

Resolution: Resolved that the United Nations should enact a policy in order to reduce human trafficking.

The transcript below is of an actual debate that took place in 2002, prior to the implementation of the International Criminal Court. Some of the debaters are not native-English speakers. The transcript has been edited for clarity, but every effort has been made to maintain the spirit of the original debaters' arguments

• TRANSCRIPT: FIRST AFFIRMATIVE SPEECH: ASA

1

The sexual exploitation of women is not a new phenomenon. However, the world is experiencing a rise in the trafficking of girls and women. I would like to begin this debate with an account of a young woman's horrific experience, as reported by Diane Johnson, a graduate student in international law at American University in Washington, D.C. In a 1999 article for the *New England International Comparative Law Annual*, she reported: "Kasia T., a 25 year old mother from Warsaw, had no interest in working abroad. The young woman was having marital difficulties and, as a result, became easy prey for 'recruitment' by the neighborhood pimps. When Kasia turned down their offer for a high paying club job in Germany, they kidnapped her, took her to a cottage in a remote area, and tried to gang rape her into submission. For three days, three men raped Kasia repeatedly. They spoke of selling her to a German brothel owner, as they had other women. It was not until the kidnappers heard that the police were investigating the kidnapping that they put Kasia into a car and dumped her on the outskirts of Warsaw." Ms. Johnson stated that "Kasia's situation is, unfortunately, not a unique one. Everyday around the world, women and girls are enticed with the promise of good paying jobs, bought from their families, or abducted outright and taken to a foreign country for the purpose of sexual exploitation. These women are held in conditions that are equivalent to slavery. They are forced to endure sexual encounters—rape—with countless 'customers' everyday. They have no power to negotiate the terms of these encounters and may suffer serious beatings if they refuse."

During my speech today, I would like to detail the evils of trafficking and explain why current laws are not working. Finally, I would like to propose Affirmative's solution to the problem.

2

Human trafficking is a major international crime. According to Michelle O.P. Dunbar, a doctoral candidate at the State University of New York, "an estimated four million people throughout the world are trafficked each year. ... Moreover, a disturbing growth in the involvement of international organized crime in the sex trafficking of women demands increasing attention and concern. Traffickers in women and children, much like narcotics traffickers, now operate boldly across international borders. Women are sold and resold in every part of the world. Adult women are tricked into forced prostitution when they respond to advertisements for work in nightclubs, talent agencies, or entertainment shows. The majority of these women are from Third World countries; however, women from developed countries are also at risk."

3

These crimes go unpunished because there is no international mechanism for dealing with them. David D. Perlmutter, a senior fellow at the Reilly Center for Media and Public Relations Affairs at Louisiana State University, reported that "international conventions—such as the 1949 U.N. conven-