



CHILD ALERT (ECPAT NZ)

Preventing the sexual exploitation of children

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Xmas Edition- Dec 2015

Christmas is a time for Support - Child ALERT

Hi I am Warren Ferdinandus, the director of ECPAT Child Alert New Zealand. Christmas is a time when we all receive letters in the mail for donations and support in bringing cheer and joy to the lives of many, here in New Zealand and abroad. I would like to connect with you this season and together reflect on the past year and let's celebrate the gift of life itself. There is also reason for us to be thankful for the courage, strength and above all the love we all share with family and friends.

Reflecting on the past season I feel blessed that we have rescued, informed and equipped many who were less fortunate, vulnerable and enslaved into the trap of being trafficked and commercially exploited for sex online, as well as across our country. Yes, there is much that we as partners in the fight against the Commercial sex exploitation of children have achieved in the past year.

This Christmas I would like to encourage you to remember the voiceless, the enslaved and the silenced within our own communities across New Zealand. Partner with us!! in being that voice, that supporter and above all that advocate against any form of child abuse.

Your contribution over this festive season will go into a campaign that will reach over 60,000 Children and adults alike as well as equip schools, the local churches and other stakeholders in your community, encouraging them to step up and make a difference in combating the Commercial Sex Exploitation of our next generation.

In the New Year, we will give you the opportunity to sign up online with our new interactive website that gives you the latest news on how we are doing in the community front and the transforming of lives of both, the vulnerable youth in your community as well as the transformation of donors who have made it possible.

Dear partners, we are on an incredible journey, where we have the opportunity to change the course of a destructive cycle of hopeless in the lives of many. Join me and let's make a

difference in the lives of vulnerable children across this great nation.

May God bless you this festive season as you spend time with family and friends.

On behalf of the team I thank you and look forward to hearingback from you.

Link to the latest Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M9C8h5vaSVM>

Yours sincerely,
Warren



TAX Certificate / DONATION

Child ALERT (ECPAT NZ) is always grateful for all donations generously made to us and we have tried our best to receipt them in a timely manner. But there are circumstances donations were made via online banking leaving no proper contact for us to receipt to. If you have donated to Child ALERT (ECPAT NZ) but have not received your tax certificate or donation receipt for the past 2014/15 year, please do not hesitate to contact us at office@ecpat.org.nz or ring 09 376 5252, we will be happy to help.

* CLAIM & DONATE ? *

TAX TIME IS HERE !

You are now entitled to claim a rebate for 33.33% of your charitable donations - you may like to claim and donate the savings to Child ALERT (ECPAT NZ) ?



The Crime of Neglect

Child abuse: The sickening truth

A recent report by the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) ranked New Zealand 29 out of 30 countries in the general measure of health and safety of children.

NZ is ranked fourth worst for its child-abuse statistics. We have the highest rates of suicide in the developed world for youth aged 15-19. Last year 75 babies were hospitalised as a result of abuse, on average, one every five days. Last year 2855 children were physically abused, 1126 sexually abused and 15,615 damaged through emotional abuse or neglect.

Child, Youth and Family last year received 49,000 reports that were serious enough to require follow-up action. Almost 1800 of those dealt with by social workers last year were reabused within six months.



INVEST AND PROTECT OUR

"Today's Budget investment in vulnerable children recognises the importance of doing more and doing it better for New Zealand's most at-risk children."

- Hon Paula Bennett, Minister of Social Development

Child Trafficking to New Zealand

While trafficking to New Zealand may be a relatively small problem, organisations such as the Human Rights Commission and the Police acknowledge that it has the potential to become a growing problem. Throughout the world the trafficking of people from socio-economically deprived circumstances has increased markedly.

The New Zealand Police estimate that there are over 500 Thai women in the sex industry in Auckland alone. However, it is impossible to determine how many of them are under 18 years of age, and thus, inherently able to be considered to have been victims of trafficking. There are many obstacles that prevent trafficked children

from coming to the attention of the police or other authorities. The majority of the girls are under constant surveillance by their traffickers. In addition, they may fear the police or believe that they will be in trouble with New Zealand authorities.

The Human Rights Commission has received a number of telephone calls from health personnel reporting incidents of Thai girls, under 18 years of age, seeking medical attention, who had been subjected to sexual violence.

However, by the time the Police have become involved it has been discovered that the addresses given are false or the girls have been moved to a new location.



OUR MISSION

ECPAT International is a global network of the organisations and individuals working together for the elimination of the child prostitution, child pornography and trafficking of the children purpose, it seeks to encourage the world community to ensure children everywhere enjoy their fundamental rights and sure from all forms of commercial sexual exploitation.

ECPAT Child ALERT seeks achieve this through providing research advocacy and education while supporting those agencies that are active at a grass roots.

Policies and Programmes

New Zealand is committed to addressing the issue of child trafficking and this has been demonstrated internationally through the ratification of the Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoptions. The Intercountry Adoption Act establishes a system of co-operation amongst Contracting States to ensure that safeguards are respected and thereby prevent the abduction, sale or traffic in children. Under the Act the Department of Child, Youth and Family Services is involved with intercountry adoptions and internal policy is in place to identify and oppose applications for adoption where trafficking of children is alleged.

The New Zealand government is also working with non-government organisations to implement measures to help those people who may already be trapped in sexual slavery in New Zealand. Last year an interagency group, comprising the Human Rights Commission, the Mayor of Auckland, Auckland City Council, Police, Immigration Service, Shakti Asian Women's Refuge, ECPAT NZ and the Prostitutes Collective, was established by the Mayor of Auckland in response to concerns about Thai and other women and girls being trafficked into New Zealand and held in debt bondage. In 2000 the Human Rights Commission launched a 'Pink Sticker Campaign' to publicise the repatriation

Man jailed for child abuse videos

A Tauranga man has been jailed for two years two months on multiple charges involving child sexual abuse movies and other images. Gregory Todd Stewart, 48, self-employed, of Welcome Bay had plead guilty to four charges of making and 12 of possessing objectionable publications.

An Internal Affairs publications inspector discovered Stewart downloading movie and image files from the internet, the department said today. Stewart was tracked to a Papamoa Beach address, where he admitted collecting and possessing objectionable material.

In the Tauranga District Court yesterday Judge Thomas Ingram said the offending required imprisonment. It was clearly premeditated behaviour and the community needed protection. A search of Stewart's computer equipment showed he had made

four DVDs containing 26 movies of girls aged between four and 14, involved in sexual activity with men.

He had about 11,000 sexual image files of



girls ranging from seven through to late teens and an extensive history of seeking and acquiring child abuse images and material. Internal Affairs community safety manager Steve O'Brien said in a statement the sentence was a warning to others "who think they're safe in the confines of their home

"People may think they're anonymous on the internet but they should think again," he said. "We have demonstrated we can track them down and get the necessary evidence, despite best efforts to conceal offending.

"Trading or viewing child sex abuse images is not passive offending, or a victimless crime, because it involves real children forced into degrading acts and condones the abuse they suffer."

- Waikato Times

New Zealand's Shocking Child Abuse Statistics

A child is admitted to a New Zealand hospital every second day with injuries arising from either assault, neglect or maltreatment, research says.

Nearly half of them are aged under five.

The figures, which are likely under reported, are contained in a 2012 report prepared for the Ministry of Health by the NZ Child and Youth Epidemiology Service.

Officials say child abuse remains a significant problem in New Zealand and a series of changes have been made to try and prevent it from occurring.

They say that there is now a greater emphasis on identifying at risk families before a child is born and putting support measures in place to help them cope.

However, much of the responsibility lies with the public who need to report any warning signs before they escalate.

"It's very hard for outside agencies to pick up on these things. Close family won't

even know what's going on," Detective Inspector Tom Fitzgerald said.

"It's about having the guts . . . to front people who aren't coping and making sure we're all responsible for looking after these kids." According to the report, which was cited by Children's Commissioner Russell Wills, 843 children aged 0-14, were admitted to hospital from 2011 to 2015 with injuries arising from either assault, neglect or maltreatment.

Their injuries ranged from serious head trauma to broken legs Wills said the statistics were likely under reported because national guidelines meant officials had to be certain of an assault before it could be recorded.

Attitudes about violence towards women and children had to change, he said. Every year an average of 10 to 14 children were victims of homicide, he said. Long term trends showed the number of children admitted to hospital with assault-related injuries was slowly falling. The likely reason was much better identification of at risk families and inter-agency information sharing, Wills said. Staff at district health boards (DHBs) across the country were now trained to ask hard questions about domestic violence and child abuse.

Mike Doolan, who has researched child homicide, said children under the age of two were most vulnerable because they were totally reliant on their parents and unable to escape abuse.



Why an MP wants India to talk about child sex abuse

India is home to the largest number of sexually abused children in the world, and on Friday, a top female news presenter revealed how she was sexually abused as a child. But there is general reluctance to talk about the topic. Now, an MP, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, is trying to change that, writes the BBC's Geeta Pandey in Delhi.

At an "open house" in Delhi on "Why we need to start talking about child sexual abuse and protect our children" earlier this week, Mr Chandrasekhar described the problem as an "epidemic".

"Child sexual abuse has taken epidemic proportions in India. It is a problem that has been veiled by a culture of secrecy and denial and fostered by government apathy," he said.

"Most people think that child sexual abuse is not as pervasive as I say, but the data proves otherwise."

He is right - according to a 2007 study conducted by India's ministry of women and child development, 53% of children surveyed said they had been subjected to some form of sexual abuse.



Thanks to Soroptimist NZ

Child ALERT (ECPAT NZ) has been very grateful for the generous donations of a total of \$10,050.80 received from Soroptimist NZ which have allowed us to produce 19 email newsletters and two hard copy editions over the last two-year period.

Our newsletter allows us to raise awareness of issues, events and news in the area of CSEC in both New Zealand and overseas. The growing area of the availability of child sex images readily available on the internet will be a key focus of Child ALERT (ECPAT NZ)'s advocacy efforts in the future.

We are extremely delighted with the decision of the Soroptimist NZ general meeting held recently that the partnership between Soroptimist NZ and Child ALERT (ECPAT NZ) will be continued for another two years. As a small NGO, we rely heavily on grants and donations as we receive very little government funding. We look forward to this continued relationship and would like to thank Soroptimist NZ once again for their very generous support of our cause.

Soroptimist International is a global movement of women, with members belonging to more than 3,000 clubs in 126 countries/territories. The theme "Soroptimists - Educate to Lead" with a focus on Education, Enable and Empower provides opportunities for members to improve the lives of women and girls worldwide.

Source: Child ALERT (ECPAT NZ) News, April 2015

Support By

SOROPTIMIST NZ



We would like to express our sincere thanks to Soroptimist NZ for its generous donations to enable the publication of our newsletters.

of at-risk children and young people through initiatives like our Children's Action Plan.

We are putting millions of dollars into child protection and services for vulnerable children because we know serious abuse imposes enormous costs, both personal and financial.

National's commitment to protect children from abuse

On average there are around 22,000 cases of abuse and neglect of New Zealand children each year, and more than 50 children have died in the past five years because of extreme abuse.

Budget 2014 will make a real and practical difference for the most vulnerable New Zealand children by delivering on our priority of better public services.

National is committed to protecting Kiwi children from abuse and neglect. Taking an investment approach in welfare is paying real dividends in identifying where best to invest to make the most difference in peoples' lives.

Implement the Vulnerable Children's Bill to bring in greater government accountability, better screening and vetting of people working with children, and stronger guardianship and child protection laws.

Invest \$13.7 million in 2014/15 for Child, Youth and Family to improve services and support for children in care.

Continue developing new ways of working together, implementing new services, and ensuring greater monitoring



DONATION OVER \$5 RECEIVED OR MORE ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Enclosed is my Donation of \$ _____

Name _____ Phone/Mobile _____ Receipt Required? Yes No

Address _____

Post to ECPAT, P.O. Box 41 264, St Lukes, Auckland

I'd also like to contribute in the following ways to support ECPAT Child ALERT's work:

Become a Volunteer More information can be found at Support Us page on our website www.ecpat.org.nz

Receive our E-Newsletter

Name _____ Email _____

Make an automatic payment donation on a regular basis, an AP form will be sent to you upon your request

Please debit the below amount from my credit card

Visa MasterCard

Amount \$ Expiry Date:

Cardholder's Name Signature

Make an Internet banking transfer to ECPAT Child ALERT bank account: **12 3011 0193358 00**

Thank You!

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