

# THE OBSERVER



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*Reporting Accurate and Objective Information Based on Facts, not Agenda-Setting Theories*

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## **Child Prostitution**

Child Sex Tourism

Series: Part I of 5

The multi-billion dollar industry of [child sex tourism](#) is commercialized 'child sex abuse'. But how does one stop the sexual exploitation of children in Asia, Central and South America, Thailand, Cambodia, Costa Rica which are some of the key playgrounds for sex tourism?

In Cambodia, it has been estimated that about one third of all prostitutes are under 18 years old. According to Thailand's Health System Research Institute, 40% of all prostitution in Thailand is child related.

Tourists involved in the victimization of children are classified as ***situational-opportunistic and preferential sex offenders***. The situational-opportunistic offender doesn't have a preference for sex with children, however, due to their location, anonymity, time and the availability of children the false sense of security allows for behavior that otherwise would not be attempted. This '*once in a lifetime*' event has the risk of developing into a long term pattern of abuse. The child sex offender seeks a child of preference such as gender, age and a specific appearance. Virgin-seeking sex offenders have a fascination with having sex with children and believe this will limit their risk of STD and perceive a curative nature against HIV and AIDS. Quote: "*Korean, Japanese and Chinese cultural beliefs stress the notion of 'purity' as a restorative and protective force.*"

Convenient complacency of commercialized '*child sex abuse*' packaged as a travel option by some travel agencies is now being addressed due to the numerous agencies providing sex tours. Tourism services now have a required [code of conduct](#) that repudiates the commercial sexual exploitation of children and is required to report such activity.

According to Susan Song of the [Youth Advocate Program International](#) in Washington, D.C. Americans comprise 25% of international sex tourism, 38% of Cambodia's and 80% of Costa Rica's. However, the December 2006 research report (pg. 21/54) [CHILDWISE](#) by Dr. Frederic Thomas and Leigh Mathews of South Melbourne, Victoria, Australia reflected statistics "concluding that the majority of offenders were French (27.5%), Chinese (26%), followed by Japanese (18.9%), American (11.2%), Cambodian (7.7%) and Thai (5.1%)

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The [Central Bureau of Investigation](#) (CBI) Ashwani Kumar stated there are approximately 1.2 million children in India involved in prostitution. These statistics reinforce the fact that there is a solid base of purchasers and victimizers of children globally.

**Child rape** is an active growing industry and is an ugly, shameful assault that brutalizes unprotected underage children.

New Zealand's Save the Children organization slogan has merit: "[We could end it tomorrow, if demand stopped today](#)". All economic and socio classes are involved in this crime involving both heterosexual and homosexuals.

The [International Child Sexual Exploitation Image Database](#) (ICSE DB) which is managed by INTERPOL is a powerful investigative tool. Intel shared globally by specialized investigators result in timely solutions to criminal cases. Anyone of the 188 member countries associated with INTERPOL can request a 'yellow notice' to help locate missing minors.

Syrian Prime Minister Naji Otri refers to trafficking as "*the new slave trade.*" Due to the masses of children and women forced to work as prostitutes since the Iraqi invasion in 2003 and the increasing number of Asian domestic workers believed to have been trafficked to Syria, new laws have been passed to curtail this activity. The [RedLightChildren.org](#) pressures governments to be more active and enforce laws that protect children from sexual crimes.

[The PROTECT Act of 2003](#) was initiated to prevent child abuse. PROTECT stands for "*Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today*". This law also incorporated the 2003 Truth in Domain Names Act (TDNA) submitted by Senator Orrin Hatch and Congressman Mike Pence. Codified at 18 U.S.C. § 2252(B)(b). This permits criminal background checks for volunteer organizations, authorized wiretapping and monitoring of other forms of communications related to child abuse or kidnapping and eliminates the statutes of limitations for child abductors or abusers.

War, poverty, corruption, the ease of travel and lack of the enforcement of laws are factors contributing to this horrendous crime against children. Child sex abuse has devastating psychological, emotional and physical consequences some of which include: unwanted pregnancies, drug addiction, social ostracism and death.

To report child sex tourism activity by Americans to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). **E-mail the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Operation Predator:**

[operation.predator@DHS.gov](mailto:operation.predator@DHS.gov)

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**or: Call the ICE hotline: 1-866-347-2423**

Federal law prohibits U.S. residents/citizens from engaging in sexual acts with persons under age 18 outside of the United States (18 USC 2423). Persons who commit this crime, or facilitate this crime, are subject to prosecution and prison penalties of up to 30 years.

**For more on this topic:**

[Aryan Brotherhood](#)

[FDC-Major Prison Gangs](#)

[Racial Supremacy and Neo-Nazi Groups](#)