



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women

STOP Human Trafficking Community Forum Series
Interactive Community Forum to Foster Action
March 30, 2009

Soroptimist International of Raleigh, NC

FOLLOW UP PRIORITIES AND ACTION STEPS

Addressing the Demand Side of Human Trafficking

Issue D1: Recruiting men to actively combat the demand side.

Priority and Action Steps

1.1 Educate Men

- Ask men's groups in churches (men's breakfasts), civic clubs (Lions, Kiwanis, Masonic, Rotary) to become involved (ex. Men of Integrity); highlight consequences; include youth groups; make it personal "your child".
- Establish a speaker's bureau for men
- Conduct "train the trainer" for men's groups, (Men Can Stop Rape) and PTAs; have women recruit their men to educate other men
- Establish 'White Ribbon' campaign in NC, Men Against Violence re: Women
- Start early education for young men and boys (respect, anger management)
- Approach workplaces and encourage them to educate their male workforce.
- Educate Information Technology corporate leaders regarding use of internet for child pornography and identify how to eliminate from internet

1.2 Legislation, Training

- Advocate and insist/force curriculum for law enforcement, judicial, educators such as coaches to include educational programs on human trafficking and how to reduce demand (Justice Academy, Institute of Government, etc.)
- Include "sexting" in pending legislation on bullying
- Legalize/Arrange embarrassment situations for "johns"; publicize/televise men who are caught
- 2011 (toll) praxonal forum (NCCA - Jennifer)
- Train church youth as peer advocates for vulnerable populations in schools
- Change perspective/common idea of a person being prostituted, e.g. a "prostitute."

1.3 Educate Children

- Teach respect for women from a young age.
- Example organizations: Boys and Girls Clubs, Communities in Schools
- Stress fact that a child can become a victim (how approach is made, etc.)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change/reduce culture of misogyny (hatred of women)
<p>1.4 Zero tolerance for pornography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibit viewing/access to porn at work (via IT surveillance of some sort) - Hold internet services accountable for porn sites; particularly child porn. - Identify a specific approach intervention.
<p>1.5 Educate public with “paper materials”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish billboard campaign (Governor) for NC like Atlanta’s “not in my town” campaign. - Put free signs at all rest stops statewide; monitor and replace when removed. - Create a letter writing campaign to companies suspected of labor trafficking or supporting labor trafficking through their purchase of supplies that are produced via labor trafficking. - Use teletron at Sports events to broadcast the ‘message’

IssueD2: Creating an environment where showing respect and dignity to vulnerable populations is the accepted and practiced norm.

<p>Priority and Action Steps</p>
<p>2.1 Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct media literacy campaign for users of media; awareness for producers of media making appeal to curb such uses of violence and disrespectful attitudes. - Conduct a truth in advertising campaign against sex exploitation - Launch a “You Tube” respect campaign - Address ‘real life’ news impact on children - Increase the number of positive role models in the media - Educate public on maintaining the innocence of our children and protecting them from harm (from kidnapping, remaining on the streets as run-a-ways, being treated as a slave even in own home) - Incorporate more “respectful” behavior into TV shows, particularly ‘kids’ TV shows. - Highlight local, positive examples and actively publicize
<p>2.2 Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design skits/plays for elementary youth putting a positive spin on respect and dignity. - Generate more literature for K-12 on what are acceptable and non-acceptable interpersonal actions and incorporate into home, school, and faith-based institutions. - Create videos for viewing (at school) using a celebrity they will listen to.
<p>2.3 Parental Involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confront/address with children/youth the negative images portrayed in the media. - Involve PTA as a vehicle for reaching parents. - Demand stricter dress codes in schools.

- Challenge HIPAA restrictions, which inhibit law enforcement related to victims.
- Immigration concerns need to be addressed and supported. Many undocumented in area help increase crime; afraid to speak.
- Openly combating negative behaviors and bad role models (verbally) to children, other youth, and general public, such as “college parties.”
- Educate children about vulnerable populations.

2.4 Educate Community at Large

- Personally portray positive behaviors openly
- Faith-based groups help create more positive norms

Issue D3: Modifying the societal and cultural attitudes towards “purchasers” and the “consent” aspect contributed to the victims involved.

Priority and Action Steps

3.1 Media

- Post ‘johns’ pictures in the Post Office and write letters to ‘johns’
- Establish more severe consequences for ‘johns’ in media portrayals
- Seek media campaign support from North Carolina Senator, Ellie Kinnaird, NC Secretary of State, Elaine Marshall, and Governor Perdue
- Seek columnist, such as Ruth Sheehan, that will adopt as a ‘focus issue” for their readership
- Cover law enforcement ‘bust’ to force elected officials to take a public stand.
- Have “victims” tell their stories
- Publicize issues around human trafficking; methods used to recruit; mindset of victims; \$\$ being motivation thus eliminate \$\$ - eliminate need for victims.
- Enhance collaboration between ALL levels of law enforcement and with concerned citizens

3.2 Community Involvement

- Send info on all trafficking to elected officials; give them tangible/concrete actions to take
- Advocate, advocate, advocate - become personally known to our key elected officials by first name.
- Present to public officials tangible evidence of sexual slavery in LOCAL city/town; e.g. children victims, child porn

3.3 Legislative

- Make punishment more stringent for ‘purchasers’.
- Make consent a strict liability element of all sexual violence.
- Address “Hollywood” standards ratings (G, PG, PG-13, R, X)
- Make human trafficking training MANDATORY for NC law enforcement.
- Add to Bullying Bill now in General Assembly the need to “respect” others; particularly females/girls.

<p>3.4 Supporting Women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publicly recognize that most of the “victims” have no option. - Provide for the young women whose needs are not being met; needs such as absence of loving environment; lack of education/skill sets to support themselves; desperation; having no identity - Conduct women’s forums on ‘self-esteem’ and making positive choices - Recognize differences in cultural norms; adapt assistance to take those differences into consideration.
<p>3.5 Involving Ethnic Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Get ethnic groups into this discussion; representation in task forces; such as El Pueblo. - Conduct meetings inviting ethnic communities.

Issue D4: Changing sexist attitudes, life-styles that insult the dignity of females, and media and advertising campaigns that exploit the bodies of females.

<p>Priority and Action Steps</p>
<p>4.1 Training children/youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educate on how men and women are different; but EQUAL. - Strengthen education and counseling regarding positive relationships for middle and high school students. - In training for professionals interfacing with youth, incorporate information about human trafficking. - Strengthen school programs teaching morality and anti-violence to youth.
<p>4.2 Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publish Crime Watch reports on local incidents in variety of channels, such as N&O. - Increase number of Public Service Announcements on television regarding this topic. - Establish broadcasting standard – for every negative sexist portrayal presented there must be a counter positive portrayal presented. - Recruit columnists to take up this issue; e.g. Ruth Sheehan
<p>4.3 Celebrity Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and encourage celebrity “hot stars” to create/deliver healthy messages to young girls [and boys]! - Recruit male celebrities to get on-board to speak on these issues.
<p>4.4 Community Involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Getting more men involved as allies to end exploitation of women. - Be supportive of young girls and women who have experienced dating violence. - Insist on use of internet “dot” warning for “adult-rated”

- information/materials; use of “amber alert” signs.
- Write letter to editors, TV stations, magazines, movie studios re: objectionable content.
- Encourage local law enforcement to join Cook County lawsuit against Criage’s List (sexist ads)
- Form advocacy groups to support the Cook County lawsuit against Craige’s List.

- 4.5 Advertising
- Activism against sexy/adult clothing for children.
 - Collective boycotting companies promoting ‘sexist’ choices; such as Abercrombie and Fitch, Old Navy, magazines
 - Pump up the advertising from ‘positive’ side; make it CLEAR.

Issue D5: Demand for discounted pricing creates market for “counterfeit goods” often manufactured by labor trafficking victims.

Priority and Action Steps
<p>5.1 Media Awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Explore ways to have media cover all sides of issue. – Use media to confront Mars and other chocolate manufacturers who exploit child slaves on cocoa plantations. – Educate public on the “true price” of those cheaper goods.
<p>5.2 Boycotting goods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Purchase from socially responsible companies. – Change consumer behavior to reduce the demand for counterfeit goods. – Boycott goods that are known to use trafficked victims or underpaid labor. – Monitor flea market vendors to ensure products sold are not counterfeit. IF they are, the vendor should be fined and/or shut down or receive some type of penalty, which will not allow them to close up shop at one site and move on to another.
<p>5.3 Research and Educate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Make all aware of international issues and policies. – Train social service agencies, church outreach groups, Dept. of Agriculture people to look for forms of labor trafficking. – Research companies who are suspected of “counterfeit” goods. – Church mission group that give supplies to migrant farm workers; train on how to identify victims. – Educate public on true price of those lower-priced goods. – Study impact of higher unemployment rates on incidents of labor trafficking.
<p>5.4 Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aggressively pursue people who employ undocumented workers. – Increase language skills among monitors

