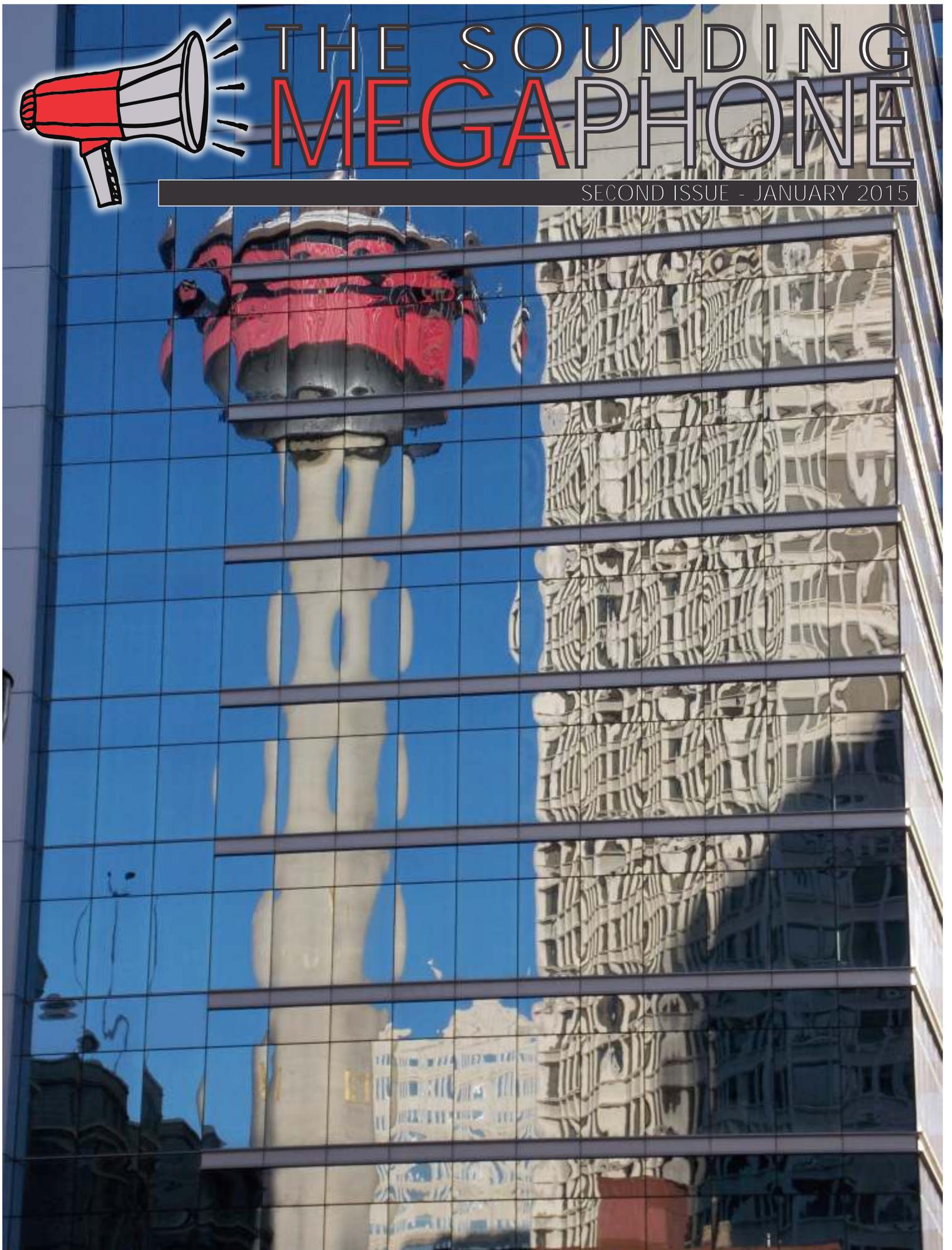




# THE SOUNDING MEGAPHONE

SECOND ISSUE - JANUARY 2015





## **SOCIETY THAT FIGHTS HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

One of the noblest causes that a society can rally around is that of the fight against human trafficking. What exactly is human trafficking? It can be defined as the recruitment, harbouring, transportation and trade of human beings, by force, by coercion or deception for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labour. In human trafficking, authority over a person is given, or sold, for the purpose of exploiting them. That exploitation usually takes the form of prostitution but can include forced labour and even organ removal. Human trafficking does not only consist of the trading of persons to a foreign land but, also, the enslaving of persons in their own country.

The trafficking of humans is the fastest growing criminal industry, worldwide. It is the third largest criminal industry after the illegal drug trade and arms-dealing. It may be as large as illegal arms-dealing. The United Nations claims that 2.5 million humans are trafficked worldwide and the victims come from 127 countries. It has been estimated that between five and nine billion US dollars is made each year from human trafficking, worldwide.

Human trafficking is very deceptive. Many times victims consent to their own involvement, without knowing that they are being recruited into prostitution or forced labour. They may owe a debt that they are attempting to pay off and are put in a position of working, but without having the conditions of paying the debt off clearly defined. In a place of great vulnerability, they end up working endlessly. Often, drugs are used to break the victim's will down further.

Human trafficking most commonly is linked to prostitution. Victims could be runaway teens, homeless persons, powerless minorities, drug addicts or others. Women are lured into this lifestyle by promises of much money, which they would not be able to make in their home country. Many do not even know that it is prostitution that they are signing up for. They may have been told that they would have entry-level legal employment. Once they arrive in the host country, they have their identification removed and they are in a situation that is both dangerous and difficult to escape from.

Child-labor is another horrible form of human trafficking. The International Labor Organization estimates that there are 246 million exploited children, aged between five and seventeen, who are enslaved in debt-bondage, forced labor, armed conflict, the drug trade, prostitution, the illegal arms-trade or forced into crime.

Where do the victims come from? Of the estimated 45,000 to 50,000 victims who are trafficked into the United States each year, it is estimated that 30,000 have come from Asia, 10,000 have come from Latin America and 5,000 have come from other regions. One report has Thailand, China, Nigeria, Albania, Bulgaria, Belarus, Moldavia and the Ukraine as major sources of trafficked persons.

What is Canada's involvement in human trafficking? It is estimated that 600 to 2,000 persons are trafficked into Canada annually. It is estimated that 1,500 to 2,200 persons are trafficked across Canada's border into America.

Other nations have shocking records of human trafficking, as well. In Mexico, children are sold for as little as 100 dollars. The African continent

is notorious for much human trafficking. In Togo and Benin, young girls are given as slaves in shrines and used sexually. Shrine-slavery is also practiced in Ghana. In Africa, the Aids crisis has claimed so many parents that children from such families often become victims of trafficking. It is estimated that 14,500 to 17,500 are trafficked into America each year. South America is another region which is exploited easily because of its poverty. In Colombia, as many as 35,000 women are believed to be trafficked out of the country each year. Southeast Asia is believed to have a staggering 200,000 to 225,000 women and children who are trafficked annually. Most destinations are within their own region, and Japan is said to be the biggest destination in Asia for trafficked persons. India is a huge consumer of trafficked persons. It is believed that 200,000 girls, many younger than fourteen, are sold into sexual slavery there. It is reported that in the Philippines there are an estimated 800,000 women working as prostitutes and half of them are under age. Eastern Europe is said to have as many as 270,000 persons victimized by human trafficking. Western Europe, also, has seen much human trafficking. England has also been involved in human trafficking and, under great pressure from human rights organizations, trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation in England is now illegal, as of 2004.

What is being done to stop human trafficking?

The United Nations has launched some international efforts to discourage human trafficking, putting pressure on states where abuses have been prevalent. Many governments have made laws to punish human traffickers. However, many other governments have not shown interest in this cause. Some governments have only been willing to address human

trafficking as it relates to prostitution, but not as it relates to forced, or bonded, labor. The issue becomes contentious for Muslim nations because Islam does allow slavery. Consequently, objections to human trafficking are sometimes seen as Western civilization trying to impose its values on another culture.

Help is being given to victims of human trafficking by many Christian organizations. There are many transition homes and faith-based counselling programs which are there for women and children who are able to flee the trafficking lifestyle. Exodus Cry is a major international Christian organization which fights human trafficking. They not only work through rescue-home-shelter type ministry but have made a film to draw attention to this crime of human trafficking. Canadian MP Joy Smith has led a large effort to end human trafficking in Canada and has been instrumental in forming the Canadian National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking. Canadian organizations such as Defend Dignity, Traffic Jam and 4myCanada are also playing an important role in battling human trafficking.

What can societies do to fight human trafficking? Christian organizations like Veronica's Voice, Kansas City Broiler Room and Exodus Cry are already doing much to rescue and rehabilitate victims of human trafficking. They can be supported in their work by a caring public. In addition to this, governments can do much to combat this evil if they have the political will, or political pressure placed on them, to do so. Governments can pass laws to punish human traffickers. Laws concerning prostitution are often in place but not enforced. Law enforcement to break up prostitution would go a long way to bringing the situation under

control. Beyond this, the age of consent (to sexual activities) should be raised in many countries. This gives prosecutors more power to prosecute human traffickers who take advantage of children and young women. Governments can continue to put pressure on foreign governments who do not take human trafficking seriously, for religious or other reasons. Lastly, governments can, and should, support ministries which are already making a difference in helping victims.

God bless you as you consider taking action in this important cause.

### **Shawn Stevens**

#### **REFERENCES :**

Israel, Charlene. "Not Forsaken: Reaching Sex Slaves in Mid-America." CBN News, Aug. 28, 2011.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_trafficking](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_trafficking)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_trafficking\\_in\\_Canada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_trafficking_in_Canada)

## **CELEBRATING CANADA'S NEW PROSTITUTION LAW: THE PROTECTION OF COMMUNITIES AND EXPLOITED PERSONS ACT (BILL C-36)**

It is estimated that 12,000 – 15,000 people are trafficked to and through Canada each year. The majority of the victims are 12-16 years old and some are as young as 5 years old. Canada has chosen to take a bold stance to end this atrocity. On November 6th, 2014 Bill C-36 passed in the Senate and it has gone into effect as of December 6th 2014.

This is historic for the nation of Canada. Never before has it been illegal to buy or advertise sexual services. In addition, the Canadian

government has pledged to provide funds to help those enslaved in prostitution find freedom.

### **Ramona Stevens**

#### **REFERENCES:**

Smith, Joy. *The Catholic Register*. November 20, 2014, Deborah Gyapong.

## **FRIENDS IN THE BATTLE**

I would like to introduce you to two other organizations that are passionately involved in the fight against human trafficking in Canada. I would also like for you to look at their mission statements.

**TRAFFICK JAM:** <http://www.traffickjam.ca>

Our mission is to create a TRAFFICK JAM for trafficking rings, and modern day slave owners by raising awareness through creative media, raising funds to support organizations who are rescuing traffick victims, and change laws in Canada and Internationally. Vancouver, Canada has been cited by the US State Department as a port of major concern both as a transit and destination point for traffickers. Human trafficking is a highly-organized and lucrative business, generating 150 billion USD annually - 100 Billion of which is sex trafficking Crime rings can sell cocaine only once but can sell a girl 30-40 times a day for up to 7 years. The mortality rate is 40X the norm.

The average cost of a slave internationally is \$90, less than the price of a cell phone. There are between 27 million and 31 million slaves in the world. Of 192 nations, 161 are involved with human trafficking. Currently, 1-2% are rescued each year. We aim to increase that number significantly by cooperating with other

organizations and calling on the common person to become a Modern Day Abolitionist. We aim to empower every free human being to free a slave. Slavery has been abolished once before in history, it and will be done again, and more quickly. Join the winning team. Raise awareness, repost tweets, donate and do what small things you can. Someone you will never meet may survive because of your one act.

## **TWO IMPORTANT ISSUES ALIVE AT PARLIAMENT: RAPE & GENDERCIDE**

An Article Taken From 4myCanada.ca website:

When our team was at Parliament a week and a half ago we learned of two noteworthy initiatives being pushed forward by Members of Parliament. The first is MP Rob Ander's Private Member's Bill (C-570) and the 2nd is MP Mark Warawa's continued work in Parliament regarding the issue of gendercide.

### **CRACKING DOWN ON RAPISTS (Bill C-570)**

Rob Ander's bill C-570 will soon come to the House of Commons for its first hour of debate. This bill seeks to put the word "rape" back in the Criminal Code. Mr. Anders is also pushing for harsher sentences for those convicted of rape. The current system allows those convicted of multiple rape offenses to serve their sentences congruently. What this means practically is if a person is convicted of 3 rape offenses and sentenced to 5 years in prison for each instead of serving 15 years they could feasibly serve all 3 sentences congruently (serving 5 years in total as opposed to 15).

[Click here to read National Post article about Bill C-570.](#)

## **KEEPING GENDERCIDE BEFORE PARLIAMENT**

Additionally MP Mark Warawa is continuing to drive the important issue of gendercide before the minds of our Parliamentarians by consistently tabling new signatures on his gendercide petition. Gendercide is the intentional killing of girls simply because they are girls. This practice happens in Canada through gender selected abortion.

### **WHAT WE CAN DO**

Following are some easy action steps that you can take to be a voice on these two important issues.

#### **1 - Ask Your MP To Support Bill C-570:**

E-mail your MP and ask them to support Bill C-570. [Click here to find get your MPs information now.](#) If you don't know what to write, something as simple as the following would be effective.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am one of your constituents. I recently became aware of the good work being done by MP Rob Anders to put the word rape back in the Criminal Code and advocate for tougher sentencing for those convicted of rape. I am writing to ask that you support this bill when it comes to debate and vote in the House Commons. Thank you for representing my voice and for your work in Ottawa on behalf of our constituency.

With Respect,

(Your Name)

(Your Address)

## 2 - Help With Mark Warawa's Gendercide

### Petition:

Download Mark Warawa's gendercide petition, help get a page filled out and send it in. Click here to get the petition now.

## 3 - Pray

Please join us in prayer for these two important initiatives.

## 4 - Share

Please share this information with your friends and networks. Click here to get an on-line version to post on your walls.

MY Canada ([admin@4mycanada.ca](mailto:admin@4mycanada.ca))

## References:

article: MY Canada @ <http://www.4mycanada.ca>

## Guest Article: Girl Interrupted

I believe that sex trafficking and abortion come from the same root cause. They are rooted in the lie and deception that women and men do not have the same value.

Being made in the image of God Himself brings value. Actually, function = service. As man had a sense of dominion, the enemy perverted it that he was of more value than she. This dominion in the image and likeness of God would and should look more like service seen in Phil 2:3-11, John 13:5-20 (foot washing, taking the lowest job)

This deception is very serious! It not only leads the man to oppress the woman, it causes a great harm to the man and the world. Pride separates a man from intimacy that humbleness brings. Humbleness serves. Pride is to be served. If a man is not intimate with the Lord Jesus, he will not be fruitful. That fruitfulness is to remain to glorify God and help the world taste and see that He is good (see Ps 34:8) The fruit proves that we are His disciples. It destroys a mans effectiveness in this world for God and his ministry. This robs the world of a right image of God through a man, and a right image of God through a woman. It destroys a mans effectiveness in this world for God and his ministry. It not only limits a woman's influence for Jesus Christ but causes a man to partner with Satan against women in a destructive manner. If a woman is not as valuable, she is not entitled to the same opportunity, respect, care or safety. She, if lower than the male, is then subhuman. Satan is the author of this lie. Satan deceived the Woman into losing that reflection of the glory of her Almighty God. But we see a promise, the vengeance and retribution of our God. God basically is saying "You stole My glory from my

beloved daughter. You meant to rob the world of Me but now, I will send my Son through the woman to die for her and all man. Before, you did this Satan, I was in the garden with them walking and talking but now, I will be in them. They will be my temple, I will be one spirit with them and Christ in them will be the hope of Glory for the entire world. Greater will be He in them than you against them. You will bruise His heal, but I am not out done by you. He will crush your head."

So Satan lies of the woman's worth and value, he lies of the man's value by puffing up his pride and worth in his own mind and this is how it plays out in the international community.

-The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences recently predicted that in the year 2020, China will have as many as 40,000,000 more young men than women under the age of 20 due to gendercide by aborting baby girls. Currently, 30 million are missing off the planet, dead in China. The one child policy forces parents to decide which gender has more value to them. This lie has played out horrifically in China.

-China meets the demand of the sexual urges of these 30 million men by trafficking girls and women into China through Pacific Rim countries.

-One survey of Indian abortion clinics found that as many as 7,999 out of 8,000 aborted babies were little girls.

-160 million women are missing off the planet.  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/27/opinion/27douthat.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/27/opinion/27douthat.html?_r=0)

-1 in four girls in North America is abused sexually versus 1 in 10 or less boys

-The average price of a sex slave internationally is 90\$ and easily replaced. Therefore it is easier and cheaper to let a girl die than to give her proper food, care and medical attention when she is trapped in modern day sex slavery

-Germany has several 12 story mega brothels with untold and uncountable trafficked victims since the country legalized prostitution and brothels in 2002. Germany's sex trade is now worth 21 billion annually with Peppr being an App to purchase sex and the victim of choice by photo.

-The selling of sex has minimized a woman from being a person created in the image of God to being a product you can use and get rid of when finished with

-The average cost of a sex act in Asian countries is 4\$ Less than the price of a Happy Meal. Internationally it is 14\$, less than the price a case of beer. Not counting what you get back on returns. Statistics from Defend Dignity show that to be true even in some parts of Toronto.

-Porn is largely created using trafficked women and girls.

-Porn feeds lust that grows to purchasing sex

-Purchasing sex according to Sweden in the movie Nafarious, is masturbation inside a woman's body.

-Studies show that viewing porn leads to a greater demand for sex trafficking and violence against women.

-Traffick victims, women and girls, are taken to breaking rooms and broken physically, emotionally and mentally using gang raped and torture till they comply and submit sexually with a smile

-A crime ring can sell cocaine one time but a traffick victim 30-40 times a day for up to 7-10 years before she is dead or worn out.

-As a man views porn he is feeding the number 1 industry in the world, which is supported by human trafficking, the 3rd largest industry in the world, primarily used for sex and run by organized crime.

A man's private lusts have a public and international effect on very real women and girls. How a man views a woman, He is viewing the very image of God. What he is doing to the image of God, he is doing to God Himself (see Matthew 25:31-46). Men must protect their fruitfulness, ministry to this world and a woman's ministry to this world by breaking this lie in our generation.

Women must take their place in the truth of their value before the Lord Almighty who sovereignly created them and not only speak up but ACT UP. It's time to put away the nice Christian girl image and put on the image of God who is ferocious against injustice. Righteousness and justice are the very habitation of His throne (see Psalm 97:2). Deborah was a mother in Israel and she brought justice and righteousness to an entire nation. So can you women. Pick a nation. I'm asking for God for Cambodia. Men, you can disciple the men of a nation on what a true, real and faithful man is whether single, married, or a father. You can empower a movement or a nation over the course of a lifetime a little bit each day.

William Wilberforce was the spear head man that abolished slavery in Britian and his influence changed the world until the last nation, Mauritania, abolished slavery in 1981. You can change the world for men, women and girls with the power of the influence God has given you simply by being born a man.

The root of gendercide abortion and human trafficking are the same.... the lie that females and males do not have the same value. Jesus said that we would know the truth and it would make us free. Our job is to free the world by making disciples of all nations. Nothing is impossible with God. As believers we are called to be involved in breaking the yokes of oppression (see Isaiah 58). We must rescue traffick victims and donate to trafficking organizations but I am asking God to release something even greater. A movement of men and women who will rescue and who will adopt a nation and pray for it and go and disciple it by partnering with the men, women and children of that nation to change its mindset. When the truth is spoken with the revelation of the Holy Spirit's power it will bring life and create a new structure and order and we will see the kingdom of God come on the earth in area of weakness for that nation. It is like a weed, when we rescue we are plucking off the dandelion heads, when we break the lie with the truth we are withering a root of the lie so it can not bear more fruit. Both must be done. When we keep sowing the truth, we reap a wonderful harvest with the Lord of the Harvest, Jesus Christ.

**Tyrelle Smith at Traffickjam**

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<https://www.facebook.com/traffickjam>

Dear Mr. MP:

Hello we are Canadian citizens who want to see human trafficking dismantled in Canada. One of our concerns is that this crime be treated with the maximum penalty at the judicial level. In the government's National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking it says that Canada is involved in training judges and prosecutors on human trafficking in Peru. This is good, but we wonder what initiatives are being done to train our own Canadian judges and lawyers on this crime and on the latest legislation concerning it.

We understand that at least one European nation brings in specially trained prosecutors to handle human trafficking cases. Can we hope to see something like this in Canada? Human trafficking must be beaten and stopped. Canadians across this country are proud of many aspects of our free society. However human trafficking is an affront to the values that we hold as Canadians.

Human trafficking is a criminal enterprise that victimizes vulnerable individuals. It often targets the economically disadvantaged and the most vulnerable among us. It can be found in both our urban and rural communities. We would like to see as much done as possibly can be done at the judicial level to defeat human trafficking in Canada.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Shawn and Ramona Stevens

Dear Mr. MP:

Hello, we are Canadians who have looked at the government's National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking. In this plan the government has proposed to:

Promote training for front-line service providers

Support and develop new human trafficking awareness campaigns within Canada

Provide assistance to communities to identify people and places most at risk

Distribute awareness materials at Canadian embassies and high commissions abroad

Strengthen Child Protection Systems within the Canadian International Development Agency's programs targeting children and youth

Is the Canadian government as committed to these goals as when they were first drawn up? Are these goals being worked towards and being practically attained? It is important to raise public awareness to the atrocity of human trafficking in our country. It is even more important to strengthen the hands of individuals, organizations and agencies that are effectively protecting women and children, and battling human trafficking.

Human trafficking is unacceptable anywhere but especially in a country like Canada that values human freedom. Our government needs to take a leading role in sounding the cry that women and children are not commodities to be bought and sold. This type of crime should never be tolerated or condoned.

Please comment on the progress that our government has made in this crucial area and on its commitment to fight for human freedom.

Sincerely,

Shawn and Ramona Stevens

Dear Mr. MP:

We are Canadian citizens who have written to you before appealing for the government to battle human trafficking. We have seen your National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking. Inside of it the government has committed to invest six million dollars annually to fight human trafficking. We would like to see the government increase this amount, to expand their efforts and to address the magnitude of the problem in Canada. We believe that fighting human trafficking should be considered one of our nation's foremost endeavours.

Innocent people fall into human trafficking, many having been tricked into it. Their freedom is taken from them and they are controlled by others. Women and children are exploited for profit and live with shame and misery. As a direct result of their sex slavery many contract HIV. It is time for Canada to aggressively attack and defeat the human trafficking industry in our country. We need stronger laws and stronger enforcement of those laws to break the back of human trafficking in our land.

Victims of this crime usually lack the resources and the means to free themselves from their abusers. We want to see the Canadian government bring hope and freedom to victims of human trafficking. Investment in this cause is money well spent. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shawn and Ramona Stevens

