



STUDENTS & ARTISTS FIGHTING TO END HUMAN SLAVERY

A Time-line of popular media, a time-line of resources

1986

Working Girls develops the story of Manhattan prostitutes. The same year Working Girls hits the big screen, so did Street Walkin (Concorde); another film on New York prostitutes. However, while some students are portrayed in Working Girls in which they consider prostitution a "choice", others are vulnerable. In 1986 a man accused of running a prostitution ring involving Brown University students used the school's freshman register as a recruiting catalog (recruiting just out of high school), court documents in Providence, R.I., say. Prostitution Recruits, Newsday (Melville, NY) - August 22, 1986.

As prostitution becomes an increasing normalcy on television, the U.S. makes amendments to the Mann Act that further protected minors and replaced "debauchery" and "any other immoral purpose" with "any sexual activity for which any person can be charged with a criminal offense." That allowed the government to get out of the business of "legislating morality" while retaining the essence of the Mann Act as a weapon in the fight against human trafficking.

Not only is the U.S. beginning to take the steps towards implementing policies that will combat modern day slavery, but in 1986 so does India and Nepal. *India :The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956* makes trafficking and sexual exploitation of persons for commercial purpose a punishable offence. The Act was passed on the lines of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, signed by India on May 9, 1950. Although the Act was amended twice (1978 and 1986), it did not prove to be an effective deterrent to trafficking or sexual exploitation for commercial purposes. Nepal: The Human Trafficking Control Act of Nepal was passed in 1986, which prohibits the trafficking of girls and women: Enforcement of antitrafficking statutes remains sporadic, but the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MOWCSW) has introduced legislation to toughen penalties against traffickers. The Human Trafficking Control Act of 1986 prohibits selling persons in the country or abroad and provides for penalties of up to 20 years' imprisonment for traffickers. However, this legislation does not criminalize the separation of minors from their legal guardians with the intent of trafficking them. As a result, no crime occurs until the victim and perpetrators are outside the jurisdiction. There are many social and legal obstacles to successful prosecution, and convictions are rare. Border guards commonly accept bribes to allow contraband and trafficked girls in or out of the country. Source: Nepal. Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 2001 Released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, March 4, 2002

As our policies tighten, another issue begins to make its way into the Filipina/o community in the U.S.: mail order brides. There have been 5,000 Filipina mail order brides entering the United States every year since 1986, a total of 55,000 as of 1997. (Gabriela, Statistics and the State of the Philippines, 24 July 1997).