

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Video B-roll & Public Service Announcements

Prepared by UNICEF for:

2nd World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

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Note to broadcasters:

- ❖ Use of this B-roll is free of charge, however archival war footage of Sierra Leone is only licensed for unrestricted broadcast use until February 1st, 2002. See page 11 for archive usage information.
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INTRODUCTORY NOTE ON PROTECTION OF IDENTITIES

The reporting of the commercial sexual exploitation of children is a difficult and sensitive task, and a fine line has to be taken between disclosing the realities on the ground and protecting children who are the victims of exploitation.

For this reason you will note that we have masked the faces of some of the children in the following footage, and altered their names. The children portrayed are frequently at risk of rejection by their families and communities. In some cases, they may even risk physical harm. But they have an important story to tell and they can tell it better than anyone else.

VIDEO B-ROLL SEQUENCES:

TRAFFICKING AND COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

1. Albania and Greece (Shot July 2001) 7'30"

- Unaccompanied Albanian children crossing Greek border at night
- Albanian children on streets in Greek city
- Interview with Albanian girl who has directly witnessed sexual abuse
- Short interview with Albanian man who sold his daughter to trafficker
- Educational and rehabilitation projects for children at risk in Albania

2. Philippines (Shot July 2001) 7'58"

- Coastguard, police and NGO operation to intercept children at risk in port of Manila
- Children being taken to hostel by NGO that protects children at risk of trafficking
- Interviews with UNICEF, coastguard and International Labour Organization (ILO) officials

3. India (Shot 1999) 4'23"

- Young women rescued from prostitution at Calcutta rehabilitation centre
- Interview with local organizer of rehabilitation centre
- Footage of a red-light district in Calcutta

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN WAR

4. Sierra Leone (Shot August 2001) 9'52"

- Interviews with two young women who were abducted and sexually exploited by rebel forces
- Young woman in interim care centre and at home with family after her return
- Handing-over ceremony for young women and babies: victims of abduction and sexual exploitation by rebels
- Footage of recent civil war on streets of capital, Freetown

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

5. Nicaragua (Shot 1999) 1'48"

- Young teenage girl being made up and working in prostitution
- Young teenage girl attending clinic

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS/TELEVISION SPOTS

- 3 X 30 second spots produced by UNICEF -- English and International Versions.
(Text for international versions included at end of script material.)
- 2 spots produced by Saatchi & Saatchi for ECPAT (*End Child Prostitution, Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Commercial Purposes*) 45 seconds , 60 seconds

Script Information

TRAFFICKING AND COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Every day untold numbers of children around the world are exploited in the commercial sex trade. Many of them are far from their home communities when this occurs. Forced or voluntary relocation often occurs because opportunities for education or work are only to be found 'elsewhere'; and children who have been relocated or who choose to move are at high risk of sexual and other forms of exploitation.

In 2000, the United Nations estimated that almost 13 million people are on the move - 2 per cent of the world population - and at least 700,000 of them, primarily women and children, are trafficked each year within or across international borders according to the US State Department.

Trafficking into the sex trade not only happens in every region of the world, it also links regions and countries in a constantly changing complex web. Trafficking into the sex trade is more a series of events than a single phenomenon. Simplified it can be said to involve a veritable army of exploiters, among them recruiting agents (often former trafficking victims who return to their communities and need money to survive), travel agents, transporters, petty criminals, organized crime syndicates, brothel owners and pimps. Each of these may profit financially, directly or indirectly, from the procurement of children and young people for work in the sex industry.

UNICEF programmes aimed at preventing trafficking of children include increased educational opportunities for disadvantaged children (particularly girls), support to families at risk, social welfare projects and the training of law enforcement officials and judicial authorities. Given the complexity of trafficking, multi-agent responses are also

vital, and UNICEF works with a number of partners, including the ILO, UNDP and many NGOs, in sub-regional cooperation frameworks and in implementing programmes.

1. ALBANIA AND GREECE (Shot July 2001)

In the prosperous tourist resorts along the coasts of Italy and Greece it's not uncommon to see young children begging and selling trinkets. Many of them come from Albania, Europe's poorest country. At any one time several thousand Albanian children are exploited for their labour in foreign cities, and trapped in a cycle of prostitution and abuse. UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, is working with NPF, a local Albanian organization, to stem this flow of vulnerable children. (NPF stands for "Help the Children" in English)

Video Script:

As night falls on the Albanian border with Greece, a group of children sets off into the mountains. Their destination: Thessaloniki, the second largest city in Greece, a hundred miles to the west. Travelling at night to avoid detection, they will walk all the way. Several thousand Albanian children, most of them Roma, are in Greece on any given day during the year - many of the children make several repeat visits to the country.

Facing them is a life spent working and begging on the streets. The younger children - some may be as young as four or five - sell flowers and trinkets to tourists. But by the time they reach the age of twelve or thirteen, a high percentage of the girls will have been forced into prostitution, and abused by the pimps and brothel owners who control them.

The main driving force behind this irregular migration is poverty. Albania - in contrast to Greece with its thriving tourist industry - has Europe's weakest economy. A fifth of the workforce is unemployed and as many as 600,000 people have migrated in recent years. It's in this climate that children leave for Greece, often with the knowledge and encouragement of their families.

Against this economic pressure, the task of protecting these vulnerable children from exploitation is a major challenge. Namik Shehaj is Project Coordinator with the UNICEF-supported organization NPF. NPF operates out of four towns in Albania and works with around 600 children. The main task is to identify children at risk of being trafficked and to ensure they go to school. Visiting families in Elbasan in central Albania, Namik negotiates with families over their children's future, sometimes offering financial assistance.

Namik Shehaj:

Actually the parents send the kids to Greece because they see it as a possibility to earn money. And this is a contagious disease, because you see your neighbour - he has sent his

kid to Greece, he has gone there himself even – so you ask yourself, "why shouldn't I send mine?" The only reason that these children are trafficked and exploited is the poor economic situation of the family.

Yasmina, (name changed) who's just turned fifteen, first went to Greece when she was very young. She has since returned around a hundred times, and has spent much of her life on the streets of Thessaloniki.

Yasmina:

I was four years old, too small. I was with a neighbour. He gave some money to my father and then he took me there – to Greece. My father told him: " take my daughter and keep her there". My neighbour, who's called Todi, gave my father 25,000 leke (\$170 = about one fifth of yearly average income in Albania), so it was like my father sold me.

Yasmina's Stepfather, Agron (name changed)

If I had a stable job, I wouldn't send my kids anywhere. I was obliged to send them, because I was poor.

Yasmina isn't the only child in the household who has left home. Agron, Yasmina's stepfather, says he's been out of work for more than ten years. After two marriages, he has nine children. Of these, three daughters are in Italy. He has not been in contact with them for several years and he believes one of them may be dead. As well as Yasmina, another daughter and two sons were taken to Greece by neighbours.

Namik Shehaj:

The youngest age we are aware of for sexual abuse is seven years, and it goes on until girls go into prostitution. There are different forms of abuse, from porno pictures to physical sexual abuse.

Yasmina:

Today you have to make 5000 leke. You can't do it. It is night and you can't do it. You will sleep in the street. Then bad things happen. A girl will get fucked to make that money. And she doesn't tell the truth. She says 'I made the money begging.

A key factor in protecting children like Yasmina is to make sure they have a chance to go to school. With this aim NPF supports children who have either dropped out of school or are at risk of doing so. While children are immersed in a caring environment, families are given economic assistance and help with finding jobs. Sometimes foster-parents are found for children.

About two hundred older children – like Yasmina – get the opportunity of vocational training.

Yasmina:

Look at me. I was in Greece, now I am here and I am taking courses. What kind of courses? I was in the hairdresser's course for six months. No I am in the tailor's course. And now I'm thinking of taking the hairdresser's course again. You know, I told them, the people from the foundation will help me open a shop.

NPF also organizes summer camps, when school is out. One reason is that summer is a time when increased numbers of children leave for Greece. But crucially, the summer camps aim to create a sense of community – something that many of the children have yet to experience. The goal is to smooth their integration back into school and to grant them something else that has often been missing from their lives – the chance to play.

2. PHILIPPINES (Shot July 2001)

Every year some 2.5 million girls and women, pour into Metro Manila from outlying islands by ferry in the hope of finding work. Manila port is a bustling, frightening place for the new arrivals – full of recruiters and pimps hoping to entice girls and young women into low-paid domestic or sweatshop work or the Philippine capital's many bars and brothels.

Visayan Forum, a local non-governmental organisation, works to provide a safety net in the form of protection and advice to those who arrive at the port and find themselves stranded or vulnerable. Supported by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Visayan Forum works with the Philippine Ports Authority, ferry companies, the Philippine Coast Guard and the Port Police and security guards to identify and intercept and protect youngsters who are being trafficked or who are at risk of exploitation.

Video script:

It's night in the Manila Port area. Never a good time for women and children to be on the streets alone. Yet day and night thousands of women and young people arrive here in search of work to support their families back home in the provinces. According to Visayan Forum, an NGO which works to protect new arrivals, Manila Port is the last place where vulnerable women and children are visible and can be helped. Once they leave this area, they simply vanish into a city offering a myriad of low-paid and often illegal opportunities to earn money -- from factory jobs and domestic service to bar work and prostitution.

Tonight, Visayan Forum's Founder and President Cecilia Oebanda is talking to some of the organization's many partners in the battle to protect women and children from the pimps and recruiters who operate in the port area. Manila Port's Security Guards can play a vital role in identifying and protecting vulnerable young people. Addressing their pre-shift roll

call, Cecilia Oebanda explains that Visayan Forum operates a Halfway House, and they can bring in any young people or women they think are in need of a safe haven.

Cecilia Oebanda:

For me it is unacceptable just to close our eyes when we know that children, day and night, (are) coming to the port and we don't know what happened to them. And we also know that there are vultures there waiting for those children to become their prize.

Nineteen-year-old Beth Gonzales knows what it is like to be exploited. She was left without a home after she fell out with the people who employed her as a domestic servant. She fell into conversation with a woman who offered her a place to stay. Before the end of the evening she had been drugged and the woman had sold her virginity to a merchant seaman on a visiting ship. She was only seventeen years old then and it took her a whole year to get out of sex work.

Beth Gonzales:

I cannot accept what happened to me. I am ashamed of myself. I lost my virginity. I lost my future, I lost my hope. (Interview at the Third World Movement against the Exploitation of Women, an NGO which seeks to protect those working in prostitution, and help them build a new life.)

Another key partner in the battle to protect the young from being trafficked to Manila for illegal work, is the Philippine Coast Guard. Commander Jose Cabildo and his crew are on their way to intercept a Manila-bound ferry. They believe a young girl reported missing by her parents might be on board. Once the ferry has docked and the passengers disembark, she will be hard to spot. The chances of finding her before the vessel docks are better. After patrolling the passenger decks, Commander Cabildo questions a young girl who seems to be alone but turns out to be accompanied by an aunt. She is not the girl he is looking for.

There are some 7,000 islands in the Philippine archipelago and every year around five million people, as many as half of them young girls and women, arrive at Manila Port by ferry. Alfonso Cusi is General Manager of the Philippine Ports Authority, a crucial partner of Visayan Forum.

Alfonso Cusi:

For unguided children to be in Manila is a big problem. We in the Ports Authority are aware of that and considering they are passing through our ports we believe we have a social responsibility to prevent them from coming into Manila, especially if they are not properly guided.

After a 24-hour trip from Cebu City in the Visayan region of the Philippines, the passengers are probably pleased to hit dry land. But Manila Port is a bustling, frightening place for new arrivals.

As they exit the ferry terminal they are met by people offering transportation and jobs. Among their ranks are recruiters and pimps looking for young girls to place in sweatshops, domestic work or the capital's many bars and brothels.

It is here at the port's arrival terminals that Visayan Forum workers like Jennifer Tangcay (in orange shirt) try to identify potentially vulnerable young people and offer them help. This may be general advice, temporary accommodation or just a telephone number to call if they need help during their first few days in Manila. Jennifer and her colleagues call these operations "roundings" and they often work together with the Ports Police to scan arriving children and see who might need their help. Today, Jennifer has spotted a group of young boys and girls who seem to be being trafficked. The young people all claim to be over 18 but Jennifer and Ports Police officer Antonieto Tarrayo think they are lying and ask them for proof which they don't have.

Ports Police Officer, Antonieto Tarrayo:

I think this one is not telling the truth about her age. She told us she is 18 but she looks 16 or 15 years old.

Young people who are being trafficked are surprisingly easy to spot. Often they have been recruited in their home towns and arrive in groups accompanied by a single adult minder who intends to place them in jobs (confirmed or as yet unfixed) in the capital. They are usually under strict orders to stick together and tell anyone who asks that they are 18. If the police can not verify their ages or believe they may be bound for illegal work then they are taken to Visayan Forum's Halfway House. There the workers can try and contact the children's parents and look after them until their promised jobs can be verified. Understandably, it is a harrowing time for the young people.

It is hard work for Visayan Forum, too, and they can't manage it alone. They work closely with others, from different sectors of work, who all have a role to play in the fight against trafficking: the Ports Authority, ferry companies, the Coast Guard, Port Police and security guards. Visayan Forum is licensed by the Department of Social Welfare to provide secure temporary care for minors as well as counselling and other services, and is supported by the ILO and UNICEF.

Cecilia Oebanda:

The effort that we are doing in the port is actually in partnership with a lot of organizations like the Philippine Ports Authority, the police, the UNICEF and the ILO and

other agencies of the (Philippine) government to give immediate services and protection to the children who are freshly trafficked from the regions.

Cecilia shows Carmella Torres National Programme Manager of ILO's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour and UNICEF's child protection officer Victoria Juat the latest arrival figures.

Carmella Torres, National Programme Manager of ILO's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour:

Children below 18 years of age are target groups and they are very vulnerable groups and once they are exposed to a place which is very new to them with no relatives or friends around, they can be placed in a situation of work where they can be exploited, abused or even sexually exploited.

Once the children have had a chance to rest in the Halfway House dormitories, Visayan Forum workers conduct a "getting to know you" session to help the young people relax and to gain their confidence. Later, many of these young people admitted they were younger than 18 and Visayan Forum was able to find them places in a three-month training programme run by Educational and Research Development Assistance. This will help them to gain skills that will better equip them to find a job at the end of the course.

3. INDIA (Shot 1999)

Every year, thousands of children are trafficked into India from Nepal and Bangladesh, and thousands more are trafficked within India itself, from poor villages to areas where opportunities to earn a living are better. A high percentage of them are children, and many end up in prostitution in India's major cities. Isolated and vulnerable, they are often abused and exploited for many years. To turn the tide, a whole range of measures is needed – from legal protection in the country's courts, to shelter, counselling, vocational training and family tracing.

Video Script

Calcutta is one of the main destinations for trafficked children – from Bangladesh, Nepal and West Bengal. Girls from poor rural areas are lured to the city, often with bogus job offers or the promise of a marriage partner. Once they arrive, alone and without legal papers, they are prey to India's sex industry, with its huge and continuing demand for young girls. Many of these trafficked girls are forcibly held in brothels and are beaten or even tortured if they complain or try to escape.

With the support of UNICEF, a local organization called SANLAAP (which means "dialogue" in English) has set up fourteen drop-in centres and three shelters for around 2000 girls who have been exposed to Calcutta's sex industry. In shelters like this one, girls

are given medical aid and vocational training. Most of them have been traumatised by their experiences, and many are HIV-positive. Depression, aggressive outbursts, substance abuse and eating disorders are common. Counselling is a key part of SANLAAP's work. Indrani Sinha, director of programmes with SANLAAP, says market forces play a key role in the trafficking of these girls.

Indrani Sinha:

When you are bringing a girl maybe you are just paying 2000 rupees to the parents, you are just paying for her dress, you are just paying for her food and bringing her to the city. And then when you are selling the child you are selling for 30.000, you are selling for 20.000, so there is a lot of money. Or even if you are not selling the child, you are keeping the child, then every day she can earn 1000 rupees for you, which means 30.000 rupees a month, if not more. So it is a very, very lucrative business and you can sell one girl a number of times.

SANLAAP often works through the courts to gain custody of the girls – although sometimes this process can take years. Other girls manage to escape from their pimps and come directly to SANLAAP, while some are rescued directly. Child protection units have also been established in remote rural areas to monitor the migration of children in search of work. The challenge is complex and vast in scale: surveys among sex workers in India have found that more than a third began work when they were children.

Indrani Sinha:

There are some people who like very young girls. They will even look for 12 year olds, 13 year olds, they always like it. I think that this is a kind of power that men enjoy.

SANLAAP has found that dance has been one of the most effective ways for the girls to deal with their own trauma – opening them to talk about the violence they have faced and to tell their life stories. The road to recovery is long and not easy, but some girls manage to find regular work in Calcutta, and about half of the girls eventually find their way back to their families.

A key element of SANLAAP's approach is to protect children born to teenage girls who have been sexually exploited. In the Kalighat district of Calcutta the organization runs pre-primary classes for children under the age of six. With the chance of a quality education in their early years, this next generation of children have a far better chance of escaping the fate of their mothers.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN WAR

4. SIERRA LEONE (Shot August 2001)

Commercial sexual exploitation doesn't always involve money. Some children are forced to provide sexual favours in exchange for food, water, or sometimes even their life. Nowhere is this more obvious than in situations of conflict when children may be coerced by militias into fighting, cleaning, cooking or providing sex.

This was the case during the civil war in Sierra Leone, which has been slowly returning to a kind of normality since November 2000, when a cease fire was signed between the government and the rebels (principally the Revolutionary United Front, or RUF).

The peace agreement calls for the return of children who were abducted by rebels during the war. Among them are girls who were raped, sexually abused, and who, in many cases, had babies by rebel fighters. Their return has wide public backing – but the experience remains very difficult both for the girls and their families.

In this story the faces of the girls have been masked and their names changed. Many are not old enough to give consent to appear, or their parents/guardians are not around to do so. What's more, involvement with the RUF – albeit involuntary – is a stigma and the girls' well being may be jeopardised if their experiences become widely known.

Video Script

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The ten-year civil war in Sierra Leone claimed 50,000 lives. 100,000 people were maimed. The largest rebel group involved in the fighting was the RUF. During the conflict the RUF became known for amputating civilians' limbs and for forcibly recruiting children, both as soldiers and as sex slaves. This footage was recorded by the Sierra Leonean filmmaker, Sorious Samura, whose coverage of the civil war has won international acclaim. He returned to his country to see the rehabilitation process in action and to find out how girls who'd been sexually exploited were coping.

Mariama is twenty two. When she was first abducted she witnessed another girl being killed trying to resist rape. Mariama was taken as a 'sister' by an RUF commander. She says he never used her sexually, but she was abused by his fellow soldiers.

Mariama:

The guy who I was with did not do anything to me. But the others forced me when this guy wasn't around, saying that if I refused they'd kill me. So they usually raped me. I had to accept it as I wanted to save my life, knowing that one day I'd be away from there.

Mariama also witnessed rebels raping even younger girls.

Mariama:

You know they like being brutal. They like being brutal towards women during lovemaking. I know that when they used small girls sexually they must have applied the same brutality towards them. I imagine, some of them must have been virgins. Just imagine a child refusing to have sex with them and they using force to penetrate her.

Mariama still lives in fear of the commander who controlled her. It was common for rebels to give girls a new name, and Mariama still uses hers (which we have not given out). She says that if the commander who controlled her ever found her again he'd kill her. Mariama was at school when she was captured, and dreamed of becoming a lawyer. For many girls catching up on lost schooling is impossible. It costs money families don't have and when the girls have a baby it's hard to find time for studying. For now Mariama's dream is on hold; she is training to be a hairdresser.

In a stadium in Makeni sixty-two girls are being handed over to UNAMSIL, the United Nations force in Sierra Leone. Many of them have babies by soldiers in the RUF who controlled them as spoils of war. The proceedings have the air of a graduation ceremony but these girls have little to show for their years under RUF 'tutelage' except the psychological scars of repeated sexual abuse. They have all suffered at the hands of their abductors. Many have been gang raped. Some were married off to a commander, gaining protection, but subject to his every whim. Before the girls are finally freed they are made to sing the RUF anthem one last time.

No-one knows exactly how many girls were abducted, but the practice was widespread. When the rebels invaded the capital Freetown in 1999, over 4,500 children were abducted - more than half of them were girls. Once the girls are officially handed over or enter the demobilisation camps, they are immediately transferred to a UNICEF-supported interim care centre. These centres are the stepping stone between their lives in the bush and the road towards reintegration. They receive counselling, education and medical care and their families are traced.

**(See note at end of script, page 15, for additional info)*

Among the girls being handed over is a sixteen-year-old from Freetown. Aisha was just twelve when she was abducted in 1997 and taken to Makeni.. She was paired with a captain

in the RUF. He began his exploitation of Aisha by threatening her at gunpoint. But as the relationship continued, she became attached to him. It is not uncommon for girls to develop a bond with their captors. In the end, the captain abandoned Aisha, shortly before her baby was born. She says she doesn't want to marry the father, but doesn't rule out marrying someone else in the future.

Sorious: *But you don't want to marry the father?*

Aisha: *No because he's left me for a very long time and I have suffered.*

Sorious: *I know, it's over a year now since he's left you.*

Aisha: Yes.

Sorious: *So he just made you pregnant and then he left you?*

Aisha: *Ah ha*

Sorious: *And you didn't like him because of that?*

Aisha: *(Laughs)*

Sorious: *Because you were forced to.*

Aisha: Yeah, he forced me.

Sorious: *Did you like him?*

Aisha: *I had to at first, but now, no.*

Aisha is happy to be free and is looking forward to seeing her mother again. She was sent to an interim care centre where she shares a room with two other child mothers.

Aisha:

When armed rebels capture you, you are left to chose between being killed and being abducted. I chose the latter.

This is just the first of many painful choices abducted girls had to make to survive. Some became combatants too. Aisha didn't but was made to witness killings. To protest about this, or to refuse to do anything they demanded, including giving sex, would have put her own life in danger. Aisha says she found separation from her family hard to bear.

Aisha:

If you were caught crying, you would be roughly interrogated. I always told them that I loved and missed my family which is why I cried. They always told me to stop crying and promised to take me with them wherever they went.

Aisha stays at an interim care centre run by COOPI, or Cooperation International. A leading Italian NGO, COOPI specialises in helping those affected by conflict to rebuild their lives. Since 1998 its three centres here have been working with children abducted by rebels. Family mediation is key to the reintegration of the girls and social workers develop strong links with the families, encouraging them to welcome the girls and their babies back into their homes.

A key part of UNICEF's work is 'sensitisation', making families and communities aware of what the children have been through, and the children aware of the family environment they're re-entering. UNICEF Child Protection Officer, Roisin De Burca explains what it can be like for the girls.

Roisin De Burca:

The upbringing she's had, the major years of development, have not been what normal children go through. She has not learned the social skills of a young girl. All of these things are very important to their full development. She has learned to kill, she has learned to give sex when it is demanded, and she has learned to survive. So she's coming home into a family unit. She's coming home where there's parents, aunts, other brothers and sisters. And she has to adapt and that is very, very hard. She has to learn how to fit into that family again.

Despite the suffering endured by this population during the war and the stigma attached to involvement with the RUF, many seem remarkably tolerant. On the streets of Freetown, asked by Sorious Samura if they would accept back their daughter with a baby, most were generally supportive.

Man in white cap: *"If my daughter was abducted by the rebels and made pregnant and came back with my grandson would I accept her?"*

Sorious: *Yes, would you accept her?*

Man: *Yes of course I'd accept her.*

Sorious: *Why?*

Man: *Because she didn't do it on purpose. Had she gone and joined them voluntarily then I'd know she did it on purpose. But as long as she was abducted I won't reject her.*

Man in black cap: *The rebels have abducted my own child. Then the child comes back with another child?*

Sorious: *Would you accept her?*

Man: *I wouldn't accept her because she'd mix with the kids here and be a bad influence on them, and I wouldn't be able to control them any more.*

Woman in headscarf: *I would accept it.*

Sorious: *Why?*

Woman: *Because she's my daughter and I wouldn't let her go back.*

Sorious: *Would you accept the grandchild she came back with?*

Woman: *Yes*

Sorious: *Why?*

Woman: *There's no one else to take care of her except me, her mother, and I wouldn't let her go back.*

In the end Aisha didn't have to stay long at the COOPI care centre. After a few days she left with two other girls and made her own way home. She's now living with her mother, brothers and sisters. Her father died some years ago. Before she was abducted she wanted to do well at school and had ambitions to travel. Now her sights are set closer to home: on an office job, with enough money to support her and her baby.

***Additional Information Note:**

When the rebels invaded the capital Freetown in 1999 over 4,500 children were abducted, more than half of them were girls. Another two thousand registered cases of rape against girls were reported but the number is expected to be higher. Many refuse to report the rape as the stigma attached is very high especially when pregnancy occurred due to rape. The babies were referred to as 'rebel babies'. For those girls who were abducted and who have lost contact with their families, fear, hostility and shame will have to be overcome in order to help them to be reunified with their families and reintegrated into their communities.

The girls enter the programme through official negotiated handovers or through entry into the demobilisation camps. UNICEF, which is the lead child protection agency in Sierra Leone provides technical and financial support for the care and protection of these girls. Once the girls are officially handed over or enter the demobilisation camps, they are immediately transferred to a UNICEF supported interim care centre. These centres are the stepping stone between their lives in the bush and the road towards reintegration.

While the girls are provided with basic services including psychosocial support, education and skills orientation, medical assistance and special care for those with babies, tracing of the families begins. Once the family is found, mediation is carried out to prepare the family for the return of the girls, many of whom will have babies. Girls whose families reject them or for whom tracing has failed are given the opportunity to move into one of the alternative care programmes – foster care, group homes, independent living.. Following reunification or placement in alternative care, the girls can now engage in reintegration activities such as placement in formal schools, skills training or income generating programmes. UNICEF has been involved with the demobilisation and reintegration of children from the fighting forces since 1993. The number of girls entering the programme has remained considerable (8%). These girls see no future for themselves away from those who continue to use them. They believe that their only option is to continue to stay with those (combatants) who continue to provide security and status, even in an abusive situation.. With continuous advocacy and increased access to these girls, the number of those entering the programme continues to rise.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

5. NICARAGUA (Shot 1999)

Video Script

In Nicaragua more than half of all children live in poverty and many risk being exposed to sexual abuse. Several thousand vulnerable young people spend their lives on the streets of the capital, Managua. They gather in the city's sprawling public markets where it is easy to scavenge food. Many have been abandoned, many sniff glue and many – like 16-year-old Maria (not her real name) – have been sexually abused. (See girl being made up and standing on street waiting for cars)

After Maria's father left home, her mother moved to a town outside the capital and began living with another man. A business associate of this man sexually abused Maria and threatened her at gunpoint. She fled her new home and began living on the streets of Managua at the age of twelve. She joined a gang of children who lived in the market area of the city. She began to sniff shoe-glue and was forced to sell sex to survive. The man who raped her was eventually prosecuted, but Maria has found it difficult to return to ordinary life at home – and has frequently come back to the streets of Managua.

She has received assistance from a local, UNICEF-supported organization, Quincho Barrilete, which works with children in prostitution and children addicted to glue-sniffing. As well as medical treatment, counselling and food, children are given vocational training and classes in local schools. Children also have the chance to go to workshops aimed at building their self esteem and giving them skills they can use to find regular employment.

NTSC Time Code	Visuals
	Albania and Greece (Shot July 2001)
01 00 17	Albanian children cross border with Greece
01 01 05	Albanian children on streets of Thessaloniki
01 01 53	Central Albania – town of Elbasan
01 02 18	Namik Shehaj of NPF
01 02 41	<i>Actually the parents send the kids to Greece because they see it as a possibility to earn money. And this is a contagious disease, because you see your neighbour – he has sent his kid to Greece, he has gone there himself even – so you ask yourself, "why shouldn't I send mine?" The only reason that these children are trafficked and exploited is the poor economic situation of the family.</i>
01 03 10	Yasmina at home
01 03 29	<i>I was four years old, too small. I was with a neighbour. He gave some money to my father and then he took me there – to Greece. My</i>

	<i>father told him: " take my daughter and keep her there". My neighbour, who's called Todi, gave my father 25,000 leke (\$170 = about one fifth of yearly average income in Albania), so it was like my father sold me.</i>
01 03 54	Yasmina's step-father: <i>If I had a stable job, I wouldn't send my kids anywhere. I was obliged to send them, because I was poor.</i>
01 04 06	Step-father looks at pictures of daughters
01 04 24	Namik Shehaj: <i>The youngest age we are aware of for sexual abuse is seven years, and it goes on until girls go into prostitution. There are different forms of abuse, from porno pictures to physical sexual abuse.</i>
01 04 50	Yasmina: <i>Today you have to make 5000 leke. You can't do it. It is night and you can't do it. You will sleep in the street. Then bad things happen. A girl will get fucked to make that money. And she doesn't tell the truth. She says 'I made the money begging.</i>
01 05 08	Children at school in Albania, including Yasmina
01 06 22	Yasmina: <i>Look at me. I was in Greece, now I am here and I am taking courses. What kind of courses? I was in the hairdresser's course for six months. No I am in the tailor's course. And now I'm thinking of taking the hairdresser's course again. You know, I told them, the people from the foundation will help me open a shop.</i>
01 06 43	Children at NPF summer camp
	Manila, Philippines (Shot July 2001)
01 07 50	Streets around Manila Port area at night. Young woman walking along road
01 07 59	Boy playing on pedalo cab in front of oncoming truck
01 08 14	Port Security Guards parade before going on duty
01 08 25	Cecilia Oebanda, President of Visayan Forum, addressing Security guards about the issue of trafficking and need to protect vulnerable young people
01 08 39	Security guards listening
01 08 42	Cecilia Oebanda, President of Visayan Forum, interview: <i>For me it is unacceptable just to close our eyes when we know that children, day and night, (are) coming to the port and we don't know what happened to them. And we also know that there are illegal recruiters, there are vultures there waiting for those children to become their prize"</i> (English)
01 09 03	Beth Gonzales, exploited as a child and now, aged 19, walking down the

	street.
01 09 16	Interview with Beth Gonzales: <i>I cannot accept what happened to me. I am ashamed of myself. I lost my virginity. I lost my future, I lost my hope.</i> (Visayan)
01 09 38	Philippine Coast Guard patrol boat on its way to intercept a ferry
01 09 54	In wheelhouse / Commander Jose Cabildo on the radio
01 10 04	Stern of ferry
01 10 09	Commander Jose Cabildo prepares to board ferry
01 10 21	Commander Jose Cabildo and his armed officers patrol ferry in search of minors being trafficked to Manila for sex work
01 10 36	Commander Jose Cabildo questions an unidentified young girl. (She was not being trafficked)
01 10 45	Another ferry arriving in Manila Port (from Cebu City)
01 10 49	Boys on home-made floats playing in water in front of ferry as it docks
01 11 16	Interview with Alfonso Cusi, General Manager of the Philippine Ports Authority: <i>For unguided children to be in Manila is a big problem. We in the Ports Authority are aware of that and considering they are passing through our ports we believe we have a social responsibility to prevent them from coming into Manila, especially if they are not properly guided.</i> "(English)
01 11 43	Passengers disembark from ferry in Manila Port
01 11 52	Young girl walking out into port area
01 12 06	Passengers' view of arriving in port / jeepney drivers and recruiters trying to attract attention
01 12 19	Visayan Forum worker Jennifer Tangcay (in orange shirt) intercepts a group of girls / offers them help
01 12 41	Working with Ports Police officer Antonieto Tarrayo, Jennifer helps interview the girls
01 12 51	Ports Police officer Antonieto Tarrayo says: <i>I think this one is not telling the truth about her age. She told us she is 18 but she looks 16 or 15 years old.</i> (English)
01 13 03	Exterior of Visayan Forum's Halfway House <i>Silungan sa Daungan</i> (or <i>Shelter at the Port</i>) at the Port where they offer temporary accommodation and refuge to trafficked minors and women
01 13 14	Visayan Forum worker Marina Ullegue opens gate as Ports Police officer leads intercepted young people into Visayan Forum's Halfway House

01 13 30	intercepted young people received at Halfway House
01 13 42	Young people in Halfway House
01 13 52	Visayan Forum worker interviews boy about his age, status etc
01 14 05	Dormitory accommodation / girls on bunks
01 14 13	Cecilia Oebanda, President of Visayan Forum, interview: <i>The effort that we are doing in the port is actually in partnership with a lot of organizations like the Philippine Ports Authority, the police, the UNICEF and the ILO and other agencies of the (Philippine) government to give immediate services and protection to the children who are freshly trafficked from the regions.</i> (English)
01 14 42	Cecilia Oebanda, President of Visayan Forum, with Carmella Torres, National Programme Manager for International Labour Organization (on left in black jacket) and UNICEF's Child Protection officer Victoria Juat (on right in purple shirt) looking at admissions book
01 14 58	Interview with Carmella Torres, National Programme Manager for International Labour Organization (International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour [ILO-IPEC]): <i>Children below 18 years of age are target groups and they are very vulnerable groups. And once they are exposed to a place which is very new to them with no relatives or friends around, they can be placed in a situation of work where they can be exploited, abused or even sexually exploited.</i> (English)
01 15 25	A day later at the Halfway House, the group of intercepted young people are taking part in a "getting to know you" session clapping hands, singing and laughing
	India (Shot 1999)
01 15 51	Calcutta red light district
01 17 01	Children on streets in Calcutta
01 17 39	Indrani Sinha, director of programmes, SANLAAP: <i>When you are bringing a girl maybe you are just paying 2000 rupies to the parents, you are just paying for her dress, you are just paying for her food and bringing her to the city. And then when you are selling the child you are selling for 30.000, you are selling for 20.000, so there is a lot of money. Or even if you are not selling the child, you are keeping the child, then every day she can earn 1000 rupies for you, which means 30.000 rupies a month, if not more. So it is a very, very lucrative business and you can sell one girl a number of times.</i>
01 18 30	SANLAAP shelter for girls who formerly worked in prostitution
01 18 48	Indrani Sinha: <i>There are some people who like very young girls. They will even look for 12 year olds, 13 year olds, they always like it. I think</i>

	<i>that this is a kind of power that men enjoy."</i>
01 19 02	Girls at SANLAAP doing dance therapy
01 19 14	Children of prostitutes at school run by SANLAAP
	Sierra Leone (Shot 2001 - *except for archive material - see note below)
01 20 17	Civil War in Freetown, Sierra Leone (*NB. This archive film is copyright controlled by Insight News Television, London. Broadcasters have license to use this material in the context of the rest of this compilation, until and including February 1st, 2002. For any other use of this material please contact Insight TV. Tel: +44 (0)20 7738 8344 or e-mail: library@insightnewstv.com)
01 20 49	Mariama with Sorious Samura
01 21 07	Mariama: <i>The guy who I was with did not do anything to me. But the others forced me when this guy wasn't around, saying that if I refused they'd kill me. So they usually raped me. I had to accept it as I wanted to save my life, knowing that one day I'd be away from there.</i>
01 21 30	Mariama: <i>You know they like being brutal. They like being brutal towards women during lovemaking. I know that when they used small girls sexually they must have applied the same brutality towards them. I imagine, some of them must have been virgins. Just imagine a child refusing to have sex with them and they using force to penetrate her."</i>
01 22 15	Young women and babies at handing-over ceremony
01 23 43	Aisha with baby
01 24 05	Aisha and Sorious Samura Sorious: <i>But you don't want to marry the father?</i> Aisha: <i>No because he's left me for a very long time and I have suffered.</i> Sorious: <i>I know, it's over a year now since he's left you.</i> Aisha: <i>Yes.</i> Sorious: <i>So he just made you pregnant and then he left you?</i> Aisha: <i>Ah ha</i> Sorious: <i>And you didn't like him because of that?</i> Aisha: <i>(Laughs)</i> Sorious: <i>Because you were forced to.</i> Aisha: <i>Yeah, he forced me.</i> Sorious: <i>Did you like him?</i>

	Aisha: <i>I had to at first, but now, no</i>
01 24 38	Aisha in interim shelter
01 24 53	Aisha (close-up of hands) <i>When armed rebels capture you, you are left to chose between being killed and being abducted. I chose the latter.</i>
01 25 38	Aisha: (close-up of part of face and eye) <i>If you were caught crying, you would be roughly interrogated. I always told them that I loved and missed my family which is why I cried. They always told me to stop crying and promised to take me with them wherever they went.</i>
01 26 09	Aisha at interim shelter
01 26 44	UNI CEF Child Protection Officer, Roisin De Burca – shows pictures done by children held by rebels
01 27 14	Roisin De Burca: <i>"The upbringing she's had, the major years of development, have not been what normal children go through. She has not learned the social skills of a young girl. All of these things are very important to their full development. She has learned to kill, she has learned to give sex when it is demanded, and she has learned to survive. So she's coming home into a family unit. She's coming home where there's parents, aunts, other brothers and sisters. And she has to adapt and that is very, very hard. She has to learn how to fit into that family again."</i>
01 28 07 01 28 31 01 29 01	Interviews with people on streets of Freetown Man in white cap: <i>I f my daughter was abducted by the rebels and made pregnant and came back with my grandson would I accept her?</i> Sorious: <i>Yes, would you accept her?</i> Man: <i>Yes of course I'd accept her.</i> Sorious: <i>Why?</i> Man: <i>Because she didn't do it on purpose. Had she gone and joined them voluntarily then I'd know she did it on purpose. But as long as she was abducted I won't reject her.</i> Man in black cap: <i>"The rebels have abducted my own child. Then the child comes back with another child?</i> Sorious: <i>Would you accept her?</i> Man : <i>I wouldn't accept her because she'd mix with the kids here and be a bad influence on them, and I wouldn't be able to control them any more."</i> Woman in headscarf : <i>I would accept it.</i> Sorious: <i>Why?</i> Woman: <i>Because she's my daughter and I wouldn't let her go back.</i>

	Soriosis: <i>Would you accept the grandchild she came back with?</i> Woman: Yes Soriosis: <i>Why?</i> Woman: <i>There's no one else to take care of her except me, her mother, and I wouldn't let her go back.</i>
01 29 25	Aisha at home with family
	Nicaragua (shot 1999)
01 30 12	Maria gets made up and stands on street
01 31 27	Maria sits alone in room
01 31 38	Maria goes to a clinic
	PUBLIC SERVICES ANNOUNCEMENTS/TV SPOTS
01 32 04	UNI CEF PSA 1: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is a Crime (English version)
01 32 45	UNI CEF PSA 2 : Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is a Crime (English version)
01 33 26	UNI CEF PSA 3 : Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is a Crime (English version)
01 34 09	ECPAT PSA 4 : Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is a Crime (English version)
01 35 17	ECPAT PSA 5 : Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is a Crime (English version)
01 36 13	UNI CEF PSA 1 : Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is a Crime (I nternational Version)
01 36 54	UNI CEF PSA 2 : Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is a Crime (I nternational Version)
01 37 35	UNI CEF PSA 3 : Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is a Crime (I nternational Version)
01 38 21	Ends

Text of three UNICEF-produced spots for Yokohama Conference:

PSA 1

Visual	Audio
<i>Title: (white on black screen):</i> In 1996 44-year-old Steven M. went on holiday to the Philippines....	Sound of waves lapping gently, gentle breeze
Visual of classic holiday beach scene, palm trees, gentle sea, no people	

<i>Title: (white on black screen):</i> ...he'll be staying for 17 years...	
<i>Title fades up: (white on black screen):</i> ...in jail for sexually exploiting two brothers, aged 4 and 8	Sound of heavy door clanging shut (suggesting prison cell)
<i>Congress logo with text:</i> The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a crime.	Sound of footsteps walking away
<i>Title:</i> 2nd World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Yokohama, Japan, 17-21 December 2001. (Plus logo)	

PSA 2

Visual	Audio
<i>Title: (white on black screen):</i> Angela S. helped her 15-year-old-daughter make friends in an internet chat room...	Computer keyboard, computer beeps
Adult pair of hands and a smaller, teenager's hands, next to each other over computer keyboard	
<i>Title: (white on black screen):</i> ...she invited them home to have sex with the child...	
<i>Title fades up: (white on black screen):</i> ...the mother and the "friends" are now in jail	Sound of heavy door clanging shut (suggesting prison cell)
<i>Congress logo with text:</i> The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a crime.	Sound of footsteps walking away
<i>Title</i> 2nd World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Yokohama, Japan, 17-21 December 2001. (Plus logo)	

PSA 3

Visual	Audio
<p><i>Title: (white on black screen)</i> To join an online club David, Ahmed and Antoni had to supply photos</p>	
<p>Visual of man taking a photo from side and front. Camera flashes.</p>	<p>Camera sounds</p>
<p><i>Title: (white on black screen)</i> To produce the photos 12,000 children were sexually abused</p>	
<p><i>Title: (white on black screen)</i> The club was closed the members jailed</p>	<p>Sound of heavy door clanging shut (suggesting prison cell)</p>
<p><i>Congress logo with text:</i> The commercial sexual exploitation of children is a crime.</p>	<p>Sound of footsteps walking away</p>
<p><i>Title:</i> 2nd World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Yokohama, Japan, 17-21 December 2001. (Plus logo)</p>	