



Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Tourism

Youth Module

For Ages 12 - 16

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YOUTH MODULE For Ages 12 - 16

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The rapid growth of international tourism does not only represent an economic boon for most tourism destinations; it sometimes also produces negative socio-cultural impacts which become evident, in particular, in the exploitation of human beings through sex tourism. This abhorrent phenomenon is even more repulsive when those who are directly affected by it are children and adolescents.

The sexual exploitation of children in tourism is a problem which concerns all countries worldwide, tourism-receiving and tourism-sending countries alike.

The Members of the World Tourism Organization (WTO) have taken a firm stand against this practice by unanimously adopting the *WTO Statement on the Prevention of Organized Sex Tourism* (1995) and the *Global Code of Ethics for Tourism* (1999), the latter affording tourism stakeholders the possibility of addressing the issue of child exploitation within an internationally agreed framework for the responsible and sustainable development of tourism.

By the end of 2000, the WTO and the European Union decided to pool resources to combat what is commonly known under the term “child sex tourism” through a series of interrelated projects that were carried out within the context of the **International campaign against sexual exploitation of children in tourism**. The European Commission provided a grant of almost one million euros to co-fund various actions by WTO and its NGO partners aimed at raising awareness and facilitating education and training on this subject. The preparation and publication of the present module is part of these activities.

The *Youth Module*, in combination with the *Tourism Training Module* closely related to it, has been commissioned by WTO to Ms. Cynthia Messer from the Tourism Centre of the University of Minnesota Extension Service, USA.

The purpose of this Youth Module is to assist educators in integrating the subject of sexual exploitation of children in tourism into existing secondary education programmes for children aged 12 to 16 years. Both modules are designed to be adaptable to local needs, not only as language is concerned; they are above all meant to be flexible in contents and implementation. The association of the different government departments responsible for issues such as tourism, education and youth, as well as of schools and training institutes, both at national and local level, in the discussion which will have to take place in each country prior to the implementation of the two education modules is therefore recommended.

WTO calls upon governments and public and private education centres around the world to provide its young people with a sound education in the respect of human rights, in particular children's rights, with a view to achieving a socially responsible and sustainable development of tourism worldwide.



Francesco Frangialli
Secretary-General
World Tourism Organization

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The Youth Module and the Tourism Training Module have been prepared under the supervision of Mr. Henryk Handszuh, Chief of Quality of Tourism Development, WTO. Former International Campaign Coordinator, Ms Perla Goseco, gave her input to the initial draft texts. International Campaign Coordinator Ms Marina Diotallevi and Senior Assistant Coordinator Ms Celia García-Contentente reviewed draft lecture texts and did the final editing of the modules.

Introduction

This material is designed to help teachers integrate the discussion of the sexual exploitation of children in tourism, children's rights and responsible tourism into existing courses like Health, Civics, Geography, Social Studies and global issues. The foundations for this module are the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Declaration and Agenda for Action from the World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.

Copies of both the Declaration and Agenda for Action and the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism are included with this module.

Objectives

- to develop students' understanding of the damage caused by this phenomenon to children, society and sustainable tourism.
- to help develop students' ability to react in a self-protective and responsible way toward the sexual exploitation of children in tourism, in their capacity of potential victims, travelers and professionals.

The discussion of human rights issues, particularly those regarding sexual exploitation, is highly sensitive and personal. As a teacher, you play a strategic role in adapting activities to create appropriate and effective learning experiences that meet student needs and cultural considerations. The integration of personal and cultural values, beliefs, and awareness is critical, not only for helping children learn and understand what their rights are; but how to apply them in their lives.

Tourism is an important economic development strategy for many countries and/or regions. It can bring great benefit to local people and communities if developed in a responsible and sustainable manner. Unfortunately, one of the potential negative aspects of tourism is the sexual exploitation of children. By helping students to identify the potential opportunities and threats that tourism may bring, you are helping them build the knowledge and skills to take an active role in creating their future.

Background

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is one of the most important multilateral documents addressing the human rights of children worldwide. It was approved by the United Nations General Assembly in 1989, and has been signed since by 198 countries (all countries except the United States and Somalia).

The UNCRC contains 54 articles, directed towards protecting children and their rights. Included in the articles are basic rights related to health and welfare, family, education, freedom of expression and protection from discrimination and exploitation. "In all measures concerning children, the welfare of children shall be a primary concern" (*Article 3, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*). Article 34, as well as Articles 35, 36 and 37, specifies the protection of children from sexual exploitation.

The complete text of Article 34 of the UNCRC reads:

"State parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. For these purposes state parties shall in particular take all appropriate, national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent:

- a) the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity;*
- b) the exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices;*
- c) the exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials."*

Resources

Several excellent resources relating to Children's Rights are available on the Internet. These include extensive teaching aids and lesson plans that can be downloaded and incorporated into your coursework. UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) has also produced the "Meena" series of animated videos about the rights of the girl child. Suggested sites include:

www.unicef.org

www.unicef.ca

www.abc.net.au/civics/convention

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) has been recognized as a global phenomenon that impacts millions of children each year in countries on every continent. Commercial sexual exploitation of children is not new, but the growing extent of the issue is worldwide. Every day, more and more children around the world are being subjected to it against their will.

It is a fundamental violation of children's rights which de-humanizes children and treats them as commercial objects. The commercial sexual exploitation of children happens in a variety of ways, including pornography, trafficking and prostitution. Most perpetrators are local clients. A growing number however, are leisure visitors or business travelers in a host country. This module focuses on the commercial sexual exploitation of children through tourism – sometimes called “child sex tourism”.

It is important for young people to identify their fundamental human rights, respect other cultures and people, and to develop an understanding of responsible tourism so they can take positive actions against becoming either victims or abusers of the sexual exploitation of children in tourism.

The following provides background on the phenomenon - what it is, why it happens, and who is involved. You may use this information in your presentation for your class. A variety of activities are also suggested.

To begin an examination of sexual exploitation of children in tourism, clear definitions need to be established.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

The use of children for sexual gratification by adults for remuneration in cash or kind to the child, or a third person(s). It constitutes a form of coercion and violence against children, and amounts to forced labour and a contemporary form of slavery. It includes prostitution, pornography, and the trafficking and sale of children as well as other forms of sexual exploitation.

(Adapted from the Declaration of the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, June 1996)

Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism (SECT) Sometimes referred to as Child Sex Tourism

The sexual exploitation of a child by a person or persons who engages in sexual activities with the child while traveling away from their own country or region. This usually involves some form of payment – either cash or items such as food, clothing or trinkets.

(Adapted from the Declaration of the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, June 1996)

Child

The United Nations defines a child as a person under the age of 18 unless national laws state otherwise. Many countries however, have laws that define individuals younger than 18 as adults.

(Source: Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 1, 1989)

Scope of the Issue

Commercial sexual exploitation of children is a global issue. The nature of this issue makes reliable statistics difficult to obtain. Estimates put the number of children in the sex trade globally at over one million each year.

Sexual exploitation of children in tourism (SECT) occurs wherever tourism occurs. Travel and tourism is an integral part of everyday life in many countries, and international travel has become a common event for many people. The numbers of international travelers has grown significantly in the past decade, and World Tourism Organization (WTO) projections are for continued growth.

The relationship of tourism and sexual exploitation of children has become a focus of international concern. Evidence shows that the major flow of tourists engaging in SECT is mainly from the economically developed countries in Western Europe, North America, Asia, Oceania and the Middle East to less developed countries in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. It is also a regional problem. For example, sex tourists from Japan traveling to Indonesia and Thailand; or North Americans from Canada and the United States traveling to Mexico or the Caribbean. There are individuals in all regions who engage in Sexual exploitation of children while traveling to nearby countries, or even within their own country. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children occurs wherever there is an opportunity.

In 1996, UNICEF and ECPAT estimated the following numbers of children involved in the sex industry.

China	200,000+
Dominican Republic	25,000
India	300,000-400,000
Pakistan	20,000-40,000
Philippines	100,000
Sri Lanka	20,000-30,000
Taiwan, Province of China	60,000
Thailand	100,000-250,000
Venezuela	40,000

(Source: World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children)

What is tourism? Tourism is the activities of people traveling to and staying in places away from their home for leisure, business and other purposes. Tourists can be both from within a country (domestic) or from other countries (international). Many types of businesses are involved in tourism including lodging, transportation, dining, recreational activities and attractions, local services and retail shops, and information offices.

We generally talk of “tourists” yet it should be noted that according to the official definition of WTO they should be defined as “international visitors”¹ although, in the context of sexual exploitation of children occurring in tourism, reference should be made to both international and domestic visitors. International visitors include tourists (overnight visitors) and same-day visitors (excursionists).

Tourism is the world’s largest growth industry. According to the World Tourism Organization, receipts from international tourism (travel from one country to another) have increased by an average of 9 per cent annually since 1984 to reach US\$476 billion in 2000. During the same period, international arrivals rose by a yearly average of 4.6 per cent to reach 698 million in 2000. International arrivals are predicted to exceed one billion by 2010.

The World Tourism Organization (WTO) is an inter-governmental body entrusted by the United Nations towards the promotion and development of tourism. Through tourism, WTO aims to stimulate economic growth and job creation, provide incentives for protecting the environment and heritage of destinations, and promote peace and understanding among all the nations of the world.

Tourism not only has an economic impact on destinations, but can affect the local culture and environment too. Destinations – whether a country, a region or a community need to maximize the positive impacts and minimize the negatives so that tourism is beneficial and sustainable over time. Sustainable tourism needs to benefit not only the visitor and the tourism industry; but the local (host) region and people as well – economically, environmentally and socially. Sustainable tourism is defined by WTO as:

1 “any person who travels to a country other than that in which s/he has his/her usual residence but outside his/her usual environment for a period not exceeding 12 months and whose main purpose of visit is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the country visited.”

“Sustainable tourism development meets the needs of present tourists and host regions while protecting and enhancing opportunities for the future. It is envisaged as leading to management of all resources in such a way that economic, social and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life support systems.”

Sustainable and responsible tourism go hand-in-hand. Responsible tourism addresses the role of the tourist in creating and maintaining sustainable tourism. Many tourism businesses, organizations, and even countries have created statements and guidelines encouraging visitors in what is appropriate and responsible tourism. For example, in the Maldivian Islands in the Indian Ocean, arriving tourists are given a leaflet on local customs, dress code, laws on drugs and other local sensitivities to help them be responsible tourists.

Sustainable tourism and human rights concerns prompted the international tourism community, under the guidance of the World Tourism Organization, to create a Global Code of Ethics for Tourism. The Code draws on more than a dozen previous conventions and documents, and approaches social, economic and environmental issues from an ethical perspective.

The Global Code of Ethics for Tourism provides a scheme for ensuring the sustainability of tourism and for minimizing its negative impacts.

The Code includes nine articles that outline the principles and “rules of the game” for destinations, governments, tourism industry businesses, workers and travelers. The tenth article provides a method of redress for grievances.

The Code’s criteria provide for its voluntary application and monitoring – including self-regulation, and monitoring by second parties (professional organizations) and by third parties (e.g. independent individuals, non-governmental organizations, certification bodies, etc).

Sexual exploitation of children is specifically mentioned in Article 2.3. *“The exploitation of human beings in any form, particularly sexual, especially when applied to children, conflicts with the fundamental aims of tourism and is the negation of tourism...”*

(see Global Code of Ethics for Tourism in Annex 1)

Potential Tourism Impacts

Positive

Negative

Economic

- brings new money into the economy
- higher wage, skilled jobs
- new jobs/business opportunity
- improved standard of living
- increased tax revenue
- improved infrastructure
- unequal distribution of benefits
- low wage, non-skilled or seasonal
- imported labor rather than local
- increased cost of living
- profits may be exported to non-local owners
- increased infrastructure demand & cost (water, roads, fuel, medical)

Environmental

- increased local environmental awareness
- encourages conservation and protection
- may stimulate infrastructure improvements
- may stimulate local revitalization efforts
- land use problems / competition
- increased visitation may degrade natural and historic sites
- increased pollution, congestion, crowding
- changed landscape rural to urban

Socio-Cultural

- encourages community pride
- enhance cultural identity
- traditional arts & crafts preserved
- cultural exchange
- improved quality of life
- educational opportunity
- heightened community divisiveness
- loss of cultural identity
- cheapened or false arts & crafts
- clash of lifestyles, beliefs, behavior
- increased crime, prostitution, drugs
- imitate lifestyle/culture of visitor, possible exploitation of locals

Why Does Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism Occur?

There are a number of reasons for the Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism (SECT). Economic disparity and the dramatic growth of travel worldwide in the past forty years are contributing factors. Tourism is the number one industry worldwide in terms of employment and revenue. Tourism is viewed as a major economic growth opportunity in most countries. However, unplanned development, rapid growth and economic potential create opportunities for exploitation at the local level. In the past, some countries viewed sex tourism, including child sex tourism, as a component of their tourism development. Today, governments that allowed sex tourism are realizing the damage this has inflicted on their country and are taking steps to change.

Reasons include:

Anonymity

When tourists are away from home, many feel a sense of freedom from responsibility and the social, moral or cultural constraints they feel at home. This sense of anonymity leads them to behave in a way they would never do at home among peers. It is a sense of “nobody knows me here – so why not?” For example, individuals who would never visit a brothel at home might consider doing so in another country because they know that no one from their hometown will know it happened.

Cultural Ignorance

Tourists travel to another country to experience a different culture and environment. When there are cultural differences such as language, social, economic or religious differences, visitors may make assumptions about what is acceptable within the host culture. The tourist then rationalizes his/her behaviour based on incorrect information and assumptions.

Customs and mores, including sexual, differ between cultures and should be respected. What is acceptable behaviour in one country may be unacceptable in another (e.g. public display of affection or nudity).

Rationalization / "Helping the poor"

Some tourists rationalize that it helps the poor. The visitor may think the child is helping to support her/his family, so that purchasing sex with the child the visitor is helping the child and her family economically.

Sense of superiority

Travel can reinforce prejudice. Tourists, particularly when traveling from a developed country to a less developed country, may feel a sense of superiority -either culturally or economically- to individuals in the host country. Their prejudices lead them to consider persons in poorer countries as inferior and often they have no scruples about exploiting local people. They bring closed minds and see only what they want to see.

Fear of AIDS

The fear of AIDS has raised the demand for virgins and younger sex partners. The misconception is that child sex partners are free of disease. The reality is that a child with an immature reproductive tract is at a higher risk of infection.

Supply generates demand

In some countries, children are easily available to tourists as a sex partner. These children are available in brothels, on the street, or in tourist areas. The availability of children as a sex partner gives the impression that it is culturally acceptable, and creates a powerful temptation for some.

Demand generates supply

In the 1960s and 70s, large numbers of military personnel in Southeast Asian were sent to countries including Thailand and the Philippines for "R&R - Rest and Recreation." The large "demand" for sexual partners led to the increased use of children in the sex industry.

Local causes:

Poverty

Poverty is frequently cited as the predominant cause of commercial sexual exploitation of children. A growing body of research suggests that poverty is only one of several major contributors to the vulnerability of children. Socio-cultural factors including changing family and community dynamics, and rural-urban migration are also important factors.

Other causes include:

- Economic disparity
- Lack of education
- Rural-urban migration
- Gender discrimination
- Family breakdown or dysfunction
- Consumerism
- Corruption

The role of girls and women differs between societies because of cultural values and traditions. In some cultures, girls (and women) suffer gender discrimination. A sense of obligation or powerlessness toward this situation may cause a young girl to enter the sex world against her will.

Lack of employment, changes in family structure including the loss of parent(s), or dysfunctional families may also make children vulnerable. Sexual or physical abuse may drive a child to leave home. In many rural areas, limited opportunities for earning a living drives youth and families to urban areas. Lacking education and without job skills, prostitution may be seen as survival.

In many areas of the world, children are seen as a commodity to be sold or bonded into labor and/or prostitution. CSEC involves not only individual entrepreneurs, but often it is conducted by organized networks. Various strategies are used. Although there is evidence of families knowingly selling or pushing their children into sexual exploitation, most parents sell their children into the sex trade unwittingly. Families and children may be duped into believing that the child is going into a domestic job or some other form of labor; and will have a "better life." Alternately, children may actually be kidnapped and sold. Corruption and lack of accountability of public officers enables and even assists this.

Understanding the causes of CSEC is important to being able to identify actions to stop or to prevent it.

Tourists

Tourists seeking sex with children do not have identifiable characteristics. They look like most other tourists. They come from diverse cultures, occupations and social classes. They are of all ages, married and single. They include both business and leisure travelers. The majority of those engaging in sex with children are men, but women are also involved.

Most tourists do not intentionally travel seeking sex with children. They are considered “**situational abusers.**” These are the individuals who take advantage of the availability of child sex partners at a destination. They use many elements of the tourism industry in planning, booking and experiencing a holiday or business trip. Situational Abusers can be greatly influenced by media, education, laws and peers to not participate.

Situational abusers differ from “preferential child sex abusers” or paedophiles. **Preferential child sex abusers** are individuals who prefer children who have reached or passed puberty as sex objects. **Paedophiles** have a true personality disorder, and their sexual interests focus on pre-pubescent children.² These individuals frequently have a network of communication and arrangements that provide access to children, and do not use standard tourist organizations such as travel agencies to book trips. These individuals use the Internet, private clubs and sex magazines to gain information and access to children in destinations around the world. In the host destinations, they use transportation modes, accommodations and local eating and drinking establishments. Their decision to travel with the intent to have sex with children may be influenced by national laws.

Tourism Industry

The tourism industry is not responsible for the growth of the sexual exploitation of children in tourism. Reputable tourism businesses do not knowingly or willingly participate. However, their services and facilities may be used. Tourists plan and book travel arrangements, travel on various modes of transportation and use tourism facilities at the host destination including accommodations, eating and drinking establishments, attractions and retail shops. Each of these provides an opportunity for the tourism industry to take action to prevent or stop the sexual exploitation of children.

2 Davidson, Julia O’Connell. “The Sex Exploiter.” Background paper prepared by ECPAT for the World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. 1996.

The degree of responsibility of the tourism sector is defined as:

- **Direct responsibility** corresponds to those in the tourism sector who knowingly publicise, organise, and receive sex tours (even if, at present, there is little evidence of such involvement), as well as to the operators of establishments and premises where travellers can actually meet and sexually exploit children, namely, accommodation facilities, entertainment centres, leisure areas, etc. Tolerating such activities implies complicity of the operators and complacency of travel organisers.
- **Indirect or potential responsibility** also corresponds to tour operators, travel agents, and carriers, especially airlines, who become aware that they are used as vehicles to carry declared or potential sex offenders to the destinations.³

Children

Children do not participate in sex and prostitution by choice. Children are sold, coerced or “recruited” by individuals, business people or even family members. Most children come from poor families. Cultural values and norms related to sex, the responsibility of children and a child’s position within the family/community vary greatly, and influence the decisions made by families and children. Other children, including street children, are forced into it for survival or to support drug habits.

Children engaged in commercial sex range in age from 8 to 18 years of age, but cases of younger children have been documented. The majority are adolescents, and the average in most countries is 13-14 years of age.

Locals

Individuals as well as organized crime organizations are involved. Tourists are often willing to pay large amounts of money for sex with children, generating high profits for those selling the child. The trade in children, including trafficking and pornography represents a multi-billion dollar industry.

3 World Tourism Organization Executive Council document EC/54/4 Annex II. Madrid.

The sexual exploitation of children in tourism creates negative impacts on several levels.

The Child

First, are the consequences for the child. The sexual exploitation of children in any form causes severe physical, mental and social impacts.

The child is at high risk of contracting Sexually Transmitted Diseases or HIV/AIDS, as well as being further physically abused or beaten. The immature body of a child is more vulnerable to disease because his/her immune system is not yet fully developed. A pre-pubescent girl whose reproductive tract is still developing may experience genital tears and abrasions caused by sexual activity that allow for transmission of disease. Pregnancy, abortion and fertility problems are also common issues.

Many prostituted children become chemical abusers – introduced to drugs by pimps and brothel owners as a means of control. They may “voluntarily” turn to drugs, alcohol, or solvents to escape reality, or to numb themselves to the pain they are feeling.

Children trafficked into other countries face social and cultural ostracizing. They may also experience arrest and detention because of their illegal entry into the country.

Finally, children often find that life after prostitution- if any, is difficult. Many suffer life-long and life-threatening illnesses. Children who are lucky enough to get out of this life are frequently ostracized, suffer low self-esteem and may be considered social outcasts. Those with HIV/AIDS rarely return home. Because many of these children have limited educations and few marketable skills, they may turn to other types of criminal activity to survive.

The Community

At the community level, the commercial sexual exploitation of children represents the commodification of the child. Children may be seen as objects to be sold or traded, or as social “discards.” The commercial sexual exploitation of children contributes to the erosion of human values and rights, which ultimately threatens the health of society. Education, prevention and support programmes created by collaboration between government, non-governmental and local agencies are needed. “A partnership must be developed to tackle the range of preventative and remedial efforts. The main thrust of collaboration would be to enhance the skills and capacities of the indigenous organizations so that the policies and programmes in a country become increasingly self-reliant and sustainable.”⁴

The Destination

For the country, Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism can damage the image of the destination and diminish the quality of the tourism product. If the image becomes too negative, the economic benefit of tourism is minimized as tourists seek alternative destinations.

4 Ahmed, Manzoor and Sara Ann Friedman. 1996. Education: A Force for Change. UNICEF paper submitted to the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. P18-19

World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Although explicitly mentioned in the 1989 Convention on the Rights of Children Article 34, the sexual exploitation of children has been a growing issue globally. Concern about the expanding commercial sexual exploitation of children globally lead to the Stockholm World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in 1996.

The World Congress was attended by more than 1,300 participants from 130 countries. Representatives of 122 governments participated along with representatives from international agencies, industry, NGOs, concerned individuals, and youth from 8 countries. The Congress for the first time addressed commercial sexual exploitation of children as a growing and complex global phenomenon. It was the culmination of a global mobilization process that included six regional consultations to gather input and support. The Congress was hosted by the Government of Sweden, and organized in cooperation with ECPAT, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

At this congress, the 1300 delegates adopted the Declaration and Agenda for Action. This declaration and agenda is designed to serve as a guideline for implementing, monitoring and evaluating the global efforts to eliminate commercial sexual exploitation of children. (See Annex 2 for a full copy of the Declaration)

Tourism was one of the areas identified that both influences and is affected by the international commercial sexual exploitation of children. Representatives of the tourism industry at the World Congress were proactive in identifying and denouncing the sexual exploitation of children in the tourism industry referred to as "Child Sex Tourism".

Immediately following the 1996 Congress, the World Tourism Organization created the *Child Prostitution and Tourism Task Force*. The name of task force was officially changed in 2001 to *Task Force to protect children from sexual exploitation in tourism*. The task force is a global action platform of tourism-related key-players from governments, tourism industry sectors, international organizations and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and media associations. The aim of the Task Force is to prevent, uncover, isolate and eradicate the sexual exploitation of children in tourism.

The Task Force's main objectives are to:

- Build awareness among the tourism sector, governments and tourists
- Encourage the tourism industry to engage in good and ethical practices
- Adopt professional codes of conduct and other self-regulatory measures
- Invite governments to take administrative and legal measures, such as designating focal points (contact persons) within their national tourism administration, establishing emergency hotlines, strengthening national legislation against sexual abuse of children in tourism and improving law enforcement.
- Encourage co-operation between the public and private sector, as well as between tourist generating and receiving countries, and
- Monitor the fight against the sexual exploitation of children in tourism networks at national and international level.

Most major international tourism associations have joined the global campaign and/or have adopted tourism policy documents or codes of conduct against child sex tourism.

The actions of the task force, policy documents and continuing efforts are listed at the task force webpage at www.world-tourism.org/protect_children

UNICEF, ECPAT and other international and local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) have developed numerous consumer awareness and tourism industry awareness materials in several languages. These materials are available free of cost to both consumers and tourism industry organizations.

Two examples of important and effective efforts are:

Code of Conduct of the Tourism Industry (CC-Project)

Youth Career Development Programme (now Youth Career Initiative)

(see the case studies provided in Annex 4 and 5)

Roles and Responsibilities

Everyone has a responsibility to end the sexual exploitation of children in tourism.

Government

- 1) Acknowledge the problem exists and involves citizens
 - a. As a tourism receiving country – citizens are victims
 - b. As a sending country – citizens are perpetrators
 - c. United Nations Convention on Rights of Child
Must be institutionalized at the national level
- 2) Must take action.
 - a. Prevention through education
 - b. Effective provision of health services, quality education
Training and family/community development
 - c. Reporting and monitoring mechanisms
 - d. Laws – change, create and enforce
- 3) Laws
 - a. Domestic
Age of consent
Child labor
Criminal - punishment of abusers
 - b. Extra-territorial
Citizens are punished under their own country's laws for actions committed while in another country.
 - c. Enforcement
Immigration and border controls
Local law enforcement
International cooperation
- 4) Research
 - a. Encourage research by existing research and education centers
 - b. Fund research

Tourism Industry

- 1) Inform travelers
- 2) Education of personnel
- 3) Promote socially responsible tourism
- 4) Ensure advertising and promotion is not exploitative
- 5) Voluntary monitoring and self-regulation
 - a. Codes of Conduct
 - b. Association punitive disciplinary actions
 - c. Contracts & business partnerships
 - d. Reporting mechanisms
- 6) Lobby government for stronger laws and enforcement

Non-governmental organizations and labor unions

- 1) Issue identification and advocacy
- 2) Awareness building campaigns
- 3) Research
- 4) Education
- 5) Victim assistance

Tourists

- 1) Respect local culture
- 2) Do not participate
- 3) Report suspicious behaviour
- 4) Be an informed traveler

Local citizens

- 1) Do not participate
- 2) Report suspicious behaviour
- 3) Respect and protect children's rights
- 4) Fight corruption
- 5) Lobby government for action
- 6) Provide educational opportunities for children
- 7) Teach children to identify appropriate sexual behavior or touches
- 8) Teach children how to protect themselves

Lesson Plan

Lesson: Protection from sexual exploitation of children in tourism

Audience: Adolescents ages 12-16

Goal: To build student awareness and understanding of the issues related to the sexual exploitation of children in tourism including the causes, effects, responsibilities of individuals, and the global efforts to prevent it.

References: Background Notes
PowerPoint/Overhead presentation
Resource list of books and websites
Activity Ideas

Materials: Flip chart or chalk/white board
PC, projector and screen, or
Overhead projector and screen

Time: 120 minutes. It is recommended that this be divided into at least three sessions of approximately 45 minutes each. This timeframe can be expanded depending on the depth of discussion and the use of activities.

These materials have been developed to assist teachers in introducing the topic of sexual exploitation of children in tourism into a local curriculum for youth ages 12-16. Awareness and understanding will help youth protect themselves from involvement in the sexual exploitation of children in tourism. The challenge in developing information on this or any other global issue is to provide it in a manner that can be easily adapted to local needs and requirements. Further, this is a highly sensitive issue.

Recognizing the differences in educational systems, delivery methods and requirements related to introducing content into local curricula, these materials have been designed to provide the background, content and resources for teachers on the topic. You, as the teacher, will add the local cultural context through discussion, activities and presentation.

Read the background information provided. If possible, review several of the websites or resources listed to increase your understanding of the subject. Then, review the presentation outline and suggested activities. Select activities that are appropriate for your students. You are encouraged to apply the appropriate pedagogic methods to add your own activities or ideas to bring this subject matter into your classroom in a meaningful and effective way.

15 minutes Introduction: rights of children

Method: lecture, discussion, PowerPoint, overheads

Activity: review sample documents

Discuss: definitions, rights and responsibilities

Lecture

Review and present the information from the background notes in a short lecture. Copies of the background notes may be made and given to students to aid understanding.

Topics:

- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Definitions
- Scope of the Issue

Slides/Overheads # 1-8

Discussion Questions

- 1) What is a right?
(Rights can be defined as those things that are fair and just for a person to have, or to be able to do.)
- 2) What rights do you think children should have? (At home, at school and in the community?)
- 3) What does the Convention on the Rights of a Child mean for you?
- 4) How can you ensure your rights are recognized and respected?

5) What is sexual exploitation? How do you know if you or someone else is being sexually exploited?

6) Whose responsibility is it to protect our rights?
(Answer: *government, family, community, self*)

If you wish to include more discussion on children's rights, visit the UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) website at www.unicef.org for suggestions, information and resources. You may also want to contact local organizations and government offices for information regarding actions in your own country.

20 minutes **Tourism and its role in our community**

Method: lecture, discussion

Activity: identify types of businesses in tourism

Discuss: importance of tourism in your country, the role of industry, citizens and tourists in sustainable and responsible tourism, relationship to child's rights

Lecture

Use the background information for a short lecture. You may want to contact local or national tourism offices for statistics on tourism locally. Make copies of the Impacts of Tourism page for students to aid thinking and discussion. Topics:

- What is tourism?
- Sustainable and responsible tourism
- Impacts of tourism
- Global Code of Ethics for Tourism

Slides/Overheads # 9-12

Discussion Questions

- 1) What types of businesses in our community are tourism related?
- 2) How important is tourism in our country and/or community? Have you seen many tourists in our community?
- 3) Can you think of examples of positive and negative impacts of tourism in our country or community?

- 4) Who benefits from tourism in our community? Who doesn't benefit?
- 5) How can you help carry out the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism in our community?

20 minutes

Why does sexual exploitation of children in tourism occur?

Method: lecture, discussion, case studies

Activity: allow students to discuss local causes as small groups, then share back ideas with larger group. Add any not mentioned by students.

Discuss: local implications

Lecture

Use the information from the background notes for the following topics.

- Demand Side (tourist perspective)
- Supply Side (local perspective)

Slides/Overheads # 13-16

Discussion Questions

- 1) What factors might cause or enable sexual exploitation in our community (or country)?

Activity: Case studies (optional)

Read the three case studies from the Associated Press. Discuss or have students write a short paper to answer the following.

1. How do you think these children felt?
2. What factors influenced their being sexually exploited?
3. What could the child have done to avoid or change the situation?

30 minutes **SECT: who is involved and what are the effects?**

Method: lecture, discussion
Discuss: responsibilities, solutions

Lecture

Use the background notes to discuss the responsibilities of government, industry, non-governmental organizations, tourists and local citizens in the efforts to protect children from sexual exploitation in tourism.

Slides/Overheads # 17-20

Discussion Questions

- 1) Who is responsible for sexual exploitation in tourism?
- 2) What are some of the effects that SECT has on children and communities?
- 3) What are some of the resources in our community to help deal with these negative effects of sexual exploitation?

15 minutes **Global Efforts to protect children from SECT**

Method: lecture, discussion
Activity: show in-flight videos
Discuss: in-flight videos, worldwide efforts

Lecture

Use the background information to lecture on:

- Global Campaign
- World Congress
- Task Force to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation in Tourism
- Case Studies
- Roles and Responsibilities

Slides/Overheads # 21-39

Activity: Show airline video segments (optional)

“Toys”

The following European Airlines have agreed to show the spot free of charge during their long-distance international flights: Lufthansa, Alitalia, Air Europa, Olympic Airways and the German charter airline LTU.

“Not a Souvenir”

This in-flight video is shown on Air France, AOM, Aérolyon, Finnair, and Corsair airlines.

“The abuse of children is not a peccadillo”

Used by Austrian Airlines on long international flights.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Which video segment did you like or dislike? Why?
- 2) If so many organizations and people are working on this issue around the world, why does it still occur? (*Answer: differences in beliefs about the issue, lack of awareness or willingness by some people to stop it, because there are abusers that are able to exploit children, and because it needs local efforts to stop it.*)
- 3) How do or how can each of the following protect you from SECT: the government (national and local), the local tourism sector, your community and your family?

20 minutes

What can I do to protect myself and others?

Method: lecture, brainstorm a list of ideas

Activity: show students how their individual or collective actions make a difference by using a pebble and pan or bucket of water. The ripple effect of the pebble when dropped in the water is how their actions can build and expand.

Lecture

Explain how children are an important part of the global effort, and that almost every country has made a commitment to children’s rights by signing the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Consider bringing in a guest speaker to discuss specific actions. Make a list of ways children can protect themselves on a flipchart or board.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Can you think of specific ways that you can protect yourself from sexual exploitation?
- 2) What can you do if you are faced with sexual exploitation?
- 3) Who can you go to if you need help?

Create a list of people in your community that are resources for you.

Follow-up project: Use one of the suggested activities or create your own activity to have youth express their feelings and ideas about this sensitive subject. These activities will help demonstrate understanding and internalization of information.

Introduction

- 1) Assign each student, or a small group of students a country to research and report on the culture and role of children in families/society.
- 2) Create a local Declaration and Action Plan for your school or community.
- 3) Create a visual presentation of the Rights of a Child.

Sustainable Tourism

- 1) As a large group, or in small groups. Look at each article of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism. Answer the following questions for each article. Share answers.
 - a. What right(s) does it protect?
 - b. Who is affected by this article?
 - c. How has our government acted upon (implemented) this document?
 - d. Why and how is this important to you?
- 2) What can communities and individuals do to help create sustainable tourism? Make a list.
- 3) Create a brochure or flyer telling visitors about the culture and customs of your country.

Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism

- 1) Create a visual expression about SECT. Children can work individually or in teams of 3 or 4. Visual expressions can be a picture, play, display, dance etc. Have students present these to the class, school or community.
- 2) Create a special event for your parents and community. Use what you have learned to teach others in the community.
- 3) Create a list of ways that you, your family, your community and your government can or should provide protection against sexual exploitation in tourism.
- 4) Create a role play about how a child might become involved in sexual exploitation of children in tourism and how they can avoid or escape.

- 5) Research your government's position on sexual exploitation of children in tourism. Are there laws specific to this in your country? What resources are available to assist children and families relating to this issue?
- 6) Research the local tourism industry's awareness of this issue. Create a student campaign to build awareness and support from the local tourism industry.
- 7) Read the three case studies from the Associated Press. Discuss and/or, or have students write a short paper. Answer the following.
 - a. How do you think these children felt?
 - b. What factors influenced their being commercially sexually exploited?
 - c. What could the child have done to avoid or change the situation?
 - d. What are the responsibilities of the family, child, community, government to help or prevent this from happening?
- 8) What should you do if you are faced with sexual exploitation? What should you do if you become aware of the sexual exploitation of another child? Create a plan and share it with your class.
- 9) Assign students individual countries. Have them research and write a report about the country destination, including information about culture, beliefs, customs, and tourism opportunities, attractions etc.

Global Campaign

- 1) Students are an important part of the global campaign. Brainstorm ways that your class can be involved. Select one or two of these and implement them. (ie: create a letter writing campaign to law makers requesting stronger legislation, create a website about the subject, develop a play or story that can be shared with your school and community, contact UNICEF, ECPAT or other organizations to share what you are doing locally, etc)
- 2) Use the example of a pebble dropped in water to show students the ripple effect that their individual and collective actions can have. Make a chart of the personal and collective actions your class takes.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of resources, and omission is not intended as a judgment of any site.

Websites

- Task Force to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation in Tourism www.world-tourism.org/protect_children
It can also be accessed through the World Tourism Organization website at www.world-tourism.org
- ECPAT International (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes) www.ecpat.net
- Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism www.theCode.org
- ECPAT Sweden www.ecpatSweden.org
- International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) www.ifj.org/working/issues/children/guidelines.html
- An Internet platform to prevent the sexual exploitation of children in tourism created by the NGO terre des homes-Germany www.child-hood.com
- Coalition Against Trafficking Women Factbook on Global Sexual Exploitation www.uri.edu/artsci/wms/hughes/catw/factbook.htm
- INTERPOL, Legislation of Interpol member states on sexual offences against children www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws
- UN, State Party Reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child www.un.org
- UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. www.unicef.org
- The Protection Project at Johns Hopkins University. Comprehensive information on trafficking legislation globally. www.protectionproject.org

- Focal Point against sexual exploitation of children.
www.focalpointngo.com
- Childwatch International Research Network. Includes excellent links.
www.childwatch.uio.no
- Casa Alianza, an independent, non profit organization working in Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua. www.casa-alianza.org

Two lists of published materials are on the Task Force website and on the Focalpoint website.

Annexes

1. WTO Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (1999)
2. Declaration & Agenda for Action of the Stockholm World Congress (1996)
3. World Tourism Organization Statistics (2000)
4. Case Study: Code of Conduct of the Travel and Tourism Industry
5. Case Study: Youth Career Development Programme
6. Case Studies: Associated Press News Articles
7. Video in-flight spots information
8. PowerPoint presentation of lecture

The Global Code of Ethics for Tourism

We, Members of the World Tourism Organization (WTO) representatives of the world tourism industry, delegates of States, territories, enterprises, institutions and bodies that are), gathered for the General Assembly at Santiago, Chile on this first day of October 1999,

Reasserting the aims set out in Article 3 of the Statutes of the World Tourism Organization, and aware of the “decisive and central” role of this Organization, as recognized by the General Assembly of the United Nations, in promoting and developing tourism with a view to contributing to economic development, international understanding, peace, prosperity and universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Firmly believing that, through the direct, spontaneous and non-mediatized contacts it engenders between men and women of different cultures and lifestyles, tourism represents a vital force for peace and a factor of friendship and understanding among the peoples of the world,

In keeping with the rationale of reconciling environmental protection, economic development and the fight against poverty in a sustainable manner, as formulated by the United Nations in 1992 at the “Earth Summit” of Rio de Janeiro and expressed in Agenda 21, adopted on that occasion,

Taking into account the swift and continued growth, both past and foreseeable, of the tourism activity, whether for leisure, business, culture, religious or health purposes, and its powerful effects, both positive and negative, on the environment, the economy and the society of both generating and receiving countries, on local communities and indigenous peoples, as well as on international relations and trade,

Aiming to promote responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism in the framework of the right of all persons to use their free time for leisure pursuits or travel with respect for the choices of society of all peoples,

But convinced that the world tourism industry as a whole has much to gain by operating in an environment that favours the market economy, private enterprise and free trade and that serves to optimize its beneficial effects on the creation of wealth and employment,

Also firmly convinced that, provided a number of principles and a certain number of rules are observed, responsible and sustainable tourism is by no means incompatible with the growing liberalization of the conditions governing trade in services and under whose aegis the enterprises of this

sector operate and that it is possible to reconcile in this sector economy and ecology, environment and development, openness to international trade and protection of social and cultural identities,

Considering that, with such an approach, all the stakeholders in tourism development – national, regional and local administrations, enterprises, business associations, workers in the sector, non-governmental organizations and bodies of all kinds belonging to the tourism industry, as well as host communities, the media and the tourists themselves, have different albeit interdependent responsibilities in the individual and societal development of tourism and that the formulation of their individual rights and duties will contribute to meeting this aim,

Committed, in keeping with the aims pursued by the World Tourism Organization itself since adopting resolution 364 (XII) at its General Assembly of 1997 (Istanbul), to promote a genuine partnership between the public and private stakeholders in tourism development, and wishing to see a partnership and cooperation of the same kind extend, in an open and balanced way, to the relations between generating and receiving countries and their respective tourism industries,

Following up on the Manila Declarations of 1980 on World Tourism and of 1997 on the Social Impact of Tourism, as well as on the Tourism Bill of Rights and the Tourist Code adopted at Sofia in 1985 under the aegis of WTO,

But believing that these instruments should be complemented by a set of interdependent principles for their interpretation and application on which the stakeholders in tourism development should model their conduct at the dawn of the twenty-first century,

Using, for the purposes of this instrument, the definitions and classifications applicable to travel, and especially the concepts of “visitor”, “tourist” and “tourism”, as adopted by the Ottawa International Conference, held from 24 to 28 June 1991 and approved, in 1993, by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its twenty-seventh session,

Referring in particular to the following instruments:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948;
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 16 December 1966;
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 16 December 1966;
- Warsaw Convention on Air Transport of 12 October 1929;

- Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation of 7 December 1944, and the Tokyo, The Hague and Montreal Conventions in relation thereto;
- Convention on Customs Facilities for Tourism of 4 July 1954 and related Protocol;
- Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of 23 November 1972;
- Manila Declaration on World Tourism of 10 October 1980;
- Resolution of the Sixth General Assembly of WTO (Sofia) adopting the Tourism Bill of Rights and Tourist Code of 26 September 1985;
- Convention on the Rights of the Child of 26 January 1990;
- Resolution of the Ninth General Assembly of WTO (Buenos Aires) concerning in particular travel facilitation and the safety and security of tourists of 4 October 1991;
- Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development of 13 June 1992;
- General Agreement on Trade in Services of 15 April 1994;
- Convention on Biodiversity of 6 January 1995;
- Resolution of the Eleventh General Assembly of WTO (Cairo) on the prevention of organized sex tourism of 22 October 1995;
- Stockholm Declaration of 28 August 1996 against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children;
- Manila Declaration on the Social Impact of Tourism of 22 May 1997;
- Conventions and recommendations adopted by the International Labour Organisation in the area of collective conventions, prohibition of forced labour and child labour, defence of the rights of indigenous peoples, and equal treatment and non-discrimination in the work place;

affirm the right to tourism and the freedom of tourist movements, state our wish to promote an equitable, responsible and sustainable world tourism order, whose benefits will be shared by all sectors of society in the context of an open and liberalized international economy, and

solemnly adopt to these ends the principles of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.

[Article 1] Tourism's contribution to mutual understanding and respect between peoples and societies

1. The understanding and promotion of the ethical values common to humanity, with an attitude of tolerance and respect for the diversity of religious, philosophical and moral beliefs, are both the foundation and the consequence of responsible tourism; stakeholders in tourism development and tourists themselves should observe the social and cultural traditions and practices of all peoples, including those of minorities and indigenous peoples and to recognize their worth;
2. Tourism activities should be conducted in harmony with the attributes and traditions of the host regions and countries and in respect for their laws, practices and customs;
3. The host communities, on the one hand, and local professionals, on the other, should acquaint themselves with and respect the tourists who visit them and find out about their lifestyles, tastes and expectations; the education and training imparted to professionals contribute to a hospitable welcome;
4. It is the task of the public authorities to provide protection for tourists and visitors and their belongings; they must pay particular attention to the safety of foreign tourists owing to the particular vulnerability they may have; they should facilitate the introduction of specific means of information, prevention, security, insurance and assistance consistent with their needs; any attacks, assaults, kidnappings or threats against tourists or workers in the tourism industry, as well as the wilful destruction of tourism facilities or of elements of cultural or natural heritage should be severely condemned and punished in accordance with their respective national laws;
5. When travelling, tourists and visitors should not commit any criminal act or any act considered criminal by the laws of the country visited and abstain from any conduct felt to be offensive or injurious by the local populations, or likely to damage the local environment; they should refrain from all trafficking in illicit drugs, arms, antiques, protected species and products and substances that are dangerous or prohibited by national regulations;
6. Tourists and visitors have the responsibility to acquaint themselves, even before their departure, with the characteristics of the countries they are preparing to visit; they must be aware of the health and security risks inherent in any travel outside their usual environment and behave in such a way as to minimize those risks;

[Article 2] Tourism as a vehicle for individual and collective fulfilment

1. Tourism, the activity most frequently associated with rest and relaxation, sport and access to culture and nature, should be planned and practised as a privileged means of individual and collective fulfilment; when practised with a sufficiently open mind, it is an irreplaceable factor of self-education, mutual tolerance and for learning about the legitimate differences between peoples and cultures and their diversity;
2. Tourism activities should respect the equality of men and women; they should promote human rights and, more particularly, the individual rights of the most vulnerable groups, notably children, the elderly, the handicapped, ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples;
3. The exploitation of human beings in any form, particularly sexual, especially when applied to children, conflicts with the fundamental aims of tourism and is the negation of tourism; as such, in accordance with international law, it should be energetically combatted with the cooperation of all the States concerned and penalized without concession by the national legislation of both the countries visited and the countries of the perpetrators of these acts, even when they are carried out abroad;
4. Travel for purposes of religion, health, education and cultural or linguistic exchanges are particularly beneficial forms of tourism, which deserve encouragement;
5. The introduction into curricula of education about the value of tourist exchanges, their economic, social and cultural benefits, and also their risks, should be encouraged;

[Article 3] Tourism, a factor of sustainable development

1. All the stakeholders in tourism development should safeguard the natural environment with a view to achieving sound, continuous and sustainable economic growth geared to satisfying equitably the needs and aspirations of present and future generations;
2. All forms of tourism development that are conducive to saving rare and precious resources, in particular water and energy, as well as avoiding so far as possible waste production, should be given priority and encouraged by national, regional and local public authorities;

3. The staggering in time and space of tourist and visitor flows, particularly those resulting from paid leave and school holidays, and a more even distribution of holidays should be sought so as to reduce the pressure of tourism activity on the environment and enhance its beneficial impact on the tourism industry and the local economy;
4. Tourism infrastructure should be designed and tourism activities programmed in such a way as to protect the natural heritage composed of ecosystems and biodiversity and to preserve endangered species of wildlife; the stakeholders in tourism development, and especially professionals, should agree to the imposition of limitations or constraints on their activities when these are exercised in particularly sensitive areas: desert, polar or high mountain regions, coastal areas, tropical forests or wetlands, propitious to the creation of nature reserves or protected areas;
5. Nature tourism and ecotourism are recognized as being particularly conducive to enriching and enhancing the standing of tourism, provided they respect the natural heritage and local populations and are in keeping with the carrying capacity of the sites;

[Article 4] Tourism, a user of the cultural heritage of mankind and contributor to its enhancement

1. Tourism resources belong to the common heritage of mankind; the communities in whose territories they are situated have particular rights and obligations to them;
2. Tourism policies and activities should be conducted with respect for the artistic, archaeological and cultural heritage, which they should protect and pass on to future generations; particular care should be devoted to preserving and upgrading monuments, shrines and museums as well as archaeological and historic sites which must be widely open to tourist visits; encouragement should be given to public access to privately-owned cultural property and monuments, with respect for the rights of their owners, as well as to religious buildings, without prejudice to normal needs of worship;
3. Financial resources derived from visits to cultural sites and monuments should, at least in part, be used for the upkeep, safeguard, development and embellishment of this heritage;
4. Tourism activity should be planned in such a way as to allow traditional cultural products, crafts and folklore to survive and flourish, rather than causing them to degenerate and become standardized;

[Article 5] Tourism, a beneficial activity for host countries and communities

1. Local populations should be associated with tourism activities and share equitably in the economic, social and cultural benefits they generate, and particularly in the creation of direct and indirect jobs resulting from them;
2. Tourism policies should be applied in such a way as to help to raise the standard of living of the populations of the regions visited and meet their needs; the planning and architectural approach to and operation of tourism resorts and accommodation should aim to integrate them, to the extent possible, in the local economic and social fabric; where skills are equal, priority should be given to local manpower;
3. Special attention should be paid to the specific problems of coastal areas and island territories and to vulnerable rural or mountain regions, for which tourism often represents a rare opportunity for development in the face of the decline of traditional economic activities;
4. Tourism professionals, particularly investors, governed by the regulations laid down by the public authorities, should carry out studies of the impact of their development projects on the environment and natural surroundings; they should also deliver, with the greatest transparency and objectivity, information on their future programmes and their foreseeable repercussions and foster dialogue on their contents with the populations concerned;

[Article 6] Obligations of stakeholders in tourism development

1. Tourism professionals have an obligation to provide tourists with objective and honest information on their places of destination and on the conditions of travel, hospitality and stays; they should ensure that the contractual clauses proposed to their customers are readily understandable as to the nature, price and quality of the services they commit themselves to providing and the financial compensation payable by them in the event of a unilateral breach of contract on their part;
2. Tourism professionals, insofar as it depends on them, should show concern, in co-operation with the public authorities, for the security and safety, accident prevention, health protection and food safety of those who seek their services; likewise, they should ensure the existence of suitable systems of insurance and assistance; they should accept the reporting obligations prescribed by national regulations and pay fair compensation in the event of failure to observe their contractual obligations

3. Tourism professionals, so far as this depends on them, should contribute to the cultural and spiritual fulfilment of tourists and allow them, during their travels, to practise their religions;
4. The public authorities of the generating States and the host countries, in cooperation with the professionals concerned and their associations, should ensure that the necessary mechanisms are in place for the repatriation of tourists in the event of the bankruptcy of the enterprise that organized their travel;
5. Governments have the right – and the duty - especially in a crisis, to inform their nationals of the difficult circumstances, or even the dangers they may encounter during their travels abroad; it is their responsibility however to issue such information without prejudicing in an unjustified or exaggerated manner the tourism industry of the host countries and the interests of their own operators; the contents of travel advisories should therefore be discussed beforehand with the authorities of the host countries and the professionals concerned; recommendations formulated should be strictly proportionate to the gravity of the situations encountered and confined to the geographical areas where the insecurity has arisen; such advisories should be qualified or cancelled as soon as a return to normality permits;
6. The press, and particularly the specialized travel press and the other media, including modern means of electronic communication, should issue honest and balanced information on events and situations that could influence the flow of tourists; they should also provide accurate and reliable information to the consumers of tourism services; the new communication and electronic commerce technologies should also be developed and used for this purpose; as is the case for the media, they should not in any way promote sex tourism;

[Article 7] Right to tourism

1. The prospect of direct and personal access to the discovery and enjoyment of the planet's resources constitutes a right equally open to all the world's inhabitants; the increasingly extensive participation in national and international tourism should be regarded as one of the best possible expressions of the sustained growth of free time, and obstacles should not be placed in its way;
2. The universal right to tourism must be regarded as the corollary of the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay, guaranteed by Article 24 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 7.d of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

3. Social tourism, and in particular associative tourism, which facilitates widespread access to leisure, travel and holidays, should be developed with the support of the public authorities;
4. Family, youth, student and senior tourism and tourism for people with disabilities, should be encouraged and facilitated;

[Article 8] Liberty of tourist movements

1. Tourists and visitors should benefit, in compliance with international law and national legislation, from the liberty to move within their countries and from one State to another, in accordance with Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; they should have access to places of transit and stay and to tourism and cultural sites without being subject to excessive formalities or discrimination;
2. Tourists and visitors should have access to all available forms of communication, internal or external; they should benefit from prompt and easy access to local administrative, legal and health services; they should be free to contact the consular representatives of their countries of origin in compliance with the diplomatic conventions in force;
3. Tourists and visitors should benefit from the same rights as the citizens of the country visited concerning the confidentiality of the personal data and information concerning them, especially when these are stored electronically;
4. Administrative procedures relating to border crossings whether they fall within the competence of States or result from international agreements, such as visas or health and customs formalities, should be adapted, so far as possible, so as to facilitate to the maximum freedom of travel and widespread access to international tourism; agreements between groups of countries to harmonize and simplify these procedures should be encouraged; specific taxes and levies penalizing the tourism industry and undermining its competitiveness should be gradually phased out or corrected;

So far as the economic situation of the countries from which they come permits, travellers should have access to allowances of convertible currencies needed for their travels;

[Article 9] Rights of the workers and entrepreneurs in the tourism industry

1. The fundamental rights of salaried and self-employed workers in the tourism industry and related activities, should be guaranteed under the supervision of the national and local administrations, both of their States of origin and of the host countries with particular care, given the specific constraints linked in particular to the seasonality of their activity, the global dimension of their industry and the flexibility often required of them by the nature of their work;
2. Salaried and self-employed workers in the tourism industry and related activities have the right and the duty to acquire appropriate initial and continuous training; they should be given adequate social protection; job insecurity should be limited so far as possible; and a specific status, with particular regard to their social welfare, should be offered to seasonal workers in the sector;
3. Any natural or legal person, provided he, she or it has the necessary abilities and skills, should be entitled to develop a professional activity in the field of tourism under existing national laws; entrepreneurs and investors - especially in the area of small and medium-sized enterprises - should be entitled to free access to the tourism sector with a minimum of legal or administrative restrictions;
4. Exchanges of experience offered to executives and workers, whether salaried or not, from different countries, contributes to foster the development of the world tourism industry; these movements should be facilitated so far as possible in compliance with the applicable national laws and international conventions;
5. As an irreplaceable factor of solidarity in the development and dynamic growth of international exchanges, multinational enterprises of the tourism industry should not exploit the dominant positions they sometimes occupy; they should avoid becoming the vehicles of cultural and social models artificially imposed on the host communities; in exchange for their freedom to invest and trade which should be fully recognized, they should involve themselves in local development, avoiding, by the excessive repatriation of their profits or their induced imports, a reduction of their contribution to the economies in which they are established;

Partnership and the establishment of balanced relations between enterprises of generating and receiving countries contribute to the sustainable development of tourism and an equitable distribution of the benefits of its growth;

[Article 10] Implementation of the principles of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism

1. The public and private stakeholders in tourism development should cooperate in the implementation of these principles and monitor their effective application;
2. The stakeholders in tourism development should recognize the role of international institutions, among which the World Tourism Organization ranks first, and non-governmental organizations with competence in the field of tourism promotion and development, the protection of human rights, the environment or health, with due respect for the general principles of international law;
3. The same stakeholders should demonstrate their intention to refer any disputes concerning the application or interpretation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism for conciliation to an impartial third body known as the World Committee on Tourism Ethics.

Declaration & Agenda for Action of the Stockholm World Congress (1996)

This Declaration and Agenda for Action were unanimously accepted by delegates at the World Congress on Wednesday 28 August 1996

Declaration

1. We, gathered in Stockholm for the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, representing the Governments of 119 countries, together with non-governmental organisations, the End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT) campaign, UNICEF and other agencies within the family of the United Nations, and other concerned organisations and individuals worldwide, hereby commit ourselves to a global partnership against the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

The Challenge

2. Every day, more and more children around the world are subjected to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. Concerted action is needed at the local, national, regional and international levels to bring an end to the phenomena.
3. Every child is entitled to full protection from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. This is reaffirmed by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, an international legal instrument of universal significance (of which there are 187 States Parties). States are required to protect the child from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and promote physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of the child victim.
4. According to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning children, and their rights are to be enjoyed without discrimination of any kind. In all matters affecting the child, the views of the child should be given due weight, in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.

5. The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a fundamental violation of children's rights. It comprises sexual abuse by the adult and remuneration in cash or kind to the child or a third person or persons. The child is treated as a sexual object and as a commercial object. The commercial sexual exploitation of children constitutes a form of coercion and violence against children, and amounts to forced labour and a contemporary form of slavery.
6. Poverty cannot be used as a justification for the commercial sexual exploitation of children, even though it contributes to an environment which may lead to such exploitation. A range of other complex contributing factors include economic disparities, inequitable socio-economic structures, dysfunctioning families, lack of education, growing consumerism, urban-rural migration, gender discrimination, irresponsible male sexual behaviour, harmful traditional practices, armed conflicts and trafficking of children. All these factors exacerbate the vulnerability of girls and boys to those who would seek to procure them for commercial sexual exploitation.
7. Criminals and criminal networks take part in procuring and channeling vulnerable children toward commercial sexual exploitation and in perpetuating such exploitation. These criminal elements service the demand in the sex market created by customers, mainly men, who seek unlawful sexual gratification with children. Corruption and collusion, absence of and/or inadequate laws, lax law enforcement, and limited sensitisation of law enforcement personnel to the harmful impact on children, are all further factors which lead, directly or indirectly, to the commercial sexual exploitation of children . It may involve the acts of a single individual, or be organised on a small scale (eg. family and acquaintances) or a large scale (eg. criminal network).
8. A wide range of individuals and groups at all levels of society contribute to the exploitative practice. This includes intermediaries, family members, the business sector, service providers, customers, community leaders and government officials, all of whom may contribute to the exploitation through indifference, ignorance of the harmful consequences suffered by children, or the perpetuation of attitudes and values that view children as economic commodities.
9. The commercial sexual exploitation of children can result in serious, lifelong, even life threatening consequences for the physical, psychological, spiritual, moral and social development of children, including the threat of early pregnancy, maternal mortality, injury, retarded development, physical disabilities and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS. Their right to enjoy childhood and to lead a productive, rewarding and dignified life is seriously compromised.

10. While laws, policies and programmes exist to counter the commercial sexual exploitation of children, greater political will, more effective implementation measures, and adequate allocation of resources are needed to give effect to the spirit and letter of these laws, policies and programmes.
11. The primary task of combatting the commercial sexual exploitation of children rests with the State and families. The civil society also has an essential role to play in preventing and protecting children from commercial sexual exploitation. It is imperative to build a strong partnership between Governments, international organisations and all sectors of society to counter such exploitation.

The Commitment

12. The World Congress reiterates its commitment to the rights of the child, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and calls upon all States in cooperation with national and international organisations and civil society to:
 - Accord high priority to action against the commercial sexual exploitation of children and allocate adequate resources for this purpose;
 - Promote stronger cooperation between States and all sectors of society to prevent children from entering the sex trade and to strengthen the role of families in protecting children against commercial sexual exploitation;
 - Criminalise the commercial sexual exploitation of children, as well as other forms of sexual exploitation of children, and condemn and penalise all those offenders involved, whether local or foreign, while ensuring that the child victims of this practice are not penalised;
 - Review and Revise, where appropriate, laws, policies, programmes and practices to eliminate the commercial sexual exploitation of children;
 - Enforce laws, policies and programmes to protect children from commercial sexual exploitation and strengthen communication and cooperation between law enforcement authorities;
 - Promote adoption, implementation and dissemination of laws, policies, and programmes supported by relevant regional, national and local mechanisms against the commercial sexual exploitation of children;

- Develop and Implement comprehensive gender-sensitive plans and programmes to prevent the commercial sexual exploitation of children, to protect and assist the child victims and to facilitate their recovery and reintegration into society;
- Create a climate through education, social mobilisation, and development activities to ensure that parents and others legally responsible for children are able to fulfill their rights, duties and responsibilities to protect children from commercial sexual exploitation;
- Mobilise political and other partners, national and international communities, including intergovernmental organisations and non-governmental organisations, to assist countries in eliminating the commercial sexual exploitation of children; and
- Enhance the role of popular participation, including that of children, in preventing and eliminating the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

13. The World Congress adopts this Declaration and Agenda for Action to assist in protecting child rights, particularly the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant instruments, to put an end to the commercial sexual exploitation of children worldwide.

Agenda for Action

1. The Agenda for Action aims to highlight existing international commitments, to identify priorities for action and to assist in the implementation of relevant international instruments (see Annex I). It calls for action from States, all sectors of society, and national, regional, and international organisations, against the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

2. Coordination and Cooperation:

i) Local/National Levels

(a) urgently strengthen comprehensive, cross-sectoral and integrated strategies and measures, so that by the year 2000 there are national agenda(s) for action and indicators of progress, with set goals and time frame for implementation, targeted to reducing the number of children vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation and nurturing an environment, attitudes and practices responsive to child rights;

- (b) urgently develop implementation and monitoring mechanism(s) or focal point(s) at the national and local levels, in cooperation with civil society, so that by the year 2000 there are data bases on children vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation, and on their exploiters, with relevant research and special attention to disaggregating data by age, gender, ethnicity, indigenous status, circumstances influencing commercial sexual exploitation, and respect for confidentiality of the child victims especially in regard to public disclosures;
- (c) foster close interaction and cooperation between the government and non-government sectors to plan, implement and evaluate measures against the commercial sexual exploitation of children, coupled with campaigns to mobilise families and communities to protect children from commercial sexual exploitation, and with adequate allocation of resources;

ii) Regional/International Levels

- (d) promote better cooperation between countries and international organisations, including regional organisations, and other catalysts which have a key role in eliminating the commercial sexual exploitation of children, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child, UNICEF, ILO, UNESCO, UNDP, WHO, UNAIDS, UNHCR, IOM, the World Bank/IMF, INTERPOL, UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division, UNFPA, the World Tourism Organization, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Centre for Human Rights, the UN Commission on Human Rights and its Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, and the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, each taking guidance from the Agenda for Action in their activities in accordance with their respective mandates;
- (e) advocate and mobilise support for child rights, and ensure that adequate resources are available to protect children from commercial sexual exploitation; and
- (f) press for full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by State Parties, including requirements for reporting to the Committee on the Rights of the Child in accordance with existing deadlines, and encourage follow-up of countries' progress towards full realisation of child rights in the context of other relevant United Nations organs, bodies and mechanisms, including the UN Commission on Human Rights and its Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children.

3. Prevention:

- (a) provide children with access to education as a means of improving their status and make primary education compulsory and available free to all;
- (b) improve access and provide relevant health services, education, training, recreation and a supportive environment to families and children vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation, including those who are displaced, homeless, refugees, stateless, unregistered, in detention and/or in state institutions;
- (c) maximise education on child rights and incorporate, where appropriate, the Convention on the Rights of the Child into formal and non-formal education for all communities, families and children;
- (d) initiate gender-sensitive communication, media and information campaigns to raise awareness and educate government personnel and other members of the public about child rights and the illegality and harmful impact of the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and promote responsible sexual attitudes and behaviour in society, in keeping with the child's development, sense of dignity and self-esteem;
- (e) promote child rights in family education and family development assistance, including an understanding that both parents are equally responsible for their children, with special intervention to prevent sexual violence against children;
- (f) identify or establish peer education programmes and monitoring networks to counter the commercial sexual exploitation of children;
- (g) formulate or strengthen and implement gender-sensitive national social and economic policies and programmes to assist children vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation, families and communities in resisting acts that lead to the commercial sexual exploitation of children, with special attention to family abuse, harmful traditional practices and their impact on girls, and to promoting the value of children as human beings rather than commodities; and reduce poverty by promoting gainful employment, income generation and other supports;
- (h) develop or strengthen, implement and publicise relevant laws, policies and programmes, to prevent the commercial sexual exploitation of children, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- (i) review laws, policies, programmes and practices which lead to or facilitate the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adopt effective reforms;

- (j) mobilise the business sector, including the tourism industry, against the use of its networks and establishments for the commercial sexual exploitation of children;
- (k) encourage media professionals to develop strategies which strengthen the role of the media in providing information of the highest quality, reliability and ethical standards concerning all aspects of commercial sexual exploitation of children; and
- (l) target those involved with commercial sexual exploitation of children with information, education and outreach campaigns and programmes to promote behavioural changes to counter the practice.

4. Protection:

- (a) develop or strengthen and implement laws, policies and programmes to protect children and to prohibit the commercial sexual exploitation of children, bearing in mind that the different types of perpetrators and ages and circumstances of victims require differing legal and programmatic responses;
- (b) develop or strengthen and implement national laws to establish the criminal responsibility of service providers, customers and intermediaries in child prostitution, child trafficking, child pornography, including possession of child pornography, and other unlawful sexual activity;
- (c) develop or strengthen and implement national laws, policies and programmes that protect child victims of commercial sexual exploitation from being penalised as criminals and ensure that they have full access to child-friendly personnel and support services in all sectors, and particularly in the legal, social and health fields;
- (d) in the case of sex tourism, develop or strengthen and implement laws to criminalise the acts of the nationals of the countries of origin when committed against children in the countries of destination (“extra-territorial criminal laws”); promote extradition and other arrangements to ensure that a person who exploits a child for sexual purposes in another country (the destination country) is prosecuted either in the country of origin or the destination country; strengthen laws and law enforcement, including confiscation and seizure of assets and profits, and other sanctions, against those who commit sexual crimes against children in destination countries; and share relevant data;

- (e) in the case of trafficking of children, develop and implement national laws, policies and programmes to protect children from being trafficked within or across borders and penalise the traffickers; in cross border situations, treat these children humanely under national immigration laws, and establish readmission agreements to ensure their safe return to their countries of origin accompanied by supportive services; and share relevant data;
- (f) identify and strengthen or establish networks between national and international law enforcement authorities, including INTERPOL, and civil society to monitor against the commercial sexual exploitation of children; set up special units among law enforcement personnel, with adequate resources and child-friendly facilities, to counter the commercial sexual exploitation of children; appoint liaison officers aimed at guaranteeing child rights in police investigations and judicial procedures for the exchange of key information; and train all law enforcement personnel on child development and child rights, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child, other relevant human rights standards and national legislation;
- (g) identify and encourage the establishment of national and international networks and coalitions among the civil society to protect children from commercial sexual exploitation; foster action and interaction among communities, families, non-governmental organisations, the business sector, including tourist agencies, the World Tourism Organization, employers and trade unions, computer and technology industry, the mass media, professional associations, and service providers to monitor and report cases to the authorities, and to adopt voluntary ethical codes of conduct; and
- (h) create safe havens for children escaping from commercial sexual exploitation, and protect those who provide assistance to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation from intimidation and harassment.

5. Recovery and Reintegration:

- (a) adopt a non-punitive approach to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation in keeping with the rights of the child, taking particular care that judicial procedures do not aggravate the trauma already experienced by the child and that the response of the system be coupled with legal aid assistance, where appropriate, and provision of judicial remedies to the child victims;

- (b) provide social, medical, psychological counselling and other support to child victims of commercial sexual exploitation, and their families, paying particular attention to those with sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and with a view to promoting the self-respect, dignity and rights of the child;
- (c) undertake gender-sensitive training of medical personnel, teachers, social workers, non-governmental organisations and others working to help child victims of commercial sexual exploitation on child development and child rights, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant human rights standards;
- (d) take effective action to prevent and remove societal stigmatisation of child victims and their children; facilitate the recovery and reintegration of child victims in communities and families; and where institutionalisation of the child is necessary, ensure that it is for the shortest possible period in accordance with the child's best interests;
- (e) promote alternative means of livelihood with adequate support services to child victims and their families so as to prevent further commercial sexual exploitation; and
- (f) adopt not only legal sanctions against the perpetrators of sexual crimes against children, but also socio-medical and psychological measures to create behavioural changes on the part of the perpetrators.

6. Child Participation:

- (a) promote the participation of children, including child victims, young people, their families, peers and others who are potential helpers of children so that they are able to express their views and to take action to prevent and protect children from commercial sexual exploitation and to assist child victims to be reintegrated into society; and
- (b) identify or establish and support networks of children and young people as advocates of child rights, and include children, according to their evolving capacity, in developing and implementing government and other programmes concerning them.

Annex to the Agenda for Action

The Agenda for Action refers to many international instruments, recommendations and targets which have bearing on children and their families. They include the following:

- the 1930 ILO Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour - the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- the 1949 Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others;
- the 1957 ILO Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour;
- the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
- the 1973 ILO Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment;
- the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
- the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- the 1990 World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and its Plan of Action;
- the 1992 Programme of Action of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights for the Prevention of the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography;
- the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights;
- the 1993 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;
- the 1994 Cairo Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Population and Development;
- the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit on Social Development;

the 1995

Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women;

the 1996

Programme of Action of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights for the Prevention of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.

The Agenda for Action takes note of the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children. It acknowledges the initiatives of many international and regional organisations, including INTERPOL, World Tourism Organization (in particular, the 1995 World Tourism Organization Statement on the Prevention of Organised Sex Tourism) and the Council of Europe (in particular, the 1991 Recommendation No. R91 11 concerning Sexual Exploitation, Pornography and Prostitution of, and Trafficking in, Children and Young Adults).

It also recognises the process of evolving a possible Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

World Tourism Organization Statistics

World Tourism grew by an estimated 7.4 per cent in 2000 –its highest growth rate in nearly a decade and almost double the increase of 1999.

According to results received by WTO through August 2001 the total number of international arrivals reached a record 699 million in 2000: nearly 50 million more arrivals were recorded.

All regions of the world hosted more tourists in 2000, although the fastest developing region continued to be East Asia and the Pacific with a growth rate of 14.7 per cent and some 14 million more tourists than in 1999.

Receipts from international tourism climbed to US\$ 476 billion in 2000, an increase of 4.5 per cent over the previous year. Worldwide the average receipt per arrival amounted to US\$ 680.

Since the 1950s, tourism has not only grown quickly but has also changed significantly. For years, tourism was characterized by concentration:

- (a) geographic: 15 countries, all in Western Europe and North America, attracted 97 per cent of the world total;
- (b) seasonal coverage (summer); and
- (c) in terms of purpose of trip (leisure – summer holidays)

Today, tourism is more diverse. In 2000, the receipts registered for international tourism amounted to over US\$ 1 billion per year in 59 countries and territories out of approximately 200. Travel tends to be spread out in all over the year thanks to the growing fragmentation of school and work holidays; and it is much more varied in terms of purpose of trip, length of stay and accommodation. Many people combine shorter summer holidays with short breaks the rest of the year. This has generated a substantial increase in the cultural, sports, adventure, rural and cruise tourism segments, along with a variety of combinations. The business sector has benefited from the substantial growth of congresses and incentive tourism.

Expectations for 2001 are for a more moderate pace of growth. Given the cooler economic climate it would be a good result if the tourism sector could consolidate the record growth of 2000 and add a modest increase.

WTO predicts that the tourism sector will expand by an average of 4.1 per cent a year to over 1.56 billion international travelers by the year 2020. (Adapted: World Tourism Organization. www.world-tourism.org)

Case Study: Code of Conduct of the Tourism Industry

to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation (CC-Project)

The Code of Conduct of the Tourism Industry to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation (CC-Project) is an effort initiated in 1999 by ECPAT Sweden and Scandinavian tour operators to actively contribute to stopping the sexual exploitation of children in tourism (SECT). Originally designed as a certification scheme for tour operators, the project has expanded and broadened its scope to include other sectors of the travel and tourism industry. The project is now a joint effort of the ECPAT organizations in Sweden, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, and respect Austria. The first step is to implement the project on a European level and long-term to implement it on a global level.

The Code of Conduct commits suppliers of tourism services to five criteria:

1. Establish an ethical policy regarding commercial sexual exploitation of children

This means that tourism businesses draw up clear guidelines for the position to be adopted by staff towards sexual exploitation of children. For example, the red-light district should not be pointed out as a positive part of the nightlife, either in catalogues or by staff at the destination.

2. Educate and train all the staff in the country of origin and at the destinations

The education is continuous and explains what the staff must do in their daily work to combat CSEC and how they should deal with any crime situations. This education is kept up-to-date through, for example, articles in in-house newspapers and via the Intranet.

3. Include a clause in contracts with suppliers to make a common repudiation of child sexual exploitation

The work is conducted step-by-step. The tour operators begin with introducing a clause on mutual dissociation in their hotel contracts. Before a contract is prepared the agent ensures that the hotel manager understands the meaning of the clause and shares a common view in repudiating SECT.

4. Provide information to travelers

Means to inform travelers include catalogues, brochures, in-flight videos, ticket-slips, websites etc.

5. Inform local “key persons” at the destination, for example police, restaurant and bar owners

The travel and tourism industry should make it clear that sexual exploitation of children in tourism is not something that the industry desires but is something that they actively seek to counteract.



In September 2000, a meeting of more than forty representatives of international tourism associations, tour operators and child care organizations was held in Bad Oyenhausen Germany to discuss implementation of a Code of Conduct regarding the protection of children against commercial sexual exploitation. The participants of this meeting agreed on the implementation of an international Code of Conduct and agreed on the five criteria. The participants also agreed to establish a joint working group to move the work forward and develop an evaluation procedure and monitoring system. The joint working group in subsequent meetings established a permanent steering committee, and obtained funding for a Secretariat (through 2001) to produce information and training kits and update the website at www.thecode.org. The Secretariat is housed at the World Tourism Organization headquarters in Madrid, Spain.

Actions

As of June 2001, close to 100 percent of the Swedish tour operators and 70 percent of the Scandinavian tour operators have adopted and are now in the process in implementing the Code at six pilot destinations:

Star Tours:

1. Thailand
2. Dominican Republic
3. Brazil
4. Goa, India

SLG

1. Thailand
2. Dominican Republic
3. Cuba

Apollo

1. Thailand
2. Dominican Republic
3. Sri Lanka

Sample of integration of code by Star Tours/Fritidsresor

Star Tour's clause of contracts with hotels condemning child sex tourism

The commercial sexual exploitation of children around the world is an increasing problem. Specifically, we can note the growing problem with child prostitution in tourist destination countries.

Star Tour/Fritidsresor recognises that the problem in some extent is linked with tourism and our firm belief is that sexual exploitation of children is a fundamental abuse of a child's human rights and dignity. For this reason Star Tour/Fritidsresor has decided to contribute in the task of tackling the problem and in this way protecting children from sexual exploitation. A way for the tourist sector to achieve this is by promoting good practises and self-regulation. In this work we recognise the influence we have as a major player in the tourist sector.

Even if we have no reason at all to believe that this kind of abuse has been carried out in your hotel, hotels often are the scene of the abuse, whether we like it or not. For this reason we urge you to support us in the campaign against this problem. We believe that, by staying vigilant and taking a few simple steps, you will ensure that neither your hotel - nor its good reputation - is compromised.

We would also like to take the opportunity to inform you about our position if it reaches our knowledge that commercial child abuse has taken place at one hotel contracted by Star Tour/Fritidsresor. If the abuse has been a result of an employee at the hotel acting as intermediary we will from now take the right, with immediately effect, to cancel any agreement or contract.

Star Tour/Fritidsresor: Information for travelers

"It makes us happy ... when we read about your co-operation with ECPAT", writes a family in a letter to us at Fritidsresor. The positive response that we receive from our customers as regards our environment and social involvement makes us happy too. ECPAT (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes) is just one of the international organisations that we in Fritidsresor are members of and support. Studies show that there are several clear links between tourism and increased trafficking in children for sexual purposes, particularly in the Third World. Therefore, it is important for us as travel agents to contribute to the work of combating trafficking in children for sexual purposes. We can raise awareness concerning this problem by disseminating information to our customers and colleagues, and also by imposing demands on our sub-contractors, for example, hotel owners."

Sources:

www.thecode.org

Ecpat Sweden, Memorandum Re: the Steering Committee of the CC-project, June 19, 2001.

Muntarhorn, Vitat. Report of the Steering Committee Chair to Participants of the Bad Oeynhausen Conference. August 25, 2001

Case Study: The Youth Career Development Programme

The Youth Career Development Programme (YCDP) was started by the Pan Pacific Hotel Company to provide hospitality training and life skills to youth who have little or no opportunities for career development. The joint programme with UNICEF began in Bangkok in 1995 with a 20-week programme for 10 young girls. The scheme has now become an industry benchmark, winning support from the international community, the International Hotels and Restaurant Association, and the Thai Education Ministry.

The Youth Career Development Programme includes vocational training, the teaching of English, and basic life skills. Trainees spend a total of 20 weeks in the programme, covering technical areas such as housekeeping, laundry, engineering, kitchen, food and beverage service. A typical day will include 3 hours of theory instruction and 4 hours of hand-on training in technical areas. Each week, they spend 3 hours of basic English-as-a-second-language training as well as sessions on life skill topics such as computer skills training, service etiquette, and first-aid training.

The programme is monitored or taught by hotel executives who act as “teachers” in career placement and education activities. It costs approximately US\$400 to fund a student each year.

The YCDP has attracted participation from 17 other hotels in Thailand, and now provides training for dozens of girls annually. By the end of 2001, more than 450 youths – mostly young girls, will have graduated from the YCDP. Sixty percent of graduates are still employed in the hospitality industry, and 24% are continuing their education, with just under half of this group enrolled in universities.

The YCDP in Bangkok is a model for programmes in other areas. For example, in Dhaka, Bangladesh, the Pan Pacific Sonargaon brought in 9 orphans (ages 8-12) from a local orphanage to provide them with education, English language skills, and internship opportunities until they finish school. When the hotel implemented a similar programme 18 years ago, four orphans were trained and now work at the hotel as employees.

A similar programme at The Sari Pan Pacific Jakarta will provide orphan teenagers, left on their own at the age of 17, with education and training in housekeeping skills to enable them to find future jobs in private homes as houseboys, maids, and drivers.

The inspiration for this innovative programme came from Pan Pacific Hotels and Resorts' President Ichigo (Ishee) Umehara who states, "One of our corporate core values is to seek enrichment of mankind and to make a difference to the lives of people. To this end, a community programme should always go hand in hand with the establishment of each new Pan Pacific hotel."

The Youth Career Development Programme has received global recognition for its innovative and grassroots approach. In 1997, the International Hotel and Restaurant Association endorsed it as the best way to fight child sex tourism. In 1998, UNAIDS (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS) declared this programme one of the 10 best for prevention of Aids. In 1999, the programme was presented to the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. The Prince of Wales International Business Leaders Forum has supported this program publicly since 1991 and under their sponsorship the YCDP, now known as Youth Career Initiative has secured funding to continue and expand around the world.

Case Study: Associated Press (AP) News articles

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First printed, April 6, 1997

Manila, Philippines

Nica, a short-haired girl with drooping eyes, says bitterly that she was sold by her mother to a female pimp four years ago at age 10.

“Why me? There are so many other children. Why did she have to be my mother?” she asks.

She worked for two years as a prostitute in Manila’s San Andres red-light district, earning money for her jobless mother. Nica’s father left when she was still a baby.

Nica was usually paid the equivalent of US\$20 but once made about US\$190 for staying a week at a resort with a Swiss man, her pimp and the pimp’s two children – a boy and a girl.

Since her pimp was arrested two years ago, Nica has lived in a government shelter that houses about 250 sexually abused children. She’s in the fourth grade at the shelter school.

“We could not find a relative who could take care of her because they are all into this rotten trade,” said Noemi Sanchez, the shelter’s psychologist.

Bangkok, Thailand

Noi Wattana slept with eight men during her first week of work in a roach-infested brothel in a middle-class section of Bangkok. Three of them beat her.

Noi insists she is 17, one year below the legal age to work as a prostitute in Thailand. But with her close-cropped hair, torn jeans and dirty flip-flop sandals, she doesn’t look that old as she sits on the torn leather sofa that the brothel manager says he reserves for “dek-dek,” the Thai word for children. Noi’s farming family lives in a poor village in the arid northeast. Her father died several years ago, and her mother has no income. A 20-year-old friend of the family, who is a prostitute in the same brothel, took Noi here.

“My mother knows what I am doing,” Noi said. “I’ve called her three times already. She always cries. I cry, too.”

Counselors who work with child prostitutes say that in all likelihood, Noi will be trapped in an underworld of prostitution and crime, being shuttled from brothel to brothel until she is too old, too diseased or too emotionally unstable to be of use to her exploiters.

Porto Alegre, Brazil

At 11, V.B.A. felt she had run out of options. For two years, her drug-addicted stepfather had regularly raped her, although her mother refused to believe it.

So V.B.A. – who under Brazilian law can be identified only by her initials – stuffed a few belongings in a bag and hopped a bus to Tacuara, a city 36 miles north of Porto Alegre, the capital of Brazil's southernmost state of Rio Grande do Sul.

She hoped to find work as a nanny. Instead, she was picked off the streets by a woman who offered her shelter, alcohol and marijuana. The woman, a madam, put V.B.A. to work at the local bus station, telling her to approach solitary male travelers and lure them to a seedy hotel for sex at US\$20 each. V.B.A. worked the bus station for months, until a friend told her she could earn more at a nearby “boate,” or night spot. For the next three years, she cajoled customers to buy drinks, dance and sex, for US\$50 an encounter. V.B.A., now 16, doesn't know which one gave her AIDS.

“I did what I did to survive,” she shrugs.

Last summer, V.B.A. and two other minors were caught in a raid on the boate by a police unit created to deal with crimes against children – the first such unit in Brazil. V.B.A. ran away shortly after being interviewed by the Associated Press at a state children's home in Puerto Alegre. She called social workers to say she'd found work as a maid.

Case Study Discussion Questions

- 1) What is your reaction to these stories?
- 2) What do these girls have in common?
- 3) What factors influenced their being commercially sexually exploited?
- 4) How do you think these children felt?
- 5) What could the child have done to avoid or change the situation?
- 6) What would you do in their position?
- 7) What are the responsibilities of the family, child, community, and government to prevent this from happening?

The following three inflight videos can be viewed either through the WTO website (http://www.world-tourism.org/protect_children/index.htm) or by using the enclosed CD-Rom.

1. In-flight video “Toys” against child prostitution in tourism

The in-flight video “Toys” against child prostitution in tourism was prepared by the German child rights organisation terre des hommes in co-operation with the European Commission and the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth. It is addressed to all long-distance flight tourists and aims to point out the problem of sexual exploitation of children in tourism.

The in-flight spot “Toys” was awarded with the UN-Grand Award for excellent public relations in Tokyo by the United Nations in co-operation with the International Public Relations Association (IPRA).

The following European Airlines have agreed to show the spot free of charge during their long-distance flights: Lufthansa, Alitalia, Air Europa, Olympic Airways, Sabena and the German charter airline LTU.

2. In-flight video “Souvenir” against child sex tourism

Since 15 March 1999, AIR FRANCE has diffused this video on long-haul flights to raise awareness about the problem of child sex tourism.

Air France was the first French airline to draw the attention of its passengers to this question. This video has been made in partnership with the organisation ECPAT International (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes) and the NGO Groupe Développement

It is screened at a particularly sensitive moment for travellers at the start of their trip to a far destination, and informs viewers that there are laws to punish abusers when they are abroad, but also on their return home.

A simple message reminds us that no one can abuse a child with impunity, no matter where the offence is committed. It is particularly aimed at a category of tourists that is on the increase: the "occasional" sex tourists, i.e. those for whom the aim of the trip is not to have sex with children but who, once at the holiday destination, might be tempted because young children are on offer.

The video is in English and French so as to reach the greatest number of passengers. This film was created and produced by the LINTAS Agency. Its diffusion is exempt from copyright payment and can be adapted with the logo of the companies in the end of the spot.

This in-flight video is actually diffused on Air France, AOM, Aérolyon, Finnair, Corsair and Swissair. Other carriers are welcome to contact ECPAT France and show it on their flights.

3. Austrian in-flight video against the Sexual Exploitation of Children Through "Sex-Tourism"

In 1999, the production of the in-flight video "The abuse of children is not a peccadillo" was commissioned by the Austrian Ministry of Youth and Family Affairs in co-operation with the Ministry for Economic Affairs, Division for Tourism, and UNICEF. This in-flight-video is designed to raise awareness of the problem of the so-called "child sex tourism" from a humanitarian, social, health and legal perspective explicitly and to focus on the criminal consequences of child sex abuse abroad (e.g. the extraterritorial prosecution of sexual crimes committed on children abroad). With this initiative a general public consciousness shall be created that sexual encroachments on children must be rejected by any means, independent of the place in which the crime occurs, and the public shall be informed that such crimes will be pursued with criminal sanctions worldwide.

Starting in autumn 1999, AUSTRIAN AIRLINES is showing this in-flight-video on board of flights scheduled to a selection of destinations (e.g. South Africa and India). By showing the video on board of air planes travellers shall be encouraged to regard their socio-ethical responsibilities vis-a-vis all humans, and in particular children.

Austrian Airlines has become a nominee for the UNITED NATIONS VIENNA CIVIL SOCIETY AWARD 2000 for the contribution of the airline to the protection of children in the world.

The Austrian Government would be glad to make this in-flight video available to any private or public partner / organisation that is interested to join in the efforts to combat the sexual exploitation of children throughout the world.

United Nations Convention on Rights of the Child

- Approved in 1989
- Signed by 198 countries
- 54 Articles dealing with rights of children including
 - Health and welfare
 - Family
 - Education
 - Freedom of expression
 - Protection from discrimination
 - Protection from exploitation

1

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

What is it?

Relationship to Tourism?

2

Cultural Context

- Cultural values and traditions differ and may affect the approach taken to the sexual exploitation of children
- Commercial sexual exploitation of children is not a value or belief of any culture.

3

Definitions

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

The use of children for sexual gratification by adults for remuneration in cash or kind to the child, or a third person(s). It constitutes a form of coercion and violence against children, and amounts to forced labour and a contemporary form of slavery. It includes prostitution, pornography, and the trafficking and sale of children as well as other forms of sexual exploitation.

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Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism Also referred to as Child Sex Tourism

The sexual exploitation of a child by a person or persons who engages in sexual activities with the child while traveling away from their own country or region. This usually involves some form of payment – either cash or items such as food, clothing or trinkets.

Child

The United Nations defines a child as a person under the age of 18 unless national laws state otherwise. Many countries however, have laws that define individuals younger than 18 as adults.

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1 Million + Children Annually



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Children Involved in CSEC (Estimated)

China	200,000+
Dominican Republic	25,000
India	300,000-400,000
Pakistan	20,000-40,000
Philippines	100,000
Sri Lanka	20,000-30,000
Taiwan	60,000
Thailand	100,000-250,000
Venezuela	40,000

(Source: Research from UNICEF and UNICEF presented at UN World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children)

Where Does it Occur?

Industrial to Developing Countries

Europe, Japan → Asia, Latin America
 North America → Caribbean, Africa, Eastern Europe
 Japan →

Regional

Japan → Southeast Asia
 Western Europe → Eastern Europe
 U. S. and Canada → Caribbean / Mexico

Tourism Includes

- Lodging
Hotels, motels, campgrounds, home stays, etc.
- Transportation
Airlines, car rental, trains, ships, etc.
- Recreation
Parks, lakes, beaches, hiking, biking, etc.
- Attractions
Historic sites, festivals, cultural events, etc.

- Dining
Restaurants, bars, etc.
- Local services and shops
Retail shops, markets, pharmacies, etc.
- Information offices
Tourist bureaus, chambers of commerce, convention bureaus, government offices

Sustainable Tourism

"Sustainable tourism development meets the needs of present tourists and host regions while protecting and enhancing opportunities for the future. It is envisaged as leading to management of all resources in such a way that economic, social and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life support systems."

(Source: World Tourism Organization)

Responsible Tourism

Global Code of Ethics for Tourism

Article 2.3 The exploitation of human beings in any form, particularly sexual, especially when applied to children, conflicts with the fundamental aims of tourism and is the negation of tourism; as such, in accordance with international law, it should be energetically combatted with the cooperation of all the States concerned and penalized without concession by the national legislation of both the countries visited and the countries of the perpetrators of these acts, even when they are carried out abroad;

Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism (SECT)



Why does it occur?



Demand reasons

- Anonymity
- Cultural ignorance
- Rationalization...helping poor
- Racist attitudes
- Sense of economic superiority
- Plentiful supply stimulates demand
- Demand stimulates supply

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Supply (local) Reasons

- Poverty
- Economic disparity
- Lack of education
- Rural-urban migration
- Gender discrimination
- Family breakdown or dysfunction
- Consumerism
- Corruption

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The abusers

Situational Abusers

Individuals who take advantage of the availability of child sex partners at a destination.

Preferential child sex abusers

Individuals who prefer children who have reached or passed puberty as sex objects.

Paedophiles

Individual who have a true personality disorder, and their sexual interests focus on pre-pubescent children.

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Tourism is a Vehicle

- Tourism Industry is not to blame, but reputable travel companies often used
- Opportunity for industry to educate, build consumer awareness and actively work to prevent involvement.

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The Victims

- Ages 8-18
- Majority are girls, but boys are victims too
- Most suffer permanent physical and psychological damage

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Negative Impacts

- Health risks - especially HIV/AIDS and STDs
- Social and cultural damage
- Damage to image of destination and tourism industry
- Undermines sustainable tourism development

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The Global Campaign

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1990 | ECPAT formed to combat child prostitution in Asia |
| 1996 | World Congress Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Stockholm, Sweden |
| 1997 | <i>Child Prostitution and Tourism</i> Task Force formed by WTO |
| 2001 | Task Force name changed
2 nd World Congress, Yokohama Japan |

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Task Force to protect children from sexual exploitation in tourism

The mission:

"To prevent, uncover, isolate and eradicate the exploitation of children in sex tourism."

www.world-tourism.org/protect_children

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Task Force main objectives

- to build awareness among the tourism sector, governments and tourists
- to encourage the tourism industry to engage in good and ethical practices
- to adopt professional codes of conduct and other self-regulatory measures,
- to encourage co-operation between the public and private sector, as well as between tourist generating and receiving countries

- to invite governments to take administrative and legal measures, such as designating focal points (contact persons) within their national tourism administration, establishing emergency hotlines, strengthening national legislation against sexual abuse of children in tourism and improving law enforcement
- to monitor the fight against the sexual exploitation of children in tourism networks at national and international level.

Task Force Partners

- WTO
- Governments
- Tourism Industry associations
- ECPAT and other NGOs
- Media associations

Industry Participants include:

International:	Regional:
FIYTO	COTAL
IATA	ECTAA
IFTO	HOTREC
IPWTO	PATA
IHSRA	
IUF/UIITA/IUL	
UFTAA	

What is Being Done

- Awareness campaigns
 - consumers
 - industry
- Declarations by Industry Organizations

Brazil's campaign

IH&RA's brochure

Industry Initiatives

- Hotel association campaigns
- Code of Conduct of the Tourism Industry
- Italian Travel Agent information
- Youth Career Development Programme

In-flight videos

Directed at situational abusers and shown during flight en-route to destination.

- Lufthansa
- Air France
- Austrian Airlines

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Government Role

“To take strong and appropriate action, through the development and enforcement of specific legislation/measures, against any kind of illegal, abusive or exploitative tourist activity, including sexual exploitation/abuse, in recognition of the fact that such activities have particularly adverse impacts and pose significant social, health and cultural threats, and that all countries have a role to play in the efforts to stamp them out.”

Source: Resolution of United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, 19-20 April, 2006. Document E/CN.17/1999.L.6

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National Legislation

Age of Consent

- Exist in almost every country
- Vary widely from 12 to 18 years of age
- Penalties vary widely too

Extra-territoriality

- Allow for prosecution of national citizens for crimes committed while in another country.

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Sex with Children is a Crime

30+ Countries have extra-territoriality laws including:

Algeria	Ethiopia	Laos	Slovenia
Australia	Finland	Luxembourg	Spain
Austria	France	Mexico	Sweden
Belgium	Germany	Morocco	Switzerland
Cyprus	Iceland	Netherlands	Taiwan
Canada	Ireland	New Zealand	Thailand
China	Italy	Norway	United Kingdom
Denmark	Japan	Portugal	United States

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Industry Can:

- Inform travelers
- Educate personnel
- Use sustainable tourism practices
- Ensure advertising & promotion is not exploitative
- Voluntary monitoring & regulation

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Staff Education

- What SECT is, the laws, the risks
- How to recognize when it is occurring
- What to do
 - reporting
 - documenting
 - preventing

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Display Information

- Windows
- Brochures
- Desktop
- Counter Cards



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- Use logo on business materials
 - bag tags
 - business cards
 - literature

- Use resources to inform clients



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- ### What Can Individuals Do?
- Familiarize yourself with the laws
 - Report suspicions or crimes
 - Discuss the issue with others
 - Support the campaign
 - Say "NO"

"...to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived, this is to have succeeded."

Ralph Waldo Emerson