

From Director's Desk

Welcome to this edition of ECPAT Child Alert. You will find information on a number of issues including Filtering on the Internet; a campaign in conjunction with The Body Shop; government action on a United Nations protocol; concerns regarding the Auckland Super City and the Rugby World Cup; the impact of the Child Alert Hotline; some local and international news and examples of child sex abuse convictions - and an opportunity to become a Child Alert Partner!

As I contemplated the contents of this newsletter along with other activities we are involved with regarding abuse of children here in New Zealand and overseas I again realized that the task and responsibility of preventing sexual abuse of children belongs to many. The enforcement agencies including the Department of Internal Affairs, the Police, Justice, Customs and Social Development all make vital contributions. Councils and local bodies work to make their communities safe. Agencies including service providers and care givers work on the front line to assist.

The more that these efforts can be strengthened and made complimentary so that each thread eventually results in strong rope of hope and protection for children the more effective we will become.

Thank you for your part in protecting children from sexual exploitation. It could be that only when the public at large combine with those above will we make a real difference to the rising level of sexual abuse of children. Together we must put a stop to children being abused through prostitution, pornography, trafficking and sex tourism.

Alan Bell
Director



CHILDREN ARE NOT FOR SALE

Introducing ECPAT Child Alert Partners!

Here is an opportunity for you to become involved and be part of a team of New Zealanders preventing the sexual exploitation of children.

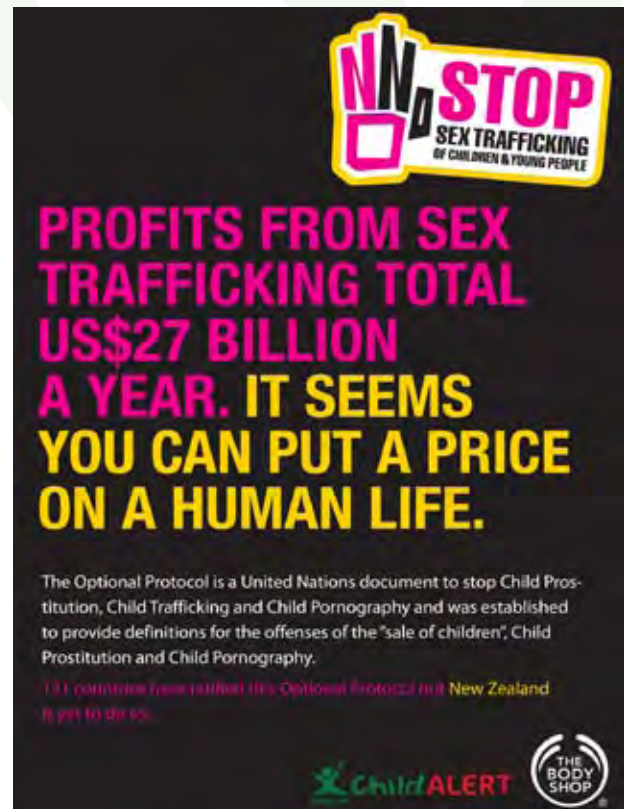
Become a Partner and receive regular updates and news from within New Zealand and around the world.

Simply tick the appropriate box on the response coupon and e-mail or post to us at ECPAT Child Alert!

Have you been to The Body Shop lately?

ECPAT Child Alert is joining again with The Body Shop throughout New Zealand to promote the prevention of sexual exploitation of children and youth.

The Body Shop outlets will again be stocking their beautiful hand cream "Soft hands- Warm Heart" enabling you to take advantage of a win-win offer! You get to treat yourself to a marvelous hand cream and at the same time through the generosity of The Body Shop assist ECPAT Child Alert. The Body Shop will donate all the profit from this product to ECPAT Child Alert to support our work and to bring about change for good in the lives of children around the world. So get on in to The Body Shop while stocks last - and pick up the information they have on hand to tell you more about ECPAT Child Alert!



STOP SEX TRAFFICKING
OF CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

PROFITS FROM SEX TRAFFICKING TOTAL US\$27 BILLION A YEAR. IT SEEMS YOU CAN PUT A PRICE ON A HUMAN LIFE.

The Optional Protocol is a United Nations document to stop Child Prostitution, Child Trafficking and Child Pornography and was established to provide definitions for the offenses of the "sale of children", Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

131 countries have ratified this Optional Protocol but New Zealand is yet to do so.

ChildALERT **THE BODY SHOP**

Government moving on important ratification

The Child & Family Protection Bill is currently before Parliament and is in the first reading stage. ECPAT Child Alert is strongly encouraging the Government to pass this Bill as within it there is a United Nations protocol that yet needs to be ratified by New Zealand. The protocol is called 'The Optional Protocol Against the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography'. Over 130 countries around the world have already ratified this document and ECPAT Child Alert is firmly of the opinion that New Zealand is overdue in ratifying this important United Nations instrument of child protection.

It's a Goal

The Rugby World Cup will be a huge event for New Zealand in 2011! There will be many events, a huge influx of visitors, an air of excitement and many people travelling around New Zealand experiencing the matches and the beauty of our country. One would assume that all New Zealanders will be keen for the event to showcase New Zealand to the world in a positive way and that the whole event goes off smoothly. There are many people planning to make this a reality. ECPAT Child Alert is pleased to be playing a small part to help ensure the safety of children during this time.

ECPAT is aware that such events overseas have increased the risk of sexual exploitation. In New Zealand prostitution has been decriminalized and it is a safe bet that the sex industry will experience an increase in trade during this time. The concern for ECPAT Child Alert is that children (under 18 years) must not be seduced or lured into this activity due to demand and the opportunity to earn money or gifts in exchange for sexual services.



Speaking For Ourselves

Speaking for Ourselves provides a platform for 13 young people who were or are exploited through sexual activity in Auckland to talk about themselves, their experiences, their opinions, their hopes and dreams. The following stories highlight the incredible courage and resilience of the young people involved in this project.

Children and young people exploited through commercial sexual activity are exceedingly vulnerable, especially those exploited on the streets. They are continually exposed to all forms of violence from clients, gangs, older sex workers, and other members of the public. They run the risk of contracting sexually transmitted infections, HIV, pregnancy, and becoming seriously ill or injured due to the harshness of their environment.

Order your copy today at the special supporter rate of only \$10.00 per copy. Simply tick the order form on the back page return to us and we will post to you.

The ECPAT Child Alert Hotline is making a difference!

Since we opened the Child Alert Hotline last year over 500 sites have been reported to us for inspection by the Department of Internal Affairs to identify illegal child sex images (child pornography). We say "well done" to those who have used the Hotline – you are making a direct contribution towards the protection of children. For those of you who have not yet taken advantage of the Hotline – go to www.childalert.org.nz and download the quick, safe and easy plug-in onto your browser. Whenever you (or your child) sees a screen that is offensive simply click on the Child Alert icon. The site will disappear and the details will be forwarded automatically and anonymously for inspection.

Will Auckland Super City be Super for Children?

ECPAT Child Alert is concerned to ensure that with the far reaching changes that will accompany the merging of local councils into the Super City model the well-being of children will be carefully considered and adequate provision made to protect their best interests. Whilst there has been much warranted discussion on the function of the CCOs and the efficient running of the infrastructure the social services of the city cannot be ignored or downgraded. ECPAT Child Alert would like to see specific professional advice being available to the mayor and Council so this aspect of city life is not overlooked. The future of the city will be in the hands of those that are children today and every effort must be made to allow them to grow to their full potential free from fear and exploitation.

The provision of a Social Policy Forum is critical and needs to be community based, consultative and of core importance to be effective.



Victims of Child Sexual Abuse at Higher Risk of Fatal Self-Harm

Victims of child sexual abuse are at increased risk of suicide and accidental fatal drug overdose later in life, according to the authors of a study published in the Medical Journal of Australia.

Dr Margaret Cutajar, a psychologist from the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science at Monash University, Melbourne, and her co-authors, Professors James Ogloff and Paul Mullen, investigated rates of fatal self-harm in 2759 people who were medically ascertained as being victims of child sexual abuse (CSA) between 1964 and 1995.

They found significantly higher rates of suicide and accidental fatal drug overdose in the CSA cohort compared with age-limited national data for the general population, with relative risks of 18.09% higher for suicide and 49.22% higher for fatal drug overdose in CSA victims.

THE DIGITAL CHILD EXPLOITATION FILTERING SYSTEM



Introduction

The expansion of the Internet has led to many positive developments. However, the fact remains that criminals, individuals as well as organised groups, are also using this technology as a means of producing, collecting and distributing images of child sexual abuse.

Child sexual abuse images are not “just images” but evidence of actual criminal activity.

The possession and distribution of this materials creates an international market that supports and encourages further abuse. The children who are victims of this activity sometimes suffer the psychological effects of their abuse for many years after the physical offending has ended. Images that are distributed on the Internet never go away.

With each download the person involved is re-victimised.

The System

The Digital Child Exploitation Filtering System is designed to assist in combating the trade in child sexual abuse images by making it more difficult for persons with a sexual interest in children to access that material. The filtering system complements the enforcement activity undertaken by the Censorship Compliance Unit of the Department of Internal Affairs.

How does it work

Using a secure link the system advertises to an Internet Service Provider routing information that relates to a

list created by the department of known websites that host child sexual abuse material. When someone attempts to access a website that matches this routing information that request is sent to the DCEFS for examination.

If the request is for a known website meaning it is currently within the list, the system will present a landing page informing the user, the request has been stopped. If the request does not match an item on the list the user is presented with the requested page.

The system is operated and maintained by the Censorship Compliance Unit. ECPAT Child Alert has been associated with the development of the Filter and the associated Child Alert Hotline.

81-year-old Paedophile Jailed

One of New Zealand's oldest child sex offenders has been jailed for more than five years.

Donald MacDonald-Dalkeith, 81, was sentenced in Napier District Court yesterday after pleading guilty to 14 charges of unlawful sexual connection with children aged between 12-14, The Dominion Post reported.

Judge Bridget Mackintosh sentenced MacDonald-Dalkeith to five years and four months' prison.

Police national co-ordinator for adult sexual assault and child abuse, Detective Senior Sergeant Neil Holden, said people older than MacDonald-Dalkeith had been convicted for historic sexual offending, but he was the oldest person convicted for recent offending “of known record”.

NZPA

ECPAT Comment: Who can you trust? This man was a teacher; a parliamentarian librarian; he had no previous convictions; he was 81 years old – and yet he very deliberately seduced boys and sexually exploited them in exchange for paltry gifts! Parents need to educate their children to report any such overtures so that they get protected themselves and the offender can be taken out of circulation.

TAX REBATE?

Perhaps around this time you have a credit from your income tax return? If you are able would you like to consider turning this into a donation for ECPAT Child Alert to help protect children?

THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Te Tari Taiwhenua

AT our last AGM in October 2009 a Motion was passed to formally change our name to ECPAT Child Alert and to transition from an incorporated society to a charitable trust. This has now been completed and the ECPAT Child Alert Trust is duly registered. Nothing else changes - the fight against sexual exploitation of children continues both in New Zealand and as part of ECPAT International network in 80 countries around this world.

Every Child's Right - Freedom from Commercial Sexual Exploitation



AUCKLAND CITY COUNCIL
ASB
COGS
DIGITAL STRATEGY
GOOD SHEPHERD
NATIONAL LOTTERY
JR MCKENZIE
PELORUS TRUST

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the above donors for their generous grants to ECPAT Child Alert.

