

Stop Trafficking !

Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

January 2019 Vol. 17 No. 01

This issue highlights helpful websites that provide education and action options around the issue of human trafficking.



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- Sisters of St. Francis of Clinton Colorado Springs
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- Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate
- Sisters of St. Francis of Redwood City
- Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God
- Sisters of St. Francis Rochester, MN
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill Philadelphia
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, USA & Canada Prov.s
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange
- Sisters of the Divine Savior
- Sisters of the Good Shepherd
- Sisters of the Holy Cross
- Sisters of the Holy Family
- Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
- Sisters of the Humility of Mary
- Sisters of the Precious Blood
- Society of the Holy Child Jesus
- Society of the Sacred Heart
- U.S. Ursuline Sisters of the Roman Union

January: Anti-Trafficking Month



- Rescue
- Anti-Porn
- Education
- Protect Women
- Legislative Advocacy
- Protect Children





With the government repeal of net neutrality 25% of Americans are using VPNs and 52% say they are likely to use Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) in the future according to *Bloomberg News*.

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The Internet and Safe Browsing

1. Surface Web: These are the websites that are accessible to anyone using the internet. This is what the majority of users use while on the internet. E.g. Facebook, YouTube, Twitter.

2. Deep Web: These parts of the web are not indexed, and therefore will not appear on normal search engines, such as Google. This includes web mail pages, online banking pages and services that require a subscription (including News agencies, etc.). The deep web is not linked to the nefarious activity that one might imagine. Instead it includes websites that require additional information for them to become visible. This protects your email accounts and bank data as only those with the correct login information can access them.

3. Dark Web: This is a small part of the larger deep web. The dark web are pages that require specific software, encryption or authorization to access. Although certain dangerous/immoral marketplaces are often associated with the dark web, this remains a small part of the dark web. Instead the dark web provides users the ability to use the internet anonymously and with their data being encrypted, such as through Virtual Private Networks (VPNs). There is little that can be done to prevent the nefarious activity that can happen while on the dark web, apart from projects to disable it in its entirety. This is because dark web browsers, such as the Tor browser, are encrypted and thus provide anonymity.

For many people, digital privacy is not a big issue - why would I need to be private online if I have nothing to

hide? But most of us are not aware that all the searching we do on the internet is actually being monitored, collected and shared. A VPN is a service that takes online traffic sent to and from one's devices and encrypts it in what is known as a "encrypted tunnel". These tunnels help to hide the content of one's online traffic as well as the origin, which makes it almost impossible for anyone from advertisers to hackers to find out who the user is or what kind of content they are looking at on the web.

VPNs are a means of ensuring that a user retains privacy while using the internet. Without VPNs, the details of every transaction, website visited and the exact location of the user and his/her device are open to the view of the internet service provider (ISP) and, by extension, the government and private companies. Additionally, internet data is not encrypted, meaning that anyone with a relatively low level of cyber knowledge could easily access that information and use it for malicious purposes. In the context of teen internet security, this could result in personal details, including addresses, photos and personal interests, being exposed.

The USA and UK have some of the most aggressive mass surveillance laws in the world that force one's ISP to track the user's every move and hand over all the data back to the government. This sensitive personal data can also be sold to advertisers, meaning that private companies know what websites one accesses, at what time and where from. Although one may not feel that one's internet activity has anything of interest to anyone else, it

allows companies and the government to strictly monitor everything that person does online. Further, as the internet becomes an increasingly important part of our lives, one's internet activity may include sensitive information such as medical issues and political beliefs. These issues are not something companies and the government need to know.

VPNs encrypt data which makes it almost impossible for hackers to access one's data. If someone uses a public WiFi network (in a Cafe, for example), it is easy for almost anyone to access this network and have direct access to that device. This could - and often does - result in stolen bank details, ransomware being installed and malware infecting the device. In the case of teen internet security, therefore, social media accounts of young teenagers may be hacked into and their details, including their photos, may be stolen by someone. In the context of stalking and issues concerning trafficking, the unsecured nature of most internet connections allows more people to access where someone is and have access to all of their files.

VPNs are popular choices for people living in repressive regimes around the world who face blocked websites. For example Russia and China strictly monitor their citizens online. In China, Facebook, YouTube and Google are all banned and open criticizing of the government could result in imprisonment. For this reason, people use VPNs to voice dissenting views or access blocked websites.

Learn more at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual_private_network



ECPAT

End Child Prostitution and Trafficking (ECPAT) works to protect children from sexual exploitation. It does so through:

Community Education. ECPAT-USA leads programs, events, and initiatives to inform communities about this human rights crisis.

Youth Education. ECPAT-USA trains students to be the foremost advocates in their communities, educating them on the facts, misconceptions and risks of trafficking, providing them with the tools needed to identify the warning signs and proper resources to protect themselves and their peers.

Legislative Advocacy. While there have been huge victories in federal laws, many state courts and police departments continue to treat underage victims as criminals. This may occur due to a lack of training, too few resources for victims, and misperceptions about the experience of children who are exploited in the sex trade. By turning child victims over to the juvenile justice system states perpetrate an endless cycle of arrest, detention, and abuse. In order to put an end to this cycle, ECPAT-USA fights for passage of "Safe Harbor" laws. These laws can:

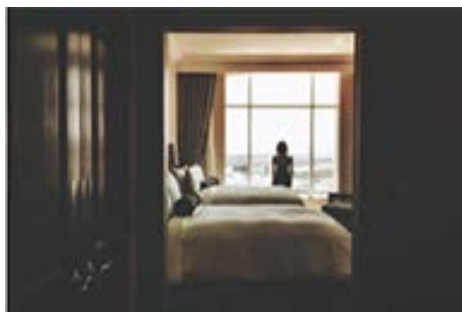
- Correct the conflicts between federal and state law by exempting children from prosecution for prostitution.
- Require training for law enforcement and other first responders on how to identify and assist victims.
- Increase the penalties for traffickers and purchasers of sex.
- Prompt the collaboration of a multidisciplinary team to develop a

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statewide system of care.

Private Sector Engagement.

American children are at risk for exploitation. Youth are strategically targeted and manipulated by pimps who use hotel rooms as venues to abuse children, knowing that systems are not in place to protect the victims. With the use of online classified ads, child trafficking is moving off the streets and behind the closed doors of local hotel rooms. In addition, children are often transported from city to city via U.S. owned airlines and buses. Air travel is also a primary means of transportation for child sex tourists— individuals who travel overseas to sexually exploit local children.



CITIZEN HOTELIER: COMPANIES EMBRACE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Nov 5, 2018

Companies that are in the travel, tourism, hospitality, or conferencing/meeting sectors can do so much to end this scourge, such as by signing the *Code of Conduct*. When a company signs The Code it makes a commitment to do what it can to put an end to the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

(<https://www.ecpatusa.org/>)

CATW

The *Coalition Against the Trafficking of Women* (CATW) and its partners engage in advocacy, education and prevention programs for victims of trafficking and prostitution in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe and North America, including the U.S.

Aid Victims of Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation

CATW and its partners provide multi-level services, financial aid, psychological support, housing, and legal advocacy for victims of sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

The Prevention Project

To prevent women and children from becoming victims of commercial sexual exploitation, CATW carries out groundbreaking, multi-tiered programs that educate youth, government officials, law enforcement, and the public about the harm of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

Ending the Demand

It is the demand for the bodies of women and girls for commercial sex that is fueling sex trafficking. CATW and its partners carry out programs to educate male youth about the harm of commercial sexual exploitation to women and children, themselves and to communities.

Redefining Prostitution Law

CATW advocates for legislation on local, national, and international levels to prevent women and children from becoming victims of human trafficking. CATW supports the *Nordic Model*, the world's first law to recognize prostitution as violence against women and a violation of human rights. It criminalizes the purchase of commercial sex and offers women and children an exit strategy. The Nordic Model originated in Sweden (1999) and has been passed in the Republic of Korea (South Korea, 2004), Norway (2009), Iceland (2009), and France (2016).

Human Rights Advocacy

CATW engages in creative, principled advocacy and campaigns designed to create the social, political, and legal conditions that are inhospitable to human trafficking. As part of CATW's *Global Campaign for a Sex Trafficking Free Internet*, CATW led the successful protest in front of Craigslist's corporate headquarters in San Francisco, California that resulted in the removal of their "Adult Services" section, which was facilitating sex trafficking in the U.S. and internationally.



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The Global Reality of Child Labor

Of the 218 million working children, 152 million children work in child labor settings (are under age limits and/or work longer hours than the law permits), with 73 million working in hazardous child labor - 71% in agriculture; 17% in services and 12% in construction, manufacturing, and mining.

Hazardous labor includes: work which exposes children to physical, psychological, or sexual abuse; work underground, under water, at dangerous heights, or in confined spaces; work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads; work in an unhealthy environment which may, for example, expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to

temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health; work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer.

To view gripping photos and statistics, go to:
<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/reports/child-labor>



Connecting the Dots

The National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) is the leading national organization exposing the links between all forms of sexual exploitation such as child sexual abuse, prostitution, sex trafficking and the public health crisis of pornography. As the thread of pornography in the web of sexual exploitation is systemically overlooked by society, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation has prominently advanced this issue as a central pillar of its projects in order to promote more holistic solutions.

NCOSE embraces a mission to defend human dignity and to oppose sexual exploitation.

For more information, go to:
<https://endsexualexploitation.org/>

The NCOSE also oversees the *Porn Harms Research* site. One can find there extensive research on topics related to porn, sex trafficking, prostitution, military sexual assault, objectification, sexual violence, child sex abuse, and college sexual assault. *Porn Harms* also runs various campaigns to raise awareness and change the social perceptions about the dangers of porn.

For more information, go to:
<https://pornharmresearch.com>



Internet Protectors

Thorn drives technology innovation to fight the sexual exploitation of children. Thorn partners across the tech industry, government and NGOs and leverage technology to combat predatory behavior, rescue victims, and protect vulnerable children.

For more information, go to:
<https://www.wearethorn.org/>

Ethical Consumers

The 2018 *Ethical Fashion Guide* produced by Baptist World Aid, an Australian non-profit, seeks to empower people to purchase from companies that treat their workers ethically.

By doing so, consumers encourage more companies and decision makers to take action to ensure workers are not exploited, are paid adequately and are able to work free from the tyranny of modern slavery.



To also view the companion 2018 *Ethical Fashion Report*, go to:
<https://baptistworldaid.org.au/resources/2018-ethical-fashion-report/>



Advocacy



Progress Without Protection: How State Laws Are Punishing Child Sex Trafficking Victims

Over the past seven years of the *Protected Innocence Challenge*, states have made substantial progress – 47 states have raised their grade. While the majority of states were failing in 2011, there are no longer any states with a failing grade and 30 states now have an “A” or “B” grade (see map pg. 1). By closing gaps in state laws, this progress has also cast a light on where the most substantial gaps remain – that allow a child sex trafficking victim to be criminalized for their own victimization.

Since the beginning of 2017, fifteen states have sought to pass laws to prohibit the criminalization of youth survivors of sex trafficking for prostitution and other offenses. Despite a growing consensus that children cannot be “prostitutes,” only four of the fifteen states have been successful in changing their laws. In fact, a majority of states still allow children to be arrested, detained, and prosecuted for prostitution, despite conflicting federal and state law that deems such children victims of child sex trafficking.

During the 2018 legislative session, twelve states introduced legislation to create new or strengthen existing protections for youth survivors of sex trafficking. By trying to stop the prosecution of minors for prostitution, these states embarked on a multi-state effort to demand protection, not punishment for child victims. Despite strong support among survivors, service providers, and anti-child sex trafficking stakeholders, all 12 bills have been unsuccessful so far.

In order to address the legal conflicts and mobilize states to enact non-criminalization laws that adequately protect and provide comprehensive services for survivors of child sex

trafficking, *Shared Hope International* launched the *Stop the InJuSTice* campaign. Complementing the campaign, *Shared Hope’s Center for Justice and Advocacy* released a video and e-learning training series to promote a better understanding of defining, implementing and developing a *JuST (Juvenile Sex Trafficking) Response*. These resources brought together the voices of survivors, service providers and advocates from around the country to weigh in on this issue.

The passage of non-criminalization legislation for minors has plateaued over the last two years. *Shared Hope’s Center for Justice and Advocacy* has identified three common challenges in adopting and implementing protective responses for youth survivors:

- ***A lingering misconception that some minors can be “prostitutes.”***

Despite laws in all 50 states and D.C. that recognize the sale and purchase of minors for sex as a form of human trafficking, and thus the minor a victim of child sex trafficking, many people believe that some children can willingly and consensually engage in commercial sex. Because of this, several states have been reluctant to pass non-criminalization laws so that prosecutors and law enforcement can retain discretion in determining which children are deserving of punishment instead of services. This misperception is frequently fueled by a widespread misunderstanding of sex trafficking victimization and the ways in which underlying trauma can present in youth survivors.

- ***A lack of alternative and appropriate placement options and services.***

All states, including those that have

passed non-criminalization laws, are faced with the challenge of developing and utilizing safe and appropriate placement options for youth survivors. With far more survivors than available therapeutic homes or facilities, states may depend on detention centers to hold victims until alternative placements are identified, if ever. Additionally, some argue that detention facilities remain the safest placement option for survivors, despite evidence that placement in such facilities can be traumatizing and not conducive to healing.

- ***Diverging opinions regarding the best way to engage youth survivors in long-term services.***

Some stakeholders argue that, without the threat of charges or discipline for non-compliance, many minors are unwilling to engage in their service plan or make decisions that are in their best interests. While some youth survivors present run risks and may not consistently participate in services, this often times reflects underlying trauma that needs to be addressed outside of a punitive system. A non-punitive approach allows minors to engage in the development of their own individualized service plan, free of timelines or coercive delinquency charges, exhibit an increased ability to trust their service team, regain confidence and a sense of control, and heal on their own timeline.

Additionally, some law enforcement and prosecutors oppose removing criminal liability for youth survivors due to the belief that charging a survivor is an effective strategy in getting

Criminalizing Minors

cont. pg. 6



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Criminalizing Minors

cont. from pg. 5

the minor to flip and testify against his or her exploiter. This strategy is detrimental and treats the minor as a prosecutorial pawn. It also goes against the evidence that a survivor's cooperation in an investigation actually improves when the survivor, instead of being criminalized, is able to access services and build rapport with law enforcement and prosecutors.

Treating child victims of sexual exploitation as criminals has serious long-term consequences. The process of being arrested, detained and prosecuted oftentimes creates an entirely new traumatic experience in the child's life. It can strengthen a child's attachment to their trafficker, while simultaneously fueling distrust in the systems that are there to serve the child. Delinquency charges can prevent the youth survivor from forming healthy and trusting relationships with persons in positions of authority who can assist and support the minor. Additionally, funneling youth survivors through the juvenile justice system can impair access to vital holistic support and care to address the trauma that accompanies and oftentimes precedes the exploitation. Charging exploited youth with prostitution and other offenses committed as a direct result of being trafficked has a long-term impact on their lives. Minors with juvenile records can be disqualified for employment and higher education opportunities, can be suspended or expelled from school, and can lose access to safe and affordable housing.

(<https://sharedhope.org/2018/06/progress-without-protection-how-state-laws-are-punishing-child-sex-trafficking-victims/>)



Protect Kids

Shared Hope International publishes periodic reports on the legislative efforts to protect children from criminalization due to sexual exploitation.

To read the contents of these reports, go to: <http://sharedhope.org/>

'Teen Internet Safety: A Parent's Guide'

Samuel Woodhams, a researcher at TOP10VPN, which provides independent, non-profit research on issues of digital privacy and cybersecurity, alerted *'Stop Trafficking'* to an internet safety guide for parents. The Guide covers topics such as digital footprints, cyberbullying, stalking, scams, sexting, online gaming and addictions, social networking and mental health.

The extraordinary rise of smartphones has led to a world in which teen depression is at peak levels, social media is considered as addictive as a drug, and digital footprints can shape one's future. Online games are deliberately designed to be habit-forming, cyberbullying has reached endemic levels, and unsolicited advances from sexual predators are sadly more than just media headlines. Navigating a safe digital life is difficult, and teens are especially vulnerable.

Still parents often underestimate the dangers associated with the internet and how they are experienced by teenagers. Over half of all teens in the U.S. are constantly online, navigating privacy breaches, harassment, and disturbing content. Children need guidance to lead safer digital lives, to understand the threats they face, and to be equipped to be safe.

Top10VPN.com has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Bloomberg* and *NBC News* and is collaborating on a national campaign to raise awareness of the dangers facing children online. The organization believes that arming parents with the appropriate resources and know-how is essential for keeping children safe while online.

The *Teen Internet Safety: A Parent's Guide* has been endorsed by several leading organizations, including the *National Cyber Security Alliance* and *Parenting Safe Children*. It covers all of the risks facing teenagers online today, including the risks of digital grooming on social media sites. This important danger currently facing young people across the country is linked to trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Top10VPN.com has also conducted research focusing on cybersecurity threats facing the elderly community, small businesses and college students.

Access the *'Teen Internet Safety: A Parents Guide'* at: <https://www.top10vpn.com/guides/teen-internet-safety-a-parents-guide/>



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'The Price of Free'

This documentary is a thrilling look at Kailash Satyarthi's inspiring efforts to free every child from slavery. Kailash Satyarthi is a tireless advocate of children's rights. For almost four decades he and his team have rescued more than 88,000 children and built a global movement to end child labor. In 2014 Kailash was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his tireless work "against the suppression of children... and the right of all children to education."

The 90-minute film won the 2018 U.S. Documentary Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival. Watch the film at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsqKz1hd_CY

The choices we make as consumers, as policy makers, and as business leaders help determine whether 152 million children are free to have a real childhood, or be forced into labor or slavery. Will their hands throw and catch and color — or sew and glue and harvest? It's up to us. Tell America's top retail brands to be leaders in the movement to end child labor.

Take Action at:

<https://priceoffree.com/take-action/>

View a 5-minute video on criminalizing children:

<https://sharedhope.org/what-we-do/bring-justice/non-crim/>

Websites to Further Understand the Complexities of Human Trafficking

'Stop Trafficking' does not endorse these sites, but offers them as examples of ways to become more knowledgeable about the issues.

General

Polaris

<https://polarisproject.org/human-trafficking>

National Human Trafficking Hotline

<https://humantraffickinghotline.org/>

Human Trafficking: A Guide for Victim Advocates

<https://www.nsvrc.org/publications/nsvrc-publications-guides/human-trafficking-guide-victim-advocates>

Search

Human Trafficking Search

<http://humantraffickingsearch.org/>

Women's Exploitation

Coalition Against Reproductive Trafficking

<http://reproductivetrafficking.org>

Demand Abolition

<http://www.demandabolition.org>

Legal Issues

Human Trafficking Legal Center

www.htlegalcenter.org/

Voices for Victims: Lawyers Against Human Trafficking Tool Kit for Bar Associations

https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/multimedia/trafficking_task_force/resources/TFHT_Toolkit/Human-Trafficking_Bar_authcheckdam.pdf

State-Based Coalitions

Seattle Against Slavery

<https://www.seattleagainstsavery.org/>

Coalition Against Human Trafficking – Northern Arizona

<https://www.coalitionagainsthumantrafficking-northernaz.org>

Massachusetts Coalition to End Human Trafficking

<http://mceht.org/>

Connecticut Coalition Against Human Trafficking

<https://www.ctcoalitionagainsttrafficking.org/>

Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking – Ohio

<https://www.endslaverynow.org/community-coalition-against-human-trafficking>

Siouxland Coalition Against Human Trafficking

siouxlandagainsttrafficking.org/

Businesses

Global Business Coalition Against Human Trafficking (GBCAT)

<https://www.gbcat.org/>

HEAL Trafficking: Health, Education, Advocacy, Linkage

<https://healtrafficking.org/>

Dignity Health

<https://www.dignityhealth.org/hello-humankindness/human-trafficking>

Truckers Against Trafficking

<http://www.truckersagainsttrafficking.org>

Survivor-Based

Policy/Advocacy - NSN - National Survivor Network

<https://nationalsurvivornetwork.org/policy-advocacy/>

Shelters

Bakhita House

<https://thebakhitahouse.com>

Lifeway Network

<https://lifewaynetwork.org>

Dawn's Place

<https://www.dawnsplace.com>

Faith-Based

US Catholic Sisters Against Trafficking

<https://www.sistersagainsttrafficking.org>

United Methodist Women

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/human-trafficking>



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**Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline
National Human Trafficking
Resource Center
1.888.3737.888
Text "BeFree" (233733)**

Human Rights Watch 2018 Documentary Films

“On Her Shoulders”

This film follows the young activist Nadia Murad, who survived genocide and sexual slavery when the Islamic State took over the homeland of the Yazidi, an ethnic minority in northern Iraq, in 2014.

Ms. Murad, spearheading a campaign to bring justice to fellow Yazidi victims, travels the world sharing her story in an effort to enlist global leaders to her cause.

But the work takes a toll on her; she relives the trauma every time someone apologetically asks her to describe what she endured. Even though Ms. Murad says she just wants to return to her past life as a ‘village girl,’ she persists because she sees nothing being done about the plight of her community. She won the Nobel Peace Prize in October 2018.



“The Cleaners”

This dark and unsettling film spotlights an issue that merits more attention than it has been given. The title refers to employees of a company in the Philippines who moderate content for internet giants like Google and Twitter. Five anonymous ‘cleaners’ describe the appalling aspects of their jobs — like sifting through 25,000 images a day that can include repellent content like child pornography — while researchers and former social media executives emphasize the serious consequences of virtual lawlessness.

“A Thousand Girls Like Me”



Khatera, the 23-year-old woman at the center of this film underwent physical and sexual abuse from her father for more than 13 years. After several aborted pregnancies, she is now raising a daughter and a son.

Despite several attempts to file charges, Khatera was only taken seriously when she told her harrowing story on national television. Her father landed in prison awaiting trial, but she and her mother are still threatened by his relatives for ‘tarnishing their reputation.’ The raw, heartbreaking film, directed by the Afghan filmmaker Sahra Mani, shows the double threat of a broken judicial system and ingrained oppressive and sexist attitudes. But an uplifting ending offers a glimmer of hope. (<https://ff.hrw.org/past-festivals>)

Informative Web Sites: (Each contains information related to human trafficking)

UN Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC)

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/what-is-human-trafficking.html>

Department of Justice Office of Victims of Crime (OVC TTAC)

<https://www.ovcttac.gov/taskforceguide/eguide/1-understanding-human-trafficking/>

US Dept. of Homeland Security

<https://www.dhs.gov/blue-campaign/what-human-trafficking>

The Empowering Safety Guide for Women

vpnMentor.com offers an extensive online guide. Written by women for women, the intent is to empower women to navigate the internet without fear. The Guide discusses common occurrences in which women are subject to harassment in their daily lives – on social media, at work, while dating, and more – and gives tips and advice on how women can defend and protect themselves and stand up to sexual harassment, both on and off the web.

Access the Guide at:
<https://www.vpnmentor.com/blog/the-empowering-internet-safety-guide-for-women/>



Stop Trafficking! is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among USCSAHT members, organizations and concerned persons, collaborating to eliminate all forms of human trafficking.

To access back issues, go to:
<http://www.stopenslavement.org/past-issues-chronological.html>

To contribute information, please contact:
jeansds@stopenslavement.org

Editing and Layout: Jean Schafer, SDS