

## GUATEMALA

### MEET A CHILD

Twelve-year-old **Patrick** and his little brother **Marino** (11), would find enough old plastic bottles and bags to be able to sell at the end of the arduous day for about three quetzales. One day while scavenging, they found breakfast - some maggot-ridden pizza that some overweight, over-indulged customer did not want last week. As they devoured the putrid pizza, suddenly, tons of reeking rubbish tumbled down on top of them & enveloped the little boys. With bare hands, their scavenger friends desperately scratched and dug thinking, praying - begging - that their friends still be alive but to no avail.

**TOTAL POPULATION**                    **12,661,000**  
**CHILD POPULATION**                **5,570,840**

Population Reference Bureau -  
2004

### TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

During 1999-2003, UNICEF projected a total child labour of 2963280 in the age group 5-14 yrs.

State of World's Children 2005,  
UNICEF.

In 2000, a national living conditions survey reported that 23 percent of children ages 5 to 17 years in Guatemala were working.

The US Dept. of Labor's 2003  
Findings on the Worst Forms of  
Child Labour

The International Labor Organisation, estimated 219,000 economically active children for the year 2000.

ECPAT CSEC Database,  
[http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat\\_inter/projects/monitoring/online\\_database/index.asp](http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp)

### ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION

An estimated 5,792,000 would be economically active in 2010. Of them would be 159,000 children between 10-14 representing 8.8% of children in that age group

ILO, Bureau of Statistics,  
Economically Active Population.

### GENDER RATIO

970 females for 1000 males

CIA, factbook-2005 (Fig is an  
estimate for 2005)

### CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL

In 2001, 287,800 children in the primary school age group of 7-12 were out of school

UNESCO's EFA Global Monitoring  
Report 2005

### PROGRESS ON PRIMARY EDUCATION MDG

Guatemala's EDI of 0.748 suggests that the level of progress towards achieving education for all by 2015 is low

UNESCO's EFA Global Monitoring  
Report 2005

### **CHILD SLAVERY**

According to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, approximately 100,000 girls aged between 10 and 14 work in domestic services

ECPAT CSEC Database, [http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat\\_inter/projects/monitoring/online\\_database/index.asp](http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp)

### **CHILD TRAFFICKING**

Guatemala is a source, transit, and destination country for women and children from Guatemala and other Central American countries trafficked internally and to the United States for the purposes of sexual and labor exploitation.

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in Persons Report 2005

### **CHILD PROSTITUTION AND PORNOGRAPHY**

Street children tend to be especially vulnerable to sexual exploitation and other forms of violence, constituting a serious problem in Guatemala.

The US Dept. of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour

According to the International Save the Children Alliance, 60% of the Guatemalans involved in prostitution are between 16 and 18 years of age. Overall, 20% of the Guatemalans involved in prostitution are under 15 years of age.

ECPAT CSEC Database, [http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat\\_inter/projects/monitoring/online\\_database/index.asp](http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp)

According to Casa Alianza, Guatemala is becoming a country where child pornography is produced in great quantities

### **CHILDREN USED IN CRIME**

Approximately 10,000 children were members of street gangs. Criminals often recruited children into thievery, prostitution, or drug rings.

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2004, February 2005

### **CHILD SOLDIERS**

New legislation adopted as part of the peace accords protected under-18s from recruitment into the armed forces or deployment in armed conflicts. And the national service program provides for service either in the armed forces or social service projects. Under-18s can carry out national service in social projects from the age of 16.

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers, 2004.

### **CHILDREN IN UNORGANISED SECTOR**

Children work on family farms and help harvest commercial crops such as coffee and broccoli. Children are also employed in the fireworks and stone quarries sectors, in mines, as domestic servants, garbage pickers, shoeshine boys, beggars, street performers, construction workers, cattle ranchers, in family businesses, in fishing, and reportedly in the trafficking and production of drugs.

The US Dept. of Labor's 2003 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour