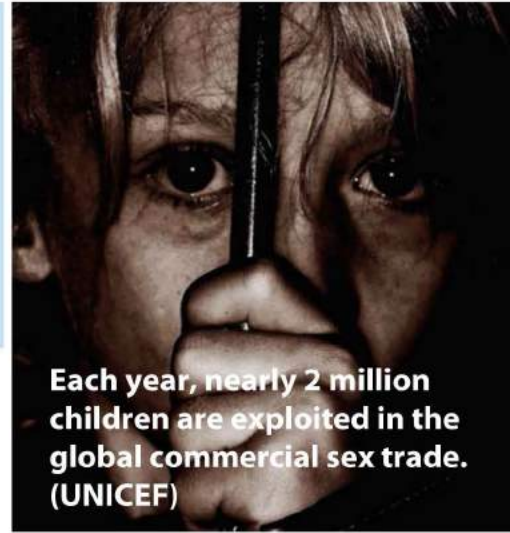




LOVE WORKS

- This world is broken and filled with people who hurt
- God put you and me here to make this world a better place



Each year, nearly 2 million children are exploited in the global commercial sex trade. (UNICEF)

Dear friends,

Her drug-addicted mother abandons six year old Halya and her two year old brother for weeks at a time.

Their home is a makeshift tent Halya has constructed out of cardboard and branches she found in the forest. Which is where they live.

Halya's mother has given her instructions on how to get food... 'either beg or steal from merchants at a nearby produce market.'

Imagine a six year old charged with the responsibility

of keeping herself and her younger sibling alive without any adult assistance. My own daughter is six. To me this situation is unimaginable.

Ira was five years old when she was sold by her mother to a gypsy baron for several cases of vodka. For years she was forced to beg for her owner and by the age of ten was raped by him and subsequently, on a regular basis, by his sons. She attempted to escape once, but was caught and beaten senseless.

Ninety percent of all child

pornography finds it origins in Ukraine, Russia and Belarus. Against their will, children are pulled out of orphanages and used in porn movies.

I suspect if we were honest with ourselves we'd ask the question, 'Does God see the tears of sorrow and despair streaming down the cheeks of children like Ira and Halya? Does God see the injustice done to innocent children around the world?'

Fifteen years of ministry in third world countries has led me to conclude several things.

Firstly, this world is truly broken and filled with people who hurt. Its filled with places of hell on earth.

But I'm also convinced that "God loves justice" and wants to use His people to "seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan and plead for the widow." (Isaiah 1:17)

In other words...YOU and I are part of God's plan for ending injustice in the world.

When Jesus left, He asked that you and I make this world a little bit more beautiful, to share a little bit more of His love and to take a little bit of heaven to places of hell on earth.

Did God hear the cries of Halya and Ira? Yes. Both of these children were saved by the Father's House, (a HART

partner in Kyiv, Ukraine) a ministry dedicated to rescuing street kids and abandoned children.

Halya was adopted to a Christian family in Germany, her brother to a family in Georgia. Within a year the family in Georgia decided to immigrate to Germany and through circumstances only God can orchestrate, the two siblings were reunited through a 'chance' meeting of the parents!

Ira, today is happily married and the mother of two children.

But for the involvement of Christians who care, both of these stories may have ended tragically different.

God has compassion for those who suffer injustice. He hears their cries. He sees the tears of every child who is being abused right now even as you are reading these words.

Our grateful thanks to YOU for working alongside HART as we respond to the issues of poverty, injustice and oppression in our world.

Lloyd Cenaiko (lloyd@hart.ca)

Human Trafficking is the slave trade of the 21st century.

It pits the weakest and most vulnerable against the powerful and ruthless who profit from devastating human suffering.

Today, 27 million men, women and children are held as slaves.

It is the fastest growing organized criminal activity in the world today.

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