

TOPIC PAPER 1 – 2011:

Sex Trafficking and Child Labour

The abuse of children is in the news just now. In the 2010 Resolutions from 38th World Convention, WCTU Members are asked to encourage governments to seek to combat human trafficking by preventing it happening and passing legislation to prosecute those involved and to protect victims. In this topic paper, we are looking at sex trafficking and child labour in particular.

With Nepal to the west, China and Bhutan to the north, Bangladesh to the south and Myanmar (Burma) to the east, large numbers of people are constantly on the move through North East India. It is estimated that there are 2.8 million sex workers in India, many under the age of 18, and 40% of the prostitutes in a Mumbai brothel originate from Nepal. (Sources: www.cwmission.org/features/all-work-no-play and www.sim.org.india).

Non-government and other organizations are seeking to work with survivors of brothels and of child slavery by providing safe and secure accommodation, with supporting care-givers, rehabilitation, education and vocational training programmes.

Pray that governments will pass appropriate legislation, and local Christians seek community change toward the poor and vulnerable, where children are sold, too often becoming victims of human traffickers for slave labour and prostitution. Pray for healing for victims through a life transformed by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 18:10-14 See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost.*

John Wesley, (1707-88) wrote the following words:

A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify,
A never-dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky.
To serve the present age, my calling to fulfil,
O may it all my powers engage, to do my Master's will!

Yours in White Ribbon Bonds,

Mavis Gerrish

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