young as 14 years old, although the trafficking of children mainly involved those who are 17 years old.⁵ Traditional practices such as early marriage and low education for girls are, among others, factors facilitating human trafficking.⁶

Who gets trafficked?

The trafficking of human beings and prostitution thrive in Indonesia principally due to poverty. Indonesian children between 15-18 years old are trafficked to Malaysia, Hong Kong and Singapore for sexual purposes;⁷ many of them are trafficked throughout Indonesia via the Riau Islands, Kalimantan and Sulawesi to tourist destinations in Malaysia and Singapore.⁸ According to the National Commission for Child Protection (KPAI), based on data derived from 23 provinces, more than 2,000 child trafficking cases in Indonesia were recorded in 2007, mainly through Batam (400 cases) and Jakarta from known sending areas in Java, Indramayu and Sukoharjo.⁹

The girls' ages are often falsified with fake identity cards, which are facilitated by the low rates of birth registration in the country, so that they can work as migrant workers overseas with a promise of high salaries. Evidence suggests that young girls in the Chinese community in West Kalimantan province (some cases reported in East Java) are mainly trafficked for mail order brides to Taiwan,¹⁰ Hong Kong and Singapore.¹¹ In 2007, it was reported that traffickers were using false documents to obtain tourist visas for women and girls who were trafficked and forced into prostitution in Japan.¹²

Internal trafficking of women and girls also presents a significant problem of exploitation throughout Indonesia. Women and girls are recruited with the promise of a job in restaurants or factories, or as domestic workers, but are instead forced into the sex trade.¹³

The Directorate General of Tourist Destination Development of the Ministry for Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Indonesia states that from 1972-2008, they have recorded more than 13,703 child victims of sexual exploitation in tourist destinations in 40 villages in six provinces, namely: Bali, West Nusa Tenggara, Central Java, Riau Islands, West Java and East Java. The data compilation shows that child trafficking for sexual purposes, for both child prostitution and pornography, is mostly found in Semarang (Central Java) and Indramayu (West Java). Meanwhile, child victims of sexual abuse and prostitution are found evenly in the provinces.¹⁴ Bali and West Nusa Tenggara are also stated as tourist destinations, where many children are targets of sexual exploitation.¹⁵

News reports in May 2008 discussed a new trend of trafficking of girls as young as 13 to illegal logging areas.¹⁶ West Kalimantan is known as an area where girls mainly between 13 and 17 years old are trafficked from within the Island with promises of employment as waitresses or maids, but forced into jungle brothels in illegal gold mines and logging businesses.¹⁷

There are certain areas in Indonesia considered as receiving or sending areas. For example, Bali is known as a receiving area for trafficking of women and children for sexual purposes, while Surabaya is considered a receiving area for domestic trafficking and a transit area for some international routes.¹⁸ West Java is known as a sending area for prostitution of children

and women, while Jakarta, Batam and Surabaya are known as receiving areas.¹⁹ According to KAKAK Foundation (a member of the affiliate ECPAT Coalition in Indonesia), a local child rights organisation,²⁰ Surakarta is reported as a point of child trafficking. The sexual exploitation of children usually happens at cafes, malls, hotels, bus terminals and train stations as well as in markets. However, Surakarta Police's Investigation and Criminal Unit denies the existence of children in prostitution in the areas, although the Surakarta Public Welfare Department claims that integrated services have been provided for women and children in cooperation with eighteen non-governmental organisations in Surakarta.²¹ In August 2008, the Government announced Surakarta as a 'City Safe for Children'.²²



CASE STUDIES

- In January 2009, at least 22 women, mostly underage, from West Java, Sumatra and East Nusa Tenggara were rescued from tourist areas in West Lombok after being lured to work in cafés and karaoke parlours with the promises of high pay given to their parents.²³
- Five underage girls between 15 and 18 years old from West Java were rescued from a district in Jambi after being trafficked into prostitution in a beauty salon and music house owned by an Indonesian husband and wife.²⁴

Women and children from China, Thailand and Eastern Europe are trafficked to Indonesia for sexual purposes, although in comparison with Indonesian women and children trafficked for the same purposes, the numbers are considered small.²⁵

Depending on the reason for trafficking, some countries may only be sending, while others might be both sending and transit. Some countries can be all three. Indonesia is regarded as a sending and receiving country for trafficking of children for sexual purposes.

Who creates demand?

Traffickers prey on children and young people to meet the sexual demands of paedophiles and people who pay for sex. Any person who patronises the commercial sex market may end up sexually exploiting a child. There is no common profile of perpetrators who sexually exploit children – they may be young, old, married, single; they come from all types of socio-economic backgrounds and work in all kinds of professions. Some tourists, foreigners and locals are also child sex tourists, and frequent the tourist destinations in Indonesia. Some abusers from overseas pay marriage brokers to arrange for wives through the mail order bride system which in many cases involves girls with falsified birth registration and related travel documents.

CASE STUDY

- In February 2009, Philip Robert Grandfield, 62, was convicted in an Indonesian court in Bali under the country's child protection laws following his acts to sexually exploit five boys, ages 16-17, over a six-month period last year, while he was living in Bali. He is one of several Australians arrested in Indonesia in recent years for sexual exploitation of children.²⁶

Who are the traffickers?

Traffickers can be a stranger or someone the child knows, such as a relative or a friend. In some cases, legal guardians or parents are involved. Returning survivors may also be used to recruit the next victims in their own communities. Traffickers can be operating as part of an organised criminal network that 'recruits' children and supplies them with fake identification. They may also pose as boyfriends or girlfriends in order to convince children to leave for a new life. In Indonesia, some recruiting agencies are really trafficking rings luring Indonesian migrant males and females into debt bondage through the charge of high commission fees,²⁷ including luring children into debt bondage by giving false promises for a good job but finding themselves in prostitution. Marriage brokers are also involved in trafficking when the marriage arrangements lead girls into sexually exploitative situations.

CASE STUDY

- Santi, a 15-year-old girl from Lampung, finally met her parents again. In June 2008, she was kidnapped and trafficked to Malaysia and was forced to become a sex worker. Her virginity was sold for 5,000 Ringgit (approximately 15 million IDR) by a pimp. Two of the traffickers, Nurdin and Chong Kum Seng, were detained and sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.²⁸

How can we stop the trafficking of children?

LAW AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

- The Indonesian Government has demonstrated increased efforts to address human trafficking through the enactment of the *Anti-Human Trafficking Law* in April 2007; however, the implementation of the law must be fully applied throughout the country.
- Corruption within some members of the security forces involved in prostitution or other activities related to trafficking and/or turning a blind eye to the debt bondage of underage girls in prostitution in certain areas in the country needs to be urgently addressed.²⁹
- Efforts to address child-sex tourism, which is rampant in many tourist destinations throughout the country, need urgent political and practical commitments from the Government and related private sector agencies to protect children from commercial sexual exploitation in tourism and related industries.
- Progress on standards and consistency in implementing Indonesia's policy not to treat victims of trafficking as criminals or to subject them to deportation must be made.
- Indonesia ratified the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children* in February 2009. The ratification of this protocol is hoped to strengthen related laws which were previously ratified, namely: *Law No.21/2007 on The Eradication of the Criminal Act of Trafficking in Persons*; *Law No.23/2002 on Child Protection*; *Law No.13/2006 on Witness and Victims Protection* and *Law No.5/2009 on Transnational Organized Crime*.³⁰
- Strong support of the Government in protecting children from commercial sexual exploitation by ratifying the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography needs to be shown.
- Awareness raising is necessary among civil servants working in government institutions that provide IDs, work permits and any marriage and travel documents that may be used by organised crime syndicates to victimise children.
- Law enforcement authorities need capacity building support to better detect and assist child victims in transit and border areas.

International Conventions/Laws	Date of Ratification by Indonesia	Date of Reports Submitted	UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Recommendations for Indonesia ³¹
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)	1990	Second periodic report - July 2003 Third and fourth periodic reports – Oct 2007	The Committee recommends that the State party: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratify the <i>Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography</i>; • Raise the age of consent and increase protection of children from sexual exploitation, trafficking, pornography and prostitution through adequate legislations that are implemented in a child-sensitive manner; • Establish an appropriate definition of trafficking, increase legal protection for child victims, take effective measures to strengthen law enforcement, and intensify efforts to raise awareness in communities about the sale, trafficking and abduction of children; and

International Conventions/Laws	Date of Ratification by Indonesia	Date of Reports Submitted	UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Recommendations for Indonesia
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the National Commission on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour reach and protect children employed in the informal sector, in particular domestic workers, prostituted children and children engaged in other types of exploitative labour.
Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	Signed but not yet ratified	N/A	N/A
The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress & Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women & Children	February 2009	N/A	N/A
ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour	2000	2008	N/A

PREVENTION OF CHILD TRAFFICKING AND VICTIM PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE

- The Government needs to support amendments of all national and local laws relating to birth registration and development of a comprehensive strategy to achieve full implementation of the revised laws.
- Public awareness campaigns should include activities to reduce demand for sexual services from children, including sexual exploitation of children in the travel and tourism sector.
- Specific measures to prevent early marriage need to be undertaken, including awareness-raising campaigns to increase understanding on the harm resulting from early marriage.
- The Government needs to make further efforts to protect trafficking victims, such as institutionalising child-friendly procedures in law enforcement, child protection policies in relevant agencies and state operated shelters. At minimum, child victims must be adequately provided with health and psychosocial care, vocational training, legal counselling and repatriation/reintegration services.

TO REPORT A SUSPECTED INCIDENT OF CHILD TRAFFICKING, CONTACT:

National Commission for Child Protection (Komisi Nasional Perlindungan Anak)

To access the hotline from outside of Indonesia, tel.: (62) (21) 8779-1818

To access the hotline from within Indonesia, tel.: (0) 21-8779-1818

Indonesian National Police



Secretary at the National Central Bureau of INTERPOL

Jalan Trunojoyo 3 Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta, DKI Jakarta, Indonesia

Tel.: (62) (21) 721-8098/739-3650 Fax: (62) (21) 720-1402

MORE INFORMATION

- The National Coalition for the Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Affiliate member group of the global ECPAT network), National Coordinator: Pusat Kajian dan Perlindungan Anak (PKPA), Tel.: (62) (21) 820-0170 Fax: (62) (21) 821-3009
- ECPAT International: www.ecpat.net
- The Body Shop and ECPAT Stop Trafficking of Children and Young People Campaign : www.thebodyshop.com/stop



Endnotes

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- ¹² US State Department. *Trafficking in Persons Report 2008 – Indonesia*. 4 June 2008. Accessed from: <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/105658.pdf>
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- ¹⁸ International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) and American Center for International Labor Solidarity (Solidarity Center), *Trafficking of Women and Children in Indonesia*, published 2003, [page 20], Online at: http://www.icmc.net/pdf/traffreport_en.pdf [accessed March 2009]
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