



'One victim of trafficking is one too many'*:
counting the human cost of trafficking.

Cases of trafficking in Australia
documented in Feb/March 2004

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*On 13 Oct 2003, the Australian federal government announced a \$20 million package to combat people trafficking, saying 'one victim of trafficking is one too many'.

'One victim of trafficking is one too many': counting the human cost of trafficking

Victims of trafficking in Australia identified by Project Respect Inc

The numbers

Project Respect spent 6 weeks researching and documenting these cases from 1 February 2004 until 13 March 2004. **This report refers to approximately 300 cases of victims of trafficking documented during this time.** Some of the cases documented are based on cases Project Respect had already gathered in 5 years working with women in the sex industry. Other cases were obtained from other sources for the specific purpose of this documentation project. Project Respect circulated a letter and survey form widely in Australia seeking information for this documentation project.

Many sources have told Project Respect that they will soon be providing further cases to us. Accordingly, **we expect to be able to document many more cases this year.** This is just the beginning.

It has been difficult for us to find cases of trafficking in Australia for three main reasons. First, victims are fearful of both immigration authorities and traffickers and are therefore often reluctant to tell their stories. Second, we received little information from official sources and relied instead on our contacts in the sex industry and legal profession and our research of publicly available reported legal decisions involving trafficked women. Third, cultural and language barriers and difficulties accessing brothels made it difficult to access places where we suspect trafficked women to be. Considering these difficulties, **our documentation of approximately 300 cases in 6 weeks amply supports Project Respect's estimate that 1000 women are trafficked to Australia for prostitution each year.** We have repeatedly made this estimate to mainstream media during the past year.

Trafficking victims in Australia have been identified in **Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Perth and Darwin.** There are also indications that trafficked women have been sent to Queensland. The absence of documented cases from Adelaide should not lead to a conclusion that trafficking does not occur there, as it may merely indicate that Project Respect has fewer sources of information and connections in that state. The same can be said for Australian rural and regional areas.

The attached spreadsheet provides some analysis of the data we have gathered.

Trends

Various trends and patterns have emerged from this documentation, including the following:

- In the past, even when notified of trafficking related crimes, Immigration and the AFP have frequently failed to assist victims of trafficking.
- Many trafficked women have been detained in immigration detention centres in Australia and many have been deported from Australia. Some have been re-trafficked here.
- Traffickers and/or their associates have frequently lodged false and fraudulent Protection Visa applications for trafficking victims and it has been sometimes difficult for the victims to prove they did not know about or lodge the application.
- Trafficking occurs in a variety of areas of Australian society, such as the hospitality, construction, art and sex industries.
- Victims of trafficking to Australia come from diverse countries, including Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Burma, China, Singapore, Albania, Colombia, South Africa, India and the former Soviet Republic.
- Women trafficked to Australia for prostitution are deceived to believe that they will be working in hospitality or as air hostesses or they are deceived about the nature of the prostitution they will do and the conditions they will be under. These women are usually accompanied on the plane by a trafficking courier, who may or may not sit next to the victim on the plane. The women are usually recruited by, or via, someone they know. Victims trafficked to Australia experience a range of abuse and coercion, ranging from threats to inform Immigration, to deprivation of food, to physical and assault and rape. The women are prostituted for long hours, seven days a week, and often regardless of their health or menstrual cycle. Women trafficked for prostitution usually wish to earn enough money to send home to family in their country of origin; instead, they earn little to no money in Australia.
- Only a small proportion of trafficked women contact the authorities for help.

Recommendations

- In the past 6 months, Project Respect has observed significant improvements in the way that the AFP is responding to trafficking women. Some officers within the AFP are adopting a more victim-centred approach in their interaction with victims of trafficking who are involved as witnesses in criminal prosecutions of traffickers. We acknowledge and applaud the significant and important steps the AFP is taking in this area. However, in our observation the AFP fails to facilitate access to independent legal and migration advice and support services. This must change for the AFP to earn the trust and respect of trafficking victims and to ensure that trafficking victims are given the opportunity to pursue their legal and migration rights and obtain the support they need.
- Further, we note that the government's package to address trafficking compounds this problem. The support service provider that will be appointed by the federal government to support trafficking victims will be directed that trafficking victims may only have 3 sessions with lawyers, that they must not put women in contact with pro bono lawyers, and that migration advice must only be given by Immigration. This further limits women's access to independent advice about their situation, and must change. Women must have access to independent legal and migration advice.
- The barriers to women agreeing to testify against traffickers are considerable, and parallel many of the barriers to rape victims appearing in court. Australian government has long since abandoned prosecution as the primary method of combating sexual assault. There would be considerable community concern if victims of rape or domestic violence could only access appropriate and ongoing support if they agreed to help police. At present, however, this is the status quo for trafficking victims. This approach may discourage women from accessing support, may contribute to a low take-up by trafficked women of government support services for trafficked women and diminishes the pursuit of justice.
- In recent years, we have observed that Immigration officers and members of the RRT have failed to understand the trafficking context and have sometimes interacted inappropriately with and mistreated trafficked women. Despite the NSW Deputy State Coroner's recommendations handed down a year ago in the inquest into the death of Ms Puongtuong Simaplee, we are unaware of steps by Immigration or private detention centre operators to train their staff in relation to these issues. Project Respect has prepared a specialist training program for this purpose and urges Immigration, private detention centre operators and the RRT to undertake training in relation to trafficking victims.
- We believe, from speaking with trafficked women, that the Government's decision to appoint social workers from Centrelink who have little understanding of trafficking to provide counselling to trafficked women was a poor decision that has in some cases decreased the willingness of trafficked women to provide information to authorities. Those who provide counselling, support and advocacy to trafficked women require specialist training and knowledge of the needs of victims of trafficking. We recommend that counselling and support services providers receive specialist training before they interact with trafficked women. Project Respect is able to deliver this service.
- Project Respect is clearly Australia's leading counter-trafficking non-government organisation. In the past 5 years, our work has put the issue of trafficking for sexual exploitation on the national agenda. We provide assistance to many victims of trafficking and we regularly provide our advice and expertise on trafficking law and policy to a variety of government departments, political

advisers, politicians and parliamentary inquiries. Despite the effectiveness of our work and the importance of the services we provide to victims of trafficking, Project Respect has received no funding from the government's \$20 million anti-trafficking package. In addition, the Victorian state government has provided only small, ad hoc funding, little of it for trafficking-specific work. We recommend that the Federal Government allocates some of its \$20 million counter-trafficking package to us, so that we can continue to undertake our important work. We recommend that state and local governments also provide funding to us.

Definitions:

The following abbreviations are used throughout the report:

‘Australian Federal Police’ means AFP

‘Immigration’ means the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

‘Refugee Visa’ means an onshore protection visa application lodged with Immigration, in which the applicant claims the rights to stay in Australia because the applicant claims to be a refugee.

‘RRT’ means the Refugee Review Tribunal, which assesses applications for Protection Visas.

Codification:

To protect the confidentiality of victims and sources, we have omitted details of brothel names, victim names and some other information. This does not remove the highly sensitive and confidential nature of the information in this table.

Language

We have used the word ‘work’ in quotation marks because it is more correctly viewed as slave labour or exploitation and it is particularly problematic to call prostitution ‘work’ in accordance with various academic literature regarding prostitution and trafficking. We have also put the word ‘contract’ in quotation marks. It is the word often used by the victims but it usually refers to a unilateral, legally unenforceable debt bondage arrangement.

Acknowledgments:

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Case	Number of victims	Exploitation	Country of origin of victims	Gender
1	12	Sexual	Thailand and China	Female
2	21	Sexual	Not known	Female
3	4	Sexual	Thailand and not known	Female
4	1	Construction	Iraq	Male
5	1	Domestic help	Singapore	Female
6	1	Construction	South Africa	Male
7	3 (corroborates cases 8 and 9)	Hospitality	South Africa	Male
8	3 (corroborates cases 7 and 9)	Hospitality	South Africa	Male
9	3 (corroborates cases 7 and 8)	Hospitality	South Africa	Male
10	1	Artistic	Yugoslavia	Male
11	2 (corroborates case 12)	Economic	Thailand	Female
12	2 (corroborates case 11)	Economic	Thailand	Female
13	1	Sexual/ marriage	Albania	Female
14	10 (partly corroborates case 43)	Sexual	Thailand	Female
15	3	Sexual	Thailand	Female
16	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
17	11	Sexual	Thailand	Female
18	4	Sexual	Thailand	Female
19	89 (partly corroborated by case 41)	Sexual	Thailand, Burma, Vietnam, Malaysia & Singapore	Female
20	8	Sexual	Thailand	Female
21	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
22	9	Sexual	Thailand	Female
23	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
24	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
25	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
26	2 (corroborates case 27)	Sexual	Thailand	Female
27	2 (corroborates case 26)	Sexual	Thailand	Female
28	2	Sexual	Thailand	Female
29	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
30	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
31	8	Stonemasonry	India	Male
32	10	Sexual	Thailand	Female
33	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female

34	5 (possibly 2 more)	Sexual	Thailand	Female
35	4	Sexual	Thailand	Female
36	2	Sexual	Thailand	Female
37	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
38	1	Sexual	China	Female
39	1	Sexual	China	Female
40	2 (may corroborate case 53)	Sexual	Former Soviet Republic	Female
41	48 (partly corroborates case 19)	Sexual	Thailand, Malaysia & Indonesia	Female
42	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
43	11 (partly corroborates case 14)	Sexual	Thailand and Vietnam	Female
44	3	Sexual	Thailand	Female
45	1	Sexual	Indonesia	Female
46	3 (corroborates cases 47 & 48)	Sexual	Thailand	Female
47	3 (corroborates cases 46 & 48)	Sexual	Thailand	Female
48	3 (corroborates cases 46 & 47)	Sexual	Thailand	Female
49	31	Sexual	Thailand	Female
50	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
51	11	Sexual	Thailand	Female
52	1	Sexual	Burma	Female
53	3 (may corroborate case 40)	Sexual	Former Soviet Republic	Female
54	9	Sexual	Thailand	Female
55	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
56	1	Sexual	Colombia	Female
57	2	Sexual	Thailand	Female
58	1	Sexual	China	Female
59	1	Sexual	Thailand	Female
60	2	Sexual	Malaysia	Female

CASE 1	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 5 (Refers to 11 other victims)	03 Feb 2004	Victim 5 interviewed by Kathleen Maltzahn	Arrived in Australia: Jan 2002	Unknown	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was recruited by someone who knew her sister. In Thailand, she lived with her grandmother. The victim knew that she would be doing prostitution, but had never done it before, and imagined that it would be escort 'work'. She was told that she would have to pay off a debt of 45,000, but thought it was Baht rather than Dollars. The traffickers organised a false passport for her with her photo. She thought she would come for three months and would have a three month visa. Later she discovered that her visa was only for one month.</p> <p>The victim was escorted from Bangkok to Sydney by an older man who stayed in Australia for three days and then went home. Her travel documents were taken away from her upon arrival in Sydney. When she first arrived, she stayed on a farm in a house with a dog and an older woman, who frequently left her alone for many hours. The victim did not know where the farm was.</p> <p>In Sydney, the victim lived in a house with a Chinese girl who also did not speak English. They had no shared language and could not communicate. She had to ask to go out and was escorted everywhere. She felt that because she did not know English or her way around Sydney, she could not escape. She did not know her own address.</p> <p>The victim 'worked' in a brothel in Sydney (BROTHEL F) with ten other women. She does not know how many of them were on 'contract'. The victim had to 'work' double shifts in an attempt to pay off the 'contract'. She was paying off a \$45,000 'contract'. The 'debt' was paid off through prostitution, at a rate of \$50 per 30 minutes. However, the brothel in fact charged \$70 per 30 minutes.</p> <p>The victim had to service 8 – 12 customers a day, and was prostituted seven days a week. When she acquired a sexually transmitted infection, she had to pay with her own money to see a doctor. She had to perform sexual practices which included 'hot tea' (where she was expected to have warm</p>

						<p>tea in her mouth whilst giving oral sex without a condom). She often had to have sex without a condom. She often 'fought' with the customers, and had to wait until the customer's time was over. She could not open the door in the brothel rooms to get out. She said she 'had to be strong' if customers were violent, because there was nothing else she could do. She had to 'work' even when sick.</p> <p>The victim was given \$50 a week for food and toiletries. The trafficker in Sydney gambled and would borrow money from the victim from the \$50 a week that she was given. The traffickers told her not to tell anyone, including customers, about her situation, including the fact that she was under 'contract', or where she lived. The traffickers told her not to 'believe other people'. She was scared that the traffickers would hit her.</p> <p>When her 'contract' finished, the victim was thrown out. She had no one to stay with, but found someone who took her in. She says that she cried and is worried. She is scared of the government and does not think that it can help her.</p>
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CASE 2	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 6 (refers to 20 other trafficked women)	3 Feb 2004	Victim 6 interviewed by Kathleen Maltzahn	2001	26	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was married to a man from Hong Kong, and needed money. She had told her friends about this, and a friend told her about coming to Australia. The victim came on her own passport. An escort accompanied her on the plane, then took her to the 'safe house'. This person also took her passport.</p> <p>The victim was told that she would do Thai massage in Australia, however once in Australia she was prostituted. She was shocked, but felt she could not do anything. She felt that they pushed her into doing prostitution. Initially, she refused to do prostitution – this lasted three weeks. The traffickers told her, 'if you don't 'work', you won't leave this house'. She was locked in the house where she stayed. There were five other trafficked women at the house, and around 15 more in the brothel. The food she was given was not good.</p> <p>Initially she was told she had to do 700 'jobs', but later they made her do 1,000. It was counted as one 'job' whether it lasted 30 minutes or 60 minutes. She did 300 'jobs' over eight months. She did prostitution every day, seven days a week, because she wanted to pay off the 'contract' as soon as possible. The only money she had was from tips.</p> <p>They told her she had a 'work' visa, but really the traffickers had lodged a fraudulent Refugee Visa application without her knowledge. She was also promised a study visa.</p> <p>The victim was told: 'if you say anything, you will be killed'. Her traffickers were Mafia from a South East Asian country, who were very cruel. These people sold drugs. The 'contract' girls took drugs.</p> <p>The victim was too scared to run away. She believed if she went out the door, it would be the end of her life.</p> <p>When she finished her 'contract', she stayed in Australia with friends.</p>

CASE 4	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 11	11 Feb 2004	Melbourne lawyer who helped victim 11	Arrived in Australia late 2003, exploitation ended early 2004	30	Iraq	Labour – construction industry	<p>The victim was sponsored by his uncle to migrate to Australia. The victim travelled to Melbourne alone, and upon arrival, went to live with his uncle. As far as the source is aware, there was no agreement that the victim would 'work' in Australia for his uncle's benefit, nor did the victim agree to pay his uncle for arranging for him to come to Australia or for finding 'work' for him in Australia. The victim's uncle arranged 'work' for the victim in the building industry, and the victim consented to 'working' in this industry. The uncle retained the wages of the victim, and regularly threatened that he would report him to Immigration and other authorities if he did not comply with orders. The victim was not paid for any of the 'work' that he did. His pay went to his uncle.</p> <p>The victim's exploitation lasted for a few weeks. His exploitation ended when the victim sought help from a community centre that works with migrants, and was able to access legal advice, received material support from the community centre, and was able to leave his uncle's residence and control.</p>

CASE 5	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 12	12 Feb 2004	Friend of Victim 12 interviewed by Hui Zhou	Date of recruitment unknown; escaped situation in 2003	Unknown	Singapore	Domestic Services	<p>The victim 'worked' in Singapore as a housekeeper/nanny for an American family. The victim signed a 'contract' with the family. Under the terms of the 'contract', she was to move to Melbourne and 'work' as their housekeeper/nanny. Her 'working' conditions were poor in Singapore, and the victim thought she would have more rights in Australia, and would be able to earn more money. The 'contract' was for three years, and the victim was promised \$200 per week. The 'contract' was very vague, and the victim was not given a copy of it to keep. The visa, as understood by the victim, was linked to her employment. She felt that she had to stay with the family or she would be put into jail or deported.</p> <p>Once in Melbourne, the victim lived with the family at an eastern-suburban residence. Her passport was taken away from her, and she was not paid for the 'work' that was done. Wages were paid into a bank account that was in the name of one of the members of the family. The victim was given pocket money to spend but she could not access the bank account. She was shown a bank statement regularly so that she knew that she had been paid.</p> <p>The victim had to 'work' long hours and had to seek permission to leave the house. She had to perform all the household duties, including staying up to clean up after parties that went till 2am, and washing the car in the rain when she was sick. The victim described the mother in the family as a 'perfectionist that deferred all the duties' to her. Initially the victim 'worked' seven days of the week. The family then gave her Sunday off. The victim had to perform all her duties by 8am on a Sunday before she could leave the house. She had a curfew of 7pm. The family drew up a list of duties that had to be performed, and advised the victim to 'hide' it when friend's of the family came to visit. The victim was allowed no visitors, could not stay the night at a friend's place, and was told not to tell anyone about her 'working' conditions. The family threatened that if she did not 'work', she would be sent back to Singapore. The victim became thin, stressed, always felt intimidated and lacked self-confidence.</p> <p>The victim's exploitation ended in 2003. Her friends sought legal advice, and arranged for the victim to meet with authorities when the family thought that she was walking the dog. The family was made to pay the victim money owed to her, as</p>

							calculated by the minimum wage in Victoria, and she went back to Singapore. Before she left, the family made her sign a letter which stated that she would not ask for any more money from them in the future.
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CASE 6	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 19	13 Feb 2004	Sydney lawyer and migration agent interviewed by Georgina Costello	Recruited late May or early June 2002, exploitation ended late October 2002.	42	South Africa, 250 kms from Johannesburg	Labour – construction industry	<p>The victim, a black South African man, lived with his wife and four children in a one-room home. He was recruited by an Afrikaans man, who promised him that there would be a lot of money involved if he went to Australia to 'work' for the man's son. The recruiter's son was party to a building 'contract' with the NSW public 'work's department for a construction project at Lake Cargellico (near the Wagga Base Hospital in NSW). The site was to be supervised by the NSW government. The victim had previously worked for the recruiter's son in South Africa in a service station, and had worked for him doing earth works in Namibia.</p> <p>The recruiter obtained all the relevant travel documents for the victim, and arranged travel documents. The victim travelled to Australia on a 456 Visa, which was obtained using false representations. The victim was almost illiterate, and did not know how these documents were obtained.</p> <p>A detailed verbal 'contract' was made between the victim and the recruiter under which the victim was to perform labour in return for money to be sent to his family in South Africa.</p> <p>The victim arrived in Australia and lived in a rented house not far from the construction site. This house was arranged by the recruiter's son, and the victim was provided with food every morning and evening, but was not given lunch. He was not paid at all, except on two occasions he was given a very small amount to buy drinks and ice cream. The victim 'worked' from 7am to 5pm six days a week, and often 'worked' overtime because he thought that he would be paid more accordingly. He was not paid for any of the 'work' that he did.</p> <p>In late October, the victim was involved in an accident at the construction site, and broke his leg. The recruiter's son died as a result of the same accident. The victim was sent to the Wagga base hospital, and was told by the doctor that he would not be able to leave the hospital for at least a fortnight. The morning after his first night in hospital, the victim was abducted by a group of Afrikaners. He was given Asprin, and was driven for five hours to Sydney and out on a plane to Johannesburg. The victim was driven by the abductors to a place half-way between Johannesburg and his home and was left there.</p>

							The victim lodged a complaint and went to the media with his story. He was then contacted by the widow of the recruiter's son, who offered him a sum of money if he signed a paper stating that he would not make any more claims against them.
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CASE 7	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 21 (refers to Victim 23 and Victim 24)	Data collected from files of union 3. Data summarised by Hui Zhou on 18 Feb 2004	Files of union 3	Arrived in Australia Nov 1998, situation ended in October 2002	Unknown	South Africa	Labour – hospitality industry	<p>The victim was a trained chef and was recruited with two other men (victim 23 and victim 24) to 'work' in a large restaurant on the NSW Coast. The victim agreed to be paid the same award rate as an unqualified a la carte cook, which at the time was approximately \$441.60 a week. The restaurant manager arranged a three-month visa for the victim, on the basis that they would come to Australia to train local staff and assist in the restaurant's expansion program.</p> <p>The victim, victim 23 and victim 24 were then sent on a plane to New Zealand in January. When they arrived in New Zealand, they went through the arrivals gate, and then went through the departures gate and flew back to Australia on the same day. By doing this, they were able to obtain a further six months on their visa.</p> <p>The victim, victim 23 and victim 24 lived together in an apartment, which was arranged by the restaurant manager. They were driven to and from 'work', and had to 'work' long hours for 6 days a week, without getting paid overtime. They were initially paid 1500 Rand a month (\$282) which was placed into their bank accounts in South Africa. Later on, they were just given \$50 in cash each month which was taken out of the till.</p> <p>The restaurant manager applied for another visa for the victim, which was granted by Immigration in Feb 2002. The application specified that the victim would have an annual salary of \$49,700. However, the manager continued to pay the victim \$50 a month.</p> <p>The three victims sought legal advice, and were assisted by (UNION 3) in Sydney. The union instigated an action against the restaurant for the outstanding wages that were owed. This never made it to court. The victim finally left this situation in October 2002 because the restaurant would not give him time off to see his wife who was an Australian citizen.</p>

CASE 10	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 34	Data collected from file of union that assisted Victim 34. Data summarised by Hui Zhou on 18 Feb 2004	File of union in Sydney that assisted Victim	Arrived in Australia 1997, situation ended in Feb 2002	Unknown	Belgrade, Yugoslavia	Labour – painting a church	<p>The victim was a skilled and qualified artist that was recruited by the priest of Serbian Orthodox Church to come to Australia and paint murals and frescoes in the church. The victim had been promised \$35,000 in the application made by the church for a business sponsorship visa.</p> <p>The victim lived and slept in a caravan/shed which was used to store paint and paint thinners. The shed had no bathroom or shower facilities and the victim had to wash daily out of a sink. The victim was paid \$50 a week for 'working' long hours. The priest told the victim that his money was going into the church fund, and that he could not access it until he had been taxed. The victim was never supplied with a tax file number, nor was he the recipient of other benefits (ie. Medicare) that he was entitled to. The victim trusted the priest because he was a priest and because the victim spoke little English.</p> <p>The victim painted for donations. The money donated was supposed to provide for paint and other materials that were needed. The priest held most of this money, and the victim had to pay for materials out of his own pocket. When he asked for the money that he was entitled to, the priest would refuse and be very rude to him.</p> <p>The victim felt humiliated by the conditions that he had to live in, and was humiliated as an artist. He was often taunted by the priest about his art 'work', and the priest was never satisfied with the 'work' that he produced. The priest censored the victim's mail, and sometimes confiscated things. Invitations to exhibitions for example often arrived long overdue. The priest also never relayed his phone messages. The priest had promised the victim that he would help him get permanent residency, but used this same thing to blackmail him into doing things. The priest threatened to use his influence to make sure that he would not get his permanent visa. He also told the victim that the police were looking for him.</p> <p>A friend of the victim sought help for him in Jan 2002. He has now been granted permanent residency in Australia.</p>

CASE 14	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 39 (refers to 9 other trafficked women)	30 Jan 2004	Victim 39, interviewed by Georgina Costello	Early 2003	Early 30's	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was recruited by a friend of a friend in Bangkok. The victim knew that she would be doing prostitution in Australia and that she would have to pay off a debt by servicing 700 male clients. She was told that she would have good 'working' conditions and a nice place to live. She was also told she would have the right to stay and 'work' legally in Australia.</p> <p>The victim was told she would be able to service 700 men quickly and would then be able to earn money herself. She planned to make enough money in Australia to leave the sex industry permanently.</p> <p>The traffickers organised a passport and visa for the victim. The visa she travelled to Australia on was valid, but was obtained by the traffickers in a fraudulent manner. After she arrived in Australia, the traffickers lodged a fraudulent Refugee Application without her knowledge or consent. Her signature on the Refugee Application was forged.</p> <p>The victim was escorted from Bangkok to Sydney by someone who stayed in Australia for a few days and then went home. The victim's travel documents were taken away from her upon arrival in Sydney. The victim was taken to Melbourne and put in a small place of residence with the door locked from the outside. The victim's debt was increased, without her consent, to 800 sexual services. Other women from Thailand on 'contracts' to service 900 men were also brought to the apartment and locked in. The victim and other women were escorted to (BROTHEL G) each day.</p> <p>The victim met another nine 'contract' women from Thailand who were required to service men at (BROTHEL G). Some of them stayed in the same place of residence as the victim.</p> <p>The victim was told she had to perform oral sex for customers without a condom and had to 'work' seven days a week. She was allowed to keep the money she earned on the quietest day of each week. Of the 10 victims referred to in this summary, some are still in Australia and some have been deported to Thailand.</p>

CASE 15	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 1 (refers to 2 other trafficked women)	7 Feb 2004	A sex industry informant interviewed by Shirley Woods	Recruited early September 2003, escaped late Nov 2003.	25	Chang Mai, Thailand.	Sexual	<p>The victim was previously trafficked to Japan and U.S.A.</p> <p>The victim consented to travel to Australia to enter the sex industry. She was told she would have 'work' rights in Australia and would pay off her \$30,000 debt bondage 'contract' very quickly. She was told that during her time in Australia she would be able to send some money home. The victim was deceived to believe that brothel conditions would be good (e.g. an eight-hour day, adequate food, freedom to come and go).</p> <p>The victim travelled on the plane with two other female victims. All victims were met at Sydney airport by an Asian couple, who transported them by car to Melbourne. All the victims had their passports taken from them on arrival in Australia.</p> <p>The victims were taken to a house where they were locked in until the following morning when two of them were transported by car to one brothel (BROTHEL A) and the third victim was taken to a different brothel.</p> <p>Over the next two weeks the victim 'worked' 13 and 14 hours each day. She was not given any money and relied on tips from clients to buy food. She was always transported to and from 'work' and had a constant minder at the house.</p> <p>Approximately two weeks after her arrival in Australia, the victim received a tip off that Immigration were going to raid the brothel she was in. She phoned a client she had befriended and he came and picked her up.</p> <p>The victim stayed with the client for 10 days during which time the client phoned Canberra and organised papers for the victim to return home. He told officials that she had lost her passport. He paid for a ticket to Thailand and she went home</p>

CASE 17	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 3 (refers to 10 other trafficked women)	4 Feb 2004	Sex industry informant interviewed by Shirley Woods	Recruited initially in late 1999, again in early 2000, 'contract' completed in early 2001.	22	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was approached by a friend of her family in Thailand and asked if she would like to go to Australia to do Thai massage. The victim agreed to pay a \$50,000 debt bondage 'contract'. She was told that Westerners were very wealthy and that she would easily pay off this amount in a few months. A false passport was organised for the victim.</p> <p>On arrival in Sydney the victim was taken to a house where she was locked in and told she would begin in the sex industry the next day. The victim was afraid to refuse because her passport had been taken and her family had been threatened.</p> <p>Approximately two weeks after her arrival, the victim was detected in an Immigration raid on the brothel. She was deported back to Thailand shortly thereafter. The brothel boss (EVIDENCE 1) had told her that she would have to come back and pay her debt or he would hurt her and her family.</p> <p>The victim borrowed money from a friend and came back to Australia on her own passport. She returned to the brothel where she had been previously and continued paying off her debt bondage 'contract'.</p> <p>During her time in the brothel, the victim received no money and relied on tips from clients to pay for food and basic necessities. The victim was not allowed to go anywhere without a minder. She was told she would be harmed if she told anyone about her circumstances.</p> <p>In early 2001, the victim had completed her 'contract' and approached the brothel owner to retrieve her passport. The brothel owner informed her that she had to pay a large amount of money if she wanted her passport back. The victim had befriended a sympathetic client who gave her the money. The brothel owner became very angry and beat the victim badly. The victim said that she had bruises all over her body and found it difficult to move for several days. The brothel owner then said that he had changed his mind and she now had to pay even more money if she wanted her passport back. The victim got the money from the sympathetic client and paid it to the brothel owner. Her passport was returned to her, but the brothel owner told her that if she was going to 'work' in Australia it had to be for him and that he would</p>

							<p>come looking for her if he heard otherwise.</p> <p>The victim has been in hiding since this time.</p> <p>The victim stated that during her time in Sydney brothels she met 10 women who had been trafficked. She believes that most of them have been detected by Immigration and sent back to Thailand.</p>
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CASE 18	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 4 (refers to 3 other trafficked women)	4 Feb 2004	Sex industry source interviewed by Shirley Woods	Recruited Feb 2001	Approx 27	Chang Rai, Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was initially approached by a Thai girl who she had not met before, in her home region of Chang Rai. The girl spoke about Australia and how easily and quickly money could be made in Australia.</p> <p>The victim was told she would have to perform massage and hand relief for 750 men as payment for her to trip to Australia. The victim agreed and travelled to Australia with a 'pretend boyfriend'. The victim was taken from the airport to Chinatown and met by an Asian man and woman. This couple took the victim to a house somewhere in suburban Sydney where there were three other female victims. The victim was put in one room with one woman, two other female victims had a separate room, and a minder sat in the lounge area.</p> <p>The victim's passport was taken from her on arrival. During the first few weeks in the brothel (BROTHEL B), where she was forced to do prostitution, the victim wanted to run away. She saw other women being brought back after running away who were beaten and bruised. The women who were beaten claimed that it was their pimp (EVIDENCE 1) who had beaten them. The victim was afraid and saw no way of escape. The house where the women spent time while not in the brothel was locked and constantly under guard.</p> <p>The victim kept a detailed and accurate record of how many men she had provided services for. After five or six months, 'working' double shifts, seven days a week, she had serviced 750 men and requested her passport from the brothel owner. She was told that she still had to provide services to another 100 men. During that five or six months, the victim received no money and relied on tips from clients to buy food and basic necessities.</p> <p>The victim was afraid to refuse the brothel owner as he had threatened her with physical violence. The victim stayed at the brothel and serviced 100 more men. The brothel owner then gave her passport back and kicked her out on the street.</p> <p>The victim remains in Australia in hiding.</p>

CASE 20	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 8	10 Feb 2004	Boyfriend of victim interviewed by Shirley Woods	August 2002	22	Place 1 Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was approached by female friend in her home-town (Place 1) who told her she would be able to earn a lot of money in Australia through prostitution.</p> <p>The victim agreed to come to Australia to do prostitution. She was told that she would have to pay off a \$40,000 debt bondage 'contract'. The victim was told that Westerners were very wealthy and that she would pay this amount off in a few months.</p> <p>The victim's passport was removed on arrival. The victim did prostitution in brothels both in Sydney and Melbourne (BROTHEL C) over a one year period. She 'worked' 13 – 14 hr days, 7 days a week and received \$50 a week to purchase food.</p> <p>Shortly after the 'contract' was completed, the victim wanted to leave the sex industry and be with her Australian boyfriend (EVIDENCE 4). The brothel owner (EVIDENCE 5) was angry that the victim wanted to leave and insisted that she continue 'working' for him.</p> <p>The victim resisted his threats and spent time with her boyfriend until one night when the threats had become too frightening and she returned to the brothel.</p> <p>Immigration raided the brothel that night and the victim was taken to the Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre. She was deported shortly thereafter.</p> <p>During the few days that she was in the detention centre her mobile phone (a pre-paid phone that the traffickers had given her) rang every 20 minutes. She believed the calls were from the traffickers and considered the calls to be indirect threats not to talk to authorities about her circumstances.</p>

CASE 23	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 13	13 Feb 2004	Sydney lawyer interviewed by Shirley Woods	April 2001	22	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was trafficked to (BROTHEL D) in Sydney and was moved regularly between Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth. The victim stated the name of the owners of the brothels in Melbourne and Perth (EVIDENCE 6). The victim had a debt bondage 'contract' of \$40,000. The victim's passport was taken from her on arrival.</p> <p>The victim was 'owned' by two men and was forced to engage in sex with both of them and also with other women in the sex industry. The victim was also forced to take drugs.</p> <p>Some time during her time in the brothel, the two men who 'owned' the victim employed the services of a 'crooked' migration agent to forge a letter to the RRT. Shortly after the victim was rescued from the brothel, a lawyer gathered strong evidence to show proved that the letter was a forgery and tried to help the victim give this evidence to the RRT, which she wanted to do. The RRT acknowledged in writing to the lawyer that the Refugee Application was false and that the victim's signature had been forged. The victim also reported the rape to police, but no action was ever taken.</p>

CASE 25	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 15	13 Feb 2004	Sydney lawyer	April 2001	29	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was trafficked from Thailand to Sydney and soon after to Canberra.</p> <p>The victim was aware that she would be doing prostitution but was not told that she would have her passport taken and that she would be doing prostitution for 18 hrs a day, 7 days a week. She had a debt bondage 'contract' of \$40,000.</p> <p>Some time during her time in the Canberra brothel, the trafficker fraudulently applied for a Refugee Visa on her behalf. The correspondence submitted was fraudulent and the signature on the application forms was forgery and entered via a 'crooked' migration agent (EVIDENCE 7).</p> <p>The victim was rescued from a brothel in Canberra by a sympathetic Australian Capital Territory policeman who found out that the woman was being held against her will.</p> <p>After her rescue, a lawyer acting for the victim notified the RRT that the letter and signature were a forgery. The AFP and Immigration were also made aware of this and, despite repeated requests, no action was ever taken.</p>

CASE 28	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 18 (refers to 1 other trafficked woman)	10 Feb 2004	Sydney lawyer interviewed by Shirley Woods	2001	25	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was trafficked to Sydney from Thailand and was forced to do prostitution in a brothel in West Sydney. Her boss was an Asian woman and her debt bondage 'contract' was for \$40,000.</p> <p>After a period of a few months the victim formed a relationship with a client who asked if he could take her out for the day. The owner allowed this but warned him that his life would be in danger if he did not return with the victim.</p> <p>During the day release, the victim was interviewed by a staff members of Immigration (EVIDENCE 10) and a member of the AFP (EVIDENCE 11). The victim told them both of her situation and even drove around with them in a car and pointed out brothels (EVIDENCE 12) where she knew that women were being held against their will. At the end of the day after helping them with their inquiries, the victim was arrested for being an illegal immigrant.</p> <p>She was taken to Villawood Detention Centre to await deportation. The victim's boyfriend then had to tell the pimp the woman had been detected. His life was threatened and he still lives in fear.</p>

CASE 31	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victims 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 (8 victims)	Data collected from file of union 3 Data summarised by Shirley Woods, 18 th Feb, 2004.	Union 3	Trafficked in early 1998 – still under 'contract' and being exploited until late Feb, 2001.	Unknown	Chennai, India	Labour	<p>The victims were sent a 'contract' to sign by a Temple association based in Sydney (EVIDENCE 14). A copy of the 'contract' has been seen by summariser (Shirley Woods). The terms were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 month 'contract' - Gross weekly salary of \$658.00 - Tax of \$135 would be paid to ATO each week - Superannuation of 9% would be paid to the worker - \$80 a week would be deducted from pay to provide food and accommodation within the temple grounds. - Once all deductions taken from wages, the worker would receive \$2,000 a month paid monthly - The cost of the air ticket would be reimbursed by the association. - Provision for medical expenses - A workers Compensation Insurance Policy would be in place - The workers would work 35 hours per week. - The Temple Association would sponsor the employment and the 'contract' was subject to the Australian Government granting 'work' visas. <p>The victims signed the 'contract's with the above mentioned conditions.</p> <p>In late February of 2001, (UNION 3) became aware of the situation of the victims and decided to investigate. Consequently, (UNION 3) found that the victims were receiving \$45.00 per month plus \$100.00 per week to send home. The victims were not receiving any other entitlements, no medical insurance, and no workers Compensation. Upon investigation, 'work' Cover found that there was no safety equipment and there had not been any safety instruction given.</p> <p>The victims were living on site in a portable shed in one room – five metres by three metres in size. 'work' Cover condemned the electrical wiring in the shed. The shed had unhygienic cooking conditions and was infested with cockroaches.</p> <p>The victims could not leave the site as it was surrounded by a barbed wire fence and had locked gates. The victims said that once every three months they were allowed</p>

							<p>out on a supervised outing. The victims stated that they were always supervised, even if visiting the doctor.</p> <p>In late February 2001, (UNION 3) became involved and the victims were taken from the site and housed in a hotel to await court proceedings. (UNION 3) fought for wages for the victims and eventually, in 2003, won some compensation for the victims.</p>
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CASE 32	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 56 (refers to 9 other women)	November 2002	Interview of Victim 56 with Kathleen Maltzahn	2002	20	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim had not previously done prostitution in Thailand. The victim knew she would do prostitution in Australia. The victim was motivated to come to Australia to earn money for a family member.</p> <p>The victim was brought into Australia by a non-Thai man, and says that an English man from an English teaching college brought other Thai women to Australia.</p> <p>The victim thought she would be 'working' in a bar like the bars in Thailand, and when she saw the brothel she wanted to leave. She was told she could not.</p> <p>The victim was locked in the house she was kept in, and only left to go to the brothel. She was not allowed to go to the doctor, and was made to do prostitution when she was sick.</p> <p>The other women were told not to talk to her, so she was very isolated.</p> <p>The victim was told she would earn A\$40,000 in 3 months. In fact, she was made to do 1,000 'jobs' to finish her debt bondage 'contract', each job paying off \$49 towards her 'contract'. This amount was originally \$55, but \$6 was deducted because she was 'too fat'. She was made to do prostitution even when she had her period or an infection.</p> <p>The victim was under 'contract' for eight months, and during that time was lied to and hit by the 'boss'.</p> <p>Another woman who ran away was hunted down by 'gangsters', beaten, and locked in a room without food and drink. Another \$2,000 was added to her 'contract'.</p> <p>Once her 'contract' was finished, the traffickers charged the victim money to use the brothel rooms.</p> <p>At the time of the interview, the victim said the trafficker (EVIDENCE 41) had five trafficked women, and had had two the previous week. Her older sister was also trafficked to Australia at a similar time.</p>

CASE 33	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 57	November 2002	Interview of Victim 57 with Kathleen Maltzahn	2002	24	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim had not previously done prostitution in Thailand. The victim knew she would do prostitution in Australia. She needed to earn money to support her two young children (her first child was born when she was 17, and her ex-husband did not provide support).</p> <p>A friend who had not been to Australia recruited her, telling her she would be finished paying off her 'contract' in two months. The victim's friend introduced her to an agent, who organised a false passport with her photo.</p> <p>Once in Australia, the victim's 'boss' sold the victim on to a second trafficker, because she (the first trafficker) had lost money gambling. The second trafficker sold her on again after one month. The victim did prostitution seven days a week for each of the traffickers. She would be woken up and sent out on escort at all hours.</p>

CASE 34	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 58 (refers to 4 trafficked women and 2 who may have been trafficked)	November 2002	Interview of Victim 58 with Kathleen Maltzahn	2002	32	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim had previously done prostitution in Singapore, Macau and Hong Kong. The victim knew she would do prostitution in Australia.</p> <p>The victim says the traffickers lied to her, and she thought she would be in a nightclub. She was told that she would be paid \$50 from the \$70 customers paid, and that she would have to do 750 jobs to pay off her 'contract'.</p> <p>A Thai man escorted her on the plane, along with two other women. It is unknown if they were trafficked.</p> <p>Once in Australia, the first trafficker (EVIDENCE 42) sold the victim to a second trafficker (EVIDENCE 43). The second trafficker had two other trafficked women.</p> <p>Other women: The victim knows of four sisters who have all been trafficked to Australia.</p>

CASE 35	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 59 (refers to 3 other women)	November 2003	Interview of Victim 59 with Kathleen Maltzahn,	Approximately 2002-2003	27	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim comes from a poor rural family, had worked as a child in a restaurant, then in a nightclub, and had previously been trafficked to Macau, and had also done prostitution in Brunei (she was not trafficked there).</p> <p>Because of family responsibilities, she needed to earn money, and did not want to return to Macau because it 'was too hard, it feels like jail'. The victim knew someone who had done prostitution in Australia, and decided she would also try to go to Australia. She approached a friend of a friend who was an agent. The agent had five women to chose from, and rejected two. An Australian backpacker who had run out of money was paid \$5,000 to escort her to Australia. The Thai agent was later paid 16,000 baht.</p> <p>In Thailand she was told she would have a \$50,000 'contract' to pay off, that she would be given a weekly free day, that she could send money she earned home, that she would not have to 'work' if she was sick, that she would live with the agents, and that after the 'contract' was completed she could 'go any place'.</p> <p>Once in Australia she lived at the 'boss's' house, and was not allowed to leave the premises. When the victim arrived in Australia were at least two, perhaps three other women on 'contract'. Once these women finished their 'contract' they were told to leave the traffickers house and get another job. They couldn't find anywhere to 'work'.</p> <p>During the day the victim was allowed to go to the brothel, which was 300 or 400 meters from the house, by herself. At night she was escorted.</p> <p>The traffickers told the victim they had applied for a study visa for her. She paid them \$5,000 for this. In fact, they applied for a Refugee Visa for her.</p> <p>The victim completed her 'contract' in about six months, and then stayed illegally in Australia doing prostitution in at least two states.</p> <p>In early 2003 she was detected and detained by Immigration. The victim claims she told them she was trafficked, but they ignored her. Project Respect spoke to her</p>

							while she was in Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre.
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CASE 40	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
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Victim 64 and Victim 65	2 June 2003 (TV program)	Lateline TV program, interviewed by Margot O'Neill	August 2001	22, 29	Former Soviet Republic	Sexual	<p>The two victims were recruited to 'work' as flight attendants, having been offered training at an Air New Zealand training school. They were told they would do the training and then be contracted to an Asian airline. They were taken to Bangkok by a Russian speaking escort, who handed them to a Thai man. They were later escorted to Auckland, New Zealand by a male New Zealander. They stayed with the NZ man and his mother, and were shown cabin crew training videos. The man told them the NZ school was full and they would have to go to Australia.</p> <p>Once they arrived in Sydney, the victims were taken to a brothel. The women objected, and were told their families would be killed. The traffickers threatened to kill the women, holding a gun as he did so. Their passports were taken from them, and they were kept under guard.</p> <p>They did prostitution 15 hours a day, seven days a week. They ran away after two months, when they were finally left alone in the house.</p> <p>They contacted the AFP and Immigration in May 2002, but say the police and immigration 'did nothing'.</p> <p>Following this television program the AFP said it would reopen the investigation. It is very likely that these two victims are Victim 49 and Victim 50, who are referred to by Victim 48.</p>
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CASE 42	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 46	21 Feb 2004	Victim interviewed by Georgina Costello	Approximately 2001-2002	25	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was told she would be a waitress in Australia. When she arrived in Australia, she was told she had to do prostitution. Then she met a man (now her boyfriend) who helped her leave that sex industry. She then stopped 'working' and lived in Australia as a 'housewife' (sic) until Immigration detected her and detained her in the Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre and put her in a 'special room' on her own. She told an Immigration official (EVIDENCE 25) that she had been trafficked, but refused to reveal her real name and refused to be a witness in criminal investigations. (EVIDENCE 25) said to her that if she would agree to be a witness she could stay in a nice hotel, but the victim wants to move on with her life and so does not wish to cooperate with criminal investigators.</p> <p>The victim has had a difficult life. Her high school education was interrupted.</p>

CASE 43	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 47 (refers to 10 other trafficked women)	20 Feb 2004	Victim interviewed by Georgina Costello	Early 2003	Late 20's	Thailand	Sexual	<p>A friend of a friend told the victim she could make lots of money doing prostitution in Australia. She agreed to go to Australia to do this. A trafficking network arranged her passport and visa and told her she would be 'working' in a nice bar with rooms upstairs, that she would be able to pay off her debt quickly and that she would be able to continue 'working' in Australia once she had paid off her debt.</p> <p>She travelled to Australia by plane escorted by a man. They pretended to be a honeymoon couple. When she arrived in Australia, she was met at the airport by traffickers who confiscated her passport and locked her up in places of residence in Sydney and Melbourne. She was told she had to pay off a \$45,000 debt by servicing 900 men. She was given little food to eat. She was escorted to (BROTHEL G) and 'worked' 7 days a week, even when she was sick. She had to wear very revealing clothing that she did not feel comfortable in. She was told that if she tried to escape, corrupt members of the police and Immigration and the Australian mafia would catch her. While at (BROTHEL G), she met 10 other women on debt bondage 'contract's', 8 of the women were Thai and 2 were Vietnamese. (Please note that some of these women are likely to be the same women that Victim 39 met in Australia because they were at BROTHEL G at similar times).</p> <p>Her exploitation ended when Immigration raided (BROTHEL G).</p>

CASE 44	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 52 (Refers to 2 other trafficked women)	Facts from a decision made by Administrative Appeals Tribunal – dated 17/10/03 – Summarised by Shirley Woods	Facts from a decision made by AAT – 17/10/03	April 1997	Unknown	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim was approached in a nightclub in Bangkok by two women known to her only by nicknames (EVIDENCE 32). The victim was asked if she would like to ‘work’ overseas. The victim was supporting a child and an elderly mother and was therefore tempted by the offer. The victim was told she would be ‘working’ in a massage parlour and agreed to accept the offer. The victim was taken to meet a couple known as (EVIDENCE 33) to make the arrangements. The victim was told that she would have to use a false passport. She was afraid but was told that she had already committed by meeting the couple. The victim was told that the cost of organising everything would be \$25,000 Australian dollars, and she would have to pay that back.</p> <p>The victim was told that she would be able to send \$500 a month home to her family, but that the remainder of her earnings would pay her debt bondage ‘contract’. The victim was also told that a 15 month ‘work’ permit would be organised for her at the cost of \$500, which was to be added to her debt.</p> <p>The victim arrived in Australia in April of 1997. She initially spent one night in Perth and was then taken to Sydney along with three other Thai women, where she began ‘working’ at (BROTHEL M). The boss of the brothel took the victim’s passport and organised a Refugee Application, completed the form and told the victim to sign it. The victim could not read English very well and did not understand fully what she was signing.</p> <p>For the first two months the victim was given \$500 a month to send home to her family, but then this stopped. Once the payments stopped the victim stopped ‘working’ and wanted to return to Thailand. The victim was unable to do so, as she did not have her passport.</p> <p>A short time later the victim met a man whom she began having a relationship with and consequently married and had a child to. They were married on the in 1998.</p> <p>The victim wanted to return to Thailand to see her other child and went to the Thai Embassy in Sydney who then referred her to Immigration. The victim was granted a temporary visa to return to Thailand. She returned to Australia in October 2003.</p>

CASE 49	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 69 (Refers to 30 other trafficked women)	02 March 2004	Sex industry informant interviewed by Shirley Woods	Unknown	24	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim arrived in Australia as a student and began doing prostitution as a way of making money while she was studying. Shortly after entering into prostitution the victim borrowed \$20,000 from the owner of the brothel to purchase books, a computer, and to send home to Thailand. Once the victim had borrowed the money she was then told that she had to 'work' extra hours to pay it back and that it was not paid back by a certain time the debt would be doubled. The victim became upset by this and when she argued the point she was sent to 'work' in Perth.</p> <p>The brothel she was sent to in Perth had many other women who had been trafficked and the victim witnessed women being tortured and sexually abused. During her time in Perth the victim was forced to 'work' on the Navy ships, and would go for weeks at a time with very little food and no showers.</p> <p>When things became too much and the victim tried to complain, the owner would traffic her on to another brothel and increase her debt. During a 12- month period the victim 'worked' in brothels in Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth. During that time she claims to have met at least 30 women who had been trafficked from Thailand.</p> <p>During the 12-month period the victim paid back the owner of the original brothel between \$70,000 and \$80,000 and when she escaped, she supposedly still owed another \$40,000.</p> <p>The victim was helped by (EVIDENCE 48) and eventually escaped.</p>

CASE 51	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 41 (refers to 10 or 11 other trafficked women)	Facts outlined in decision of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal dated 27 May 2003, summarised by Hui Zhou on 11 Mar. 04	Facts outlined in decision of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal dated 27 May 2003	Arrived in Australia May 1999, returned to Thailand August 2001	23	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim's mother was murdered by her father when she was four years old. The victim was one of eight children in the family. She worked as a singer in a hotel in Thailand and wanted to save money so that she could finish her high school studies and gain further qualifications. She and another co-worker were persuaded to by another singer (EVIDENCE 17) to go to Macau. They were told that singers in Macau were paid more. (EVIDENCE 17) funded their travel expenses. Upon arrival in Macau, they were told that there were no singing jobs, and were told to become sex 'workers'. They refused, but they were intimidated into complying. They were told that this was the only way that they could repay their 'debt'. The victim and her friend were forced into sex slavery, were locked up and were threatened with death or violence if they tried to escape. The victim stayed in Thailand for about seven months, and the traffickers decided to repatriate her to Thailand.</p> <p>In Macau she had met an older woman (EVIDENCE 18) who told her about 'working' as a prostitute in Australia. In Thailand, the victim contacted a relative of (EVIDENCE 18). The victim was then contacted by (EVIDENCE 19) who told her he would make arrangements for her. He told her that she would be 'working' legally, and she signed papers that were given to her.</p> <p>The victim flew to Australia with a female 'minder' (EVIDENCE 20) who took her to a house in Sydney. After that the 'minder' returned to Thailand.</p> <p>At the house, there was a woman in charge named (EVIDENCE 21) who demanded the victim's passport. (EVIDENCE 21) told the victim that she was trying to get everything processed legally, and that she would help the victim find a job. The victim was then relocated to live with a Chinese woman (EVIDENCE 22). The victim was told that the house was too crowded and this Chinese woman would look after her and process her documents.</p> <p>The victim was taken to 'work' at (BROTHEL I). There were 4 or 5 other Thai girls there and a Chinese girl. She was then escorted to the house where she was living in a car by (EVIDENCE 23). He told her that (EVIDENCE 21) had sold her to him and (EVIDENCE 24).</p>

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CASE 52	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 42	Facts outlined in decision of RRT dated 24 Feb 2003, summarised by Hui Zhou 11 Mar 2004	Facts outlined in decision of RRT dated 24 Feb 2003	Unknown	Unknown	Burma	Sexual	<p>The victim was of ethnic minority in Burma, and was abducted by the Burmese military as a child. She was taken to a military camp where she was raped. A woman at the camp approached the victim and told her that she could help her escape from there. The victim was taken in a truck with many other girls across the Thai/Burma border into Thailand. The victim was taken to a house where she was locked in. She was forced to 'work' as a prostitute. The 'boss' told her that the woman who had helped her escape owed him a debt and had sold the victim to him to repay the debt. The 'boss's business' closed down and the victim was left stranded in Thailand because she could not go back to Burma and did not have legal status in Thailand.</p> <p>It was arranged for her to come to Australia to 'work', and she had to fulfil an arrangement by 'working' in Australia (the decision does not state what type of 'work' the victim had to engage in Australia). The victim fulfilled this 'agreement' and was then free to do what she wanted. The victim says that she was not held against her will.</p> <p>Without her knowledge, a refugee application was made on behalf of the victim. The documents lodged contained false signatures. The application was refused. An appeal was then made to the RRT. An officer of the Tribunal called the victim's 'representative' to invite the victim to attend a hearing. The 'representative' informed the tribunal that the victim did not wish to give oral evidence and asked the Tribunal to make a decision on the papers alone. The Tribunal affirmed the decision to refuse the application.</p> <p>The victim remained in Australia unlawfully and was located and detained by Immigration. She told Immigration that she knew nothing of the application and made a separate Refugee Application. The member of the RRT accepted the victim's evidence and found in the victim's favour.</p>

CASE 53	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 48 (refers to Victim 49 and Victim 50, who may be Victim 64 and Victim 65)	Facts outlined in decision of RRT dated 30 June 2003, summarised by Hui Zhou on 11 Mar 2004	Facts outlined in decision of RRT dated 30 June 2003	Arrived in Australia October 2001	Unknown	Former Soviet Republic	Sexual	<p>A friend of the victim's (EVIDENCE 26) told the victim that she could introduce the victim to someone that could help her obtain a training position to learn to be an air stewardess. The victim was told that she would get a job with an Asian airline.</p> <p>The victim was introduced to a man (EVIDENCE 27) who told her that she would go to Thailand first and then travel to New Zealand to complete the course and then return to Thailand to commence employment.</p> <p>In Thailand (EVIDENCE 28) arranged for a visa for the victim and other things necessary for travel to New Zealand. The victim met two other women, Victim 49 and Victim 50 (who may be Victim 69 and Victim 70).</p> <p>All three victims then flew to New Zealand with another man (EVIDENCE 29). He took control of their passports, but they were given back to the women for Immigration purposes at the airport. The victims stayed in New Zealand for two weeks, and were told by (EVIDENCE 29) that the school was full. He told them that they would go to Australia to train instead. The victim noticed that the visas in the passports were business visas. When she raised this with (EVIDENCE 29) he told her that that could be easily changed once they arrived in Australia.</p> <p>The victims arrived in Australia and were taken to a house (BROTHEL L) by (EVIDENCE 30) and (EVIDENCE 31), a Vietnamese couple. The couple took control of their passports, and the victims were told that they had been 'bought' by the couple's 'boss' and that they would have to 'work' in the brothel. The victims resisted and were threatened with a gun. They were taken to see a lawyer and were made to sign blank forms. They were threatened that if they went to the police they would be put in jail because they were 'working' illegally.</p> <p>Victim 49 and Victim 50 ran away in January 2002. Victim 48 was relocated to a new brothel. She was threatened that if she ran away she would be killed. (EVIDENCE 31) beat her and she hit her face on a door and broke her front teeth.</p> <p>The victim ran away in February 2002. She was helped by a client. The victim contacted her parents in her home country and they were very angry with her. She</p>

							<p>was told that the traffickers had sent a video tape of her having sex with customers to her family and they had been disgraced by it. The victim was told that her father would kill her if she returned home.</p> <p>The victim made a Refugee Application and the RRT made a finding in her favour. It turns out the traffickers had previously made an Refugee Application on her behalf without her consent or knowledge.</p>
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CASE 54	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 43, Victim 44, Victim 45 (refers to 6 other trafficked women)	23 Feb 2004	Source who met victims 43, 44 and 45 interviewed by Georgina Costello	Arrived in Australia in early 2002, still being exploited in November 2003, the source has had no contact with the victims since that time.	19, 24, 21 respectively	Thailand	Sexual	<p>Victim 43 and Victim 44 knew that they were coming to Australia to do prostitution. Victim 45 thought that she was coming to Australia to 'work' in a restaurant. The victims were told in Thailand that they would have to pay off an \$8000 debt to cover the cost of the airfare and passport. They travelled together on the plane to Australia.</p> <p>When the victims arrived in Sydney, their passports were confiscated and they were told their debts were now \$20,000 and that they had to do prostitution to pay off the debts. The victims were physically assaulted by associates of the traffickers.</p> <p>The victims were locked in an apartment in Sydney with six other trafficked women. After 'working' in Sydney for nine months, the victims were taken to Canberra, where there were few customers and they had trouble paying off their debts quickly.</p> <p>The last time the source spoke to the victims, the victims said they thought they would be taken to Queensland, where they would be able to pay off their debts more quickly.</p>

CASE 55	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 51	Facts outlined in RRT decision dated 27 June 1997, summarised by Hui Zhou on 12 Mar. 04	Facts outlined in RRT decision dated 27 June 1997	Unknown, but before July 1999.	Unknown	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim came to Australia to 'work' as a hostess in a bar and was taken to a brothel. She was heavily 'indebted' to the traffickers because they organised her travel. She was made to sign some forms and she was told that they were forms for a 'work' visa for one year. She did not read English and did not know what the forms said.</p> <p>The traffickers made a Refugee Application on the victim's behalf without her consent or knowledge. The victim told the RRT that she had never had trouble in Thailand and that she did not make the application. The Tribunal accepted her evidence in regards to this.</p> <p>The victim's 'debt' was increased because the traffickers processed these forms. The victim did not know whether the money she paid was shared around to all involved or whether it went to one person.</p> <p>The victim lived and 'worked' at the brothel and was not allowed to leave the brothel alone. She did not have possession of her passport.</p> <p>The victim tested positive to HIV infection. She made a Refugee Application which was refused. The RRT affirmed the decision not to grant a refugee visa.</p>

CASE 56	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 53	Facts outlined in decision of RRT dated 13 January 2000, summarised by Hui Zhou 12 March 04	Facts outlined in decision of RRT dated 13 January 2000	Unknown	Unknown	Colombia	Sexual	<p>The victim was deceived into coming to Australia by a 'friend'. The victim wanted to travel and told her friend about this desire. She had made a visa application for another country but this had been refused. Her 'friend' suggested that she visit his brother in Australia, and that his other brother was just about to travel to Australia. He suggested that they travel together as a defacto couple to make it easier to get a visa. He told the victim that he would lend her the money for the trip and she could repay him by 'working' in Australia.</p> <p>The visa that was given to the victim did not enable her to 'work', but the 'friend' told her that that could be arranged once she got to Australia. When she arrived in Australia, the victim was forced to 'work' by the brothers of her 'friend' to 'work' in a brothel. She was told that she had to 'work' there for one year and that she had to give them half of what she earned. She had never done prostitution before.</p> <p>The victim initially lived with the brother and his wife, but later on moved to live with his girlfriend. The victim told a client about her situation and she left the house to live with this client. The victim rang her parents and her mother told her that three men (including the 'friend') had come and threatened her. The victim told the brother that she was leaving to go back to Colombia and she was threatened and abused.</p> <p>The brother told the victim that she still owed him a lot of money and that he wanted her to pay a particular amount each week for a year. He threatened her and her family. He told her to continue to 'work' as a prostitute to pay the money back. The client of the victim gave her a sum of money to give to the brother.</p> <p>The brother then told the victim that he had 'sold' her to another man, and that she only needed to pay him for the ticket and visa, and needed to pay this other man a different amount. The brother hit the victim when she refused. The victim was forced to 'work' in two different occupations to pay off the 'debt' and met with the second man twenty times, paying him a large sum of money each time. The victim feared for her life and the lives of her family in Colombia.</p> <p>The victim says that she has been in contact with Colombian authorities who had</p>

							told her that “they could not do anything until the persons in question actually harmed someone or committed a crime.”
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CASE 57	Date of survey	Source of survey	Date trafficking occurred	Age when exploited	Country of origin	Type of expl'n	Summary of trafficking conduct
Victim 54 (Refers to 2 other trafficked women)	Facts outlined in decision of RRT dated 16 February 1999, summarised by Hui Zhou 12 March 04	Facts outlined in decision of RRT dated 16 February 1999	Unknown	Unknown	Thailand	Sexual	<p>The victim 'worked' in a hotel. A regular guest there spoke to the victim about coming to Australia to 'work'. She thought he was joking at first, but later on, she heard about people making good money overseas, and became seriously interested. The victim told the man that she wanted to go to Australia temporarily first to see if she liked it. The man arranged her passport and visa and asked for her bankbook. They arranged to meet at the airport and the man gave the victim her ticket and a passport with a visa in it. Her bankbook was never returned to her.</p> <p>The victim was met by a Thai/Vietnamese woman at the airport. This woman flew with her to Australia, but did not sit near her on the plane and did not speak to the victim except to help her with ordering food.</p> <p>The victim was met by another Vietnamese woman when she arrived in Australia. She was taken to a house. She was told that this was the house where the restaurant employees lived. At the house there were two Thai girls, one who the victim believes was trafficked and another prostitute who the victim believes was there voluntarily. There was also a housekeeper and two men at the house.</p> <p>The victim made to stay in a room by herself for a few days. Later she was told to share a room with the other woman who had been trafficked. This woman told her that the house was a brothel, and that she had been forced to have sex with men. She told the victim that when she refused, she had been starved for three days. This woman told the victim that she had not 'worked' as a prostitute before coming to Australia. This woman eventually ran away.</p> <p>The victim had resolved to not do prostitution even if the traffickers beat her. The housekeeper did not force her to have sex, but gave her some forms to sign. The housekeeper told the victim that once her visa had been processed, she could then 'work' in a restaurant. Her passport was taken away from her, and the victim has not seen it since.</p> <p>The victim was then forced to have sex customers. When she refused she was hit so hard that her tooth broke and her face was swollen for about a week. The victim stayed in the house for about three and a half months and then ran away.</p>

						<p>She met a man who helped her and allowed her to stay with him and his wife. The victim also located the woman who she met in the brothel and stayed with her for a while. This woman then returned to Thailand, but told the victim that strange men had come to her house in Thailand asking for her. She believes that they are connected with the brothel in Australia. The victim has not since spoken to the woman.</p> <p>The victim went to Immigration to try to sort out her immigration status. She was informed that she had made a Refugee Application. The victim claims that she did not know about the application and that the information on it, apart from her passport details, were all fabricated. She had never met the migration agent who had lodged it on her behalf.</p> <p>The victim says that she has difficulty in retelling her story to Immigration because of the language barrier. She says that the interpreter was a Laotian man who did not speak Thai very well, and that her story was interpreted in one go (the interpreter did not interpret her story to the Immigration officer sentence by sentence). The victim also has difficulty telling her story because she wants to forget her experience. She is also confused as to the dates and times etc that are asked of her, firstly because she was confined to the brothel, and secondly because she does not follow a western calendar.</p>
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