Truckers Against Trafficking Newsletter

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Notable Quotes

"In Walking Prey, I address the specific connection between sexual objectification of women and the vulnerability of girls to sexual exploitation, including sex trafficking. In essence, my argument is that the overwhelming portrayal of sexually objectified women in the media can cause impressionable girls to self-objectify and, in turn, be more vulnerable to and accepting of sexual exploitation. Sexual objectification of women is essentially the representation of women in a way that highlights and values only one aspect of their whole selves (i.e. their sexuality or conventional sexual appeal).

--Holly Austin Smith, author and trafficking survivor and advocate

"The exploitation of the innocent depends in large part to the rest of us not paying attention; whether knowingly or unwittingly turning a blind eye to things that are sometimes in plain view. We must learn to recognize the signs when we see them and then commit to acting on what we see. That is what this effort is about and why GMTA is proud to be a part of it."

--Ed Crowell, president and CEO of the Georgia Motor

Human trafficking in the news

Michigan State Police join forces with Truckers Against Trafficking

Joining the ranks of many other state departments and trucking associations, the Michigan State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division has announced its partnership with Truckers Against Trafficking. Click here to read more.

Point of View: Prostitution fuels human trafficking

Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller writes the following: Human trafficking is difficult to discuss and harder to combat. Traffickers prey on the vulnerabilities of teen-aged children, some as young as 12, who run away from home and are targeted, picked up and then sold into the commercial sex trade. Other victims are deceived, threatened and intimidated into this form of human slavery. Click here to read more.

Dear John: A new strategy to address the sex trade

John Attanasio allegedly entered a Dallas hotel room on February 1 expecting to pay $100 in exchange for sex. His Backpage.com 'date' turned out to be an undercover officer. In lieu of paid sex, the former dean of Southern Methodist University’s Law School spent the next hour being placed under arrest, the details of which quickly went viral. Click here to read more.

Thank you to the California Trucking Association

We are so grateful for the $12,300 donation made through the member companies of the California Trucking Association (CTA)
Trucking Association, speaking about TAT's Georgia Coalition Build on Feb. 17, 2015

"Familial trafficking is a very real thing ... important to know this. And important to know that buyers are in every profession ... teachers, doctors, business people, fishermen, construction workers ... doesn't matter. When we allow our selfish desires to trump the sanctity of another person ... when we feel what we desire is more important than someone else's freedom, this will continue to happen. We must focus on demand ... men must stand up to other men and let them know this is unacceptable."

--Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, commenting on a news report about a mother trying to sell her 14-year-old daughter for sex

and matching funds from CTA, which was presented to TAT earlier this year. This is the second year that CTA has supported TAT.

Eric Sauer, CTA vice president of policy and government relations, said CTA believes it's important to support TAT, because, "Sharing this information with CTA members and their drivers has put a half-million, new pairs of eyes on the lookout for human trafficking."

At the check presentation were, from left: Glenn Richardson, Delta Truck Centers and 2014 CTA public relations and image committee chairperson; Guido Hajenius, TAT representative receiving check; Tiffany Gallaway, Inland Kenworth and 2015 CTA public relations and image committee chairperson; and John Abate, 2014 CTA president and vice president and general manager of Wheels.

TAT welcomes partnership with Walmart®

Walmart® Logistics is now partnering with Truckers Against Trafficking in the education and training of their drivers on the issue of human trafficking. Steven Garrish, Walmart senior director of private fleet safety, said the partnership will include:

- Training their more than 7200 private fleet drivers
- Making available the TAT training video for drivers to view
at their convenience
- Producing trafficking awareness stickers which will be put on all company-owned vehicles
- Supporting TAT with $2,500

[Link to read more about this exciting partnership]

### Bad weather no hindrance to successful Georgia coalition build

In spite of falling temperatures, ice and difficult travel, the Georgia coalition build, hosted by Georgia Attorney General Sam Olens, drew approximately 70 participants from trucking and law enforcement on Feb. 17 in Atlanta.

[Link to read more about the event]

The FDP was parked in front of the Georgia legislature building for the Georgia coalition build.
A large number of Georgia state legislators and members of the attorney general's office toured the FDP.
Trafficing survivor Dorsey Jones addressed participants at the Georgia coalition build.

Freedom Drivers Project to be showcased at the Alternative Clean Transportation Expo

Gladstein, Neandross & Associates (GNA) has announced a new
partnership between its annual Alternative Clean Transportation (ACT) Expo, the largest clean fleet event, and Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT), a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the trucking industry fight human trafficking as part of their everyday jobs.

The 2015 ACT Expo, to be held May 4-7 at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas, has pledged a portion of the event's total registration revenue in donation to the cause, as well as provided exhibit space for TAT's educational mobile trailer, the Freedom Drivers Project (FDP), in the expo hall.

Click here to read more.

Upcoming Events

**March 5**: Kylla Lanier, TAT deputy director, and the FDP in Oklahoma City for the Oklahoma Coalition Build

**March 24**: Officer Jack Collins, New York Port Authority, presents to the New York State Motor Truck Association on human trafficking and TAT

**March 26-28**: The TAT team and the FDP in Louisville, KY for the Mid-America Trucking Show. Find us in booth #61132.

What is TAT?

Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) is a non-profit organization that exists to educate, equip, empower and mobilize the trucking industry to combat human trafficking as part of their regular jobs. Domestic sex trafficking occurs along our nation's highways and at its truck stops, where traffickers can sell their victims to a transient population they believe are less likely to attempt rescue. In response, TAT is asking the 3 million domestic truckers, as well as other members of the trucking industry, to become aware of this issue, and, when they suspect a human trafficking case, to call the national hotline and report it. Visit our website at www.truckersagainsttrafficking.org to learn more.
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