

THE LINK

The Official Newsletter of the International Society for
Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN)

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FOCUS TOPIC:

Child Trafficking: The Transnational Challenge of Child Protection

The trafficking of children is a grave violation of a child's human rights. As many as five million children are smuggled within and across borders every year, their lives commoditized on an estimated \$7 billion market. The United Nations' Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children defines trafficking in children as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation, to include, at a minimum, "the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs".

The development of successful interventions to prevent and intervene in child trafficking depends on an understanding of the scope of the problem and the multiple factors that influence trafficking. As such, the lack of data on trafficked children is a major constraint to establishing effective interventions and public policy. This article briefly discusses some of the factors that contribute to child trafficking as illustrated through a child prostitution case provided by ISPCAN councillor Sanphasit Koompraphant.

A Case Description

Sunee, the daughter of an invalid and deaf landless peasant from a highland hill tribe in Thailand, is the second child in a family of four. Sunee and her younger sister were raised by their aunt after their mother's death. Under the care of her aunt, Sunee was beaten frequently and later sold to a night café operator at the age of 16. The aunt was promised a regular monetary remittance for Sunee's labor but never received payment. When she went to find Sunee she found that the night café was a front for a brothel. She contacted the CPCR Foundation, a non-governmental organization, to free her niece from prostitution. A coordinated police raid revealed that the operator had enslaved eight children, including Sunee, for sex work behind the café. CPCR Foundation coordinated the police handling of the case and provided child witness support for the justice system.

Sunee was referred to CPCR's Rescue and Assistance Section where she received treatment for a vaginal infection, venereal warts, cervical cancer and depression. CPCR provided rehabilitation and group activities to prepare Sunee for social reintegration. Sunee was returned to her aunt's home where her father was living with the support of family-relations camps. With new information about employment opportunities, Sunee pursued work as a seamstress. Sunee was found during CPCR monitoring to have married a man from her village. The couple was engaged in rice farming and had recently given birth to a child.

Risk Factors

As Sunee's case suggests, the children most vulnerable to trafficking generally come from the poorest and most marginalized segments of society. While some children may be from poor rural areas, others may be internally displaced from conflict areas or street children in urban sectors. Social exclusion based on ethnicity and/or gender can be seen as a major contributing factor to the risk of being trafficked, particularly for the estimated one million children trafficked into prostitution every year. Governance issues also play a role in allocating resources and services in a community. Those living in poverty tend to have limited access to these opportunities, reinforcing their vulnerability. Without citizenship, for example, individuals are denied basic rights, including education, health services, land ownership, political participation and the right to travel freely.

Recruitment Methods

Methods of recruiting children vary by the demand for services, the profile of the child, and the type of trafficker involved. Networks or individuals working in less organized settings may approach potential children more informally, like the café operator that contacted Sunee's aunt. In these settings, recruiters may appear as a legitimate source of information and opportunity. The recruiter may in fact be a friend of the family or someone known as a community leader or a business person in the village. In other cases, individuals may return to villages from urban centers to report romanticized tales of cosmopolitan lifestyles. These visits are then followed by recruitment efforts organized by traffickers who promise appealing opportunities and assistance in obtaining proper documentation, making travel arrangements, and providing the financial means for the child to migrate. Large-scale international networks may apply numerous recruitment methods that also appear legitimate. For example, these organizations may use the internet, radio, and television to advertise opportunities as nannies, domestics, entertainers, or restaurant workers.

Cycle of Debt and Dependency

Once trafficked, children like Sunee may find themselves ensnared in cycles of debt bondage where sexual services or labor is demanded as payment. In some cases recruiters work in collusion with corrupt border officials that demand services from the child in return for illegal border passage. The child therefore accrues multiple debts within a migration experience, compounding threats to their safety, health, and security. In the worst cases, children who are unable to pay off their debts are used to commit other types of transnational crimes, such as drug trafficking, arms running, or laundering of money. These victims become increasingly vulnerable and isolated as their dependence upon the trafficker increases.

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Message from the ISPCAN Leadership

Greetings ISPCAN Members,

We're pleased to report that ISPCAN has had an exceedingly positive last half of the year. While our 2003 numbers fell a bit below 2002, we have already registered nearly 900 new and renewed members for 2004, half our goal. It is particularly exciting that we have raised sufficient funds to offer memberships to over 100 professionals in developing countries in 2004. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible. Those members who do not renew by February 2004 will

not longer receive the *LINK* or *Journal*.

During the past six months, every month has involved exciting opportunities for our organization to advance our mission. For example, in August, we co-sponsored the European Regional Conference, which attracted over 600 delegates, of whom nearly 100 were funded scholar-professionals from Eastern Europe. We want to congratulate Nobody's Children Foundation (Warsaw, Poland) - and especially Maria Keller-Hamela, Monika Sajkowska and Agnieszka Morawska — for their wonderful work in making this meeting such a valuable educational and networking event for all those who attended. In addition to the excellent conference program, the meeting also provided an opportunity for ISPCAN to host a number of special events including an all day Training Institute for Eastern European delegates, a workshop for Arab professionals, and a meeting for current or potential ISPCAN National Partner organizations. Following the Conference, the ISPCAN Executive Council held its annual meeting.

In October, ISPCAN President-Elect Barbara Bonner and Kimberly Svevo spent one very productive week working with ANPPCAN-Nigeria, an ISPCAN National Partner led by Professor Peter Ebigbo, and coordinator of the African Regional Conference, to assist in fundraising, program development and other organizational issues surrounding this upcoming event. This Conference will take place in Enugu, Nigeria, in March 2004.

ISPCAN's Virtual Issues Discussion on Mandatory Reporting, the second in this series, was led by Professor Gary Melton and co-facilitated by Jaap Doek, M. Sham Kasim and Joan Van Niekerk. Although originally scheduled for a three-day period, the discussion was extended to a full week to accommodate member interest. In addition, Dr. Melton's initial paper on the topic and summary of the event will be made available to all members in early 2004.

Last month, ISPCAN President Marcellina Mian visited, presented and worked with members at the South Asian Workshop in Nagpur, India. We want to thank ISPCAN members Drs. Sibnath Deb and Dipty Jain, for hosting the workshop. Dr. Mian also met with members at a National Conference in the Philippines; in Sri Lanka, and at the end of the month, spoke at the First World Congress on the Rights of Children in Venezuela.

ISPCAN Councillor Tilman Furniss, new Congress/Conference Manager, Tatyana Bessanov, and Kimberly Svevo met with the GESPCAN representatives in Berlin to begin organizing the 2005 European Regional Conference. They also met

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Executive Council Meeting Highlights

ISPCAN Executive Council held its annual meeting in Poland, following the 9th ISPCAN European Conference. Because the format for these meetings is now well established, this annual meeting proved to be both constructive and relatively brief. Chaired by Marcellina Mian, it was attended by all but two councillors and several staff.

As in the past, the meeting was divided into several parts - review of past year's work; strategic planning; core committee meetings and crafting of the upcoming year's work plan; finalizing the annual budget and establishing priorities for the coming year.

Review

Main points discussed during the meeting included

- Strengthening external relation links with international organizations including UNICEF and WHO;
- A review of the Listserve, Membership and National Partners Programs;
- A discussion of ISPCAN's publications including the Journal and the organization's newsletter, *The LINK*;
- A review of plans for the next regional conferences and international congresses;
- An update on the progress being made through ISPCAN's international training program (ITPI).

Strategic planning

This year, we considered our need for outside advisors in a number of areas - including fundraising, evaluation of training materials, marketing of membership and using the media proactively. We identified a small set of issues that we wish to pay particular attention in the coming year. These issues include:

- Expanding ISPCAN's National Partner program;
- Expanding and better utilizing the ISPCAN faculty data base;
- Increasing active connections between the membership and ISPCAN's core committees and activities;
- Establishing new links with professionals in allied areas of concern including domestic violence and infant mental health; and
- Strengthening our fundraising initiatives.

Plans for 2003-2004

Our plans for the forthcoming year are always made in the context of our budgetary limitations, the secretariat's capacity and councillors' time constraints. With these limitations in mind, the Council agreed to accomplish the following objectives:

- To explore ways of further increasing individual membership, especially from developing countries;
- To facilitate the ability of various national organizations to join the ISPCAN National Partners program;
- To implement a Virtual Issue Discussion (VID) on Mandatory Reporting;
- To prepare the next issue of World Perspectives;
- To establish an institutional review board/ethics research committee;
- To finalize our plans for the forthcoming congresses and conferences;
- To further refine templates for ISPCAN congresses and conferences;
- To improve our evaluation of ITPI; and
- To translate a greater array of training materials.

Time was then spent on discussing our budget for the next fiscal year in the light of our planned activities.

We worked hard and appreciated being able to gaze out at the lake and woods in rural northern Poland. In Brisbane, we will review how much we managed to accomplish.

New National Partner Profiles

In 1999, ISPCAN launched the National Partner Program, establishing affiliations with national child abuse and neglect prevention organizations around the world to further the common mission of ISPCAN and its partners. At present, 16 organizations have joined this program. The following provides brief descriptions of two of these Partners:

African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN) - Nigeria Chapter

The African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), is a pan-African organization founded in 1986 and currently has 15 national chapters.

Mission

The goals of the organization include:

- to significantly reduce child abuse and neglect across Africa, and in Nigeria in particular, paving the way for the economic and political emancipation of Africa;
- to raise awareness and to change the attitudes of policy makers and the public on child welfare issues;
- to eradicate and prevent child abuse and neglect in Nigeria, and to protect and promote the rights of the child.

Key activities

ANPPCAN-Nigeria carries out a range of activities to prevent violence and to improve the rights and wellbeing of Nigerian children. These include organizing conferences, such as the upcoming ISPCAN African Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, which will focus on Child Trafficking and Child Sexual Abuse in Africa. This event will be held in Enugu, Nigeria on 23-27 March, 2004.

ANPPCAN- Nigeria has developed a range of training programs, most notably focusing on the issue of child trafficking. They have also published several CAN training materials such as "The Nigerian Child Rights Monitor" and other articles on child abuse and neglect.

Membership

ANPPCAN - Nigeria is made up of a General Assembly of members which meets every two years where a National Executive Committee is elected. The National Executive Committee is the decision-making body of the organization. It is comprised of CAN Prevention professionals drawn from each of the 36 states of the Nigerian federation.

The Nordic Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NASPCAN)

The Nordic Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NASPCAN) is a regional organization which was established at a Nordic Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect held in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1998. Registered as a non-profit organization in Sweden, its membership is made up of CAN professionals from several Nordic countries including Denmark, Greenland, Iceland, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Mission

The goal of NASPCAN is to afford members the opportunity to share experiences, and exchange and update knowledge of child abuse and neglect.

Key activities

The group organizes international Congresses, national and other local training events which attract participants from the Nordic countries. Nordic Conferences on Child Abuse and Neglect have been held in Copenhagen, Denmark (1998), Linkoping, Sweden (2000), and Oslo, Norway (May 2002).

Membership

The membership of the organization is open to all professionals committed to

ISPCAN's National Partners include the following organizations:

- Against Child Abuse (ACA), **Hong Kong**;
- Association Française pour l'Information et la Recherche sur les Enfants Maltraités (AFIREM), **France**;
- African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), **Ethiopia**;
- African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), **Nigeria**;
- African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), **Uganda**;
- American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), **United States**;
- British Society for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (BASPCAN), **United Kingdom**;
- Cameroon Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (CASPCAN), **Cameroon**;
- Danish Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (DASPCAN), **Denmark**;
- German Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (GESPCAN), **Germany**;
- Japanese Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (JASPCAN), **Japan**;
- Malaysian Association for the Protection of Children (PPKM), **Malaysia**;
- National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN), **Australia**;
- The Nordic Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NASPCAN), **Denmark**;
- National Organization for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NOPCAN), **Belize**; and
- South African Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (SASPCAN), **South Africa**.

preventing child abuse and neglect. NASPCAN currently includes social workers, medical practitioners, teachers, police officers, prosecutors, lawyers, therapists, and researchers working on children's issues drawn from each of the Nordic countries. The NASPCAN Board is comprised of eleven ordinary members and eleven deputy members. Each of the Nordic countries has two representatives on the Board, which are elected for a term of four years.

Message from the ISPCAN Leadership

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with the BASPCAN representatives in London to formulate plans for the 2006 International Congress in York, UK.

With an exciting new grant for developing country training just approved by the Oak Foundation for 2004-06, we will extend our international training program and provide greater support to professionals in a more extensive outreach to developing country efforts. We are very greatly appreciative of the Oak Foundation for their expanded support.

In addition, we want to note our deep appreciation to our other important partners and funders who are enabling ISPCAN and our members to better support and protect children. These funders include UNICEF-International and Regional Offices; the

World Health Organization International and Regional Offices; the Interchurch Cooperation Development Foundation (Netherlands); Children at Risk (Netherlands); Centers for Disease Control (USA); Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP-USA) and Health Canada. Your support is critical to the work we are doing - thank you.

Finally, voting will begin shortly for selecting incoming ISPCAN Council Members who will serve from Sept 2004-Sept 2010. Please take the time and make the effort to study the slate of Councillors and vote for those who you believe will best guide ISPCAN into the future.

ISPCAN President Marcellina Mian, MD, Canada
ISPCAN Executive Director Kimberly Svevo, CAE, U.S.A.

Warsaw Conference Draws Worldwide Participation

Nearly 700 delegates from six continents shared their successes and challenges in addressing child maltreatment at the 9th ISPCAN European Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect held in Warsaw, Poland this August. The three-day meeting, organized by Nobody's Children Foundation, covered a wide variety of topics in child protection and provided participants with a unique opportunity to enhance their professional knowledge and skills.

The Conference Scientific Program was co-sponsored by World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe. General financial support for the event was provided by the Batory Foundation, the Oak Foundation, UNICEF Europe, UNICEF New York, WHO International, Alcoa Foundation, the British Council, ILO/IPEC, Polskie Wydawnictwa Profesjonalne, and UNDP.

Nearly 100 scholars from Eastern European countries were sponsored to attend the event, making this conference one of the largest professional education efforts offered to child abuse professionals working in this region. UNICEF Eastern Europe, UNICEF New York, the Oak Foundation, WHO International and the Soros Foundation provided funding for this sponsorship.

The Warsaw event drew participants from all over the world such as European countries, Western Europe, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Australia, North America and South America.

The Program

The Conference was opened by the Polish First Lady Ms. Joalanta Kwasniewska followed by formal welcomes from Maria Keller-Hamela, Conference President; Marcellina Mian, ISPCAN President (Canada); and Pawel Jarosz, Ombudsmen of Children's Rights (Poland). Keynote presentations included a discussion of the relationship between spouse abuse and child maltreatment by Kevin Browne (UK) and a discussion of evidence-based practice in treating child abuse and neglect by Mark Chaffin and William Fredrich, both from the United States.

Plenary sessions were offered on a variety of practice and policy concerns. Specific topics and presenters included a summary



Pictured are Pawel Jaros, Children's Rights Ombudsman and Maria Keller-Hamela, Conference President

of the World Health Organization's (WHO) prevention initiatives by Dr. Mikael Ostergren (Denmark); a summary of a public health approach to addressing violence by Dr. Alex Butchart (Switzerland); a review of the WHO's recently published report on violence by Dr. Tilman Furniss (Germany); and an examination of how to develop interprofessional networks to enhance the response to child maltreatment by Kari Killen (Norway).

The closing session included presentations by Dr. Kim Oates (Australia), Dr. Marcellina Mian (Canada) and Gen. Wladyslaw Padlo, the Head of Police (Poland).

A special evening session entitled "Review of Worldwide Social Campaigns on the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect" was organized on the second day of the conference. Participants had an opportunity to compare experiences of NSPCC (UK) and Nobody's Children Foundation (Poland) in the field of social campaigns. Participants also reviewed over 70 video clips on different aspects of child maltreatment prepared by the Nobody's Children Foundation staff. The 45-minute presentation showcased TV spots provided by organizations from over 20 countries including Japan, Poland, USA, Romania, Georgia, Brazil, UK, and Belgium.

Special Meetings

The conference also provided an opportunity for several regional and organizational meetings to occur, thereby facilitating networking opportunities for delegates from similar regions or with similar interests:

Eastern European Meeting: Over 25 Russian-speaking professionals from ten Eastern European countries met with the ISPCAN National Partners Council Liaison and ISPCAN President-Elect to discuss the networking opportunities in their regions and strategies for becoming ISPCAN National Partners.

Uzbekistan Professionals Meeting: Child abuse specialists from Uzbekistan met with the ISPCAN National Partners Council Liaison and ISPCAN Executive Director to share their research data and the difficulties in gathering such data in Uzbekistan.

The ISPCAN National Partners Meeting: Representatives from five ISPCAN National Partner organizations (NAPCAN, JASPCAN, BASPCAN, SASPCAN and NASPCA) and several other potential national partner organizations met with ISPCAN to discuss new member criteria, a possible presentation about the National Partners program at the upcoming ISPCAN Congress (Brisbane, Australia 2004) and the services available for National Partners.

Praise for the 9th ISPCAN European Regional Conference on Child Abuse

"When I returned home, I was so excited about the conference. For several days, I talked with my colleagues about what I saw and what I learned. I am really working hard to raise awareness among professionals about abuse and the harm that it can cause in children. I am doing this because in our town we do not have a program for abused and neglected children. Some of the people I speak with agree that a program for abused children is necessary. Unfortunately, not all people in my country feel that way... I would like to congratulate you for how you organized and ran this conference."

Isabela Manescu, Romania

"The entire conference was such a wonderful opportunity to see what is happening with respect to child abuse and neglect not only in Europe, but also in many different parts of the world. We arrived back in Latvia with many new ideas, a confirmation of practices which we are already using and much inspiration for our future work."

Laura Lebedeva, Senior Psychologist
Center Against Abuse "Dardedze"
Riga, Latvia

ISPCAN - WHO Sponsor Special Training Institute

In partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO), ISPCAN sponsored a full day training workshop for Eastern European and Central Asian professionals immediately prior to the 9th ISPCAN European Conference on Child Abuse. The meeting took place at the Dziekanka Campus of Warsaw State University. Some 80 professionals from over a dozen Eastern European countries attended the Institute, which provided simultaneous translation into Russian. Specific attention was placed on the diagnosis, intervention and mental health support involved in responding to child sexual abuse.

The Program

The institute was opened by Maria Keller Hamela of the Nobody's Children Foundation and President of the Conference, and Kimberly Svevo, Executive Director of ISPCAN. Key presentation topics and presenters included the following:

- Kevin Browne and Ingrid Leth-World Health Organization Public Health Approach to the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect - Overview;
- Tilmann Furniss-Consequences of Child Abuse for Mental Health Development, Needs for Interdisciplinary Intervention;
- Ruth Soonets-Interdisciplinary Approach in Child Abuse, the Role of the Medical Professionals in the Interdisciplinary Team;
- Imola Antal-Training skills and reaching needs of psychologists within the Romanian Child Protection Authority;
- Maria Herzog-Overview of Child Abuse (including Institutional and Sexual Abuse) in Eastern Europe;
- Aukasz Wojtasik-Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse in the Internet;
- Svetlana Volkova-Presentation of Moscow City Program Street Children;
- Agnese Sladzevska-Center Against Abuse Dardedze;
- Sandra Sebre-Interdisciplinary Approach to Protect Children (based on Latvian experience - Dardedze center);
- Tine Staermose-ILO-IPEC's Approach to Combatting Trafficking in Children - a discussion of lessons learned;
- Tamar Cohen, Maria Keller-Hamela-The Development of Child Abuse Protection and Training in Eastern Europe - discussion.

Ongoing Training Needs

The Institute facilitated discussions among multidisciplinary professionals from several countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. In addition to the formal exchanges that occurred during the structured part of the program, promising strategies and clinical findings were also shared during various informal gatherings that occurred throughout the day. The closing session underscored the need for additional training opportunities both within individual countries as well as across the region. While the International Training Project of ISPCAN (ITPI), sponsored by the Oak Foundation, will provide one mechanism for addressing these training needs, the ISPCAN leadership recognizes that much more needs to be done. As such, ISPCAN will be facilitating on-going coordination among professional societies working within this region through the expansion of its National Partners program and its web page and listserv.

ISPCAN Congresses/Conferences 2004-2005

Event: 1st ISPCAN Arab Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

(By Invitation Only)
Theme: "Violence against Children. Breaking the silence...Strengthening responses!"
Dates: 23-25 February, 2004 - **Venue:** Amman, Jordan
Contact: Dr. Hani Jahshan
 E-mail: jahshan@go.com.jo

Event: ISPCAN African Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

Theme: Child Trafficking and Child Sexual Abuse in Africa
Dates: 23-27 March, 2004 - **Venue:** Enugu, Nigeria
Description: The theme, we believe, is a great challenge to all professional policy makers and lovers of children in view of the enormous problems and situations that plague children on the continent today. With the relentless speed of the dreaded diseases (AIDS), and of course denial of protection as well as developmental and participatory rights of children, the conference will provide opportunity to develop, communicate, and share knowledge, skills and expertise for all professionals in the field of child protection in Africa.
Contact: Prof. Peter Ebigbo, E-mail: pebigbo@infoweb.abs.net

Event: ISPCAN 15th International Congress on Child Abuse & Neglect

Theme: Working Together for a Child Safe World
Dates: 19-22 September, 2004 - **Venue:** Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
Description: A "child safe world" is a world where children are free from all forms of abuse and exploitation by adults and other children and young people. It is also a world where children receive adequate care, resources and attention. "Working together" recognises that abuse and neglect are complex problems that call for the mobilisation of many kinds of skills and resources. Professionals and communities need each other to forge effective responses, and both need to be able to see the world through the eyes of children and young people. We want to share ideas and experiences from across the global community about protecting children in a way that welcomes children and young people as valued participants. Children are the central purpose for us meeting together and children and young people will have a strong and active role to play leading up to and during the Congress.

Organizer: International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) and The National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN—National Partner of ISPCAN)
 Congress registration contact information: C/- ICMS PO Box 3496 South Brisbane QLD 4101 Australia Tel: + 61 7 3844 1138 Fax: +61 7 3844 0909
 E-mail: ISPCAN2004@icms.com.au www.congress2004.com

Event: Xth ISPCAN European Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

Dates: 2005 - **Venue:** Berlin, Germany
Contact: Tatyana Bessonov at eventmanager@ispcan.org

Event: VIth ISPCAN Asian Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

Dates: 16-18 November, 2005 - **Venue:** Singapore, Singapore
Contact: Mrs. Mae Lim, E-mail: maefern@starhub.net.sg

ISPCAN Training Events 2004

Event: ISPCAN Global Institute on "Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking - International Perspective"

Dates: January 26, 2004 - **Venue:** San Diego, USA
Organized by: ISPCAN
Contact: Anna Quintanilla at education@ispcan.org

Event: International CAN Prevention Training and Resource/Capacity Development

Dates: March 27-29, 2004 and September 25-27, 2004
Venue: Peshawar and Abbotabad, Pakistan
Organized by: The Child Rights and Abuse Committee Pakistan Paediatric Association
Contact: Dr. Tufail Muhammad at tufailm@brain.net.pk

Event: Multidisciplinary Training Seminar on Child Abuse and Neglect

Dates: April 16-27, 2004 - **Venue:** Valga, Estonia
Organized by: Tartu Child Support Center for Abused Children
Contact: Dr. Ruth Soonets at ch.abuse@online.ee

DONOR RECOGNITION**Recognizing Contributions of Time and Resources during September 2003 - December 2003**

ISPCAN Honorary Ambassador
(contributions of \$ 50,000 & Above)

ICCO: Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation

ISPCAN Distinguished Benefactors
(contributions of US \$15,000 - \$49,999)

U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (Ron Laney)**Global Ministries/Children at Risk****UNICEF - New York (International)**

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Rebecca Cianci
John Fisher
Matt Malone
Chris Mollet
Tiffany Reynoso
Gloria Varona-Williams
Rhada Ramathan
V. Ramathan

NEW ISPCAN MEMBERS

ISPCAN warmly welcomes new members joining from September 2003 through November 2003

Armenia
Karen Harutyanyan

Australia
Susan Diamond
Joe Tucci

Belarus
Natalia Dedyulya
Leonida Lutsevich

Brazil
Viviane Senna

Canada
Ramona Alaggia
Gary Cameron

Colombia
Stella Cardenas

Croatia
Bruna Profaca

Denmark
Annie V. Charles
Helle Nielsen

Egypt
Adel Azer
Mohammed A. El Tomi
Soheir A. Rabo Mohamed
Abdel Al

Ethiopia
Eshetu Alemu Jilcha

Guam
Renee Camacho
Leticia Piper

India
Brendan MacCarthaigh
John A. Menachery
Vidya Reddy
Shekar Shashadri
P.K. Vinayak

Iran
Nasrin Mosaffa
Shirin Nayernouri
Vahid Nobahar

Ireland
Jim O'Leary

Israel
Cairo Arafat
Samia Haleela
Tamar Moverman
Smadar Yadgar S.

Jordan
Samier Faoriy

Kenya
Booby Munga
Andiwah Obondoh

Malaysia
Rahmatullah Khan Abdul
Wahab Kan
Nor Azila Jonit

Maldives
Aisath M. Didi
Aishath Shisam

Mauritius
Marie Josee Baudot

Mexico
Francisco J. Zermeno

Moldova
Daniela Popescu

Myanmar
Ni Ni Htwe
May Zan Kyaw
Nyunt Nyunt Thane

New Zealand
Christine Foley

Nigeria
Chinwe J. Chukwu
Faith C. Ekpo
Stella Maduka
Ada Nwokocha
Buki Ponle

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Batool H. Al-Lawati

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Philippines
Abigail Belza

Poland
Ewa Jakubiak-Z.
Ewa Jarosz
Renata Koclega-H.
Miroslaw Slesinski
Grazyna Szydłowska

Romania
Lucia Maria Cebuc
Maria Roth

Russia
Irina Alekseeva

Saudi Arabia
Abdullah Al-Ghamdi
Serbia
Rodojka Knezevic

Serbia and Montenegro
Milica Pejovic Milovancevic

Somalia
Bashir Haji Yusuf

South Africa
Thabang Luvhengo

Sri Lanka
Aswini Fernando
Kalyani Guruge
HMSD Herath
Daya Somasundaram
Hiranthi Wijemanne

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Manjula Govindshenoy
Tracy Heads
Leanne Scott

Ukraine
Maria Aleksyenko
Anastasia Karibinyosh
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Kate O'Leary
Kathi Stevens
Elaine Stolte
Natalie Wilcox

Uzbekistan
Kamoliddin Diyarov

Venezuela
Maria Elena Garcia

West Bank
Hamdy Kahlout

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Terence Kunda Chibwe
Elwyn Chomba
Kayafa Innocent Mumbi

**Executive Council Election:
February 2004**

The 2004 ISPCAN Executive Council Election will be taking place in February 2004! Ballots will be distributed to all members and we need all of your help to choose the seven best candidates to represent the international efforts of ISPCAN!

**New Membership Benefit:
On-line Journals**

View the ISPCAN journal *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal* on-line starting January 2004! Access journal issues back to 1995 with standard membership and for an additional US\$ 15, you can gain access to all the journals back to ISPCAN's beginnings in 1977! For members located in developing countries, ISPCAN is also very happy to offer free on-line journal access for specific countries. For more information, please contact the membership department at membership@ispcan.org

**RENEW NOW FOR 2004 ISPCAN
MEMBERSHIP**

It is time to renew your membership with ISPCAN to continue your 2004 Membership valid from January 1 - December 31, 2004. ISPCAN offers several ways to renew including our on-line application form and payment option at www.ispcan.org/joinispcan or if you would like to pay by check, money order or wire transfer, please contact the membership department for more details membership@ispcan.org.

An Interview with ISPCAN Councillor Deborah Daro



Deborah Daro, Ph.D. is Research Fellow (Associate Professor) at the Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago, U.S.A. Prior to joining Chapin Hall in January 1999, Dr. Daro served as the Director of the National Center on Child Abuse Prevention Research, a program of the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse. She has served on the ISPCAN Executive Council since 1998 and currently serves as Chair of the Program, Research and Information Committee and as Editor of *The LINK*. We interviewed her recently about her involvement with the child abuse field and with ISPCAN.

How long have you been a member of ISPCAN and what has been your involvement with the organization?

I joined ISPCAN in 1984 in time to participate in the 5th International Congress in Montreal. Since that time, I have served on the ISPCAN research committee, developed the *World Perspectives on Child Abuse*, and have been a regular reviewer and contributor to *Child Abuse and Neglect*. For the past three years, I have served as Editor of *The LINK*, the ISPCAN newsletter.

How did you initially get interested in CAN Prevention?

Anne Cohn Donnelly introduced me to the issue in 1976. She was completing a comprehensive evaluation of the first wave of U.S. federally funded demonstration projects on the treatment of abuse and neglect. As a graduate student, I worked with her on this project and later went on to direct a similar evaluation of 19 clinical demonstration projects. The reason I got involved in this issue, and have remained involved for almost 30 years, is my belief that how a society treats its children says an enormous amount about its values and priorities. Examining the issue of child maltreatment requires one to consider not only how individual parents treat their children but also how the systems put in place to protect and nurture children function.

In your opinion, has the situation for children in this world improved or deteriorated in the last 30 years?

The answer to this question differs depending upon your vantage point. In general, I definitely believe conditions for most children have improved dramatically and certainly since Dr. Kempe identified the "battered child syndrome" in 1962. Child abuse prevention practitioners, advocates and researchers have a greater appreciation for the complexity of the problem they seek to resolve and are slightly more resistant to overstating their case. As a field, we have established stronger, more diversified partnerships

that are engaging more people and institutions. We have established a basic framework that defines the rights of children. Our research is more rigorous.

Not all families or countries, however, have equal access to or benefit from these efforts. Consequently, not all children are being helped. In countries with clear child protection policies and systems, the majority of prevention programs target and successfully serve parents who recognize their limitations and seek out help. Far too few resources exist for families who may not know they need assistance or, if they recognize their shortcomings, do not know how to access help. Perhaps more distressing is the fact that millions of children live in communities that lack basic necessities and that fail to insure basic human rights. In these cases, children are certainly not better off and might be considered worse off. Tragically this failure is not a question of a lack of knowledge but rather a lack of commitment and will to make a difference.

What types of policy recommendations are most needed in the field of child maltreatment in your country?

Effectively combating child maltreatment in the United States will require policy reforms in a number of social institutions. Certainly reform of our child welfare system is key. Emphasis needs to be placed on protecting children from harm, not simply punishing families after abuse occurs. Equally important is creating a physical environment for families conducive to healthy development. Communities need to be safe, nurturing places for children and families where good health care, quality school, sound housing and safe open space are the rule, not the exception. Further, as broad changes are recommended in welfare policy and health care delivery systems, care needs to be taken to document the "spill over" effects for children, particularly those living in poverty or in single parent families.

What is the most important goal you hope to achieve for ISPCAN in the coming two years?

I believe ISPCAN can play a critical role in helping professionals in all countries apply more consistently the lessons emerging from empirical research and clinical practice on how to effectively prevent and treat child abuse. Through *The LINK*, *Child Abuse and Neglect* and our ongoing information sharing via our Listserv, ISPCAN can provide professionals the knowledge they need to do better at protecting children. Also, the ISPCAN membership can model the benefits of fostering strong partnerships across disciplines and across cultures - reminding all of us that we have much to learn from each other and that innovation exists in all countries, not simply those with so-called "advanced" economies and technology. Unless we recognize that information can flow in all directions, we run the risk of promoting strategies that negate the underlying strengths of diverse cultures.

Data Collection Underway for the Sixth Edition of World Perspectives

Data collection is currently underway for the Sixth Edition of *World Perspectives*. As in the past, this project involves a survey of selected ISPCAN members in over 75 countries to determine how the child abuse problem is defined and responded to in different contexts.

In order to broaden the range of professionals able to participate in this effort, the survey and related information is available not only in English but also French, Spanish, Arabic and Russian. As in the past, this edition will include a detailed summary of the survey data as well as general child well-being indicators maintained by a number of international health and child rights organizations (e.g. WHO, UNICEF).

Expanded Content

The Sixth Edition also will include a number of additional features designed to improve our understanding of these diverse policy responses and the impacts of promising interventions. These types of descriptive studies will be particularly useful to professionals in developing regions of the world where child abuse response systems are only just emerging. Professionals working in Africa, South America, Asia and Eastern Europe often find it difficult to access professional journals or published reports. To compensate, the Sixth Edition will include such features as:

- an annotated bibliography summarizing the content of key journal articles and government reports that have been issued in the past

year that report on the impacts of promising programs and policies;

- feature articles on international surveys that have been completed on various aspects of violence such as corporal punishment, physical violence, child labor and sexual exploitation; and
- case studies that summarize the process followed in designing and implementing promising interventions or research methods.

Distribution Planned for the Brisbane Congress

The final report will be available for distribution at the 15th International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect to be held September 19-22 in Brisbane, Australia.

Child Trafficking: The Transnational Challenge of Child Protection*(continued from page 1)*

The types of work where trafficked labor is used tend to be located in sectors where it is easier to maintain highly exploitative working conditions that violate human rights and labor standards. Recruitment and working conditions in these sectors tend to be characterized by coercion, lack of consent, and an inability for the trafficked child to make choices once the trafficking process has begun. Recruiters use many forms of coercion, ranging from false promises to acts of violence.

Creating an Effective Response

Given the context within which the supply of child workers is bridged to demands for child sex and labor within and between

borders, preventing and intervening in child trafficking requires multi-level strategies that are geographically specific. The work of the CPR Foundation suggests that comprehensive efforts must include economic, legal, familial, and personal dimensions to shield children from the adverse consequences of poverty.

ISPCAN National Partner, ANPPCAN Nigeria, has provided ISPCAN with a profile of child trafficking in Nigeria (www.ispcan.org/resources.htm). This presents one country's statistics and in-depth analysis of child trafficking issues.

Michelle Johnson, USA

Warsaw Conference Draws Worldwide Participation*(continued from page 4)*

International Training Project of ISPCAN (ITPI) Meeting: Project leaders from Poland, Estonia, Latvia and South Africa met with the ISPCAN ITPI Liaison to share experiences regarding the progress and struggles involved in implementing this training effort.

Arab Professionals Meeting: Professionals from Bahrain, Jordan, Syria, Egypt and Lebanon met with ISPCAN to discuss the organizational details of the upcoming 1st ISPCAN Arab Regional

Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect scheduled to take place in February 2004 in Amman, Jordan.

Conference Evaluations

All respondents evaluated the conference very highly (both those who attended an ISPCAN conference for the first time as well as those who had attended ISPCAN conferences before). Almost 90% of those responding to the evaluation survey indicated that they found the content of the plenary sessions and workshops "always or almost always" relevant to their work.

The Final Program with the Book of Abstracts was very well received. The participants especially appreciated receiving the list of attendees with contact information. Many felt this would help facilitate ongoing collaboration and information sharing. All respondents stressed that the involvement of the volunteers was extraordinary.

Maria Keller-Hamela
ISPCAN Conference President, Poland

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Mission: To support individuals and organizations working to protect children from abuse and neglect worldwide.

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