

PRESS RELEASE

CHURCHES ALERT TO SEX TRAFFICKING ACROSS EUROPE

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Not for Sale: Raising Awareness: Ending Exploitation

Editors: C.Pemberton; L. Berry; A. Myers.

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'Not for Sale' was commissioned by counter trafficking charity Churches Alert To Sex Trafficking across Europe (CHASTE) and includes in its editorial team, Dr Carrie Pemberton, a recognised expert in the field of trafficking and the Chair of the national research forum for the United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre.

This cross-over book drives home a message for our times, using a courageous range of literary and communication styles; from the tough revelations of an "exited" prostituted woman, to prayers composed to recognise the hurt, degradation and deceit of this awful world of abuse. This book never ceases to surprise and provoke. Case studies mingle with poetry, prose reflection, theological meditation, songs of protest and trenchant liturgy.

This cathartic anthology marks, according to Myra Blyth, Chairperson of the Churches Commission on Racial Justice, "the critical moment we have reached in the history of human rights. It is compelling in its message and is to be commended as essential reading for faith communities and for the wider public."

The message of this book is clear: trafficking for sexual exploitation is an extension of the abuse present in all forms of national prostitution. To call prostitution "the oldest profession" is risible. This notion and many other myths are exploded by the real perspective shown through this anthology: that sexual exploitation is one of the oldest forms of violence against women – and that it is condoned by society and promoted through commerce.

Baroness Neuberger calls this book one "which should influence debate and get the voluntary sector – and the statutory agencies – really sitting up and taking notice," whilst former Minister for Women, Meg Munn MP, applauds the initiative of CHASTE's newest publication, asking in her foreword "how can it be right for anyone to buy sex? Isn't it time we made it illegal?"

The Anthology is divided up into sections spanning the nature of trafficking and sexual exploitation, case studies, reflections on the abuse of power, the challenge of Gendered and Sexual Relationships, the market place driving demand and the mandate of safety for survivors.

This is a book which will serve as a resource for individuals, organisations, cell groups, book clubs, and politicians of all parties, of all faiths and of none. Oxford Professor of Divinity, Marilyn McCord Adams, notes that "with vivid concreteness,

this book confronts us with the horrors of sexual slavery. It should be required Lenten reading for all Christians.”

‘Not for Sale’ is an essential read for anyone wishing to know and understand more about the contemporary reality of the 4,000 women trafficked into the UK each year to “work” in the sex markets of all our major cities. Let alone the estimated 900,000 women and children trafficked, annually, for sex across the globe.

Chief Constable Tim Brain lead for prostitution and vice with the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) calls the book ‘a rare glimpse into the all too often untold stories of trafficking victims which impresses the importance of tackling this insidious crime upon the reader.’

Not for Sale: Raising Awareness and Ending Exploitation will be referred to constantly in the coming months and years for its insight, range, humanity and emotional unveiling of the sad, nasty world of contemporary sexual exploitation - and what could, what *can* be done.

Notes for Editors

CHASTE is the ecumenical UK charity working to bring zero tolerance of sex trafficking in Britain today. Founded in 2004, CHASTE through its round table for Safe House providers from Faith Based organisations, now provides one third of safe house provision in the UK for sex trafficked survivors.

For further information or to speak to Dr Pemberton call: 0845 456 9335

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‘Not for Sale: Raising Awareness; Ending Exploitation’ is available from:

www.chaste.org.uk/shop

Also available from local bookshops including Wesley Owen Bookshops

www.amazon.com

www.mph.org.uk 01733 325002 (Methodist Publishing House)