

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Total Population: 276,218,000

CRC

138

182

Child Population: 71,442,000



TOTAL CHILD LABOUR

A 1997 survey, based on federal government data, reveals that some 290,000 children are working illegally.

CHILD SLAVERY

Alien smuggling organisations use Suriname as an intermediate destination to smuggle Chinese nationals, including women and girls, to the United States, where frequently they are forced into bonded labour situations.

In mid-1997 in Queens New York, police were informed of more than 60 Mexican immigrants including 12 children ranging in age from 6 months to 6 years, being held in 'involuntary servitude'.

CHILD TRAFFICKING

It is estimated that 45,000 to 50,000 people, primarily women and children, are trafficked to the US annually.

Traffickers in Miami were receiving Asian children who were being trafficked through Europe by Japanese and Chinese criminal gangs. In one month, at least 15 children were smuggled into the United States for prostitution.

A local NGO reports that girls from Costa Rica have been transported through Central America and Mexico to work in the sex trade in the United States, Canada, and Europe.

The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) issued a report on trafficking of persons in September, and stated that women and girls from Colombia are trafficked to North America and Western Europe.

CHILD PROSTITUTION

The US Department of Justice estimates the numbers to be between 100,000 and 3 million. These figures include children involved in prostitution, child pornography and who have been trafficked into the United States.

300,000 to 600,000 juveniles are involved in prostitution in the United States.

In the United States there are over 100,000 children involved in child prostitution.

CHILDREN USED IN CRIME

No confirmed data.

CHILD SOLDIERS

The total number of child soldiers is 6,745.

Recent US military practice has been to assign soldiers to units, including combat units, after completion of their basic and technical training. Any soldier who is still 17 after completion of his or her training may therefore be assigned to a combat unit and deployed into combat operations. The number of such 17-year old troops is extremely small, less than one-quarter of one per cent.

EI, EI Barometer on Human and Trade Union Rights in the Education Sector, 1998

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 1999, 25 February 2000

CATW Fact Book citing Deborah Sontag, "Deaf Mexicans are Found in Forced Labor", New York Times, 20 June 1997)

US Dept. of State, Trafficking in Persons Report, July 12, 2001

CATW Fact Book citing "Pedophilia ring uncovered in Italy", USA Today, November 1997

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 1999, 25 February 2000)

US Dept. of State, Country Reports on Human Rights Practices - 1999, 25 February 2000)

ECPAT, CSEC Database, http://www.ecpat.net/eng/ecpat_inter/projects/monitoring/online_database/index.asp

CATW Fact Book citing Gary Costello, Exploited Child Unit of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, "Danger for prostitutes increasing, most starting younger", Beacon Journal, 21 September 1997

US Dept. of Labor, Prostitution of Children, 1996

Rädda Barnen, Childwar database, citing Rachel Brett and Margaret McCallin, Children: The Invisible Soldiers, 1998

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers - 2001

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The United States has acknowledged that 17-year old soldiers served in US operations in the Gulf War, in Somalia, and in Bosnia.

CHILD SERVANTS

No confirmed data.

OTHER HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

Commercial Agriculture - In the United States, over 300,000 children worked as hired labourers on commercial farms, frequently under dangerous and grueling conditions.

Garment Manufacturing - Some 14,000 children under the age of 14, and as young as 9 years, work in garment sweatshops'.

CSUCS, Global Report on Child Soldiers - 2001

HRW, World Report 2001

EI, EI Barometer on Human and Trade Union Rights in the Education Sector, 1998