



End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking
May 2009

ECPAT NEW ZEALAND

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Behind Closed Doors . . .



Safe Places

Safe Homes • Safe Schools • Safe Communities

It has been described as the "Crime of the Century". Austrian Josef Fritzl imprisoned his daughter Elizabeth for 24 years in a soundproof cellar and raped her daily. She bore seven children, six of whom survived. The world's media was on hand to record the trial and ran out of words trying to describe the horror of this crime. A sense of outrage touched people around the world and there has been a universal feeling of anger.

Ironically, that feeling of anger is not shared by everyone. Though it may seem incredible to most people, there is, in each country, a group of men who will admire Fritzl and the life he has lived. We call these men paedophiles, and among the more hardened there will be a surge of pleasure and possibly envy as they read the story of Fritzl's sexual abuse.

In their own minds these men also rape children.

While Fritzl has done so behind a locked cellar door, the paedophiles have raped in their imagination behind the locked door of their computer room. The internet has opened up a whole new world for these abusers.

There are those who will argue that it is better for the paedophiles and abusers to be abusing children in the fantasy world of the internet rather than doing so in real life, but this argument ignores the fact that the images on the net come from the real abuse of a real child. Once on the net the images can continue to circulate around the world for the rest of that child's life.

The size of this problem is beginning to be recognized. Reliable studies indicate that there are in excess of 100,000 web sites containing objectionable and illegal images of abuse available at any one time. To evade the law many of these sites keep changing their name and location. The sites are in great demand as can be shown by U.S. Custom estimates that the sites generate an income of US\$ three billion annually. Eighteen months ago one American was arrested and police found that his computer contained more than one million illegal sexual images.

Fritzl will no doubt also have his admirers in New Zealand as well. There are probably more active paedophiles in this country than most people would recognise. They surf the Internet daily, obsessed by the urge to find new images for their collection. Thanks to our very efficient monitoring system in

this country paedophiles are being convicted regularly and found guilty of collecting a significant number of illegal child sex abuse images.

The Fritzl case has exposed a gap in our social structure. He was able to continue to abuse his daughter and grandchildren partly because of indifference and the failure of family, friends and neighbours to ask questions about his strange behaviour. There are child sex abusers in our own society as well. It is the responsibility of our whole society to protect our children from predators who would abuse them.

"I dreamt and saw the world was joy,

I awoke and saw the world was service,

I acted and saw that service was joy."

—Indian Proverb

STOP PRESS!!

As we go to print the Herald on Sunday dated May 17 2009 announced that a 54 year old Auckland man has been charged with raping his biological daughter on multiple occasions over 21 years. The charges cover a period from 1988 when his daughter was in her mid-teens until last year. The Herald on Sunday understands that the accused fathered a child with his daughter and that several other pregnancies were terminated. Most of the offending is thought to have taken place in the family home. During her teens it is understood that during her teens the daughter slept rough to escape the alleged offending. The man's identity cannot be identified at this time due to legal reasons.

Body Parts in High Demand

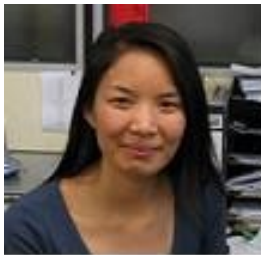
Child trafficking is on the increase in Africa and information has been found that many trafficked children are sacrificed and their body parts like the heart, kidney, liver and others are sold. The bodies of many children who are trafficked and sacrificed in African countries are found with the heart, liver, kidney and other parts missing.

The minister of Uganda for the welfare of workers, Doctor Emmanuel Ojala, clarified that it's true the body parts of children are sold in some countries. According to estimates from different international bodies, over 1.2 million children are trafficked globally every year and the majority of these children are from African countries. The problem of trafficking and sacrifice of children is so high in countries of East Africa, like Uganda and on the Ivory Coast in West Africa, where the majority of children who are reported missing are found sacrificed. (*ECPAT International News*)

Meeting Ling

We are pleased to introduce Ling – our office administration “super-star”! Ling commenced helping ECPAT as a volunteer and now works part-time and turns her hand to just about everything. So if you have any queries about office matters don't hesitate to call and talk to her .

Ling hails from Beijing. Prior to joining ECPAT NZ, she had worked in Kelly Services Beijing office for more than 2 years. Before that, she has had almost 2 years experience in a customer services position. She likes working in our small but friendly office.



Block Internet Porn

Germany's cabinet agreed on a law authorizing the blocking of Internet pages containing child pornography to make it harder for criminals to profit from distributing the material.

The legislation is modelled on action taken by countries such as Britain, Italy and the Scandinavian states. "If these countries can overcome any legal and technical issues and successfully fight child

porn online, we can do the same in Germany," Family Minister Ursula von der Leyen said. "We don't want to tolerate images of the rape of children, even babies, being widely available in Germany,"

Limiting access to information is a sensitive subject in Germany because of its Nazi past and East German Communist rule, but the minister said protecting children was the priority. "The vulnerability and

From Austria to NZ - II

Nina – our intern from Austria has been working extremely hard and has produced two papers of interest. The first is a *Comparative Analysis of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in Austria and New Zealand*. The second compares *Prostitution in Austria and New Zealand*.

If you would like to receive either or both of these papers send an e-mail to office@ecpat.org.nz. Well done Nina and we wish you all the best as you return to University in Austria during May."



Children's Online Interaction

A report named "Children and Technologies: Interaction without risks?" has been published in Buenos Aires. The research focuses on the use of the Internet and mobile phones by children.

The research is compiled from focus group discussions, questionnaires filled out by 915 children and interviews with teachers, parents and experts on the issue.

Findings of the report include: almost 50% of the children interviewed access the Internet with no supervision or guidance from adults, children and adolescents perceive online dangers as very low, 37% use webcam with strangers and interestingly, 74% have experienced an uncomfortable situation that involves either cyberbullying (26%), accessing pornography without looking for it (21%), or been asked to send pictures or personal information by a stranger (14%).

For further information or for the full report, contact maricruz@ecpat.net (*ECPAT International News*)

dignity of children is more important than mass communication," she said.

So far the Internet companies that have voluntarily agreed to sign a contract with the government and the Federal Crime Office cover 75 percent of the market. (*Reuters News*)



Child Sex Trafficking - Message from the ECPAT International Chair

Millions of children are trafficked every year. The majority of children - mainly girls but also a significant number of boys - who are trafficked every year are affected by sexual exploitation and abuse.

Like historic slavery, trafficking and sex slavery in the 21st-century is an issue of crime, money and economics. While there are a number of factors that drive child sex trafficking such as poverty and education, traffickers make money selling children into commercial sexual activity because there is a demand for their product.

Why should New Zealand care about the sex trade of children?

Simply - it the most horrendous kind of human exploitation and child abuse imaginable. Can you imagine the young children or grandchildren in your family, the boys and girls learning to read and write, being used as sexual slaves for predators? This is a sin against humanity, and a horrendous criminal act. The lack of evidence does not mean trafficking and sex slavery is not occurring in New Zealand. The presence of trafficking in other countries, including Australia on our back door-step, means that it is unlikely that New Zealand is exempt.

To date the connection between the

commercial sexual exploitation of children and organized crime has been largely overlooked by the New Zealand law enforcement community. This is in spite of the fact that other law enforcement agencies around the world are scrambling to keep up with the growing international links between criminal syndicates involved in child sex trafficking, illegal sex tourism, forced prostitution and child sexual abuse images.

What should New Zealand do against child sex trafficking for sexual purposes?

The Government should be open to the possibility that it might be occurring even if it is not yet a

major issue, for it may well become so. More specifically there are a range of actions that should be taken from identifying and addressing weaknesses in New Zealand's child protection systems that fail to adequately prevent children from being trafficked or in any way contribute to child trafficking; to initiating programmes that address values and beliefs that accommodate and sustain sexual violence, and the sexual exploitation of children.

Maureen Crombie

ECPAT International Chair

New Initiative by New Zealand Police



The New Zealand Police are to establish a new specialist Online Child Exploitation Unit. The unit will be based in Wellington and is called Online Child Exploitation Across New Zealand (OCEANZ). Working in conjunction with other enforcement agencies such as Customs and Internal Affairs the Unit will focus on child protection and will explore up-to-date approaches and technologies and assistance will be given by the Police Child Abuse Teams (CATs) and by other agencies such as ECPAT and Netsafe.

Government Closes Loopholes in Child Sex Law

The Government has closed two potential loopholes surrounding the release of serious child-sex offenders.

The Parole (Extended Supervision Orders) Amendment Bill, passed by Parliament removes the two potential loopholes that were inadvertently introduced into the Parole Act 2002 through an amendment in 2007.

"The Government has moved swiftly to fix these loopholes, which might have allowed child-sex offenders released on Extended Supervision Orders to avoid conditions restricting their movements," Justice Minister Simon Power told Parliament when introducing the bill.

Extended Supervision Orders are used for managing the release of child-sex offenders who were not

sentenced to preventive detention but still present a high risk of re-offending on release. These orders require child sex offenders to be on parole-type conditions for up to 10 years after release.

The first area of doubt was whether electronically monitored curfews could be imposed beyond the first 12 months of an Extended Supervision Order. Previously, they could be imposed at any time during the period of the order.

The second area of doubt was whether the Parole Board could impose residential conditions without the offender agreeing to comply with them. Previously, the offender's agreement to comply was not required.

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We appreciate all donations made to ECPAT NZ. Your generosity enables us to continue with our work to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children



We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Lion Foundation for its generous grant to enable the publication of the newsletters.

*"To plan for a year – sow a rice paddy field,
To plan for a decade – plant trees,
To plan for the future – nurture youth."*

—— Indian Proverb

From the Director's Desk - The Reality of the Virtual

Recently I have been involved in discussions regarding the increase of child abuse images on the Internet. The Internet obviously has huge potential for good. It can be used to enhance many aspects of life including recreation, business, health, education – an almost endless source of information that is bewildering in its scope.

Sadly it is also contains information that is illegal and harmful. At the World Congress Against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in November 2008 the description of the proliferation of child abuse images (child pornography) on the Internet was likened to an 'explosion'. The trend in these child abuse images indicates a move towards younger children

being sexually abused and more violence being demonstrated.

It would appear that many viewers of such sites disassociate themselves from the reality of what they are viewing and somehow confuse it with virtual images. The fact is that child sexual abuse images are real. They are a record of illegal activities and evidence of a crime scene. The children being raped and abused are real – their suffering is real and the destruction of their innocence is real. The obscene reality is that this is a mega industry driven by people without scruples to make huge profits at the cost of innocent children.

ECPAT supports open access to information on the Internet but continues to campaign against

access to illegal child sexual abuse images. There are strong links between child pornography and child prostitution and trafficking of children for sexual purposes. We value your support in the fight to prevent all aspects of sexual exploitation of children.



Alan Bell
Director ECPAT NZ

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