

**HELPING TRAFFICKED CHILDREN
AND PREVENTING THE TRAFFICKING OF MINORS**

Protection
Accommodation
Food

Access to
ordinary law
Citizenship

Health
Well-being
Sport

Education
Training

Justice

Arts
Culture

CONTRE
LA TRAITE
DES ÊTRES HUMAINS



#DEVENIR

Taking back control of one's life in France,
after having been a victim of child trafficking

#INTRODUCTION

Exiting a trafficking situation is a complex, long-term process. Separating the child victim from the child's exploiter does not necessarily mean that the situation will be immediately resolved. The child's support relies on the patient and coordinated efforts of many actors, aimed at allowing the child victim to rebuild its life and move forward.

This booklet explores the stages for the young people concerned and the different people with whom they interact during their journey. These stages, which are closely intertwined, are not necessarily chronological.

In the case of a child victim of trafficking, taking back control of its life means:

- Being taken in, fed, protected, housed, etc. towards stability and self-sufficiency;
- Being recognised as a minor and gaining access to ordinary law; The transition to adulthood;
- Growing up and rebuilding one's life through physical care and psychological support;
- Building a future through education and training;
- Having an administrative identity and being defended in the legal process;
- Using the arts and culture / cultures to encourage victims to speak up and raise awareness of this all-too-often invisible scourge.

It is essential to identify the impact of trafficking on children, first, to do everything possible to prevent and avoid it, but also to better understand the attitudes and characteristic reactions of child victims of trafficking and construct appropriate answers.

The bonds of trust between the child and the child's adult interlocutors are at the heart of this support – whether it be socio-educational, medical, administrative, legal or judicial.

This document contains a description of each stakeholder's role. Everyone will find ideas for helping a child regain confidence in themselves and others.

Nor should we pass over in silence the difficulties encountered. For example, when a process is not moving in the direction sought (e.g. a child is not recognised as a minor or an administrative status is not granted), the child may be deeply disappointed and the relation of trust may be undermined. The child may transfer the failure it has experienced onto the social worker following it, leaving the latter with a tremendous sense of guilt. Professionals must therefore learn to manage such situations and avoid any risk of burnout.

The child's participation is the other side of trust. The child needs to be regularly informed of any procedures that concern it and be closely involved. The child's support and involvement are essential for allowing the child to reclaim their life.

In this reconstruction process, access to artistic and cultural activities, outside an institutional framework, can help child victims to unleash their creativity and to come to grips with and overcome the trauma they have suffered.

In some cases, it also gives these young people a way to share their experience and raise awareness among a wider public and professionals of the reality behind trafficking in human beings.

« Before, I was focused on survival.
Now I am living. »

Sandra, a French girl, is a victim of trafficking. She sent this SMS after spending time in a shelter and being moved to another place.



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Use the arts and culture / cultures to encourage victims to speak out and shed light on this all too often invisible scourge.

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The comic books and the stories in this booklet, like the script for the film #DEVENIR, are based on the true-life stories of the persons met by the associations belonging to the Collective – "Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains."

All first names have been changed.



Definition of child trafficking

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French law provides that any person who witnesses or suspects that a child is in danger or is likely to be so must report the matter (whether this person is a neighbour, professional, teacher, social worker, doctor, etc.). The child may also report its own situation or that of another child they know.

Placement into care is a child protection issue.



Child trafficking may be defined as...

AN ACT



recruitment



transport



transfer



accommodation



reception

PURPOSE = EXPLOITATION



forced labour



forced begging



domestic servitude



slavery or similar practices



sexual exploitation



coercion to commit crimes



organ harvesting and trafficking

Under the United Nations Trafficking in persons Protocol and the Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings of 16 May 2005, child trafficking may be defined as the combination of an act (e.g. recruitment, transport or transfer) with the purpose of exploitation (e.g. exploitation for prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation, exploitation via slavery, forced labour including forced begging or coercion to commit crimes) or organ harvesting.

As far as minors are concerned, violations are deemed to have occurred even in the absence of recourse to the use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of authority, etc. The child's consent is irrelevant in all such cases and the perpetrator of trafficking cannot escape liability.

Accordingly, **child trafficking implies only two elements: the action (recruitment, transport, purchase, transfer, accommodation, reception, etc.) and the intention (for purposes of exploitation).**

Many children are taken away from their families and exploited in the informal economy, where they are difficult to spot and face many forms of violence.

Criminal networks, but also individuals, or even the children's own families, exploit children in begging, prostitution, hawking, car window cleaning or other street activities, domestic servitude or servile marriage. Some children are exploited as drug runners or dealers, or incited to commit such crimes as shoplifting or burglary. One of the particularities of child trafficking is that children are often used in different forms of trafficking simultaneously or consecutively.

The exploitation of children constitutes a violation of all their rights and deprives them of the development to which they are entitled. Child victims of trafficking must enjoy unconditional protection owing to their particular vulnerability.

They are often destitute and have no way out of their situation, whether they are being exploited by unscrupulous individuals or by organised crime networks.

Any child, regardless of nationality, may be a victim of trafficking.
A child may be defined as any minor under 18 years of age.

When a child has been recognised as being at risk or a victim of trafficking,
it must be able to benefit from:



**being taken into care
as a child protection
measure**



a place to live
if necessary, far away from
the place of exploitation



**a lawyer's
assistance**



**the appointment of an
ad hoc guardian,
a legal representative**
(Articles 706 – 50 and 706 – 51 of the French
Code of Civil Procedure)

Moreover, the Laws of 13 April 2016 and 3 June 2016 make provision for **granting the following to victims and witnesses of trafficking whose life or physical integrity, as well as those of their immediate family, is seriously endangered:**



enhanced protection
entitling them to certain rights, such as an
assumed identity.



a confidential identity
during the public hearings and in court
decisions



**administrative
domiciliation**
with an association or at
their lawyer's



**automatic closed
court sessions**
to ensure confidentiality during
the trial

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According to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which has been ratified by France, **every child present on French soil, whether they be French or foreign, has the same rights.**

The Convention enshrines the “right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child’s education, or to be harmful to the child’s health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.” (Article 32)

It obliges France “to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse” (Article 34), considering that the authorities must prevent “the exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices” as well as “the exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials.”

Likewise, it stipulates that “States Parties shall take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the abduction of, the sale of or traffic in children for any purpose or in any form” (Article 35).

This Convention extends protection to the other forms of exploitation that had not been previously mentioned therein with a view to ensuring optimum protection, stipulating that “States Parties shall protect the child against all other forms of exploitation prejudicial to any aspects of the child’s welfare” (Article 36).

Thus, the Convention obliges States to “take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child” (Article 19) against all forms of trafficking and exploitation, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.



Children who are direct or indirect victims of trafficking

Children who are direct victims

In France, in more than one situation of danger or risk thereof, recognition of a child's status as a minor provides access to protection that, in theory, is the same for all children. Recognition of victim status is the first prerequisite for the enjoyment of protection and assistance measures. Yet, there are many obstacles to the identification of under-age victims.

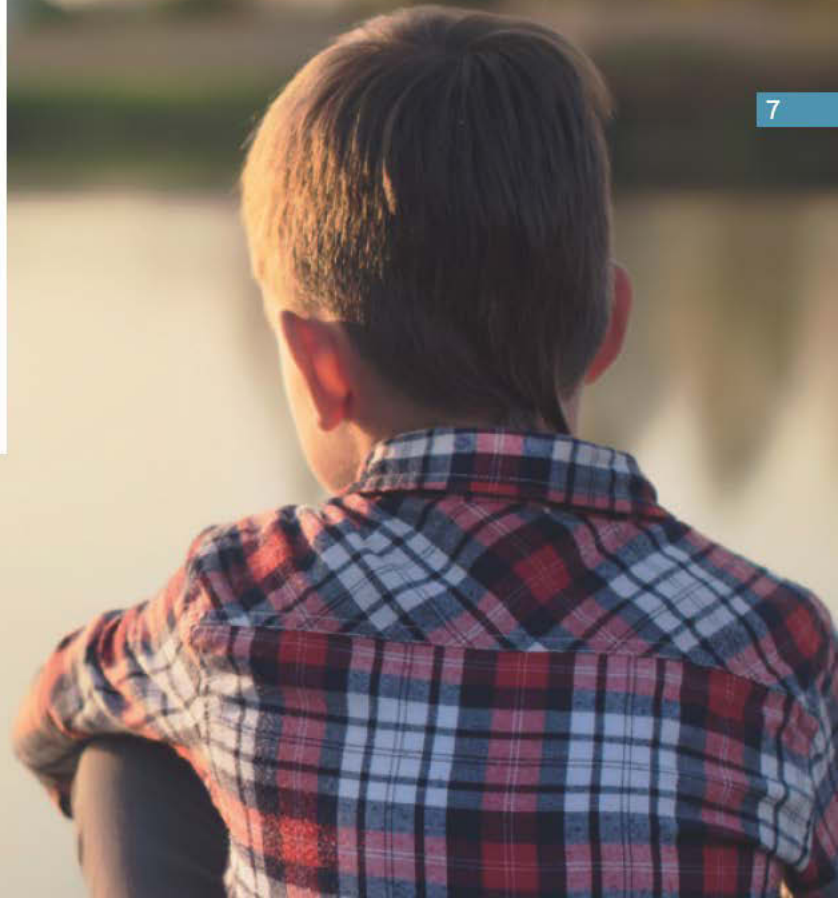
Many children are unaware that they are victims of trafficking, even though this is the case. Others may decide not to come forward as victims for fear of aggravating their situation (retaliation, removal orders, increased indebtedness, exclusion from their family or membership group, etc.).

If a foreign minor files a complaint as a victim of trafficking, the child may receive a "temporary residence private and family life permit" upon coming of age, followed by a 10-year residence permit and a work permit in the event of a final judgment (see Article L316-1 of the French Code for Entry and Residence of Foreigners and the Right of Asylum, or CESEDA).

Owing to the fragile mental state and isolation of the majority of trafficked children, despite the help of a specialised association or even a legal professional, those concerned are not always in a position to file a complaint or, if necessary, apply rapidly for asylum.

The impact of trafficking on the victims' families: the indirect victims

Where appropriate, the term "victims" also includes the immediate family or dependents of the direct victim or anyone affected by the offense. These may be the parents of the trafficked child or, conversely, the children of an adult victim of trafficking.





A short guide for evaluating the situation and becoming better acquainted with a minor who might be a victim of trafficking

1. Introduction: make contact

Start by introducing yourself and saying why you are there.

Make sure the child understands the purpose of the conversation.

This might seem obvious, but it isn't easy when many children are waiting for their turn.

Always start with a clear presentation of the person intervening and the purpose of the conversation.

This is essential for laying the foundations for a proper discussion.

Reassure the child that the conversation is strictly confidential. Repeat this at the beginning of every conversation.

Collect basic information

Last name, first name, any aliases

Age

Country of origin

Date of arrival in France

Date of arrival in the city

Immediate needs

Ask open-ended questions about urgent needs (health, lodging, food, identity documents, education, etc.).

It is important to wait until after the first chat, in order to create a bond of trust and help the child understand that the person talking to them is there to help.

This could also help ensure greater acceptance for more delicate questions. The answers could provide key signals concerning some of the problems encountered.

"So you arrived in France..."

CONDITIONS OF ARRIVAL THEN LIFE IN FRANCE

Reception in France (if this was the case, by whom, in what conditions?).

Any stays in other French cities.

Conditions of arrival in the current city.

Reasons for arrival.

Place of residence / place where the child has slept since its arrival.

Accommodation shared with others?

Amounts paid to the person providing the accommodation or someone else.

Exercise of a paid activity in France: type, employer, earnings.

How does the child support itself? (activities / funds / any aid).

Also discuss how the child feels about its present situation (feeling of exclusion, rejection, marginalisation).

2. Read out the needs the child listed during the information-gathering stage

"In terms of health, have you been able to see a doctor lately?"

HEALTH STATUS

Potential existence of health problems

Opportunity to ask if the child has any idea what is causing its health problems (pains, etc.). Since when? Opportunity to start spotting certain signs of violence / ill-treatment.

Need for special medical treatment?

Opportunity to bring up any addiction issues, depending on the conversation.

"You want to attend school, so..."

EDUCATIONAL STATUS

Languages spoken / understood, mother tongue

Last year of school attended and educational level (grade, apprenticeship, etc.)

Diplomas obtained

In the event of school dropout: professional activities in the country / livelihood

Current enrolment

"You referred to housing problems, so..."

HOUSING SITUATION

Accommodation: squat, street, hotel, friends, other

Duration of accommodation

Address, if any / Place



3. To go further, in several stages, as a bond of trust develops.

“You must have had a long trip...”

THE TRIP

Departure and arrival dates.
Departure and arrival points.
Route taken.
Trip undertaken voluntarily?
Desire to leave one's country? Coercion (physical, financial)? Both?
Reasons that led the child to leave?
Means of transport used / how did the child travel and cross borders (people smugglers, networks, etc.)?
Difficulties during the trip / any aid
Unaccompanied / in a group
Cost of trip (amounts committed, trip paid for by child itself or by a third party, existence of a possible debt).
During the trip: duration of transit in the countries crossed, any activities exercised in the countries crossed.
Any contacts with associations in the countries crossed (contact details).
Any contacts with the police.
Problems encountered during the trip (violence, rape, etc.).

“So now you have a job...”

MODE OF RECRUITMENT AND EXPLOITATION

Was the child contacted upon departure? How?
Was the child forced to leave its country? What was the child promised (work, earnings, living conditions, etc.)?
Did the recruiter receive an advance?
How is the child earning a living at present? Does it have a choice? Is it forced to commit acts or practice activities (domestic work, sexual relations, begging, crimes, etc.)?
What does the child receive in return for these activities (food, money, French lessons, etc.)? From whom (identity, description, address, telephone number)?
How does the child use the earnings from these acts or activities?
Is the child free to go wherever it wants?
What happens if the child refuses to obey the orders of its “boss” (pressure / physical or sexual threats)? If so, by whom (identity, description, address, phone number)?
Is the child already known to the police, constabulary or judicial authorities? Under what name? On what grounds? Where (in France, elsewhere)? Since when?

“How were things for you in your country?”

THE SITUATION IN THE CHILD'S COUNTRY

Questions concerning the child's life in its country and the ties it developed there may be very sensitive and cause the child to close up. It is essential to address these issues gradually, as a bond of trust develops.
Social / economic situation on the spot (precariousness, daily resources).
Membership of a minority?
Family situation at the time of departure (living parents, brothers and sisters).
Present family situation.
Does the child itself have children? (number, age, identity of the other parent, domicile)?
If so, with whom are they living?
Is the child in contact with its family?
How often, by what means?
Possibility of the presence of a family member in France as well.
Identity and contact details of parents if possible, whether they live in France or in the country of origin.

“You mentioned problems with papers, so...”

ADMINISTRATIVE STATUS

Nationality. Possession or non-possession of official identity documents.
Examination of the physical condition of documents.
City / address in the country of origin.
Possession of a telephone? How did the child obtain it?
Have the French social aid services launched a procedure for taking the child into care?
Possible possession of a visa or a residence permit (if so, who requested it?).
Any regularisation procedures in any of the transit countries
Possible presence of family members likely to help recover administrative documents in the child's country of origin.
Any ties with associations (name, address, telephone number)
Child's case followed by a children's judge



12 indicators for spotting child victims of trafficking

Several indicators should make us think seriously about the possibility of trafficking. They should lead us to exercise increased vigilance subsequently with regard to the conditions of the meetings with the child, their confidentiality, the reports with the persons monitoring their situation, etc.

The child is frightened, mistrustful and anxious

FEAR of what the author can do to itself or its family

- Because it has been threatened with violence against itself or its immediate family and it believes that if it seeks help, the author will carry out his threats. The author creates a situation where the victim of trafficking is dependent on the exploiter.

The child victim believes that the exploiter is the only person it can rely upon or trust.

FEAR of the police or administration

- Because the child has done something illegal and expects to be arrested
- Because the child comes from a country where the police are inefficient, corrupt or dangerous
- Because the child has no identity documents and fears deportation
- Because the author has threatened the child with violence if the child talks to the police

The child loses faith in the institutions that are responsible for helping it.

FEAR of what others will think

- Because the child expects to be disbelieved, blamed or judged

The victim loses faith in others.

FEAR of living in even worse conditions

The victim fears even more difficult working conditions or not being paid

The child is isolated

- It is not aware of its rights
- It does not speak a language used widely in France
- It is unfamiliar with existing institutions and associations
- It is not attending school or frequently misses school.

The child is ashamed and feels guilty

- Because it has been fooled;
- Because it was obliged to borrow money from its family;
- Because it has no money to send back home.

The child victim either feels ashamed because it believes it has dishonoured its family or community, or it feels guilty about the type of work it does. It doesn't dare ask for help and doesn't want to reveal the intimate details of its story.

The child has health deficiencies

- It is tired
- It has no access to medical care
- It is hungry or appears ill-nourished
- It has memory problems

The child victim misses appointments (forgotten, late), rushes back home or cannot wait.

The child has been ill-treated, has been subjected to violence, is depressed or sad

- It has been threatened with violence, against itself or its immediate family; arrest or being sent back to its country, even worse working conditions or not being paid
- It is punished when it does something it doesn't view as "bad"
- It is always accompanied by another person
- It lets this other person speak for it, even when spoken to directly
- It acts and speaks as though it were following instructions
- It has visible scars or injuries
- It has lived in isolation for a long period
- It has witnessed acts of violence

The victim is suffering from trauma that may be deep, linked to its experience of being trafficked, which may combine with prior trauma. This trauma has an effect on the child's behaviour; it can make dialogue difficult and take the form of anger, irritability, guilt and self-flagellation, confusion, anxiety, withdrawal or denial. The victim may suffer from insomnia or nightmares, have memory lapses, aches and pains or concentration problems, or suffer from exhaustion. All this may affect the clarity of the child's story.



The child is kept “under control”

- It is punished when it does something it doesn't consider “bad”
- It cannot leave its home or its activities apart from “work” (for example, picking children up at school) are strictly controlled
- It sleeps where it works, or has no private space
- It often changes location or domicile
- It is not familiar with the area or knows nothing about the place or city it is in
- It has no money of its own: has no access to money or is obliged to hand its money over to someone else
- It is bound by debt to someone else
- It has little or no contact with its family and friends
- It works but cannot dispose of its own income
- It is obliged to earn a daily amount
- It works under someone's orders
- It is dependent and is always accompanied by someone else who speaks on its behalf
- It is controlled via mobile phone or Internet (see pp 16-17)

The child lack confidence in itself and others. It keeps secrets.

- It doesn't trust anyone.
- It doesn't want to say where it lives or describe a typical day
- It may have been (or still be) exploited by a trusted person (partner, family member, neighbour) and no longer trusts anyone.

The child has no identity documents or uses false names

- It arrived in France or elsewhere in Europe without its own documents, as someone else took care of its trip or paid for the ticket
- It has false identity documents
- It is trapped in its present situation because its passport, identity documents, return plane ticket, etc. have been confiscated.

The child is in someone's hold

- It is forced to perform an activity
- It has limited control over its living conditions
- It must earn money or perform tasks without having the right to stop or take days off

The child has trouble managing time

- It cannot make an appointment on its own and is not free to manage its own time

The child needs money

- It needs money to pay a debt, send money to its family, support an addiction (drugs, alcohol) or simply live

The child has not mastered the French language

- It doesn't speak French and isn't making any progress even though it has been in France for a while, a factor which limits its ability to interact with others.
 - It uses terms that trivialise what it has experienced and do not reflect the gravity thereof
 - It uses established stories that have been previously drafted by the exploiter
- A child victim of trafficking may be French, but in the case of a foreign child victim, failing to teach the child French makes it easier to exploit it because the child cannot complain and must suffer in silence.



Indicators for certain forms of trafficking

All forms of child trafficking

- The child has no parent or guardian or has no contact with them
- It is not attending school or works during school hours
- It resides with an adult with whom it has no family ties and who is not the child's legal guardian
- It has no friends its own age or only associates with adults
- It has no free time for play
- It is doing a job incompatible with its age
- It consumes alcohol or other substances
- It travels alone or with a group of persons who are not part of its family
- It is with an adult (not parent or guardian) who decides everything (e.g. the place where the child lives, the way it dresses or travels) and buys the child everything it needs.
- It dresses provocatively in a manner incompatible with its age.
- It has money, objects (hotel room keys) or forged identity documents (showing the child as being of age)

International trafficking

- It must work or steal/beg for people smugglers in the country of transit
- The child or its family has paid a large sum to come to Europe
- It has come to Europe for a specific training course, apprenticeship or job, but is not in this training course or job at present
- It came to Europe after a long journey, probably with multiple transits in other countries
- It refuses to say how it arrived in Europe and in France
- It does not have access to its passport or any other travel document
- It is reluctant to show its identity and travel documents or discuss its administrative status
- It is very worried about its administrative status
- It does not speak French

Trafficking for sexual exploitation

- It uses its phone regularly to call the same person
- It remains evasive concerning the place where it lives, uses aliases
- It has visible scars or injuries or shows signs of ill-treatment
- It has symbols tattooed on its body (or other signs of membership)

It has one or more health problems

- A sexually transmitted infection or disease
- Signs of sexual abuse with unprotected or violent sex, forced abortion
- Mental health problems (depression, post-traumatic, stress, amnesia)
- Substance abuse, alcoholism, malnutrition

Trafficking for domestic servitude

- The child either doesn't eat with the family or only eats leftovers
- It appears badly undernourished or complains of being hungry
- It is forbidden to leave the house or may only do so if accompanied by a member of the family
- Even though it can leave the house, its movements and activities are restricted
- It must be at the family's disposal for household chores (cleaning, cooking, looking after children, etc.)
- It has been sexually abused / assaulted by one or more members of the family
- It is isolated and is unable to say anything about the surrounding city / community
- It has no private space (for example, it sleeps on a mattress in the living room)
- It has discriminatory living conditions compared to the other children present in the home (for example, it does not attend school whereas the other children do)
- If it does attend school: it often misses classes, does not eat at the school cafeteria, and the parents or guardians never or rarely attend school meetings; the parents or guardians never or rarely cover extracurricular costs (e.g. field trips)
- It receives repeated calls from the same person or has no phone
- It is very badly dressed or dressed inappropriately for the season.

Trafficking for forced begging

The child always comes back to the same place to beg and appears to be watched.

Trafficking for labour exploitation

- The child lives and works in the same place, perhaps with several other persons
- It lives in an unsuitable place that does not meet safety regulations (basement, shed, etc.)
- It works much more than the maximum permitted working time
- It works in unhealthy or unsafe conditions
- It has no employment contract or was forced to sign an illegal contract
- It cannot quit its job, but will not say why
- It is not paid or receives less than the minimum wage
- It is obliged to hand all or part of its salary over to someone else
- It does not enjoy any benefits accruing from its job (holidays, overtime)
- Part of the child's wages are withheld if it does something "wrong"
- Part of the child's wages are withheld to cover its food, transport and lodging
- It does not have the appropriate garb or equipment for its work
- It is qualified for one type of job, but holds another type

Trafficking for forced criminal activities

The child is a repeat offender (e.g. for theft), but does not seem to benefit therefrom.

SINCE I ARRIVED IN FRANCE



...I don't have any ID



...I'm **afraid**, I feel bad, I don't have anyone to talk to



...I have been **assaulted**



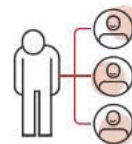
...I owe **a lot of money** to the people who brought me here.



...I am **kept under control** and can't come and go freely



...I am forced to **prostitute myself, work, steal, beg, etc.**



...I have to **lie** to my family

AND BEFORE I LEFT MY COUNTRY,

They told me that....



...my life was going to change



...I would attend school



I would work in a restaurant,
look after children



... I would be safe



I wouldn't have any problems in France. Life is easier in Europe



...I would have help to get my papers.



...I would earn lots of money to help my family



...I could trust this person

I didn't want to leave home,
but I didn't have a choice



I was afraid



I was forced to



I was lied to...



Internet recruitment of children for trafficking

Human traffickers are increasingly recruiting their victims via the Internet.

In chat rooms and Internet forums, they promise false jobs or attract young women through false marriage classifieds or friendly encounters. Young people and very young minors account for growing numbers of the victims.

It is therefore important to take preventive steps to increase minors' awareness and protect them from potentially dangerous encounters on the Internet. The aim is twofold: first, to inform minors of the risks and dangers associated with the Internet, and second, to tackle issues relating to the online behaviour of some adolescents in relation to other young people of their own age. There is an urgent need to inform parents, children and teenagers of the dangers and risks that chat rooms represent.

Social skills in cyber space / digital space must therefore be strengthened.

- Learn to understand the dangers of the Internet
- Spot wrongful acts once you know what is legal and what isn't
- Provide information on the means used by criminals
- Recognise the warning signs
- Learn to identify one's own hurtful behaviours and become aware of their consequences
- Familiarise yourself with existing standards and rules of conduct in cyber space
- Explain that the law concerning sexual harassment and procuring also applies to online comments and advertisements
- Explain how to report a violent image (by reporting it on the PHAROS platform)

On the Internet, different forms of harassment are used to recruit, hold on to and frighten victims of trafficking

Even though certain forms of harassment do not constitute trafficking as such, they lead children to become trafficking victims. In such cases, traffickers use threats and coercion to gain a hold over the child.



FILMING VIOLENT ATTACKS ON MOBILE PHONES (Happy Slapping)

This term refers to a premeditated act of violence that is filmed then uploaded by its authors.

The victim is most often in a situation of physical and psychological inferiority. The situations of violence are staged and recorded using a mobile phone, then downloaded from one cell phone to another or via the Internet, published on students' personal pages (Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram) or circulated in printed form. Video lynching most often occurs in the surrounding social environment, for example at school. Most of the perpetrators are young people aged 14 to 17.

There are no statistics on the number of adolescents affected, as it remains very difficult to evaluate the scope of the problem. The victims do not file a complaint because they are ashamed or fear retaliation.



SEXUAL ASSAULTS

(cyber grooming / sexting / online exhibitionism / blackmailing)

Psychological manipulation of children for sexual purposes

On chat sites, you can contact strangers with a simple click of a mouse, and new forms of live conservation like “Chatroulette” let you talk to a virtually unlimited number of complete strangers. The websites for the online social networks let you run searches by member profile. Children and adolescents reveal a great deal about their life and surroundings. This, in turn, provides potential predators with information that helps them get to know the child or adolescent better and meet the needs they express.

Cybergrooming occurs when the predator uses the bond of trust he has built to convince the child or adolescent to watch the predator fondling or engaging in sexual acts with someone or fondling himself in front of his webcam, or to agree to a meeting in the real world that could lead to sexual abuse.

Sexting consists of photographing or filming oneself nude then sending these images via Multimedia Messaging Service, or MMS. The word is a blend of “sex” and “text”. It is used by adolescents who attach sexy photos to messages, most often of an erotic nature.

Online exhibitionism: men photograph their penis and send it as a message to minors who don’t know how to report or block them.

Blackmailing: pictures of a sexual nature shared by minors with someone they consider as their boyfriend/girlfriend are used for blackmail: “if you leave me, I’ll publish your photo”; “if you don’t want to give my friend a blow job, I’ll send your mom everything.” Fear of being lynched on social networks, combined with ignorance of the law and the means to prevent dissemination, lead young people into situations of trafficking for sexual exploitation.



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CYBERBULLYING

This form of online bullying primarily occurs on the social networks.

Victims receive hurtful, insulting messages: either someone posts a mocking message on a chatroom’s bulletin board or hate groups – which a host of surfers can join – form against a target person. One variation of cyberbullying that is close to video lynching occurs when someone uploads a film showing the victim in an unpleasant or compromising situation. When the video goes viral on the Internet or via a mobile phone, it does the victim even greater harm. The social and psychological consequences can be devastating. Under such circumstances, there is virtually nothing the person concerned can do to defend itself.



Trafficking is becoming internationalised

It is not uncommon to meet children who, despite their young age, have already lived in several countries, in particular in Europe.

Some can describe the situations of exploitation experienced in these different countries. Others sometimes describe lives that differ greatly from one country to another.

However, it is likely that the adults who exploit these children facilitate their movements from one country to another: either out of criminal opportunism or a desire to "take a break" from a criminal activity that has become too dangerous for them in a given country.

This of course reinforces the children's vulnerability, because the positive ties they have managed to create in a country, in particular through associations, unravel as they move around.

It can also be observed that the most organised networks sometimes have "teams" present in different countries.





The trafficking of babies



In its most extreme form, infants can also be victims of trafficking in human beings.

Unscrupulous 'brokers' manage to convince pregnant women in difficult situations to entrust their babies to couples. These brokers sometimes sell the babies even before they are brought into the world. Although the host couples are most often caring individuals, these are cases of trafficking in human beings, in which the babies are objects in a market system, their price fixed and bartered.

In recent years, the courts have upheld charges of trafficking in human beings against the parents selling their children and the brokers, but also in some cases the parents who buy.

Biological mothers, on the other hand, may be considered the victims of trafficking in human beings. In such cases, these mothers-to-be are forced to give up their child through false promises, threats and pressure. Additionally, hospitals are becoming increasingly vigilant in raising the alarm in the event of suspicion during childbirth, the hurried departure of the biological mother, or the constant presence of a «buying» couple...

Associations often act as a «civil party» in trials, providing a reminder of the nature of trafficking in human beings, as well as the legal vacuum that exists with regard to an outright ban on the sale and/or purchase of children in the French Penal Code.



Child trafficking in a context of migration due to environmental crisis, armed conflict or terrorism

Humanitarian crises, natural disasters, unstable contexts and conflict situations linked to gross human rights violations often trigger forced displacements and large-scale migratory movements.

Children are particularly vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation, as such displacements create family instability and destroy community structures. Impoverished, vulnerable families are targeted by traffickers who promise to provide education and training but exploit them in reality, in the form of forced labour, sexual exploitation, begging, crimes and organ trafficking. Other minors are forced by their own families to work in conditions of exploitation or subjected to forced or servile marriage.

Unaccompanied or isolated minors are at increased risk of trafficking, not only throughout their journey but also in overcrowded camps. Many disappear, while others are exploited to survive or held for ransom.

THERE IS AN URGENT NEED TO

1 Shed light on this hidden phenomenon in order to combat it

All too often, children at risk and victims of trafficking remain invisible. Trafficking awareness needs to be enhanced in the general public, in business, in schools and with child professionals. Identification processes require clarification.

2 Help children at risk and those who have been trafficked to rebuild their lives

Once they have been identified, they face discrimination, stigmatisation and a lack of support for reintegration, whereas they require assistance from all points of view: social, health, housing, education, administrative, legal, etc. The specific physical and psychological needs of trafficked children often remain unmet, jeopardising their long-term development.

3 Establish victim status without criminalising the children

Encourage the authorities to consider children who are exploited to commit offenses as victims, not offenders.

4 Give each child a legal representative in order to guarantee that the child's rights are respected under ordinary law: no "sub-rights"

We are particularly concerned about unaccompanied minors, who often have no legal representative when they should have a guardian. Ad hoc tutors or administrators – where they exist – should be kept informed at all stages of the procedure.

5 Provide access to interpreters where necessary

States should pay more attention to these issues and ensure that services representing minors have access to interpreters.

6 Develop training courses on child trafficking for professionals and volunteers

Rethink and systematise training for all relevant professionals and volunteers (education, police, judiciary, social workers, etc.) in order to strengthen the capacities of all. Civil society and institutions absolutely must work more closely together in this area.

7 Open up immigration policies

Restrictive, exclusionary immigration policies lead to inadequate protection for migrants in general and minors in particular. Europe has many tools for humanising its migration policies and helping stop trafficking in human beings, such as humanitarian visas, resettlement, community sponsorship, humanitarian corridors and family reunification.

#01

Taken in, fed, protected,
housed and accompanied...
towards stability and
self-sufficiency

"At first, I hated being in a children's home,
I was afraid of losing my freedom,
but now I'm fine."

Joy, 16

GABI and her family



Following her meeting with a young Romanian militant from an association combatting trafficking in human beings, Gabi has been monitored and has received socio-educational support, like the rest of her family. Nadine, an association volunteer, and Stefan, an educator-cultural mediator, both of whom speak their language, have been helping them.

At the age of nine, Gabi is finally attending school and is fitting in well. The school director attaches priority to this.

Gabi now has a best girlfriend, Lily. However, shortly before the family was due to finally receive decent housing, the shantytown where the family lived was torn down. Caught up in the midst of this chaos, Gabi has not reappeared at school.

Evicted and homeless, her parents are trying to decide where to go, and are preparing to leave with their four children for the south of France.

As far as the family is concerned, this means starting over. The process of indebtedness, with the related risk of trafficking, looms over them once again.

Nadine and Stefan start looking for the family, with the help of Jean, Lily's father. Stefan wants to tell them that they have been allocated housing that will be available in one week's time.

When he finds the family, Lily's father offers to put them up temporarily, until they can enter their long-awaited housing unit.



Gabi, who is 9, lives in a shantytown. She is obliged to beg, to help her family repay a debt (#INVISIBLES).

The accompanying adults in the film



STEFAN **Coordinator –** **Cultural mediator**

Stefan is a friend of Kalo's (cf #INVISIBLES).

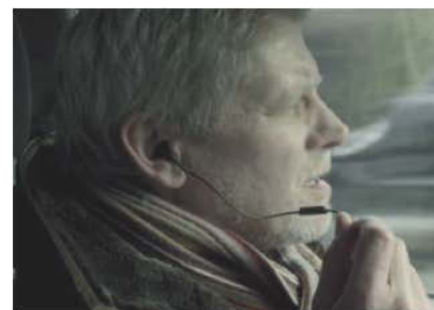
He is a member of an association from the Collective "Ensemble contre la traite".

He speaks the language of the families he is accompanying.



NADINE

A volunteer member of the association, Nadine is the referent who has taken responsibility for Gabi. She coordinates the efforts of the different parties helping Gabi, especially as far as the child's schooling is concerned..



JEAN **Student's parent**

Lily's father is a committed, supportive student's parent. At school, his daughter Lily has become best girlfriends with Gabi. Ties have been forged between the two families.

GABI and her family

Their missions

► THE ASSOCIATIONS

Associations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are the bodies responsible for increased awareness that trafficking in human beings is a reality in France and affects minors as well. For decades now, these associations have used mechanisms for identification and support (legal, socio-educational assistance, etc.), making it possible to remove children definitively from a trafficking environment and promote their reintegration. In their work, they rely on the skills of both paid staff and many volunteers.

These associations have thus developed real expertise in the field of protection of trafficking victims – including minors –, training, information and outreach. In 2007, a number of these associations on the ground came together to form a Collective called "Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains" ("Together against trafficking in human beings", 25 associations in 2017, see pp 105-107). The aim is to exchange views on support practices, be better informed, and lobby governmental and international bodies to update relevant legal texts and practices.

In recent years, these specialised NGOs have been behind major advances in efforts to combat trafficking in human beings. Yet they need to gain even wider recognition and be associated with the procedures implemented by political and administrative authorities.

► THE CULTURAL MEDIATOR

The social and cultural mediator acts as an interface between the families, social interveners, associations and institutions: permanently manned maternal and child welfare offices in schools, the social services, the constabulary, the Family Allowances Fund, etc. If the aim is to assist allophone population groups, it is essential to master their language and cultural codes.

► CITIZENS

Public awareness-raising is also driven by day-to-day socialisation networks. For example, in a school setting, the presence of minors who are unaccompanied or in a precarious situation and who become friends with other parents' own children may give rise to genuine solidarity. However, the assistance rendered should preferably be linked to competent structures and associations. To avoid any disappointment, these bodies should take over in order to ensure appropriate support.

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My name is Success. I'm 15 years old. I was born in Nigeria, in a village in Edo State, Nigeria. I have three sisters and two brothers.

We lived in poverty. We barely had enough to eat.

One day, a woman came to offer me a job as a hairdresser in Europe. She said that with the money I would earn, I could support my whole family. That sounded good to me.

Before I left, they took me to a temple for a "JuJu" ceremony to bind me spiritually to my Madam who was going to take care of my trip. It was very impressive. I had to take an oath and promise not to talk to anybody, otherwise I could die or go crazy.

I experienced horrible things as I crossed several countries before arriving in France.

When I arrived, my Madam came to pick me up and moved me into a flat with another girl. She cried every night, telling me she prostituted herself for Madam. I couldn't believe it; that wasn't what I came for.

Madam sent me to apply for asylum to avoid being sent back to Nigeria. She told me to convince the social workers that I was 19; I learned a false date of birth by heart. I didn't understand much, but I obeyed, I was afraid.

At the Reception Platform for Asylum Seekers, an intervener asked me to follow her on my own, without my Madam.

Miss, please come on your own with me.

ACCUEIL

Once I got to her office, I was afraid, I didn't know how to answer her questions.

How old are you?

19...

What is your date of birth?

24 February
..... 2003

Just a minute.

Hi Tania, it's Cathy

Hi Cathy,
what do you need?



When the mediator spoke to me in my language, could really relate to that. But I couldn't say anything...



That same day, I entered a hostel for adult female trafficking victims. I knew I didn't belong there. But I was lost, and I was afraid to talk...





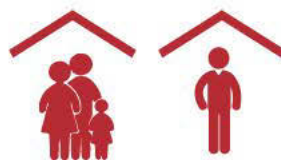
After that, I entered a children's home that was the right place for me, where there were other girls my age. The classes, the workshops, the support - here, everything is tailored to suit us. I am hopeful I can catch up at school and later be able to choose a trade. For me, this marks the start of a new life.

Taken in, fed, protected, housed and accompanied... towards stability and self-sufficiency

Taking young people in and looking after their primary needs

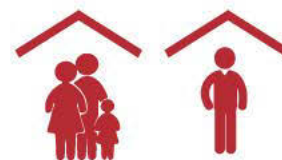
Children who are trafficked or at risk of trafficking may need emergency shelter. It is not uncommon for them to wander the streets, sleeping rough or in slums. A sense of community between nationals of the same country or residents of the same neighbourhood can provide young people with a roof over their head. However, all too often, the conditions under which young people are taken in are «dishonourable» or a quid pro quo is demanded.

Existing shelter arrangements differ, depending on whether the person is recognised as an adult or minor, alone or accompanied by family members.



115

Shelter provided through Samu Social (115), whether in an emergency shelter, women's refuge, hostel or boarding house, is only available to families and single adults.



Solidarity Integration Centres ESI

Solidarity Integration Centres (ESI) offer a day drop-in centre with access to showers and washroom facilities. Visitors have access to the services of an educational and social team, as well as a psychologist and a nurse. However, similarly to the shelter provided through Samu Social, these services are for adults and families only. Any child not accompanied by one of their legal guardians is effectively the responsibility of Child Protection services, both in terms of shelter and care.



Child Welfare Services Facilities ASE

Child Welfare Services (ASE) facilities specialise in providing accommodation and protection for minors in immediate or imminent danger, and/or young people on the streets. The educational teams of these services are responsible for carrying out an initial assessment of the child's situation in order to guide them towards the appropriate care. However, the child must still be entrusted to the ASE by judicial decision or administrative measure.



Associations

For young people who have not been entrusted to Child Welfare Services (ASE), associations can offer day care and a number of services that meet primary needs (meals, shower/washroom facilities, clothing, washing machines, telephone, etc.).

Access to accommodation: family housing, hotels, children's homes, shared apartments, host families... towards self-sufficiency and the transition from childhood to adulthood

A child may then be entrusted to Child Welfare Services by a Provisional Placement Order (OPP). From that point, there are a number of different types of accommodation, either managed directly by Child Welfare Services (ASE) or by authorised associations.

These may include children's homes, shared apartments, communities or host families. The most suitable accommodation is determined on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the particular needs and difficulties that young people may encounter.

Minors must also be given specialised and tailored educational support as part of this care.

However, as there are a limited number of places in these associations, more and more unaccompanied minors are housed in hotels, especially when their status as a minor is disputed. Child Welfare Services (ASE) may appeal against a decision to take a child into care, or when they are placed a short period of time before reaching their majority. Increasing disparities can be seen in the care of unaccompanied minors, both in terms of the educational support offered to them and their access to day activities, French language courses or schooling. In fact, in the context of hotel accommodation, it is not uncommon for young people to have no access to activities, leaving them in a state of both real and symbolic isolation.

This isolation leaves the children open to significant risk of being recovered by their former exploiter or trafficking in human beings networks.

Additionally, where young people have no access to Child Protection arrangements, they may also be hosted by individuals who are members of citizens' organisations. This commitment by private individuals is an admirable act of solidarity, effectively enabling many young people to benefit from accommodation and develop social ties, thus escaping their isolation. However, this type of accommodation confers responsibility onto the host, and does not allow minors access to care under common law, as well as the specialised supervision they require.

Furthermore, no state body is able to control the living conditions of children housed by individuals, which also makes them vulnerable to exploitation.

Protection, removal > responses to the risk of reprisals

When a minor victim of trafficking has been identified, as a minor at risk, they may have access to protective measures under common law within the framework of Child Protection.

In Paris, however, an experimental system is in place for the protection of children who are victims of trafficking in human beings, based on the principle of geographical removal where necessary. The aim is to allow minors to be removed from the places in which they have been exploited and the networks that exploited them. In Paris, Child Protection homes can be easily identified by trafficking network members, making it easier for them to «recover» their victims.

Breaking the link between the exploitation network and its victim is in fact even more important than geographical removal. Regardless of geographical removal, if the victims are not enrolled in a protection scheme, young people may be tempted to maintain contact with their exploiters and may run away from the establishments in which they are placed. This work to free victims from the influence exerted over them is a long-term effort that reflects the complexity and ambiguity of the relationship between the victims and their exploiters.



An additional risk to minors who are victims of trafficking is that they may potentially run away from the establishments in which they are placed. Indeed, when a victim returns to their former exploiter or exploitation network, they may often be subjected to reprisals or forced to compensate for the loss of earnings caused by their absence.

However, their running away or recovery by an exploiter does not mean the end of the line or the end of support. In fact, these periods of time or days as opposed to moments spent in a secure environment can represent a turning point in the journeys of minor victims, many of whom have had very few experiences of caring adults, inspiring a desire in them to escape from long-term exploitation.

Social and family ties. Solidarity.

Maintaining social and family ties is a critical but complex issue in the care of children who are victims of trafficking.

The issue should be considered on a case-by-case basis. Indeed, for some young people, being able to remain in contact with family members or their community is a crucial factor in encouraging them to enrol in protection schemes and in their integration in the host location, while retaining their language, culture of origin, etc. However, in some cases, family members are involved in, or victimised themselves by the exploitation networks. It is therefore necessary to tailor responses to each case and to introduce them gradually over the course of care.

119 CHILDREN AT RISK

www.allo119.gouv.fr



CALLING THE 119 HOTLINE

The 119 can be called 24/7, free of charge, from any telephone, including land-lines, mobiles or telephone booths, both in France and overseas: Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Martinique, Réunion.

— The call goes through to the 119 operators.

Professional operators welcome callers, check that their call falls within the remit of the service and direct them to a counsellor who is then able to take the situation in hand. They are also responsible for putting callers in a queue during spikes in call volumes.

— Transferring the call to counsellors.

These trained childhood counsellors are tasked with providing support and advice to callers encountering a situation in which a child is in immediate or imminent danger. They listen to the caller in order to gather information and assess what follow-up action should be taken. If the counsellor does not identify any immediate or imminent danger, they will advise the caller, provide them with information, or redirect them to services in their area. However, in some cases, this is not enough...

— Where the counsellor detects an immediate or imminent danger to a child...

They then write up a report of the information gathered, which is sent to a supervising coordinator responsible for approving its content. The coordinator then forwards the report to the Unit for Collection of Information of Concern (CRIP) of the relevant department. Where there is an imminent danger requiring that the minor be taken into shelter without delay, SNATED will immediately contact the emergency services for response. The CRIP is also notified in these cases.

— Where the department receives information of concern...

The head of the CRIP will then study the information given and enlist the help of the relevant services for assessment. A number of professionals (social workers, paediatric nurses, maternal and child welfare doctors etc.) may call on the family in order to check whether the minor in question is in immediate or imminent danger and, if necessary, to recommend the appropriate support (close monitoring, administrative measures, etc.).

— In some cases, the involvement of departmental services is enough...

In others, the Judicial Authority must intervene. The CRIP sends a report to the Public Prosecutor's Office when the minor is in danger according to article 375 of the Civil Code and their family will not allow any intervention. The case may then be referred to the children's judge to order that the appropriate measures be taken.

— Keeping SNATED informed of the situation.

The CRIP must inform SNATED of the follow-up actions taken in each situation within a period of 3 months. This data is analysed, allowing the service to improve the quality of its responses.

This work of prevention and protection is carried out on a daily basis by 119 professionals. Your call could help a child in danger...

SO DON'T HESITATE TO CALL 119!

*SNATED : National Child Helpline



A trial scheme in Paris for the protection of underage victims of trafficking

Based on the experiences shared by institutional and associative actors, which described child protection schemes that are not wholly adapted to the situations of minors and the need to remove them from the influence of their exploiters, a working group has been set up to consider the creation of an adapted scheme in line with the National Action Plan. This group was led by MIPROF (the inter-ministerial anti-trafficking taskforce) in conjunction with the General Secretariat - the Inter-ministerial Committee for the Prevention of Delinquency and Radicalisation, the Paris Public Prosecutor's Office, the Paris Children's Court, the department of Paris, the association Hors la Rue, and the «United against trafficking in human beings» Collective, coordinated by Secours Catholique Caritas France.

In line with the National Action Plan, this scheme takes the form of an agreement signed on 1 June 2016 by the Paris Police Prefect, the Public Prosecutor of the High Court of Paris, the Paris City Council and Departmental Council, the President of the High Court of Paris, the Youth Protection Judicial Service, the Inter-ministerial Committee for the Prevention of Delinquency and Radicalisation, the Paris Bar Council, the Hors la Rue association and inter-ministerial anti-trafficking taskforce MIPROF. The aim is to ensure protection for underage victims of trafficking in human beings - particularly for purposes of coercion to commit offences and sexual exploitation - through physical distancing and care by specially trained educators. The scheme removes minors from the influence of their exploiters and criminal networks in order to better protect them. However, as previously mentioned, it is also necessary to work over the long term and on a case-by-case basis to break the hold exerted over the victims. This work revolves around various stages, from the identification of situations by the various professionals to the young person's integration in an educational and professional integration project. This agreement has been effective since the final quarter of 2016.

In June 2017, some 60 Nigerian minors who had been victims of sexual exploitation were admitted into the scheme. The guidance provided under the scheme to minors who are forced to commit offences is particularly complex, particularly in view of the specific aspects of the close influence exerted on them. Indeed, they often have ambiguous and emotional attachments to their exploiters, may not necessarily be «duped» in their recruitment, and rarely see themselves as victims. However, several attempts have been made to protect minors forced to commit offences, which enabled the various actors involved to develop a partnership and closer cooperation with these young people.

The scheme's effectiveness relies on excellent cooperation between the various services and an efficient information sharing circuit that enables each of the actors in the chain to respond rapidly. As such, the scheme allows for the case file to be processed judicially and a provisional placement order issued within 24 hours by the juvenile public prosecutor's office in Paris, which is specifically aware of this issue. The agreement is expected to be applied elsewhere in France in local areas particularly affected by trafficking in minors, in keeping with the guidelines of the 2nd National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2017-2019).

A national scheme for adults: the Ac.Sé network

This scheme provides support to victims of trafficking and is coordinated by the association ALC. It is aimed at adult victims of trafficking and allows them to be physically distanced where necessary. In exceptional cases, it can take in minors carrying adult identification.



Inappropriate responses

Accommodation in hotels, without daytime activities or schooling, leaves young people in a state of both real and symbolic isolation. Without specific support, this isolation represents a significant risk of recovery by trafficking in human beings networks or by former exploiters.

Emergency shelter can be offered to minor victims, pending geographically removed placements. However, it is important to avoid implementing these safeguards in the place where they have been exploited. Indeed, **Child Protection homes are often identified by the trafficking networks, who then «recover» their victims before they can be moved away.**

The difficulties encountered in identifying spaces available in the various authorised living spaces may lead to the implementation of protective measures in organisations that are not prepared to receive minor victims of trafficking. It will then be difficult to ensure their continued adherence to these protective measures.

The obstacles to be identified for successful support

Despite these difficulties, it is still necessary to offer specialised care by professionals trained in the problems specific to minors who are victims of trafficking in human beings. As explained above, efforts to break down the grip of the network must be carried out over time. Moreover, the first few hours of care are crucial in avoiding attempts to run away, especially for minors who are being forced to commit offences. Finally, it is vital that we do not create the image of an «ideal victim». Indeed, while some victims seek protection and a way out of permanent exploitation, others do not express those desires. Minors who are forced to commit offences, in particular, rarely see themselves as victims, but must still be protected and supported by trained professionals.

The right attitude in a support worker

PROACTIVE ATTITUDE

Being able to exercise their capacity for anticipation in order to act appropriately in a given situation.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

Ensuring that all children and adults have the means to take part as valued, respected and contributing members of their community and society.





Testimony by Ionut Stan

Secours Catholique-Caritas France

In my work as a facilitator and cultural mediator, I have supported a number of Roma families. Almost all of them were in the same precarious situation as Gabi's family in the film: living on the streets or in a slum.

« We set ourselves priorities in their support. Access to school is essential.

But imagine what it means for these children to have to say where they live. It causes shame. They know that they are stigmatised. And also, how can they wash or be clean in these living conditions? These children go into life with a huge lack of self-confidence.

I remember one little girl and her brother: they were living on the streets. But they went to school and they stuck to it. The educational team, the teachers, rallied around them. As the school opened at eight o'clock, her brother and she were able to have a shower there. For the canteen, they were entitled to reduced prices, subsidised by us. Our association set up back-to-school assistance.

Access to housing is another priority.

Applying for HLM housing is a long and complicated process. But in private housing, it's also very hard to find stable housing, particularly for large families. T4s are rare, and it's expensive. And it's never easy: a volunteer had completed an application. Deposit, insurance, everything was in order. But when the owner saw the family, he found an excuse and it didn't happen. We offer «gateway housing» while they wait.

Some families stay for six months, others have been there for two years. We also make sure that we put families in a welcoming place, where they will get on with neighbours, and not be rejected. There's a lot of work to be done with the family.

We make connections.

The role of the cultural mediator and facilitator is also to explain to the families how France works, its institutions, its cultural codes etc. We make the connection between the institutions and families, building relationships of trust.

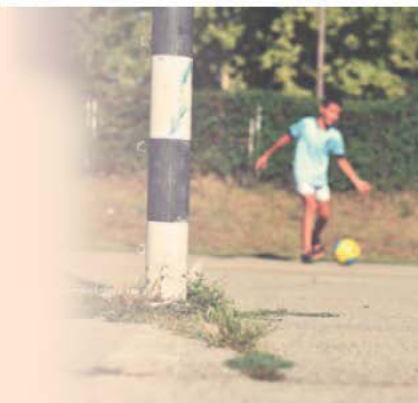
We also do a lot of translation. Speaking in French for the basics of living; in general, people manage. But to contemplate real projects, they need to go through their own language. That's how the person will give us the best of themselves. »

Exploitation of poverty and risks of trafficking

The groups involved in instances of exploitation generally take advantage of families' hardship to exert control, often facilitated by contracting debts for access to certain services: access to shelter, water, food, transport etc.

Furthermore, individuals who exploit children also become involved in families who find themselves in a situation of acute hardship. Social intervention in the places where all these families with highly differing situations congregate is therefore essential, as it enables us to prevent and limit the development of these instances.

Unfortunately, support and prevention efforts are undermined by the absence of any genuine public policy to get families out of the slums, as well as forced evictions.



Needs of the child ACCOMMODATION

SHORT-TERM DANGERS

If action is not taken immediately

- The transfer from one hotel to another, and dismantling of slums, limit the quality of educational and legal monitoring that can be provided.
- The lack of security encourages the young person to remain in contact with deviant adults surrounding them.
- Victims can «recruit» in children's homes (influence effect). We must also protect the others.
- Sometimes a need to be distanced from exploiters.
- Their place of living is sometimes also where they are exploited (in exchange for accommodation) or is used as a pretext for illegal and/or indecent work (work for payment in kind [TR Note: unsure of the exact meaning here], housekeeping, fruit-selling in the metro or on the street, etc.).

LONG-TERM DANGERS

If the appropriate action is not taken immediately for the child in question or other children

- Being on the street reduces the possibility of entry in integration pathways.
- Risk of reproducing their experiences with their own children (transmission of poverty from one generation to the next).

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE SUPPORT PROCESS

- Lack of space in socio-educational support programmes which ultimately comes down to a lack of medium and long-term integration solutions.
- Running away leads to expulsion from housing, encouraging homelessness.

MEASURES FOR LONG-TERM SUPPORT OF CHILDREN

- The need for a pleasant and safe place to live (as opposed to secured accommodation!): an educational framework without grills and bars.
- Good guidance.
- Help to determine the type of place that suits them (foster family, children's home etc.) and the supervision needed depending on the young person, their age and their journey.
- Use of the diversity of accommodation types available to better guide the child.
- Different solutions complement each other and also meet the necessary steps.
- Proper incorporation of the issue of slums, living spaces.

Use the arts
and culture /
cultures to
encourage victims
to speak out and
increase awareness
of this all too often
invisible scourge

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VOICE TRAINING QUITE AN ART AND A VOICE OF FREEDOM

“Joue ta zik”... Music to open up to others

With the association Hors la rue

At the day centre, music is everywhere. Young people systematically gather around the sound system to play music, dance or just chat.

Music is a medium that brings people together. Young people mutually discover music from their different countries of origin, which helps to promote a spirit of openness within a very heterogeneous group. This provides an excellent starting point for opening up to others, to their culture and feelings.

For us adults, our music-driven interactions with young people create a symmetrical relationship where everyone is free to contribute. It helps forge an essential tie with them.

The music workshops are open to any young person who visits the day centre and/or is followed in the street by the Hors La Rue team. The art therapist and the educator-leader assist the intervener with facilitation. Music workshops let individual young people express themselves and feel valued via artistic creation. This activity also serves to bring the young people and the Hors La Rue together.

Hors La Rue has entered into a partnership with the association Musicreation for a musical creation project targeting at-risk adolescents, the goal being to write songs and song lyrics then record the songs.



The young musicians are free to choose the subject and musical style, to reinforce the impression that it is “their” music. This has also offered an opportunity to get young people and the team involved in preparing the live show. For children who are used to hiding owing to their personal situation, this is a life-saving outlet. Creating music, composing, means expressing one’s emotions. Writing a song means giving free rein to one’s imagination. Whether the song is fun, serious, fictional or based on real-life experience, it allows young people who are not used to expressing themselves to make their voices heard and thus feel valued. Recording music means leaving a trace.

Make up your mind, take the step...

With the association "Aux captifs, la liberation"

We have set up several singing workshops and have seen that Nigerian women have really latched on to this.

Our weekly workshop is open-ended. It does not require a long-term commitment. However, we have noticed that women rapidly develop a desire for commitment, for regularity, in order to create something over time. Singing allows them to let go and express themselves on intimate, painful topics such as someone's hold over them, loss of identity, low self-esteem, isolation, fear and so on.

So we opened another, more structured workshop supervised by volunteer professionals.

The group **The Real Me** is composed of volunteers and young women who are experiencing or have experienced street prostitution as part of trafficking for sexual exploitation. We met these young women during tours of the streets with the association "Aux captifs, la liberation". The connection was reinforced during their breaking-away stays with us, when the artistic project was born.

The Real Me set itself the goal of changing the way people see persons who have been victims of sexual exploitation, through artistic creation that showcases their dignity and beauty. This perception-changing effort started with the women themselves, as the purpose was to restore their self-esteem and help them rebuild themselves.

Next, the little group decided to meet regularly for rehearsals, then work on musical compositions.

The lyrics and music for the song "Make up your mind" are the outcome of the group's story, a story of meetings, friendship and a shared passion for music, as can be seen from the clip. The music from this song also features in the film #DEVENIR.

The group has already given several concerts, during which Gloria, the lead singer, has sometimes shared her life story. As she wants to tell other women in the same situation about how far she has come, she sends them this message in the song: "Make up your mind, take this step to break out of the exploitation you are suffering... It's possible!"

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Make up your mind

1. It's dark and cold tonight
noisy passing cars
a fetid perfume
I've been longing for...
your look again. Today is the day
I know you can...get me out of this hell

CHORUS

Make up your mind
tell me
Listen inside
Don't miss me
You know it's time
Oh make up your mind !

2. In my eyes, What you've seen
Such far and strong memories
A dream of love
Flowing down my cheeks
You smile!
I cry! I'm afraid of this world

CHORUS

Make up your mind
tell me
Listen inside
Don't miss me
You know it's time
Oh make up your mind (x2)

PONT

Nothing lasts forever don't let you down
do not deny your desire,
Shine, shine! Shine your light! Shadows will not
scare you anymore.

FINAL CHORUS

Make up your mind
tell me
Listen inside
Don't miss me
You know it's time
Oh make up your mind (x2)

Make up your mind
tell me
Listen inside
Don't miss me !
Make up your mind
tell me
Listen inside
Don't miss me

#02

Being recognised as a minor and gaining access to ordinary law. The transition to adulthood.

It's great that the associations come in the woods and on the streets. They talk to us normally, they explain France to us...

You have to talk to us, but you also have to talk to the constabulary, the police, people in France, because not everybody understands who we really are, and nobody knows how to help us."

Favour arrived in France at 15, a victim of trafficking for sexual exploitation by a Nigerian network.

As Law L.221-1 of the French Code of Social Action and Families indicates, the status of "poorly accompanied" minors or young adults without a young adult contract, without material, educational and psychological support, should not exist.

BAZIR



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Bazir is 17.

This young Afghan with a complex path is an isolated minor.

After Bazir's father, a doctor, was murdered in Afghanistan by the Taliban, he and his family fled to Pakistan. Then Bazir managed to get to France by himself, where he found himself isolated and homeless. At first, he sold fruit for a fellow citizen in exchange for a roof over his head. Later, his compatriot asked him for money to attend French language courses given by another member of the community. Bazir managed to get in touch with an association. Followed by Nelson, an educator, he was able to join a multi-ethnic orchestra. The association is helping Bazir with his administrative efforts to gain recognition as a minor. Marco, the association's jurist, is assisting him with this uncertain prospect. The authorities have failed to recognise Bazir as being under 18, and the appeal filed has just been rejected. Marco, who could not hide his disappointment, has told Bazir, who is incensed. Marco had been simultaneously preparing an asylum application file.

BAZIR

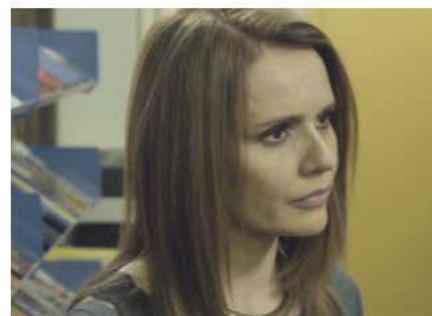
The accompanying adults in the film

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MARCO

Marco is a jurist with an association working to combat trafficking in human beings and protect victims. He is monitoring the administrative and legal situation of Bazir (and that of Farih) and the obstacles in the proceedings under way.



Ms LEVINAS Psychologist

Within her association, she meets regularly with Bazir. She plays a key role in helping Bazir set down his life story. At one session, thanks to the presence of an interpreter, Bazir was finally able to say what he has gone through.



The interpreter

He assists and translates everything Bazir says in Farsi, especially in the office of the psychologist (who stressed to the association's jurist how important it was for the interpreter to be present for every session with this foreign minor).

BAZIR

Their missions

► THE JURISTS

Depending on their area of expertise and actions undertaken, associations need to “recruit” lawyers by training – in a paid or volunteer capacity – to assist the victims that the associations have taken under their wing with their administrative formalities (for example, at the prefecture for the residence permit) or legal action (for example, filing of complaints or reports to the Public Prosecutor, preparation of case files for action in different courts: the Grand Instance Court, the Children’s Court, etc.). It is vital to assist children with these administrative and/or judicial proceedings as soon as the association starts looking after them, whether or not they have been recognised as minors. The role of the association jurists is of course to guide the children through the process, explain available options, place them at the heart of the proceedings and keep each victim informed of the status of the procedures under way, but also to clarify the real consequences on their status.

► THE PSYCHOLOGIST

The psychologist offers a space for dialogue aimed at overcoming the trauma linked to the situation of exploitation. She gives the child victims an opportunity to express their feelings and emotions about what they have experienced (shame, guilt, injustice, fear, etc.). She encourages the young people to work on accepting their own story and to rebuild their self-esteem. This educational and psychological assistance is also essential for enhancing the children’s psychosocial skills and helping them express the potential trauma due for example to their migratory journey and exploitation in France.

► THE INTERPRETER

This person tasked with orally translating the words of a foreign child into French enables the latter to express itself in its language of origin and to open up more. Within the legal framework, this court officer (appointed and remunerated according to a scale defined by the State) must be present to translate orally for the judge, during hearings, any comments by a party who does not speak French. If there is no interpreter, a claim can be made that the proceedings are invalid. However, volunteer interpreters are often used to prepare for hearings.

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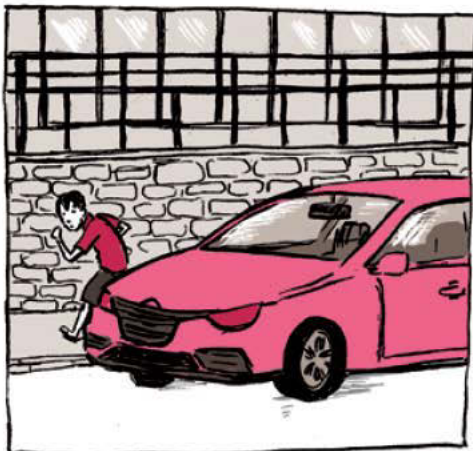
My name is Tuan, I'm Vietnamese, and I'm 17 years old.

My parents were killed by the military when I was a child. I was raised by my grandmother. When she died, I was 15, and I found myself without a family. Despite all that, I had the good fortune to inherit her house.

That was when I decided to leave and seek my future in England. So I sold the house to pay for my clandestine journey to Europe.

I made the trip, from smuggler to smuggler, by car, on foot, in a container, with three other young people like me. Except for the fact that they hadn't been able to pay for their trip. They were indebted to the smugglers' organisation. And to repay their debt, they were obliged to work for them. I understood that clearly.





I walked for a long time before I met someone who spoke my language and realised I was in France.



My fellow countryman took me to the association's day centre.

We're there. The people inside will take care of you.



Several weeks later, I went to do tests to prove my age. They also measured my wrist. Then they put in a request for me to be admitted to a children's home.



When the lawyer heard this, she immediately contacted another association.

You see, pending the interim protection order, the kid will be back on the street, and the network is sure to find him.



They managed to put me up in a flat with other young people who were like me but didn't speak Vietnamese, and I didn't speak French well.



Then I was finally admitted to a real children's home.



Here, I am fed and I can sleep in a warm place.



I'm with children my age, and some come from my country.



Now, I'm in my fifth year of secondary school, and things are going well.

That's why I urge you to read this booklet.



The educator gives me constant assistance and support to help me choose what I want to do.

So, Tuan, now that you're doing well, do you have an idea what you'd like to do?



Yes, I really like mechanics, engines, and machines. I'd like to do a vocational certificate in Mechanics to work in a garage.

That's a really good idea, Tuan.



Today, I have rediscovered some life prospects. I'm finally going to get a chance to learn a skill. On the other hand, there is some uncertainty with regard to my transition to adult status. I'll have to go through a system for young adults.

Meanwhile, I've told the association that I was prepared to help young Vietnamese victims of trafficking. I know how lucky I was to have been able to escape the network. I would like to give them the same chance...



Hassan's Story

*Hassan is an unaccompanied minor of Pakistani origin at risk of trafficking.
He is 14 years old. He arrived in the Paris area in May 2015.*

With a view to placement into care by Child Welfare Services under ordinary law

JUNE/JULY 2014

Hassan comes to the association after being refused care by a departmental assessment centre. He is offered an initial interview, but Hassan speaks no French and very little English, so communication is difficult. After a long delay, an interview is arranged by our association **with an Urdu-speaking interpreter** in order to allow Hassan to tell us about his life history, family relationships, travel conditions, difficulties in getting to France and his incomprehension at the refusal to take him into care.

We help Hassan to bring the matter to the attention of the President of the Children's Court of the department where he lives, who is theoretically responsible for him. **This Court then declares itself without jurisdiction,** on the grounds that Hassan's situation has already been assessed in another department.

So we take **the case to the children's court of the department where he was initially assessed.** Steps are taken **to allow Hassan access to healthcare and education.**

NOVEMBER 2015

Having attempted to chase the Children's Court for the umpteenth time, we are requested to refer to the department where the young person has been living homeless since his arrival.

We once again forward the written refusal of the first children's court. We also refer the case to the Human Rights Commissioner, who demands a hearing from the Children's Court without delay

Hassan takes tests to assess his academic level at the CAS-NAV (Academic Centres for the Education of New Arrivals and Children of Travelling Communities)

DECEMBER 2015/JANUARY 2016

The Tribunal asks us by e-mail to accompany Hassan in taking bone age tests to verify that he is a minor. At this point, Hassan has still not had a hearing with the judge.

Hassan returns to school in early January 2016.

We are informed by the judge that, according to the medical opinion, Hassan's age is 17 years old. He should therefore be recognised as a minor, sheltered and protected.

APRIL 2016

Hassan is summoned to a hearing before the Children's Judge. He goes there, accompanied by his referring educator and is also **advised during the hearing by a lawyer** who has been providing assistance on this situation over several months.

After 10 months of waiting, Hassan is finally recognised as an unaccompanied and endangered minor in the local area and entrusted to the care of Child Welfare Services.

Being recognised as a minor and gaining access to ordinary law. The transition to adulthood.

The challenges of being recognised as a minor

In order to benefit from the protection available to them, a minor must first be recognised as such; that is to say that the authorities acknowledge that they are under 18 years of age. In effect, minority is a condition for access to the child protection system. For the child victims of trafficking, proving their minority is therefore a crucial step to accessing common law and more specifically the services provided by Child Welfare. In the case of adolescents, it can be difficult to establish civil status, particularly if they are unaccompanied, i.e. without parents, family or guardians. If there is doubt on completion of the assessment, it must be in favour of the young person (although in practice, this is not always the case). The Act of 14 March 2016 provides a legal basis for the principle that, where there is any doubt as to the young person's age, it must be in their favour. It is also a recommendation of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

«[...] in the event of remaining uncertainty, should accord the individual the benefit of the doubt such that if there is a possibility that the individual is a child, s/he should be treated as such»

United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, General Comment No. 6 (2005) «Treatment of unaccompanied and separated children outside their country of origin»

In France, section 43 of the Child Welfare Act dated 14 March 2016, endorses that the benefit of the doubt should be given to the young person in an amendment to Article 388 of the Civil Code. The Act effectively supplements this article with the insertion of the following provision: *«The conclusions of these [radiological] examinations, which must specify the margin of error, may not alone be used to determine whether the person in question is a minor. The person in question shall be accorded the benefit of the doubt.»*



The procedure for recognition as a minor

For French nationals, recognition of minority status is rarely called into question, while it is almost systematically challenged for unaccompanied foreign minors.

More than 10,000 young people declaring themselves to be minors have entered France on their own. Largely from sub-Saharan Africa, Afghanistan, the Middle East and the Maghreb, they are fleeing wars, army conscription, violence and family difficulties. Some are victims of trafficking in human beings, others are already street children in their country, and have travelled long distances to support their families financially.

In France, «unaccompanied minors» fall within the scope of the child protection system as part of the Child Welfare Services (ASE) provided by departmental councils.

Effectively, protective measures must be taken when «the health, safety or morality of a dependent minor are at risk, or their educational situation or physical, emotional, intellectual and social development are seriously compromised» (Article 375 of the Civil Code).

As such, an unaccompanied minor must be considered to be at risk. Despite this principle, a significant number of unaccompanied foreign minors do not receive any care or see it curtailed after being placed in emergency housing.

Although these children are covered by child protection and common law, as foreigners they are also subject to new exemption rules, introduced with the adoption of the Child Protection Act on 14 March 2016.

Protection is conditional on establishment of their minority

Under Child Welfare services (ASE), unaccompanied minors receive emergency shelter provided by departments for a period of five days, after which an assessment is carried out to establish the young person's minority and risk status.

Establishment of minority (see p. 48) is dependent on any civil status documents submitted by the young person, which must be presumed authentic under law, and a social assessment which may result in a medical examination in case of doubt.

For several years now, more than half of unaccompanied foreign children have been declared adults and have seen their care withdrawn. The methods used to assess minority have been subject to regular criticism by the associations, who have pointed out that

there is currently no reliable procedure for establishment of minority. That said, the Act of 14 March, 2016 took a step forward by legalising the option of bone testing, a method that had been used widely and was subject to criticism before the law was passed. However, the Act does regulate its use by requiring the decision of the judicial authority and the agreement of the person in question (Article 388 of the Civil Code).

The conclusions of the examination must also indicate the margin of error, and may not be used alone to determine the minority of the young person, who must be given the benefit of the doubt.

The right of residence on majority

A major concern for all foreign children entrusted to the child welfare system (ASE) due to the termination of care that it may entail, for unaccompanied foreign children, being assessed as an adult carries with it a particular challenge: the probability of being returned to their country of origin. At 18, these young people must hold a residence permit. For that reason, it is crucial not to wait for the transition to adulthood to challenge the young person's right of residence.

On reaching majority, they may apply for French nationality if they have been entrusted to the ESA before the age of 15, or they may automatically obtain a «private and family life» temporary residence permit if they have been taken into care before their 16th birthday. However, the situation of foreign minors entrusted to ASE after the age of 16 is much less certain. As such, depending on their situation, a temporary residence permit such as an «employee» or «temporary worker» card may be applied for in exceptional cases, if the young person can prove that they have been undergoing training for a professional qualification in a serious manner for a minimum of six months.

The question of how to secure the career paths of these young people therefore remains wholly unanswered. However, there is positive development in the provisions of the Child Welfare Act: on a yearly basis until majority, Child Welfare Services (ASE) must now draft a report on the young person's progress, involving the organisations that may provide a comprehensive response that meets their needs. The question of the right of residence can then be raised at this opportunity.

The assessment of minority

Assessment is based on the combination of a body of evidence, consisting of:

Interviews conducted by qualified staff as part of a multidisciplinary approach, following a standard interview pattern, known as a 'social assessment'.

Problem/obstacle – These assessments are questionable, especially when physical appearances make up the central component of minority assessments. Assessment of minority presumes that there is doubt as to the age declared by the young person. However, doubt may sometimes lead to suspicion, so that the young person is considered potentially guilty of lying, fraud or even manipulation. These suspicions are often raised on identification of «false statements» given by young people. In reality, these stereotypical stories learnt by rote are sometimes precisely the red flags that indicate that a young person is in the grip of a trafficking in human beings/migrant smuggling network. Indeed, these networks give their victims false information on the care and protection systems of host countries in order to maintain a hold over them. More specifically, this «bad advice» can impact the stories given by young people as to their age, their journey, their unaccompanied status, their housing conditions, their income-generating activities and whether they are being exploited.

The verification of civil status documents by the Document Fraud Office of the Border Police Force (PAF) at the request of the Public Prosecutor's Office, or verification by 'document fraud' officers working within the State departments at the request of departmental councils.

As such, it should be noted that the inter-ministerial circular of 25 January 2016 on the involvement of State services by departmental councils on matters of minors temporarily or permanently deprived of the protection of their families and persons presenting themselves as such, provides that:

- where the person in question produces a civil status document, its validity presupposes that it may be linked to them without question;
- where identity documents are genuine and do in fact relate to their holder, this verification removes the need for further investigation.

Problem/obstacle – Once again, disparities may be seen in key practices from one department to another. The possession of falsified or third-party documents is not itself proof of the majority of the person in question. However, the withholding of genuine identity documents and provision of false documentation declaring the person an adult may be a means of control and an indication of trafficking.

A medical age examination at the request of the Public Prosecutor, «only in the event of persistent doubt»

Problem/obstacle – the use of bone testing to determine age presents an ethical problem, especially for doctors, as the scales are very rough, with a general margin of error of around 18 months, making them ineffective in proving majority or minority. In light of this fact, the child's mental age should also be taken into account.

When minority status is challenged, three courses of action are available: referral to the children's court judge, appeal to the Human Rights Commissioner (which does not affect time limits for judicial appeals) and proceedings with the country of origin to obtain further proof of minority (where the young person is not seeking asylum).

The transition to adulthood

The provision of child welfare care usually ends at the age of 18.

The question of the administrative legalisation of residence in France further complicates the situation of foreign young people when they reach their majority, as it is at this point that they will have to undertake prefectural procedures in order to gain a residence permit, which is not required for minors.

However, between the ages of 18 and 21, minors who are victims of trafficking, like other French or foreign young people, may benefit from an extension of child welfare care (see p. 50).

The conditions for this extension are also linked to informal considerations, such as ongoing attendance, development of a professional project, compliance with the contract with ASE, whether steps have been taken towards administrative legalisation...



The young adult contract

WHAT IS THE YOUNG ADULT CONTRACT?

The term «young adult contract» is commonly used to refer to extended care after 18 years of age.

This contract, agreed between the department or Child Welfare Services (ASE) and the young person, determines the terms and duration of the provision of care as a young adult and establishes the targets to be met by the young person and Child Welfare Services (ASE).

Often, young people's obligations involve the serious pursuit of vocational training, being respectful of the accommodation provided, and so on.

It should be noted that article L222-5 of the French Family and Social Action Code (Act of March 14, 2016) stipulates that support may not be abandoned during the school year when a young person is enrolled in study.

WHEN SHOULD AN EXTENSION OF CARE BE REQUESTED?

Young people requiring continued care after majority must request an extension in writing by letter with acknowledgment of receipt to the President of the departmental council of the department in which they have been placed.

This application must ideally be sent between two and three months of the date on which the young person reaches majority. Lack of response within two months entails implicit refusal of young adult care for the young person, which may be challenged before the administrative court.

If the young person has already made an oral or written application without a record of submission, it is useful to send a further application by mail with acknowledgement of receipt. This then constitutes proof of refusal and will prompt the ASE to send a written answer and justify its decision. Indeed, when applications are made orally or submitted in person, young people often only receive a spoken refusal without a convincing explanation.





The young adult contract

WHEN SHOULD AN EXTENSION OF CARE BE REQUESTED?

Before applying, it is essential that a dialogue be established on this issue between young people and their educators in order to prepare them for the response.

In most cases, educators will know whether or not young people will be able to benefit from continued care. Successful cases are often the result of long-term work by educators.

However, even where the extension of care is likely to be refused, it must be requested in due form.

The application must be made by the young person and signed by them. It must retrace their journey since arrival in France and explain how receiving young adult care will enable them to quickly gain independence. It must also demonstrate that the young person will be placed in a very difficult situation in the absence of such care.

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The application must be sent to the President of the General Council of the Child Welfare Service to which the young person has been entrusted, as it is they who will decide whether or not to grant the provision of young adult care. As previously stated, it is important that this application be made by letter with acknowledgement of receipt. It is useful to request a written reply in the body of the letter: it should be explicitly stated that in the event of refusal, the young person wishes to receive the reasons in writing within the two-month period allowed for response by the administration (in order to facilitate appeal against possible refusal.)

Depending on the department, young people will be invited to an interview, or their situation will be examined directly by a committee of representatives of the ASE and the General Council.

NB: In the event of refusal to extend care by the President of the General Council, this decision may be contested. However, the appeal must be made to the administrative court within 2 months of notification of the decision (as of receipt of the letter).

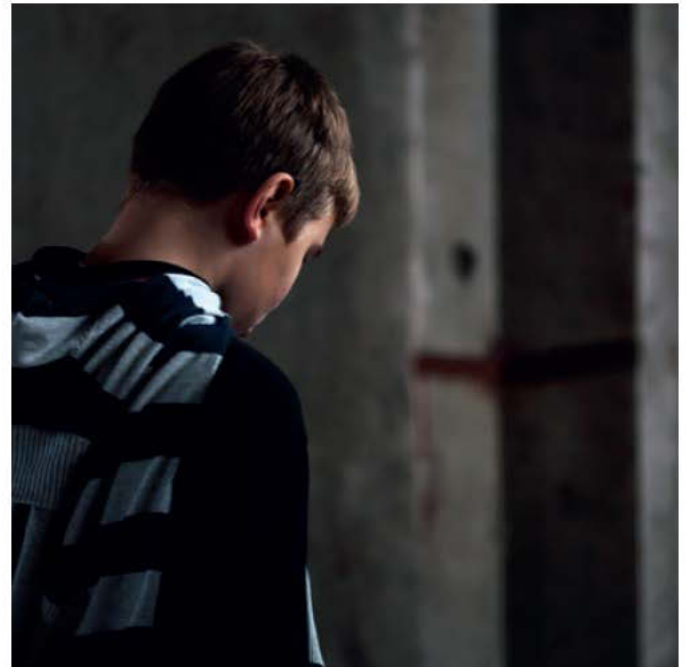
PROVISION OF CARE IN KEEPING WITH ARTICLE L221-1 OF THE FAMILIES AND SOCIAL ACTION CODE: PLEASE NOTE!

In many cases, only partial young adult care is offered, consisting only of accommodation or an often pitiful allowance.

For this reason, it is important to specify what type of care is expected in the application: accommodation, food, socio-educational support, allowance, etc.

It is sometimes advisable to avoid applying for a «young adult contract» only, as it allows ASEs to respond with an offer of minimal services (accommodation only, for example).

As such, it is better to request an extension of care, which must be specified in keeping with Article L.221-1 of the Families and Social Action Code.



Needs of the child

BEING RECOGNISED AS AN ADULT OR MINOR ACCORDING TO ACTUAL AGE

SHORT-TERM DANGERS

If action is not taken immediately

Adults pose as minors, minors pose as adults:

- Risk of not being adequately protected.
- Risk of imprisonment for misrepresentation.

LONG-TERM DANGERS

If the appropriate action is not taken immediately for the child in question or other children

- Risk of inadequate care that will have repercussions in the future.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE SUPPORT PROCESS

- Difficulty in establishing a relationship of trust between the young person and the support worker.

MEASURES FOR LONG-TERM SUPPORT OF CHILDREN

- Have a thorough knowledge of procedures and appeals.
- Give the benefit of the doubt to the young person's declaration.
- Know how to spot when a stereotyped story is an indicator of an at-risk situation.

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Needs of the child

LEARNING SELF-RELIANCE AND SUPPORTING THE TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD

- Transition to adulthood results in a loss of protection along with minor status.
- Projects may not be continued due to lack of resources.

Exclusion from society (risk of ending up on the street, not finding a job, etc.).

- Find the provision that best suits the adolescent's situation.
- Have a good understanding of the consequences of the change of administrative status.

- Empowerment of the child and suitable environment, individualised follow-up but also socialisation.
- Learning how to manage a budget.
- Study of the possibility of setting up a young adult contract.
- Build a project with the child before reaching majority, and support them until at least 21 years of age.

Use the arts
and culture /
cultures to
encourage victims
to speak out and
increase awareness
of this all too often
invisible scourge

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DRAWING AND PAINTING: MEANS OF EXPRESSION AND LIBERATION

With the association Hors la Rue

Modern art therapy exploits artistic potential with a humanitarian or therapeutic aim. The art therapist strives to reactivate buried or forgotten skills; to repair faulty mechanisms by providing a special space for expression.

This practice is fully integrated into the association's operations and complements the educational and psychological support, both at the day centre and in the street. The activity is broken down into **several separate workshops**, that take place at different times and address the needs and difficulties of the individual children.



1. Social inequality, detail: the fish



2. Social inequality, detail:
red light, green light



3. Social inequality,
detail: the snake

Social inequality – Fodié Gassama

Gouache markers on leather / 1.20mx60cm / Collective Workshop at the City of Paris Museum of Modern Art

In this mural, Fodié compares two very different forms of travel: migratory journeys and sightseeing trips. The gap between these two side-by-side realities reflects social inequalities. "The boat is the country, the people on the boat represent the people. The boat is in the fish (1), as though the fish had eaten it. It's a big fish, like a whale. It's the Head of State. He covers all the ground: he has all the powers and holds all the good positions.

The plane: those who get on the plane are rich. Lots of people come to visit France because of the Eiffel Tower. The Eiffel Tower is very interesting. The persons next to the red light (2) are the true citizens who respect the red light. The persons next to the green light are the administration and the government: even if they have an accident, nothing happens to them. The little people lying on the road are the poor people who don't have any rights. The snake (3) is the rich person's bodyguard. He is ready to bite but hasn't bitten yet. The bird represents power, it flies away with the rich person."

Individual workshops

These provide in-depth follow-up tailored to address the young person's problems. Individual sessions that complement educational activities are designed to offer a space for relaxation and well-being, giving the team a different perspective on the child and allowing it to complete their evaluation. The sessions can also be used in support of classes in French as a foreign language, for young people who have difficulty learning (concentration issues, lack of self-confidence, etc.).

Open workshops

These workshops, which follow classes in French as a foreign language and individual sessions, are open to all and offer an observation and free experimentation period. They give the art therapist an opportunity to meet with the child and develop trust, which is often necessary before the child agrees to attend individual sessions.

Collective workshops

Here, the aim is to get young people working on a common short- or medium-term project (visit to and workshop in a museum, mural, etc.) and to promote group dynamics and intercultural interaction.

Street workshops

These are held one afternoon per week in the street. They are aimed at a very vulnerable audience roaming the streets and/or being exploited in the Ile-de-France region. These young people are heavily involved in delinquent activities that benefit others, which means that these children are not perpetrators of acts of delinquency but rather victims of trafficking in human beings. These workshops make it possible to strengthen the educational link with young people and promote a bond of trust with the educators. This space represents a special moment in the street teaching process, allowing these young people to become children once again during the activity.

« Street workshop productions are staged outside, near a place where the young people targeted gather together. As the primary aim was to get their attention, we came to their home ground: a bit of pavement, in front of a Paris square, sometimes in the park. And in the winter months a neighbourhood kebab restaurant extended a warm welcome. The young people became very committed to the activity despite the somewhat uncomfortable conditions, even going so far as to ask for a room to continue the workshop under better conditions. This reflects their commitment to the project, because these coerced young people who are not used to educational and well-being activities may find it difficult to get involved in a proposal of this type. We have partnered with the social centre of Paris des Faubourgs, which has made a room available. We have a permanently manned office on site. »



I like pink – Ali Anabel

Inks and felt pens / A4 / Open workshop

" When I was drawing this, I felt nice because this is the first time for me to use colors, it's beautiful, nice, I feel good, happy, I want to do more, so to show the world I am perfect with colors. So, see you people soon for the next time. I promise you people to give you the best colors of the world, so thanks."

#03

Growing up and rebuilding one's life through physical care and psychological support

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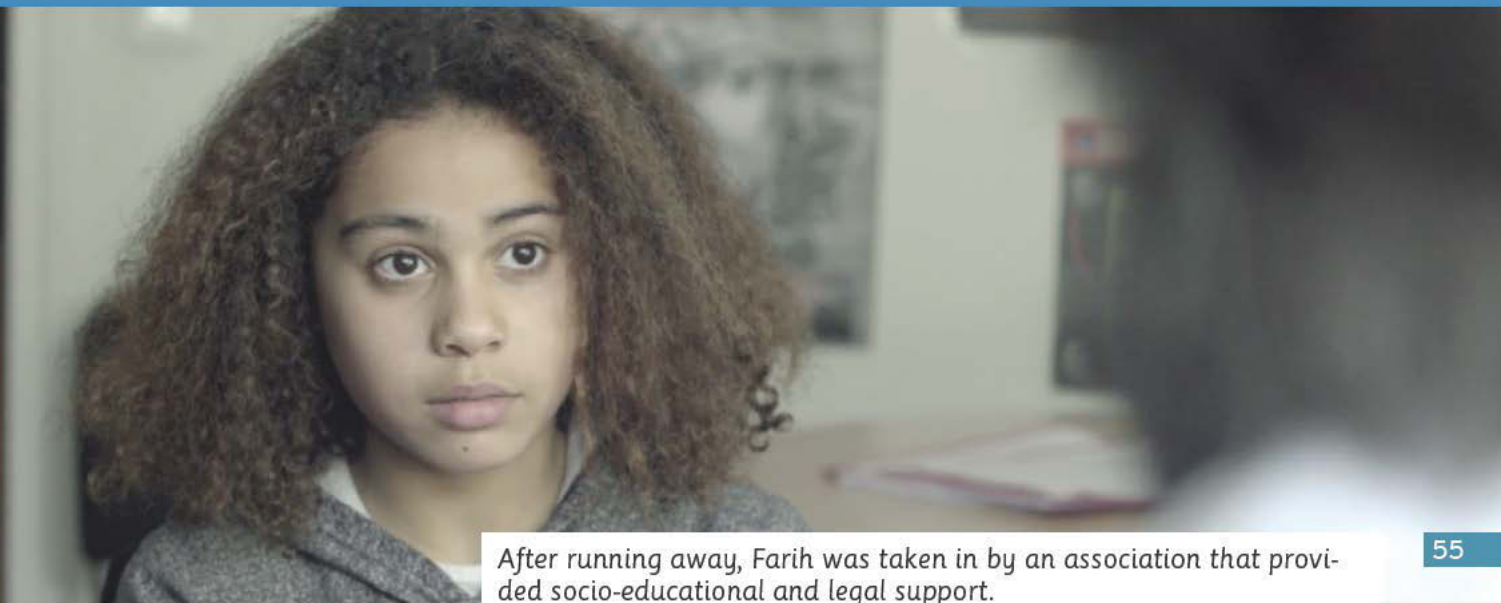
« If a doctor had asked me,
I would have talked to him... »

Yemi is a young Nigerian woman who was still a minor when she left her country via a trafficking network. Everything was organised to exploit her upon her arrival in France. She was forced to prostitute herself for a year. She was scared, regularly threatened and did not know who to trust. She went to the hospital to see a gynaecologist about pain and vaginal infections without ever daring to bring up her situation.

« Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. »

Preamble to the Constitution of the World Health Organization,
New York, 22 June 1946

FARIH



Farih, a 13-year-old Togolese girl, is a victim of trafficking for domestic exploitation. Her aunt got her to come to France by promising her she could attend school and earn money for her family (cf. #INVISIBLES).

After running away, Farih was taken in by an association that provided socio-educational and legal support.

Housed in a children's home run by the French child welfare authorities, Farih is now enrolled in middle school. Within the framework of the association, she regularly attends creative expression workshops. She has made a real commitment to the singing workshop run by a music therapist and has rediscovered the joy of living.

Administrative and judicial proceedings are also under way. As her exploiter had her enter France under a false identity, she needs new identity documents. Moreover, the jurist, Marco, has informed Farih that the police had gone to the home of the lady who was exploiting her and found another trafficked young girl. The lady is being held for questioning. Farih is worried about the fate of the little boy she used to look after. Marco is able to reassure her, because the child is under his father's protection. Farih is now in the process of rebuilding her life. The legal journey leading to recognition as a trafficked person is likely to be long.

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The accompanying adults in the film



REGINA

A singer in a group, Regina has trained in music therapy. She conducts music workshops for an association specialising in the protection of child victims of trafficking. She offers them vocal and rhythmic exercises, instrumental improvisation and even songwriting, to help the trafficked children express themselves.



NELSON

Nelson, an educator with an association assisting isolated young minors who are at risk of or are victims of trafficking, is Farih's referent. As such, he tries to create a space of safety and trust, a prerequisite so that Farih can rebuild her life with the support of the adults helping her.



MARCO

A jurist with the association (cf. p. 40), he is following the judicial and administrative proceedings concerning Farih. He keeps her informed of any developments.

FARIH

Their missions

► MUSIC THERAPIST

He or she uses practical music making to let young and old alike externalise their experiences, trials, hopes, desires, and so on. The focus is on helping the young people enhance or restore their self-image and develop and strengthen skills. This practice promotes intercultural ties.

► THE INTERVENERS IN THE SOCIAL FIELD

Child victims or alleged victims of trafficking in human beings are above all children at risk. Any intervener in the social field must therefore take pains never to lose sight of this reality when working with these children. The creation of a bond of trust is a prerequisite for any protective measures. These children have lived or still live in very difficult conditions. Often, they attend school rarely or not at all. Mastery of one of the languages commonly used by these children helps facilitate the establishment of such a bond, as does knowledge of the country of origin, families' living conditions and certain cultural traditions.

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My name is Adesuwa. I'm 17 now, but on my papers it says I'm 21.

I was born in Benin City, in southern Nigeria. That was where my father left us - my mother, my brothers and sisters and me. We had nothing.

I felt responsible. I wanted to do something to help us overcome this situation. I didn't want to abandon anyone.

So I accepted a neighbour's proposal. She promised me a job in Europe that would support all of us. I didn't know that I would have to prostitute myself and that I would have to reimburse an unrepayable debt.

I thought I was going to attend school, babysit or work in a hairdressing salon to send money back home.

I was 14 when I started to prostitute myself.



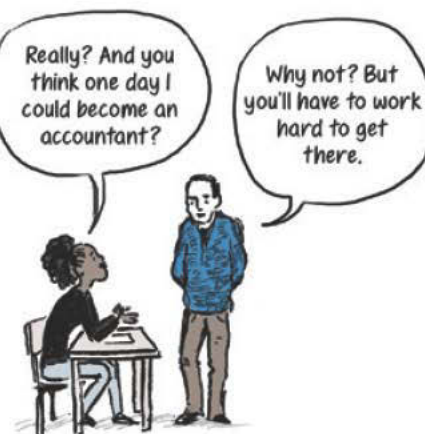
A customer did that to me with some broken glass.



And I've got the same thing on my legs!







Today, I am still in a hostel for adult women. I am participating more and more regularly in the workshops, activities and classes. But I've been waiting to be heard by the juvenile judge for six months now. I would like to finally be able to go to school to become an accountant.



The impact of exploitation on the health of trafficked minors

IMPACT ON THE CHILD ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF EXPLOITATION

Workload and type of work, activities not suitable for age / inconsistent sleeping pattern / emotional disorders / untreated childhood illnesses / stunted growth / delayed learning / loss of trust in adults

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

- Sexually transmitted infections.
- High-risk pregnancies.
- Drug and alcohol abuse.
- Precarious or sometimes unfit accommodation.
- Traumatic consequences of prostitution.
- Lack of consistent sleeping pattern, sleep and eating disorders.
- Somatic complaints: headache, stomach pain; digestive disorders.
- Damage to genitals due to frequent intercourse and inadequate personal hygiene (use of detergent, lemon, cola etc.).
- ENT disorders linked to repeated violence by pimps or customers (blows to the head etc.).

EXPLOITATION OF BEGGING INCITEMENT TO COMMIT OFFENCES

- Working in the street in all weather conditions (heat, rain, cold).
- Exposure to the dangers of the road.
- Attacks.
- No access to sanitary facilities.
- Dental problems.
- Repeated beatings by exploiters.
- Indifference.

DOMESTIC SERVITUDE

- Context of deprivation.
- Restriction of access to hygiene.
- Malnutrition.
- Extended work hours.
- Exhaustion.
- Loss of self-esteem.
- Suicidal thoughts.

FORCED LABOUR (CATERING, CONSTRUCTION, AGRICULTURE)

- Exposure to chemical and toxic substances.
- Lack of protective equipment, Accommodation in unfit conditions.
- Malnutrition and dehydration.
- Skin infections or burns.
- Back pain.
- Untreated accidental injuries.

SERVILE MARRIAGES

- Threats.
- Deprivation of liberty.
- Isolation.
- Loss of trust.
- Early and/or high-risk pregnancies.
- Precarious or sometimes unfit accommodation.

VICTIM

VULNERABILITY

History of violence / dysfunctional family background / Traumatic migratory journey / Family, social, linguistic isolation / Financial debt / Emotional debt: gratitude to the network that helped them to get to Europe, obligation to «sacrifice» self for the family / Unfamiliarity with the protection system / Shame of situation / Feeling of fear / Under sway of family or community influence

CONSEQUENCES OF BEING CAUGHT UP IN THE NETWORK

- Physical and sexual violence.
- Psychological pressure: threats against the victim and their family, humiliation, blackmail, insults...
- Spiritual threats, sometimes undergoing a voodoo ritual (known as «ju-ju») in some Nigerian networks.
- Confiscation of identity documents.
- Control of social, medical and administrative procedures.
- Sworn silence.
- Misinformation on the role of the police, social workers or associations: victims are therefore frightened to go to someone from outside their network for help.

Trauma

Trauma is an unforeseen event of such intensity that it falls outside the range of normal human experience, causing distress to any person.

Post-traumatic stress symptom is the inability to recover from a serious event or continuous wearing-down. Our usual methods of coping with difficult situations are no longer sufficient. Whether it's sustained stress or a traumatic event, the effects are the same, namely:



PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

Headaches, high blood pressure, back pain, shaking, rapid breathing, stomach ulcers, nightmares, irregular menstrual periods.



PSYCHOLOGICAL SYMPTOMS

Emotions, anger, aggressiveness and irritability, panic attacks, fear of others, powerlessness, depression, excessive guilt, general lack of interest.



INTELLECTUAL SYMPTOMS

Confusion, difficulties in concentration and memory, brooding, hallucinations and paranoia.



BEHAVIOUR

Lack of energy, constant fatigue, lack of hygiene, inability to control self, drug and alcohol abuse, eating and sleep disorders (too much or too little).



RELATIONSHIPS

Isolation, withdrawal, withdrawal from friends or social roles, inability to maintain intimate relationships
On a spiritual level: the experience of profound uncertainty.

Not to be confused with «Normal» stress...

Stress is part of our lives.

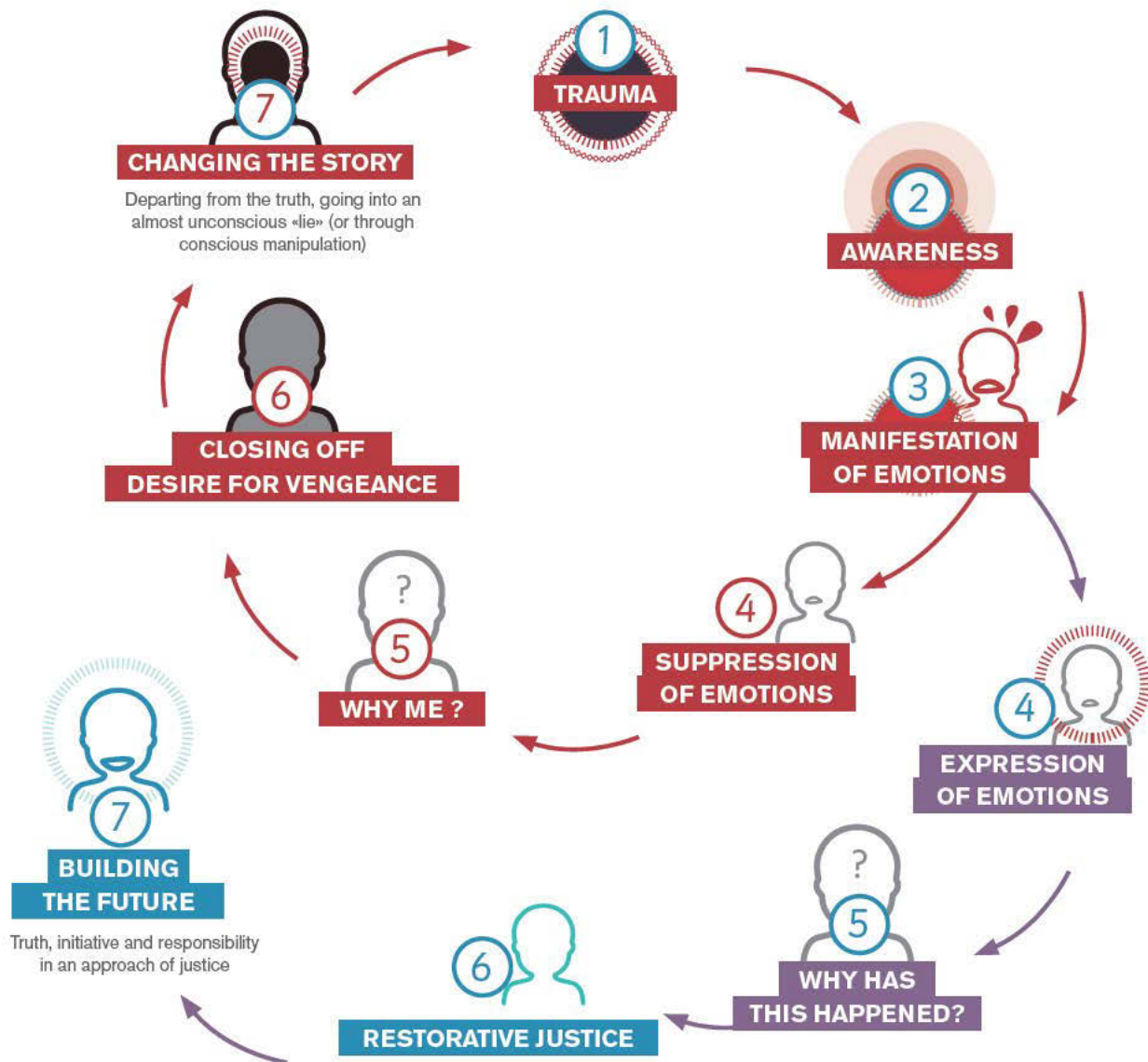
We even need a certain level of stress to feel alive and stimulated. If there are too many events happening at the same time or we experience sustained and increasing pressure, we lose control.

Typical situations: everything changes at the same time in family life, at work, in our relationships, in our country. We feel pressure from everywhere and we experience acute stress.

This continuous stress weakens the fabric of our personal and interpersonal life to the point of breakdown.

Supporting traumatised persons requires taking a step back as a team as secondary trauma may appear.

Re - Overcoming trauma



The consequences of trafficking on victims' physical and mental health

The symptomatology of children and young victims of trafficking in human beings varies according to:

- the journey of the victims,
- their culture,
- their age,
- their personality,
- the possibilities of support they may encounter.

Some victims may be seen as «holding it together» when leaving the network, only to break down after the fact or vice versa.

«I feel like I can become someone else and get upset easily; I was not like that before.»

Most victims show symptoms of trauma that can range from acute stress to post-traumatic stress disorder, which is more debilitating for the subject if no care is offered.

The most frequently encountered disorders:

- Anxiety disorders that result in sleep disorders (difficulty in falling asleep, broken sleep...) with sometimes very violent nightmares.
- Re-living of traumatic events during the day in the form of flashbacks, intrusive thoughts, noises...
- Depressive disorders, sometimes with morbid ideas: withdrawal into oneself, loss of vital spark with difficulty in investing care in a home and building a personal project
- Behavioural disorders and emotional instability, which lead to relational difficulties, conflicts between young people and educational teams etc.
- Eating disorders
- Sexual disorders
- Disorders in concentration and attention related to invasive thoughts
- Multiple localised or diffuse somatic complaints
- Identity disorders
- Damage to self-esteem and loss of self-confidence
- Suspicion and/or distrust of adults and professionals.
- Self-harming behaviours
- Use of alcohol, cannabis and other drugs.

CLEARLY SEPARATING EMERGENCY AND LONG-TERM

- Emphasise the need to retain evidence, photos, medical certificates...
- Prevent additional trauma.





The experience of a children's home in accessing care in the Paris region

1 As a first step, when they have been assessed as a minor in the Unaccompanied Minors Assessment Scheme, minors may benefit from shelter (Provisional Placement Order by the Prosecutor's Office or provisional placement) pending a decision by the children's judge on their situation.

2 They may then benefit from a Provisional Placement Order (OPP) decided by a judge of the Children's Court (variable duration, whose renewal or maintenance is conditional on the young person's integration track record, compliance with care, etc.), which confirms their administrative placement in the education sector for unaccompanied minors (SEMNA).

3 SEMNA then becomes the de jure guardian, to which the judge delegates all administrative and social procedures to be carried out as part of the follow-up of the young person.

4 The association/accredited organisation that houses the young person (in a home, hotel, shared apartment, etc.) is considered a de facto guardian. It ensures socio-educational follow-up, daily support, the building of the project, referral to care, etc.

5 However, for any procedure requiring the approval of the legal guardian, the association or approved organisation must refer to the Child Welfare Service (ASE).

Complementary Universal Health Coverage

Applications for the initiation and renewal of complementary universal health insurance or CMU-C are the responsibility of the administrative department of the Education Sector for Unaccompanied Minors (SEMNA): a Child Welfare Service (ASE) specifically for unaccompanied minors.

State medical aid

Minors may apply for State Medical Aid (AME).

Physical health

How can trafficked minors access medical care?

INITIAL MEDICAL FOLLOW-UP

When a minor is admitted, at least one check-up with a general practitioner must be carried out: a blood test (serology) and an x-ray of the lungs (to detect tuberculosis). Vaccinations may also be offered. In Paris, it is possible to direct young people towards organisations, but they are often overloaded. It takes several weeks to get an appointment. They are also demanding in terms of accompaniment by an adult or an interpreter. However, the health risks are significant, especially with regard to infectious diseases such as tuberculosis.

CONDITIONS OF ACCESS TO CARE

The obligation for the young person to be accompanied by an adult in check-ups varies according to the healthcare systems and the partnership that the associations have been able to establish with them... Similarly, some services are satisfied with the CMU-C certificate, while others require a photo ID to ensure that the CMU-C is indeed theirs. This requirement is often very problematic for the young people in question. Indeed, in many cases they have no identity documents or only an extract of a birth certificate without a photo.

HOSPITALISATION AND SURGERY

Hospitalisation or operation is dependent on the signatures and authorisations of the judge and ASE: this can be extremely difficult if the emergency occurs on a weekend! In such cases, we have previously been forced to ask the family still in the country of origin to send an authorisation for medical attention... The family being easier to contact at that precise moment than the institutions acting as contact points in France.

WHAT TO DO WITHOUT HEALTH COVER?

Without health cover (CMU-C, AME), minors can still be referred to paediatric emergency services or some Free Medical Centres (PASS), the Robert Debré Hospital in Paris, for example. However, in case of doubt as to their age, documents certifying their minority are sometimes requested.

In Paris, the Espace Santé Jeunes (Youth Healthcare Centre) at the Hôpital de l'Hôtel-Dieu provides complete medical care for minors (check-ups, gynaecological follow-up, dental care, etc.), even if they do not have acquired rights. Nonetheless, for the sake of better therapeutic care, the health professionals in this department have often demanded that the young person be accompanied by an interpreter, which represents a considerable financial constraint for the associations, and not all are able to provide one.

DENTAL CARE, EYE CARE, HOW TO GAIN ACCESS TO OTHER SPECIALITIES?

In order to see an ophthalmologist, or a dentist, etc., social rights must first be acquired. Dental care can be accessed via the the Youth Healthcare Centre. But referrals to free Dental services are not possible when those in question are minors.

AWARENESS OF ADDICTIONS

Multiple addictions can be seen in victims of trafficking in human beings: tobacco, alcohol, cannabis, prescription drugs, screens and the Internet. Specialised services are available to treat addiction in minors.



Mental health: How can trafficked minors access psychological care?

This depends entirely on the context and facility in which the minor is cared for. Of course, the presence of a psychologist and/or a psychiatrist as part of a team of professionals facilitates this care. However, there are also a number of therapeutic care arrangements available within care facilities, with intercultural consultations.

WHEN TO START THERAPY?

After admission to a children's home, it is essential that trafficked minors are able to meet with a psychologist as soon as possible, in all cases. This involves assessing the young person's psychological state and explaining the role of the psychologist, bearing in mind that the request for psychological treatment is not part of the culture of trafficking in human beings victims.

Moreover, and contrary to popular belief, simply because they have been victims of trafficking in human beings, does not necessarily mean that they will seek help to overcome their suffering. Malaise is expressed through somatic complaints, acting out, a tendency to attack the framework of care offered to the minor, or conversely to submit to it entirely. Initially, the aim of intervention will be to offer psychological support. The minor may find it difficult to enrol in regular therapy. The first course of action is to offer them a space for dialogue, for listening to support them and allow them to express their feelings and emotions on their experiences (feelings of shame, guilt, fear, etc.).

It is necessary to work around the acceptance of their experience. They must regain the position of a child, to be protected as a subject as opposed to being «used» for

the purposes of sexual exploitation as an object of sexual gratification, for example. This work should help the minor overcome their trauma and allow them to rebuild their self-esteem and interpersonal skills.

WHAT ROLE DO OF WELL-BEING WORKSHOPS PLAY?

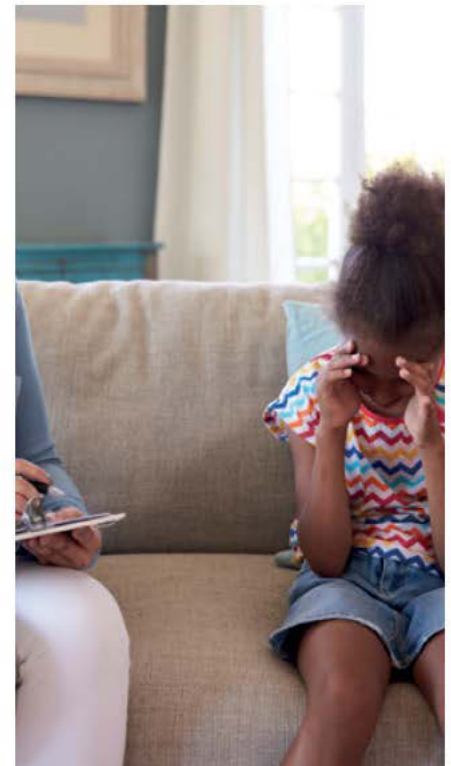
Given the prevalence of anxiety disorders (stress, insomnia, panic attacks etc.) and depressive disorders in trafficked women, various therapeutic workshops can be offered. This is part of a more comprehensive approach to support, based on psychotherapy and occasionally medication. It offers them the opportunity to express themselves in a different way, to vent certain emotions, to reconcile with their bodies.

RELAXATION AND SELF-AWARENESS TECHNIQUES

aim to allow them a moment of relaxation and well-being, an improvement in self-esteem and manage or even pre-empt anxieties by learning simple techniques (controlled breathing, muscular relaxation etc.).

SOCIO-ESTHETICIANS

offer a time to unwind and relax, a moment of well-being. The goal here isn't to beautify, but rather to reappropriate the body: it means allowing time to yourself, taking care of the body in the here and now.



EQUITHERAPY: THE HORSE AS A MEDIATOR

Equine assisted therapy is a psychological treatment delivered to the physical and mental person through the horse as a mediator. The goal of the equine therapist is to reduce psychopathological symptoms, improve well-being and the sense of ease.

The methods used operate on two levels:

- the psychological, through speech, meaning; sharing of emotions, experience, transfer, dreams etc.
- the physical, through sensation, movement, infra-verbal communication, gestural expression etc.

The attraction of the horse can then be explained by its qualities as a living being with its own psyche, which is relatively simple, soft and warm, socially rewarding and responsive, able to carry and transport, non-judgemental and non intrusive, accepting of projections, able to engage in a primal dialogue and worthy of interest and care. These qualities do not make the horse a therapist, but rather a tool that, when used by a therapist, is able to open up opportunities and enable the improvement of a psychological pathology or malaise.

ACCROBRANCHE

Through play and relaxation, the practice of following an aerial course through the trees furthers various educational objectives: self-confidence and trust in others, cooperation and helping one another, balance and coordination of gestures and movements, growth and adaptation to a different environment, use of safety equipment (responsibility) and following safety instructions.



Needs of the child

PHYSICAL HEALTH

SHORT-TERM DANGERS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

If action is not taken immediately

- Discomfort.
- Pain.
- Addictions (drugs, easy money).
- Disease.
- Apathy.
- Non-participation.
- Lack of knowledge: Lack of education.
- sexual (examples: erroneous belief that it is impossible to become pregnant before the age of 18, lack of knowledge regarding first menstrual periods).

LONG-TERM DANGERS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

If action is not taken immediately

- Difficulties in access to schooling (poor eyesight, hearing due to violence suffered etc.); dropping-out.
- Disability due to abuse.
- Post-traumatic disorders.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE SUPPORT PROCESS

- Misdiagnosis.
- Unsuitable medicalisation instead of in-depth therapies.
- Due to the lack of tutor, no one takes responsibility for treating a minor's toothache. They are only given a painkiller.

MEASURES FOR LONG-TERM SUPPORT OF CHILDREN

- Have a thorough knowledge of procedures and appeals.
- Give the benefit of the doubt to the young person's declaration.
- Know how to spot when a stereotyped story is an indicator of an at-risk situation.

Needs of the child

MENTAL HEALTH

- Inconsistency of narrative that is harmful to the dialogue with institutions.
- Under influence of network.
- Family difficulties.
- Attempts to run away.
- Lack of maturity.
- Self-doubt due to lack of belief by others.

- Depression.
- Isolation (physical and psychological).
- Repetition from one generation to the next.
- Recruitment of new victims.
- Behavioural disorders.
- Relationship with the family: sense of psychological abandonment.
- Addictive behaviours.

- Need to be heard replaced by medication.
- Suspicion as to the truth of the young person's experience.
- Self-blaming by the young person («I didn't say no»).
- Down-playing of the facts.
- Conflicted loyalties.
- Burn-out in support workers: need to manage emotional aspects.

- The weather.
- Psychological or psychiatric care.
- Not reducing a person to their problem, seeing them in their entirety.
- Support groups.
- Expression workshops.
- Socio-aesthetics (care, touch, make-up).
- Build on passions, drives, strengths.
- Rediscovering the body through recreation.

Use the arts
and culture /
cultures to
encourage victims
to speak out and
increase awareness
of this all too often
invisible scourge

REPAIRING, SEWING, CREATING: A STORY TO BE WOVEN

A sewing workshop:
From art therapy to vocational training
With the association "Aux captifs, la liberation"

The association has opened a space for welcoming, revitalising and pre-rehabilitating persons in an environment of prostitution, many of whom are victims of trafficking in human beings.

The first such activity, which has garnered strong support, has been a weekly half-day sewing workshop launched in late 2015.

It was led for a year by an art therapist, who used sewing or different plastic arts as means of self-expression and creativity. A group of six to eight women rapidly formed around this special time, during which friendliness and trust developed. This allowed each of the participants to express themselves and improve their self-image and self-esteem.

Based on this essential foundation, confidence in themselves and in the group, the participants became aware of the value of the workshop in terms of professional skills. At this point, they expressed a desire to learn more about sewing techniques.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Since late 2016, the workshop has been led by a professional seamstress and has focused on vocational training. Above and beyond techniques, the idea is to accept normal working conditions and thus adhere to the rules of productive life, punctuality and diligence, all of which are prerequisites for rehabilitation. Some who have lived on the fringes of society and the working world take time to adapt to this framework. However, the participants were so motivated by the underlying idea that they immediately accepted the framework



and made a genuine commitment to this creation and production project.

A fashion show held at City Hall

After six months of work, the women saw their first works (jackets, tunics and dresses) presented at a fashion show. Now, to meet their women's growing desire to become more involved, the workshop will be expanded to one and a half days per week and will sell what they have made. The purpose of this training is not to allow all of them to become seamstresses, but rather to serve as a springboard for mobilisation and reintegration, via enhancement of self-esteem and involvement in a work setting.

Stays for breaking away and revitalisation

With the association "Aux captifs, la liberation"

Revitalisation programmes are defined as creative workshops, expression groups, field trips (e.g. museums or picnics), stays at the seaside or in the mountains, spiritual retreats, etc.

Using simple participation and fulfilling activities, the primary objective is to help the trafficking victims discover and express their potential, then to encourage them to take responsibility and assist with the organisational side.

Activities are also held to promote the socio-professional pre-rehabilitation of persons in situations of prostitution or precariousness.

The track record of these activities targeting trafficking in human beings victims is positive because since 2015, a growing number of women are taking

advantage of proposals for cultural and/or sporting activities, staying on Association premises and subsequently taking voluntary steps towards social assistance, vocational training (French as a Foreign Language and French as an Insertion and Integration Language), regularisation, distancing themselves from trafficking networks, etc.



To quote a 16-year-old Nigerian girl who attended a workshop on trafficking in human beings:

"My Madam was always asking for more money, she never had enough. I had to sleep with all kinds of men, which disgusted me... The networks bring in younger and younger girls because that's what the customers like. The Madam thought she was better than us, that she was untouchable. The Madam couldn't care less about how you feel, she couldn't care less about your life. She wants your money, she controls you. We have to give our lives for the Madams. Now, I'm not afraid of her any longer, I want to go to school. At the beginning, I hated being in a children's home, I was afraid of losing my freedom, but now I am fine."

Joy, 16



#04

Building a future through education and training

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“By going to school, we learn everything that is useful in life. And we also learn a lot from others. I speak better French. Now I have a future again.”

Rahman, unaccompanied minor aged 17, Bangladesh.

GABI and FARIH



Gabi, 9



Farih, 13

In accordance with ordinary law, Gabi and Farih are finally attending school once again.

GABI, 9

One of the first effects of the help that Gabi and her family received was that the children were able to enrol in school.

In France, schooling is compulsory until the age of 16 for all children – whether they are French or foreign. Children of primary school age register at City Hall.

FARIH, 13

She was able to start attending middle school

As far as non-French-speaking minors are concerned, an evaluation of language and educational level is conducted by the Academic Centre for the Education of New Arrivals and Travellers' Children (CASNAV) or the Information and Guidance Centres (CIO), depending on the department.

The accompanying adults in the film



CEDRIC

The director of the school

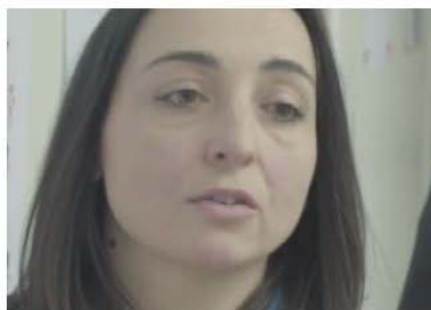
Gabi is attending. He has alerted Nadine, Gabi's association referent, about Gabi's worrying one-week absence from school.



JEAN

Student's parent

Lily's father is a committed, supportive student's parent. At school, his daughter Lily has become best girlfriends with Gabi. Ties have been forged with Gabi's entire family.



NADINE

A volunteer for an association combating trafficking in human beings (cf. p. 24), Nadine has become a recognised interlocutor for the teaching staff of the school Gabi is attending.



STEFAN

A coordinator and cultural mediator (cf. p. 24), he acts as a bridge between Gabi's family and the members of the educational team. As Stefan speaks the language of Gabi's parents, he has established good communication channels with Gabi's family and the school staff.

GABI and FARIH

Their missions

► THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR AND THE TEACHING STAFF

can spot and report absenteeism and school dropout. They are bound to alert the parents or competent persons (nurses, educators, association officers, etc.). At their level, they can warn others about the risk that these children may be exploited. They are obliged to report this kind of risk and can get in touch with associations that can help them draft such a report, without feeling guilty about having betrayed a secret or taking advantage of a duty to respect confidentiality.

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My name is Alina.

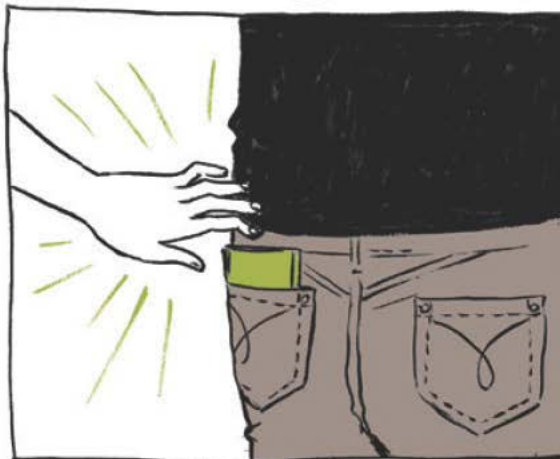
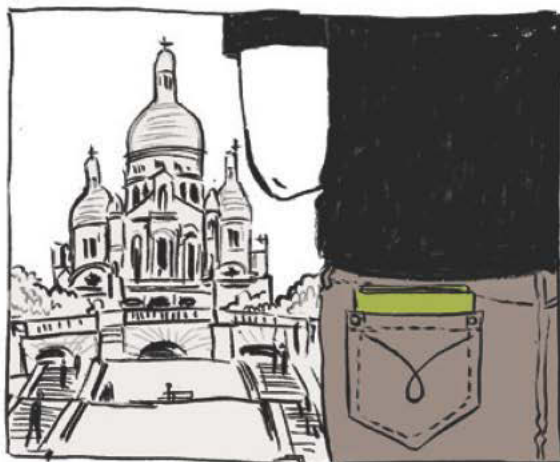
I come from Romania.

I was married off when I was very young, and soon after I had to follow my in-laws to Paris. There, I had to do everything: clean house, cook, look after the children, etc.

Before long, they started to send me out to pick pockets in tourist areas: other children were doing the same thing as me.

They taught us what to say to the police when we got arrested: give different identities, say we were under 13. My in-laws kept telling me that I had to bring money home to repay the money they paid my family for me to marry their son.

My parents only talked to me about marriage. And since I left, I haven't had any more contact with them.



*The association's day centre

I really liked the meals at la Scuola. They gave us a chance to rest a little and have some stress-free down time.



And what was bound to happen happened: they caught me in the act of stealing and sent me to jail for a month. But that didn't stop the association from coming to visit me regularly.



I don't know. Things are difficult at home, but it's all I have here.



You know that since your parents aren't here, you have the right to go to a hostel when you get out. That would give you a chance to envision a different life, without pressure and with less suffering...



I don't know, I'm afraid it might cause problems for me. At the same time, I don't want to go back there. At the hostel, I'll be allowed to go outside, not like here?



And then the day I got out, I really didn't know what I should do.



Things aren't going well, I'm afraid they'll think I talked to the police, and I miss my friends.

Nobody can force you to go to the hostel, but you should give it a try. It's a place when you can touch down, have a rest.



This is Olivier. He'll take you to the hostel. I'm going back to the day centre.



All of a sudden, I felt I had to get away.



It was too hard to leave everything in one go. So I chose to go back to my friends.



But the exploitation by my in-laws, the street robberies and the constant fear - it couldn't go on. I came back to get help from the centre.

This time, I need you. I want to run away from home. I want to go to the children's home in order to be protected.



OK, Alina, I think that's a good choice. Let's see if we can find a place for you outside the region, so you can really be at ease.



At the home, I loved the "building" workshops.

Come on, Alina, just a bit more and we're done!



You did a great job today. Do you like what you're doing?



Yes, I really like this kind of work.

How would you like to work in this sector?



Yes

I think I would like to.



Now I'm 17, and I'm doing a course in Building and Public Works. I didn't think I could make it. I had such a hard time learning French before I could start the course. But all of that is behind me, and a new future is taking shape for me. I'm not afraid anymore. But I want to learn so many things... If only my friends could realise that it's possible...





The right to education and training

A basic right

In France, education is compulsory for French and foreign children of both sexes, between the ages of six and sixteen art. L.31-1 of the Education Code

ALL minors are therefore subject to common law where education is concerned. After the age of 16, pupils who have not reached diploma level must be able to continue their studies.

Both before and after that point, the associations commit to enabling the minor's education within the framework of the National Education system.





The right to education and training (continued)

1. SUPPORT MINORS IN STEPS TOWARDS INTEGRATION ETC.

- Awareness of the minor's situation encourages the involvement and understanding of supervisors and teachers, with a view to providing the various services and structures with useful information or contacting resource persons (social worker, etc.).
- To support the minor in the enrolment process and the monitoring of their education.
- To provide a legal address: placement letters require a quick response.

IMPORTANT : The young person may be enrolled in school even if they are not yet receiving ASE care. They must be supported in their efforts to integrate in the National Education system so as not to waste time.

2. DRAW UP A STATUS REPORT

If they are foreign nationals, it must be established whether the minor has received education in their country of origin. And if so, to what level. It is often hard to know the equivalent level of learning to which these classes correspond. Even at European level, school curricula differ from one country to another. As a result, continuity of education does not entail continuity of learning.

If the young person is over 16 years of age, this assessment can make it possible to appeal to the competent service to allow them to still take the tests (in Paris, this is the CASNAV for young non-French speakers and the CIO for French speakers).



3. OFFER SPRINGBOARD ACTIVITIES

It is helpful to work on strengthening the psycho-social skills of minors prior to schooling. Some young people may be illiterate or have dropped out of school; they may not speak French or may have experienced significant trauma.

This pre-schooling support can be provided by associations. It must be adapted to the educational needs of each young person. These may include courses in French as a foreign language (FLE), cultural, artistic, sporting or leisure activities. It may also involve support in independent transport, in developing tools to locate oneself in time and space, etc. However, this will not act as a substitute for formal education.

Why is it preferable to enrol in a class that is part of the National Education system?

For unaccompanied minors, after 16 years, access to the residence permit and to «young adult» care is conditional on integration in a vocational training course. However, undergoing training by organisations that are not part of the national education system makes accessing these training courses more difficult.

Priority should be given to training courses with a degree of recognition in the labour market (CAP, BEP, Vocational Baccalaureate, etc.).

In all cases, it is important to inform the young person on the various options available as well as the stakes in terms of their future and achieving self-reliance.



How to enrol in the National Education system?

1. ENTRY TESTS

Newly arrived non-French-speaking foreign minors must take exams at the CASNAV (Academic Centre for the Education of New Arrivals and Children of Travelling Communities).

CASNAV's mission is to support the enrolment in schooling of students recently arrived in France, who do not have a sufficient command of the French language or of academic learning. One exists per academy. These 2 to 3-hour tests in French and mathematics are intended primarily for young people from 6 to 16 years. However, some CASNAVs agree to receive young people of over 16 years.

Minors who are undergoing training through an association (literacy, refresher courses) without going via the CASNAV or a CIO should follow this procedure in tandem. They are more likely to gain access to an initial residence permit.

Circular on the organisation of CASNAVs

https://www.ac-paris.fr/portail/upload/docs/application/pdf/2012-10/circulaire_sur_organisation_des_casnav_oct_2012_2012-10-22_12-13-37_606.pdf

Young French speakers are referred to the Information and Guidance Centre (CIO), which is the common law guidance service. After an interview and assessment, they are allocated to a class according to their academic level and places available.

2. INTEGRATION IN SCHOOL

Within schools, young people join 'traditional' or 'regular' classes, taking their age into account.

If they don't speak French, they spend their time at school between regular classes and courses in the Teaching Units for Allophone Arrivals or UPE2As. These units specialise in teaching foreign minors: UPE2A NSA for newly enrolled minors and UPE2A LP aimed at vocational lycées or high schools. The aim is to improve their knowledge of French. This organisation relies on a personalised form of working and flexibility.

3. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING (CAP, BEP with National Education)

This type of training will give the young person the best chance of obtaining young adult care and a residence permit at majority. It also offers greater opportunity to achieve financial autonomy.

Needs of the child

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

SHORT-TERM DANGERS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

If action is not taken immediately

- Desocialisation
- Dropping out of schooling
- Isolation within the family
- Non-participation
- Continued «trafficking», deviancy
- Phenomenon of «city trafficking» or internal trafficking.

FOR THE FAMILY:

Isolation, stigmatisation of the family

LONG-TERM DANGERS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

If the appropriate action is not taken immediately for the child in question or other children

- Marginalisation.
- Fragmentation of a fragile family.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE SUPPORT PROCESS

- Constant influence of traffickers.
- Fear that traffickers may target the family.
- Lack of communication with non-French speaking children if no translation service available.
- Difficulty in coordinating the various actors working with the child.
- Value judgements/prejudices/preconceived ideas from society such as caregivers and family members.
- Lack of tact by adults dealing with a highly sensitive minor.
- Family considered responsible.
- The school system alerts in the event of absenteeism, but rarely addresses its causes (fatigue, lack of means, etc).

MEASURES FOR LONG-TERM SUPPORT OF CHILDREN

- Educational aid over time (adapted to different phases).
- An educational contact person who acts as a liaison between the various actors working with the child, emphasising the family wherever possible.
- Coordination of the actors involved.
- Actors working with the child who are aware of the young person's culture and intercultural aspects: need for experience and training of professionals.
- Legislation and practices must take account of these phenomena of dropping out of school.
- Geographical relocation if necessary.
- Guidance with controls: the need to work transparently as victims can also play a role in recruitment.
- Longer-term bonds between children and their support workers.
- Adequate consideration of the notion of time needed to set up these systems and the personal time of the children.
- Support of other siblings and the family.

Needs of the child

EDUCATION / TRAINING / EMPLOYMENT

SHORT-TERM DANGERS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

If action is not taken immediately

- Dropping out of schooling.
- Exclusion.
- French courses not recognised by the French National Education system replacing genuine education.

LONG-TERM DANGERS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

If the appropriate action is not taken immediately for the child in question or other children

- Falling behind academically, affecting subsequent employment.
- Running away not understood in relation to the experience of trafficking.
- Unrecognised education hindering vocational guidance and subsequent training.
- Lack of a recognised diploma acting as a barrier to the empowerment of the young person and later the adult.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE SUPPORT PROCESS

- Language difficulties.
- Poor understanding of procedures for enrolment and access to school for children under 16, over 16 years and in transition to adulthood.

MEASURES FOR LONG-TERM SUPPORT OF CHILDREN

- Need for a springboard course but within the regular National Education curriculum.
- Teacher training to spot trafficking.
- The necessary resources for education and training.
- Job search assistance.

Needs of the child

INTERCULTUREL

understanding / being understood / interpreting

- Confusion between reality and beliefs.

- Do not consider cultural specificities in terms of «dangers».
- Assure the child that human rights abuses are not excusable in any culture.

- Take cultural approaches on board positively, hear them.
- Be able to establish a rapport beyond the different cultures, in the child and in the educator.

Use the arts
and culture /
cultures to
encourage victims
to speak out and
increase awareness
of this all too often
invisible scourge

THEATRE FOR BETTER EXISTING

Slavery, from being under someone's hold to liberation, in a theatrical adaptation of the Odyssey

With the theatre workshop of the AFJ hostel

Based on three songs from the Odyssey, the play "Insufficient Data" was developed in theatre workshops at the AFJ hostel by the theatrical company Freshly Roasted. Following rehearsals in July and August 2016, the play was performed at Théâtre Darius Milhaud (Paris, 19th).

WHAT STORY DOES THIS WORK TELL?

Ulysses (Capt'ain Ode) and his sailors (who are women in this version) find themselves at sea, on a fragile craft. They come across Sirens and run aground on an island. However, it is forbidden to stay ashore without permission. Back at sea, the women land on the island of Circe, the goddess who turns men into animals. After having sumptuously received her guests, Circe tries to drug them, then casts a spell on them to make them her slaves. Turned into statues, the women come back to life thanks to a slave who is capable of sculpting the movements of human expressions, thereby breaking the curse. Then comes a meeting with two contradictory Almost-God-Spirits and a giantess who would have much preferred resting in his cave.

THE STAGE CREATION

The play consists of monologues, dialogues, songs and a choreography created by the women. We worked on the scenes, taking up the topics of displacement, cartography, freedoms (ancient masters and slaves) and spells (cast by the gods). The text is in English, French and Arabic. The creation of the play was backed by InPACT, an endowment fund for culture,

without which we could never have successfully completed a project of this scope.

THE PROJECT PURSUED SEVERAL OBJECTIVES

- Bring out personal qualities and talents of which the residents were not necessarily aware and which had remained hitherto untapped;
- Develop their ability to concentrate on a common project;
- Be a source of proposals in a creative process;
- Be capable of understanding a text, acting with it, learning it by heart;
- Create group cohesion;
- Have the women use their bodies as a positive, creative tool, show them that they can be beautiful and shown to best advantage without the hyper-sexualised artefacts associated with prostitution;
- Successfully complete a project with a beginning and an end. Although it was not the ultimate goal, the performance of the play made it possible to follow through on something and show these women what they were capable of;
- Share "equal" billing with the other participants, with the pleasure of the search and amazement.

INTERCULTURAL ENCOUNTERS

Get-together groups

Above and beyond survival and technical assistance, minors require access to conviviality and sociability spaces because the attachments they may form are core elements for their reconstruction. One example is the group "Baguette et Fromage", founded by the Secours Catholique Delegation of the Hauts-de-Seine region. Such get-together groups enable young people and adults from very different backgrounds and different nationalities to come together around a common project. Group members may draw up an operating charter whereby mutual respect and confidentiality guarantee living together in harmony. Within this framework, everyone develops on a personal basis and acts in solidarity with the others.

A group for personal development

- Improve one's French
- Share our personal experiences; learn from others

Our values

- Listen to each other
- Be honest and frank with each other
- Respect each other in every way (ideas, personalities); show kindness (no mockery); remain tolerant
- Adapt our attitude to situations: a time to laugh, a time to be serious
- Reflect together before acting
- Develop team spirit and mutual understanding
- Avoid prejudices
- View all as equals
- Respect everyone's individual freedom
- Communicate with each other (mobile phone, Facebook, etc.) without leaving anyone out
- Divide the work up so everyone participates
- Respect confidentiality
- Act within a legal framework

A group that acts on its environment

- Do something to improve the world
- Help people in difficulty
- Implement projects together (awareness-building, relating to people)

A friendly, united groupe

- Meet; get to know each other
- Share; discuss
- Help one another; share our solutions
- Have a good time together. Laugh. Build friendships
- Love one another; take an interest in others



#05

Having an administrative identity and being defended in the legal process

86

"I pressed charges against my network, the proceedings are ongoing. It's hard, it's long. I still need help, I'm still afraid!"

Diamant arrived in France at 16, a victim of trafficking for sexual exploitation via a Nigerian network.

ANNE and ALEX



ANNE is a 15-year-old girl. She was seduced by a so-called boyfriend, Alex, who "delivered" her to a sexual exploitation trafficking network.



ALEX is a 17-year-old boy who was used by the network as an intermediary to seduce and attract female adolescents for purposes of sexual abuse.

With the help of her parents, Anne managed to file a complaint with the police station (trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation).

She is defended by a lawyer specialised in juvenile justice law, who describes the events of which Anne was a victim as trafficking for sexual exploitation. A video recording was made of Anne filing her complaint. As she was drugged at the time of the events, she no longer knows what really happened.

She is assisted by her lawyer and backed by her parents.

To keep him under its influence, the network, above all through the figure of Ben, manipulates Alex emotionally (through both paternal attitudes and threats) and feeds his drug habit. Alex sometimes prostitutes himself. He is currently being heard to determine his role in Anne's sexual exploitation, which occurred one year previously. Even though he participated in a trafficking system, Alex is an easily influenced adolescent who has been manipulated.

In reality, his young age and state of dependency on Ben also make him a victim of trafficking.

The accompanying adults in the film



ANNE'S MOTHER

Representing their underage daughter, Anne's parents filed a complaint at the police station. Anne's mother has been present at all stages of the judicial proceedings to assist and represent her daughter. She gives her moral support and makes sure that Anne is properly looked after.



MS CONTI

A female police officer from the Brigade for the Protection of Minors

She took Anne's statement, of which a video recording was made. With this procedure, the minor will not be obliged to relive the traumatising events during future cross-examination.



JUDGE REILLAC

An examining magistrate specialised in the Grand Instance Court, who is investigating the facts following a complaint for rape filed by the parents of the underage victim. Ms Reillac, aided by her registrar, viewed the video of Anne's statement at the Brigade for the Protection of Minors, in the presence of the two lawyers representing the parties, that of the "plaintiff" and that of the underage "defendant" (Alex), as well as the latter's ad hoc administrator. Next, the magistrate heard the two lawyers and the ad hoc administrator. Finally, she heard Alex, aided by his court-appointed lawyer and accompanied by his ad hoc administrator, always in the presence of the lawyer representing Anne, the victim.

INFORMATION GIVING RISE TO CONCERN

As the situation of child victims of trafficking comes under the category of endangered children, it is essential to use tools for the protection of children to mobilise the institutions responsible for protecting them. The first step can be the transmission of information giving rise to concern, generally written notice sent to the unit responsible for gathering such information, of the department where the child lives. This makes it possible to inform the child protection service, which in turn may decide to refer the case to the Public Prosecutor's office of its jurisdiction with a view to the issuance of a protection order. Of course, these young people must start or continue to receive social support to ensure they accept the deal they are offered. This is a real difficulty given the reality of exploitation: conflicts of loyalty; fear of leaving a difficult yet familiar environment; guilt towards other children, brothers or sisters; fear of retaliation; mistrust of the authorities following sometimes violent expulsion or arrest, etc.



TESSA – THE AD HOC ADMINISTRATOR

The ad hoc administrator for Alex, an isolated minor, is the person appointed by a judicial decision (taken by the Public Prosecutor's office or the judge) as part of the proceedings (in this case, criminal). She replaces the legal representatives (absent in this instance) with a view to exercising their rights in their name and place and thus ensuring suitable, effective support throughout the proceedings. As she is familiar with Alex's situation, her presence before the examining magistrate is necessary to represent Alex with his lawyer (with whom she has already worked) in order to be able to intervene on his behalf. Of course, it is particularly useful for her to be at Alex's side during his hearing to stand up for him before the judge.



LAWYER LUKAS

The lawyer "chosen" by the parents of Anne (who has pressed charges for rape). His role is to advise, assist or represent, as in this instance, the victim's parents in their capacity as legal representatives of their underage child. He argues before the examining magistrate that the complaint is justified.



LAWYER DE ROODE

The ad hoc administrator has chosen a lawyer to defend Alex, against whom the complaint has been filed, as the presence of a lawyer is compulsory throughout the proceedings for the court sittings or here, for a hearing. If the minor has not chosen a lawyer, the magistrate has the Bar President appoint a lawyer from the Bar Council.

The defence lawyer's role is to represent his client's interests as best possible, in the case at hand to stress the fact that Alex is also a victim of trafficking in human beings.

Their missions

► **THE PARENTS OF CHILD VICTIMS** are well positioned to spot any signs in their homes that might suggest a situation of sexual exploitation. They have the option of requesting guidance from the French child welfare system in this respect. Moreover, it is important that they maintain a bond of trust with their children to help the latter exit their trafficking networks.

► **THE SERVICES OF THE BRIGADE FOR THE PROTECTION OF MINORS** are responsible for punishment of offences against children and for prevention and protection during childhood and adolescence. As can be seen from the film, they have a mission to collect the testimony of victims who are minors.

► **THE AD HOC ADMINISTRATOR**
In recent years, growing awareness of the problems of underage victims and their need for protection has led to a significant increase in the number of ad hoc administrators appointed. These judicial representatives' mandate requires experience in providing support to children (and adolescents) and an interest in legal and psychological issues (with a specific background). This lets them genuinely support a minor, both physically and emotionally, throughout the proceedings. Ad hoc administrators must make themselves known to the various interveners: for example, they must cooperate closely with the lawyer, who may not invoke professional secrecy.

► **THE MAGISTRATE**
In every Grande Instance Court that has a children's court, one or more examining magistrates are specifically responsible for cases involving juveniles: the so-called "juvenile judges". These magistrates have exclusive jurisdiction for crimes committed by minors. However, they have concurrent jurisdiction for misdemeanours and fifth-class offences with the children's judge. These members of the judiciary, who have the authority to prepare a case for judgment, thereby relieving the juvenile judge of the most serious cases, have exactly the same powers as the former, except for the fact that they may only investigate.

► **THE REGISTRAR**
The judge is always aided by a registrar in the performance of the acts under his jurisdiction. Given that the registrar is, strictly speaking, the watchdog of procedure and is also familiar with the cases, as far as monitoring is concerned, he safeguards the rights of each of the parties.

► **LAWYER 1**
Lawyers may specialise in different fields. For example, some lawyers have in-depth knowledge of juvenile law. Here, it should be noted that the Bar Council provides individuals with a list of such specialised lawyers.

► **LAWYER 2**
Bar Councils have been making an effort for over 20 years to recruit more lawyers trained to represent children. They must undergo special training, and the Bar Council may only appoint lawyers who have received such training to provide legal aid. This has an impact on the quality of the defence: these extremely committed lawyers no longer settle for asking the judge or court to show leniency. Rather, they interpret the law (by monitoring the proceedings or, as in this case, influencing the classification of the offence) and endeavour to help shape the educational perspective of the judge and social workers. More recently, the Paris Minors' Branch went even further by introducing the notion of a "lead" lawyer to deal with cases involving minors with a number of serious charges against them (to ensure a consistent, personalised defence effort, that is, the policy of a single lawyer).



My name is Mina.

I come from Burkina Faso.
I am the eldest of seven children.
In my village, the only way we
could survive was through the
generosity of those around us.

I had 2 children, at 14 and 15,
but their father left me...

I couldn't stand my situation
anymore. I decided to leave my
children with my parents, and go
look for work in Ouagadougou.

I finally found a job as a nanny
with a rich family in the capital.
Ms S's child was ill. I watched
over him all the time to make
sure he didn't hurt himself.
I had to be very careful.





Sometimes I had to accompany him to the hospital and stay with him day and night



Meanwhile, Ms S led the life of a princess in the capital, entertaining more and more guests in her flat.





I was told that I could appeal, but I'm 25 now. All that is far behind me. I want it to get closure, move on, live my life and look after my children.



Amélie's story

Amélie is French. She is 15 years old. She was polite, shy, and a good student. On entering college, her behaviour changed inexplicably, accompanied by failing academic results, a gradual dropping out of school and first attempts to run away.

Having difficulty raising her daughter as a single parent, Mrs M. applied for administrative support from the Child Welfare Service (ASE). For months, assessment services insisted that Amélie's behaviour was caused by her mother. A few months later, one of the directors of the home in which Amélie was placed confirms Mrs M.'s suspicions that the girl was working in the sex trade. On starting at college, Amélie was encouraged by a friend from primary school to work for pimps as a prostitute.

Over the course of a year, Mrs. M. tried to obtain strict judicial measures for the supervision and psychological support of her daughter, who turned out to have been the victim of a trafficking network. The social workers and homes were at a loss faced with Amélie's repeated attempts to run away, while the children's judge did not consider the situation as meriting judicial intervention on the grounds that the girl did not see herself as a victim.

The police investigated the network in which Amélie was working as a prostitute.

Despite being wire-tapped and geo-located, she could not be freed from her pimps. In fact, in their efforts to move the investigation forward and dismantle the network, the police themselves admitted that they deliberately left Amélie in the hands of the criminals that operated it. Mrs. M. heard no news from her daughter for more than a month.

A judicial and educational investigation was under way.

Some of the professionals who were responsible for Amélie's supervision made the decision to call in a specialised association for help. Thanks to this association, the professionals and Mrs M. were able to obtain technical advice in order to activate all the legal means available to advocate on Amélie's behalf, for example by keeping Mrs. M informed on the progress of the investigation following her complaint, informing her of her rights, and obtaining information from the police, Child Welfare Services (ASE) and the Youth Protection Judicial Service (PJJ). In addition, where there was no coordinating entity, this non-governmental organisation was involved in circulating information to the various professionals and, indirectly, in coordinating their combined efforts.

In the association, Mrs. M. had found a place of listening and moral support, so that she no longer had to face these difficulties alone, as well as a media network to take the story to the journalists.

So making the relevant groups aware of these associations is vital in defending the rights of victims and their families, as well as contributing to the proper follow-up of administrative and judicial procedures.

What is the offence of trafficking?

The offence of trafficking in human beings is defined by article 225-4-1 of the Criminal Code. For adult victims, trafficking consists of three elements: an action, a means and a purpose.

For example, relocating a person (action) through deception (means) for the purposes of enslavement (purpose); or to house a person (action) through abuse of authority (means) for the purposes of exploitation of begging (purpose). In France, for example, there are victims of foreign nationality, but also French victims, as a victim does not need to be taken across a border in order to constitute a trafficking offence.

It is important to note that the offence of trafficking in minors does not require proof of the existence of a means; only the action and purpose must be defined.

For example, recruiting a minor (action) for the purpose of sexual exploitation (purpose); or providing accommodation to a minor in order to compel them to commit offences (purpose), or housing a minor (action) for the purposes of domestic slavery or forced labour (purpose).

It must therefore be stressed that in the case of victims who are minors, any question of willingness or consent is strictly irrelevant and should not be taken into account in the judiciary. In France, where the spotting of trafficking by associations is necessary and recommended, only a prior complaint for trafficking in human beings will allow access to the rights granted to a victim. As such, effectively, the offence can only be formally identified via the legal characterisation procedure carried out by gendarmes and police officers.

RECOGNISED ACTIONS

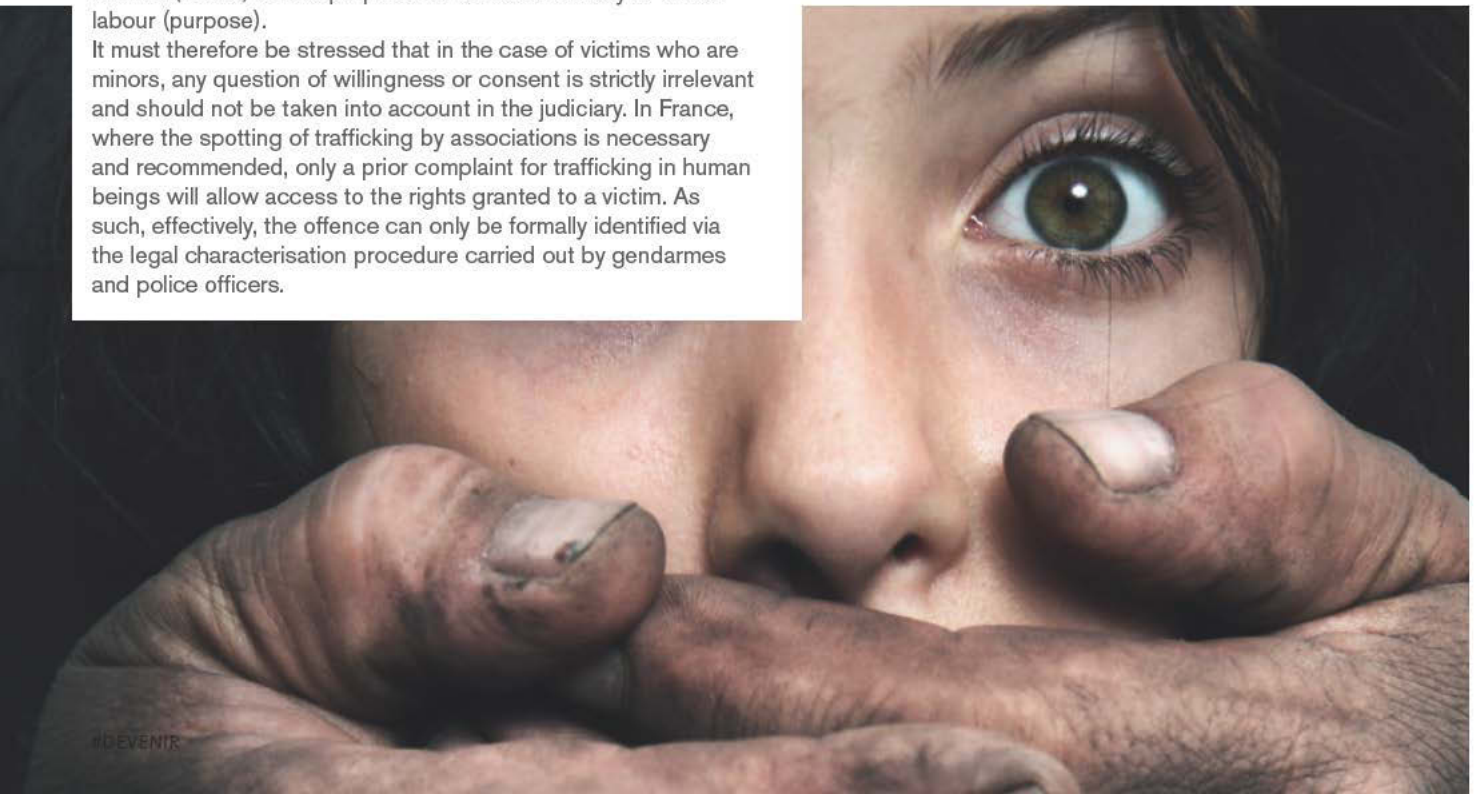
The recruitment, transportation, relocation, sheltering or accommodation of persons.

RECOGNISED MEANS

The threat of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of authority or a position of vulnerability, or the offer or acceptance of payments or benefits to obtain the consent of a person with authority over another.

RECOGNISED PURPOSES

As a minimum, exploitation of prostitution by another party or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or organ removal. (Article 4 of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings)



What penalties are applicable?

Trafficking in human beings in minors is punishable in France by 10 years imprisonment and a fine of €1,500,000.

However, if the trafficking offence has been committed in certain aggravating circumstances, heavier penalties are applicable. In the most serious cases, where torture or barbaric acts have occurred, trafficking is punishable by life imprisonment and a fine of €4,500,000.

The limitation period also varies according to the aggravating circumstances.

In minor correctional matters (i.e. where a misdemeanour has been committed), legal proceedings may be brought up to 10 years after the victim has reached majority, while in major criminal matters, the same period is extended to 20 years after majority.

Why file a complaint?

Filing a complaint is a decisive step in helping victims and combatting trafficking networks.

In fact, the filing of a complaint is a key tool in launching the criminal investigation, arresting the accused and protecting victims. Investigative procedures may extend over very long periods, taking months or even years. For this reason, it is important to file a complaint as soon as possible to ensure that law enforcement measures are applied without delay and that items that could be used as evidence do not disappear. In addition, minors who are victims of trafficking are taken fully into care, which is not necessarily the case when they reach majority.

How to file a complaint?

There are two ways to file a complaint.

A direct method is to contact the Public Prosecutor of the district court with jurisdiction in writing. The letter should provide as much information as possible on the facts and dates, the accused and the victims.

Another, more common method is to go to any police station or gendarmerie.

It is important to clearly specify the legal characterisation of the alleged offences. In addition to the offence of trafficking in human beings, a detailed description of the context of the offence will make it possible to distinguish any aggravating circumstances. Other offences may also be combined with that of trafficking. For example, if the victim has been sexually assaulted or raped, this should be reported when filing a complaint and a rape complaint (as a crime) filed at the same time.

Immediately after the complaint has been filed, a medical examination must be carried out at the Court Medical Unit (UMJ). The interview with the doctor will be used to assess the physical effects. In the event that certain bodily injuries have not been detected (e.g. sexually transmitted infections), and in order to retain all the evidence that will be used in the criminal investigation, the best course of action is to see a court medical officer as soon as possible in order request the relevant medical certificates in person. The list of court medical officers can be requested from the police station.

The judicial police will then forward the complaint to the public prosecutor, who will decide on what action should be taken in proceedings and whether an investigation should be opened. Depending on the seriousness of the offence, the prosecutor may refer the case to an investigating judge who will oversee the investigation.



Girls recognised as victims of trafficking in human beings: The case of C.

After years of judicial proceedings, three girls, who were minors at the time of domestic slavery, were finally recognised as victims of trafficking and obtained compensation. On 30 June 2016, the Criminal Court sentenced Ms. X to seven years' imprisonment for the offence of domestic slavery.

THE FACTS OF THE CASE

Ms. X. was found guilty, for several years, of the transportation and accommodation on French soil of minors who had come, like her, from Morocco; this in exchange for remuneration paid by the parents, who had been convinced that they were sending their children to study in France.

On arrival, the operating method was the same as it for many others: passports confiscated or destroyed on arrival in France, deprivation of freedom to come and go, absence of schooling and, in most cases, abuse...

Being confined to their «host's» accommodation, these young girls were at their beck and call: raised very early in the morning and going to bed late at night, tasked with household, kitchen and younger childcare duties for the entire day, of course without any privacy for sleeping purposes or regular meals. In some cases, these little hands were even «transferred» to other families in return for payment, where they would most often suffer the same fate.

However, two of these girls managed to escape and file a complaint with the help of an association, which had to take Farida into care in particular by finding her emergency accommodation. She was also able to find work as a sales assistant at a major clothes retailer (where she still works).

However, these young girls' ordeal did not end immediately. They needed to obtain a residence permit for humanitarian reasons from the Prefecture. However, in most cases, time-limited permits are issued. In addition, there have been a number of procedural twists in their criminal justice cases, linked to the difficulty of reconstructing the events, some of which occurred as long ago as 2003.

This slow progress judicial proceedings under way also allowed Ms. X. to return to Morocco before sentencing.

Of the four young victims at the trial, three of them, Djamila, Souad and Farida, were minors at the time of the events. There was no question that after-effects could be discerned, particularly on a physical and psychological level.

THE JUDICIAL DECISION

Finally, after many years of investigation, and the arguments of the voluntary association lawyer who took on these victims' cases, an argument based on charges of «conditions of living and accommodation contrary to human dignity» and «Trafficking in human beings», the Criminal Court of C. convicted the perpetrator. So, in a manner of speaking, the application of current regulations ultimately put an end to the intolerable plight of these girls.

They could finally be recognised as victims of trafficking and obtain part of the compensation sought to redress the various damages suffered.

It is therefore to be hoped that the Public Prosecution Offices will be more consistent in its application of articles 225-4-1 and 2 of the French Penal Code, which define Trafficking in human beings.

(See Criminal Policy Circular on the fight against trafficking in human beings issued by the Ministry of Justice on 22 January 2015).

What rights do trafficked minors have?

The Council of Europe and the European Union (Directive 2011/36/EU) recognise that the victim of trafficking has the right to assistance and aid even if they are not «willing to cooperate in the context of the investigation, prosecution or trial».

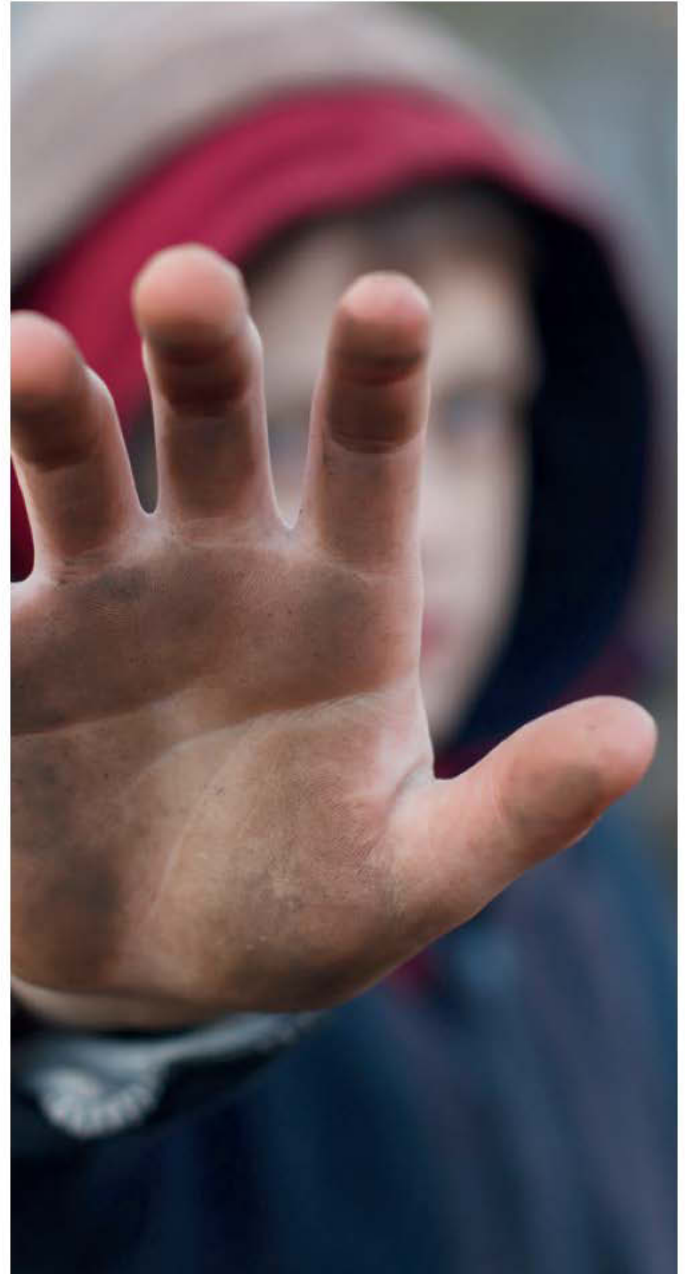
However, French law governs aid for the filing of complaints or the testimony of victims (articles R. 316-1 and R. 316-7 of the Code on the Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals and the Right of Asylum, in addition to article R 316-1-1 relating to the programme to escape prostitution created by the Act of April 13, 2016).

However, protective measures differ in the case of minor victims because the common law on the protection of children applies (article 375 of the Civil Code and article L. 226- 4 of the Code of Social Action and Families).

More specifically, educational assistance measures may be put in place by the president of the departmental council or ordered by the juvenile judge at the request of the public prosecutor. If necessary, «the judge may take exceptional action ex officio» (article 375 of the Civil Code).

For adults, moreover, «places in shelters and social reintegration centres are open to victims of trafficking in human beings [...] in safe conditions. « (Article L. 345-1 of the Code of Social Action and Families). With regard to victims of foreign nationality, «the police or gendarmerie service shall inform the public prosecutor, who shall determine the appropriate protective measures according to the situation of the minor» (article R. 316-10 of the Code of Civil Procedure, Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals and the Right of Asylum).

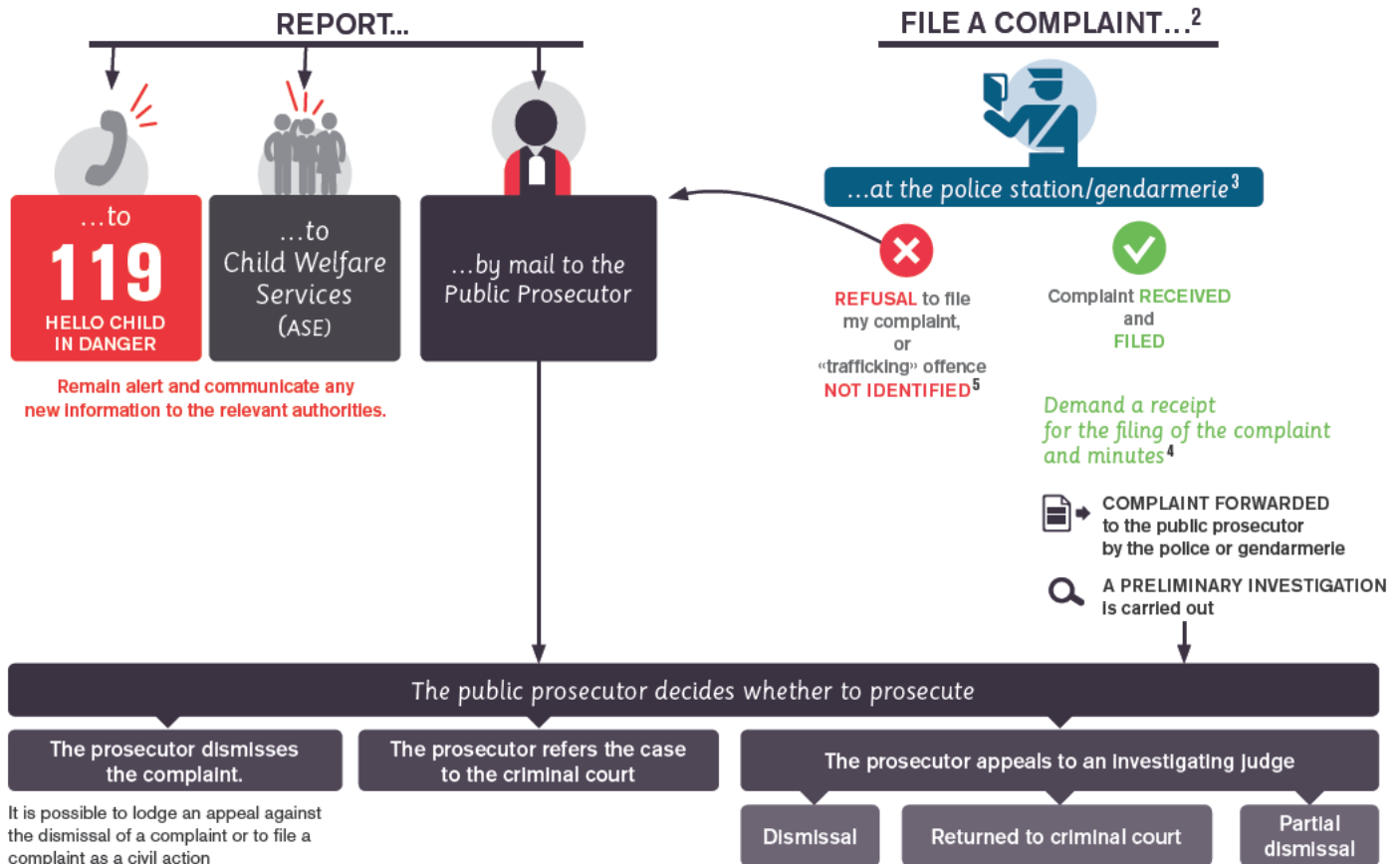
After a complaint has been lodged for trafficking in human beings, if the foreign minor is at least 16 years of age and they declare that they wish to exercise it... A resident card may be granted them in the event of the final conviction of the accused person (article L316-1 of the Code on the Entry and Residence of Foreign Nationals and the Right of Asylum).



Judicial proceedings

«I have reason to believe that or have witnessed a minor for whom I am legally responsible is at risk and more specifically a victim of trafficking»

Even if in doubt: report it¹. Be careful, do not act alone and do not try to intervene



¹ Reporting a minor at risk is a legal obligation. ² The victim must lodge a complaint themselves, but, in the case of a minor victim, their legal representative may lodge a complaint with the consent of the victim. ³ Complaints may be filed in any police station or gendarmerie, under the single-window principle (Article 15-3 Code of Criminal Procedure). ⁴ Automated receipt, minutes must be given if requested. ⁵ The offence of «trafficking» is still rarely used by police officers and magistrates due to the recent emergence of this concept. The practices of the institutions do not always match the obligations specified in the Penal Code.

Services, roles and potential further action as part of criminal proceedings.

These include the prosecution of victims of trafficking who have been forced to commit offences and who are not yet recognised as victims of trafficking, but who could be at any stage of the criminal proceedings.

THE ROLE OF SERVICES		HOW CAN THEY HELP?
Tracing on the ground		
Specialised outreach workers (coercion to commit offences, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced begging).	Specialised prevention Outreach workers can produce information of concern and/or reports.	Information of concern is forwarded to the CRIP (Cell of Information of Concern) to assess the minors' situation.
Unaccompanied minor assessment service (DEMIE, MAMIE etc.)	Assessment of unaccompanied minors in connection with their asylum application	Reports are sent to the Public Prosecutor's Office.
Tracing/identification as part of criminal proceedings		
Police Police stations Child Protection Squad (BPM) Gendarmeries	Investigative services contact the duty prosecutor.	The prosecutor may choose to refer the victim to the court or release them without prosecution. If no legal contact person is identified, emergency shelter must be imposed. Victims who are minors must be referred to emergency shelters.
Justice Prosecutor's Office Children's Judges Sentencing judges	The Public Prosecutor's Office receives the reports and is able to issue Provisional Placement Orders (OPP).	Following a Provisional Placement Order (OPP), a child judge must be contacted within eight days and may impose protective measures.
	After issuing a request for investigative services, the public prosecutor may order that the victims be referred to the court.	If prosecuted, the minors will have a hearing before a children's judge who may choose to impose civil and/or criminal proceedings. If the victims are incarcerated, they will have a hearing before a sentencing judge.
Youth Judicial Protection (UEAT > Court SECJD > Incarceration)	Educational monitoring measures can be imposed in civil and criminal cases. Youth Judicial Protection (PJJ) educators can provide educational notes for the children's judges and issue reports to the public prosecutor's office.	Monitoring in open custody, sentence adjustment (supervised release, PJJ placements, etc.) Referral of victims to children's homes when placement measures are imposed.
Administrative and judicial protection		
Child Welfare Services Authorised associations Youth Judicial Protection	Homes for emergency shelter or administrative placement, as well as judicial placement homes, can accommodate minor victims, whether identified as such or not.	Educators may report minors who have not been identified as victims and/or provide appropriate educational support.
OFPPA - French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons	Assessment of unaccompanied minors.	Reports are sent to the Public Prosecutor's Office.

The imposition of a child welfare measure (ASE), Youth Judicial Protection (PJJ) and/or incarceration in a juvenile detention centre constitutes de facto recognition of minor status.

Needs of the child

THE JUSTICE SYSTEM AND THE LAW

SHORT-TERM DANGERS

If action is not taken immediately

- The young person is not aware of their rights and duties.
- The slowness of the procedure seems an eternity for the young person in a vulnerable situation.
- The child feels their word is questioned by a characterisation, which also entails a loss of rights.

LONG-TERM DANGERS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

If the appropriate action is not taken immediately for the child in question or other children

- Lack of faith in institutions.
- Proceedings that have not been initiated in time may be prescribed, which reduces the possibility of prosecuting the perpetrators and raises the problem of regularising the young person's status (if foreign) on reaching majority.
- The feeling that justice has not been done can lead to a phobia of institutions.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE SUPPORT PROCESS

- Poor knowledge of the law.
- The benefit of the doubt should go to the child, but this is not always the case.
- Common law should always be sought and exemptions denied because they are contrary to the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by France.
- Fear of filing a complaint then having to appear before judge.
- Include the time it takes to carry out this difficult procedure.

MEASURES FOR LONG-TERM SUPPORT OF CHILDREN

- Training of professionals in aspects specific to minors, on the importance of being attentive to the characterisation - Informing the young person.
- Support over time.
- Being recognised as a victim by the justice system can be a powerful lever to help the child to stop feeling guilty and to overcome the consequences of the violence they have experienced.

Needs of the child

POLICE

- Administrative support is necessary... sometimes the young person's minority causes fear and limits the support given.
- The young person is considered a delinquent, when in terms of trafficking, they are a victim.

- Problem of administrative regularisation of young foreign nationals on reaching majority.

- Lack of faith in the justice system and in access to rights.
- Fear of the police because in many situations the police are part of what the minor has learned to avoid (from their exploiters).
- The end of a trial does not mean the end of the compensation process.

- Training of professionals in aspects specific to minors, on the importance of paying attention to the legal characterisation.
- "Good reflexes" sheets made available to police officers.
- Work by lawyers with minors is better recognised.

Use the arts
and culture /
cultures to
encourage victims
to speak out and
increase awareness
of this all too often
invisible scourge

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THE ART OF MAKE-UP: ON THE ROAD TO METAMORPHOSIS

By the AFJ hostel

The “Métamorphoses” (Metamorphosis) make-up workshops target groups of adult women who have been given shelter. However, young minors protected in our structure sometimes take part in the workshops proposed by the psychologist, pending recognition of their status as minors.

This workshop provides an opportunity to work on pleasant sensations and to modify the relationship to one's body, which, for these young women, has long been a sacrificed body, an exploited body, a body as object.

Thanks to the make-up workshop, the body comes to life, turning into a body for feeling pleasure and a body as a creation.

Touch and sight, the meeting modes in the prostitute-client relationship, are at the centre of this workshop. Here, gestures and looks become a source of pleasure and satisfaction: these women learn to feel and see themselves differently.

Workshop objectives:

- To enjoy oneself using as a support one's own face, which becomes a canvas for expressions: the contact with the skin via massages and caresses can procure well-being and pleasant sensations;
- To flourish and bring greater well-being through creation and self-affirmation;
- To represent one's desires, fantasies, etc.; externalise one's anxieties by giving them a controllable form;
- To recover one's self-esteem through creation;
- To regain self-confidence through one's capacities for self-expression.

The psychologist proposes a topic before the phase of facial metamorphosis in front of the mirror begins: the transition from a bare face to the face to be made up. This offers a medium for expressing at some point what one feels, what one wants or what one fears. Next comes a time for speaking, which is adapted depending on the ability of each participant to express herself in French, English or another language. The idea is to give one's impressions on one's own make-up and bring it to life in front of the others. Taking pictures of the made-up faces makes it possible to keep a trace of the creative work and avoid erasing everything. The participants are given the photos at the next session. The session ends when everyone takes off their make-up.

This is the phase where the make-up is deconstructed, where everyone gets their old face back, where everyone leaves their character and rediscovers their bare face.



THE "ESCLAVAGE DOMESTIQUE" (DOMESTIC SLAVERY) EXHIBITION

by the Committee against Modern Slavery (CCEM)

On the occasion of EU Anti-Trafficking Day and during several weeks, Parisians and tourists had a chance to discover the "Esclavage domestique" (Domestic Slavery) exhibition in the very heart of Paris, on the railings of Square Tour Saint Jacques, rue de Rivoli.

he photographer, Raphaël Dallaporta, took photos where the events occurred, at the exact address of the dwellings photographed: buildings in fashionable districts, suburban houses or housing estates in disadvantaged suburbs.

As a counterpoint, the journalist Ondine Milot recounts the ordeal of these victims of domestic servitude.

This extremely sober exhibition underscores the commonplace

nature of the dwellings photographed while the stories provide a view of the disturbing realities hidden behind the ordinary aspect of these facades.

The denunciation of these intolerable situations, where one person reduces another to a commodity, derives added depth from the distance maintained in the photographs taken by Raphaël Dallaporta and his refusal to lapse into sensationalism: "I am not on the side of the victims, I am with those who repair things", stresses Raphaël Dallaporta.

"*Esclavage Domestique*" acts as a testimony to the trivialisation of everyday inhumanities.





The member associations of the Collective “Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains”

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The story of Ms C.

The mother of a child victim

“The association gave me an insight into an all too often hidden reality. I found the association at a sad time in my life where I was looking for information. Its members helped me when my daughter had run away, under the influence of malicious persons. I understood that she had been a victim of trafficking. Thanks to their availability, ability to listen and all the legal aid, I was able to protect my daughter, understand the procedures and ensure that the law was enforced. I also gained a better understanding of violence and exploitation involving minors in our country. The association gave me the knowledge to defend myself and call for the enforcement of the law to protect my daughter. For example, the association members explained how to file a complaint with the Prosecuting Attorney and obtain legal and psychological support. They also accompanied me to the police station to file a complaint. With the association, I no longer had to face the problem of trafficking of a minor, my daughter, on my own.”

CONTRE LA TRAITE DES ÊTRES HUMAINS



The member associations of the Collective “Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains”

in red : the associations working with the minors who participated in the preparation of the booklet

Action Catholique des Femmes

The members of Action Catholique des Femmes (Women's Catholic Action) pay close attention to everything that concerns the role of dignity of women in society and the Church.

www.actioncatholiquedesfemmes.org
national@actioncatholiquedesfemmes.org

AFJ

Within the AFJ hostel, professionals provide identification, shelter and multidisciplinary assistance to female victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation.

www.foyer-afj.fr
afj.servicesocial@gmail.com

Agir contre la prostitution des enfants

Since 1986, Agir contre la prostitution des enfants (Taking action against child prostitution) has been combatting child prostitution and all forms of sexual exploitation (Internet abuse, child pornography, paedophilia) by running awareness-building campaigns targeting the general public and schools and by bringing civil actions.

www.acpe-asso.org
acpe.asso@gmail.com

Agir ensemble pour les droits de l'homme

Agir ensemble pour les droits de l'homme (Acting together for human rights) has set itself the task of protecting victims of trafficking and defending their rights.

www.aedh.org
agir-ensemble@aedh.org

Amicale du Nid

This association, which has eight facilities and a staff of 200, meets victims of prostitution and trafficking in the field (5000 per year) and assists 4300 persons, in particular women and their children, with rehabilitation.

www.amicaledunid.org
contact@adn-asso.org

The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army, which is actively involved in the fight against trafficking in human beings, is opposed to all forms of commodification, exploitation and violation of the dignity of human beings in general and women in particular. This includes prostitution, pornography and sex tourism.

www.armeedusalut.fr

Association pour la Réadaptation Sociale

The Association pour la réadaptation sociale (Association for social re-adaptation) takes in minors and young adults in a situation of family or social breakdown, in particular trafficking victims, and helps them construct and implement their life project.

www.ars13.org
ars.association@arsdirection.fr

Aux Captifs, la Libération

This association works daily in the streets and woods of Paris with street people and persons in a situation (or in danger) of prostitution, a good many of whom are victims of trafficking in human beings. The teams of volunteers and paid staff have developed expertise in meeting, identifying, welcoming and assisting the persons encountered. Specifically identifying child victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation, approaching them and advising them with a view to referral have become priorities for the association, along with increasing awareness among the authorities and society of such trafficking-related issues.

www.captifs.fr
siege@captifs.fr

The Collective “Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains” (cont’d)

Le Comité Contre l’Esclavage Moderne (CCEM)

Founded in 1994 to combat all forms of slavery and servitude, the Comité Contre l’Esclavage Moderne (Committee against Modern Slavery) rapidly specialised in the provision of care to victims of trafficking for labour exploitation, particularly domestic servitude but also in the building, catering, crafts and agricultural sectors. Along with the legal assistance provided to persons receiving care in order to help them regain their rights and dignity, the association has introduced tools to meet their socio-educational and psychological needs. The hundreds of judicial proceedings that the CCEM has monitored since its establishment have helped it develop knowledge and expertise recognised by institutional and associative actors. The CCEM relies on this experience to run awareness-building and advocacy campaigns targeting the authorities and professionals concerned.

www.esclavagemoderne.org
info@ccem.org

Comité protestant évangélique pour la dignité humaine

The Comité protestant évangélique pour la dignité humaine (Evangelical Protestant Committee for Human Dignity) promotes respect for human dignity, the defence and protection of children’s, women’s and human rights, and, more generally, the right to life of every human being.

www.cpdh.org
contact@cpdh.eu

Congrégation Notre-Dame-de-Charité-du-Bon-Pasteur

The nuns of this congregation are active in anti-trafficking work at the local, national and international level in 72 countries.

www.bonpasteur.com
andrea.tillmanns@guterhirte.de

Le COFRADE

The Conseil Français des Associations pour les Droits de l’Enfant, or COFRADE (French Council of Children’s Rights Associations) is a grouping that brings together 46 associations that defend children’s rights in France. COFRADE ensures respect for and the promotion of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and all of the rights arising therefrom. As part of these protection efforts, the association is led to work on child trafficking issues.

www.cofrade.fr
cofrade.contact@gmail.com

ECPAT France

ECPAT France has a mandate to combat the sexual exploitation of children. As such, the association fights against forms of abuse and exploitation that may contribute thereto, notably child trafficking.

www.ecpat-france.org
contact@ecpat-france.org

Espoir-CFDJ Service Jeunes Errants

From the perspective of Espoir-CFDJ Service Jeunes Errants (Hope CFDJ Errant Youth Service), combating trafficking in human beings also means getting involved and mobilising to fight to ensure respect for the best interests of the child and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

www.espoir-cfdj.fr
jeuneserrants@espoir-cfdj.fr

La Fédération de l’Entraide Protestante (FEP)

The Fédération de l’Entraide Protestante (Protestant Church Aid Federation) combats trafficking in human beings and all forms of exploitation of human misery, by helping persons who are victims of sexual exploitation, forced labour, etc. The Federation’s member associations work to welcome, house and provide legal and social assistance to these vulnerable persons, more particularly foreigners and minors. The Federation lobbies French and European political bodies in order to secure better protection for victims.

www.fep.asso.fr
contact@fep.asso

Fondation Jean et Jeanne Scelles

The Foundation Jean et Jeanne Scelles (Jean and Jeanne Scelles Foundation) is designed to combat trafficking for purposes of prostitution via documentary resources, information, examination of issues and awareness-raising targeting public and social actors.

www.fondationscelles.org
fondationscelles@wanadoo.fr

Hors la rue

The association Hors la rue (Off the streets) works with at-risk minors in the Paris region. It supports the most vulnerable children and adolescents as well as those who require less assistance through daily street rounds and a day centre. It provides advice on child protection laws for underage victims in a situation of exploitation and victims of trafficking in human beings.

www.horslarue.org
contact@horslarue.org

Justice et Paix France

As far as Justice et Paix France (Justice and Peace France) is concerned, trafficking in human beings is a violation of human dignity, a scourge that needs to be fought relentlessly.

www.justice-paix.cef.fr
justice.paix@cef.fr

La Cimade

The purpose of the association is defending the human rights of people, particularly those of foreigners. One of its main activities involves welcoming, guiding and defending foreigners facing administrative difficulties linked to residence or asylum requirements.

www.lacimade.org
infos@lacimade.org

Les Champs de Booz

This association welcomes and tracks isolated female asylum seekers in the Ile-de-France region as a preventive measure in the light of their particular vulnerability to trafficking.

www.champsdebooz.fr
pilotage.booz@cegetel.net

Le Mouvement du Nid

The members of the Mouvement du Nid (Nest Movement) have met several thousand prostitutes and have helped over a thousand find an alternative to prostitution. During their street rounds, they come across underage victims of trafficking or certain persons who are considered to be of age but who in their view are minors. They also run prevention campaigns targeting young people to promote egalitarian sexuality free from any commercial considerations.

www.mouvementdunid.org
nidnational@mouvementdunid.org

L'Organisation Internationale Contre l'Esclavage Moderne (OICEM)

Created in 2001, the Organisation Internationale Contre l'Esclavage Moderne, or OICEM (International Organisation Against Modern Slavery) assists children, women and men who are victims of all of the current forms of slavery, trafficking in human beings, servitude or forced labour. All such victims have access to legal aid, psychological support and socio-educational assistance. Special attention is paid to situations concerning children, their exploitation or their exposure to exploitation that constitute a grave infringement of their rights and a violation of their physical and mental integrity. OICEM makes major prevention and awareness-building efforts and participates in working groups, research, lectures, etc.

www.oicem.org
info@oicem.org

Planète Enfants

The vision of Planète Enfants (Planet Children) is that of a world where adults protect children against all forms of violence and exploitation. It has a mandate to combat trafficking in children, so that children are never again treated as a commodity.

www.planete-enfants.org
contact@planete-enfants.org

SOS Esclaves

SOS ESCLAVES (SOS Slaves) welcomes all victims of trafficking in human beings, including minors, but has developed its specific character in the provision of legal, social and psychological assistance to the victims of domestic slavery. The goal pursued, once their status as victims has been recognised, is to help them obtain citizenship status.

www.sos-esclaves.com
sosesclaves@gmail.com

Secours Catholique Caritas France

Secours Catholique – Caritas France is the coordinator of the Collective "Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains (Together Against Trafficking in Human Beings). Fighting trafficking in human beings means breaking the vicious circle fuelled by the poverty that sustains this phenomenon. Here, the key is information, listening, denunciation, action and joint advocacy efforts at the local and world level. Secours Catholique – Caritas France is also a member of the EU Civil Society Platform against Trafficking in Human Beings established by the European Commission. Finally, it is a member of the steering group of the COATNET world anti-trafficking network led by Caritas Internationalis (www.coatnet.org) and works together with the relevant UN Special Rapporteur, in particular for questions concerning trafficking in conflict or post-conflict situations.

www.secours-catholique.org
genevieve.colas@secours-catholique.org

«UNITED AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS» COLLECTIVE



THE FILM

#INVISIBLES

Directed by Guido Freddi, 2016

A 16-minute fiction film realised by Guido Freddi, based on actual events and presented in three separate modules:

- Trafficking of children for domestic slavery (7 mins 35)
- Trafficking of children for sexual exploitation (9 mins 50)
- Trafficking of children for forced begging (5 mins 38).

Each module can be watched independently of the others. This short film is based on three accounts of the lives of child victims of Trafficking in human beings in France: Farih, 12, a victim of domestic servitude; Anne, 14, caught up in a sexual exploitation network, and Gabi, 8, forced to beg.

Available at

http://contrelatraite.org/spip.php?page=article&id_article=812

<http://www.secours-catholique.org/actualites/invisibles-un-film-pour-denoncer-la-traite-des-enfants>



THE DOCUMENTARY BOOKLET

#INVISIBLES

72 pages, including the DVD of the #Invisibles short film and the 3 separate modules. The booklet was created to complement the #INVISIBLES film. It provides keys for spotting victims, identifying, supporting them or providing guidance and reporting... The three comic strips, which are easily understood by younger victims, take up every life story portrayed in the film.

VIDEO

Introductory video on child trafficking

(2014, 3 minutes)

Available on the website

http://contrelatraite.org/spip.php?page=article&id_article=364

VIDEO

Ukraine terre forcée (2014, 3 minutes)

Available on the website

http://contrelatraite.org/spip.php?page=article&id_article=562



THE FILM

#DEVENIR (Becoming)

Directed by Guido Freddi, 2017

A 30-minute fiction film realised by Guido Freddi, based on actual events and presented in three separate modules:

A year has passed. We follow the ongoing story of the trafficked children and protagonists featured in the first short film.

Associations are providing support to Anne, Farih and Gabi. The film also revisits Alex, the minor who is an accomplice/victim of the network responsible for the abuses suffered by Anne. We become more acquainted with two unaccompanied minors, Bazir, a young Afghan and little Nicolai.

This new episode untangles the difficulties encountered by the support workers and children in this difficult journey of recovery. But it also highlights the different levers that enable them to create a future for themselves and to regain their lives.

Available on the website

www.contrelatraite.org



VIDEOS AND WEBSITES



WEBSITE AND INTERACTIVE GAME

<http://jenesuispasavendre.org>

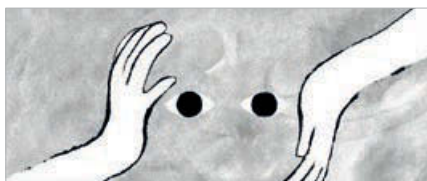
AMICALE DU NID

This project aims to raise young people's awareness of the issue of prostitution, on preventing this violence, and informing them that support is available. It was developed in collaboration with young people receiving support from the National Rehabilitation Association (ANRS), and was supported by the Regional Council of Ile de France.

The site contains an interactive cartoon game, numerous videos, a What's This?, adapted to the questions asked by young people, a reminder of the law and a number of support contacts.

Preventive actions can be developed with teams of professionals and/or young people. The association can also support child protection professionals in the support of young people affected by child prostitution and trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

<http://jenesuispasavendre.org>



VIDEO

Exploitation/trafficking: rights of unaccompanied or endangered minors

ECPAT France

This video is aimed at unaccompanied minors who are at risk of or already victims of trafficking. As part of the ReACT project, co-financed by the DG Justice of the European Commission, ECPAT groups in Europe have created peer-to-peer tools, with the support of foreign unaccompanied minors and child victims of trafficking.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aD2GYRdTUXg>



This video comes with brochures

here is a version for each country.

For France, the brochure «ReACT: What are your rights as an unaccompanied foreign minor in France? « is available in 11 languages. [Links to brochures: see 2017 - ReACT project - «in France»]

<http://www.ecpat.org/resources>



WEBSITE

www.infomie.net

INFOMIE

InfoMIE is a resource centre and a platform for private and public actors involved in the care of foreign isolated minors.



WEBSITE

www.cncdh.fr

CNCDH (National Consultative Commission on Human Rights)

REPORT

Report on the fight against trafficking and exploitation of human beings

CNCDH

An Independent national rapporteur, the CNCDH reported to the European Commission in March 2016. The CNCDH argues for the absolute necessity of implementing a proactive, coherent and comprehensive policy to combat all forms of trafficking in human beings.

The report can be downloaded from
www.cncdh.fr/fr/publications/rapport-sur-la-lutte-contre-la-traite-et-l'exploitation-des-etres-humains

DOCUMENTS AND BROCHURES



Sexual exploitation Spotting minors who are victims of trafficking in human beings: Professionals in the socio-medical sector: how to intervene?

FOYER AFJ

Brochure for doctors, gynaecologists, nurses, psychologists, social workers and others, in offices, hospitals, screening centres, etc.). Trafficked women placed in the home have often spent time at a hospital at some point during their ordeal without daring to ask for help. Training in these listening skills is essential.

www.foyer-afj.fr

Before leaving, Now that you're in France,

Identification tool for victims of trafficking in human beings.

www.foyer-afj.fr

The essentials - 2015 Report on the fight against trafficking and exploitation of human beings

Simplified document outlining the key points of the first assessment report by the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (CNCDH).

Downloadable from

www.cncdh.fr/fr/publications/les-essentiels-rapport-2015-sur-la-lutte-contre-la-traite-des-etres-humains



Trafficking in human beings in conflict and post-conflict situations

Secours Catholique Caritas France

Coordination of action research: Geneviève Colas, Secours Catholique Caritas France - Research and writing: Olivier Peyroux, 2015/2016

http://contrelatraite.org/spip.php?page=article&id_article=725

While some forms of human exploitation are unique to countries directly affected by the conflict (e.g. recruitment of children into militias and organ trafficking to treat wounded combatants, etc.), research shows that Post-conflict periods also generate phenomena of trafficking in human beings.



The work of the educator with the victim of trafficking in human beings

MIPROF - Inter-ministerial Taskforce for the Protection of Women against Violence and the Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings.

http://www.justice.gouv.fr/art_pix/1_1_livret_milprof.pdf

Training booklet produced by the Ministry of Families, Children and Women's Rights

BOOKS



Minors and trafficking in human beings in France - From identification to care: what are the best practices? What protection is available?

Bénédicte Lavaud-Legendre, Alice Tallon Ed. Chronique Sociale, Collection: Understanding Society, 2016. This book discusses the protective measures available to minors who are victims of trafficking and the content of their care, which are essential in enabling them to benefit from their rights and become free subjects.

Offenders and victims. Trafficking of children from Eastern Europe in France

Olivier Peyroux - Foreword by Robert Badinter - published by Non Lieu 2013

This study focuses on the trafficking of children from Eastern Europe in France. Who is exploiting these children? Why do they seem to refuse any protection?

Violence and sexual exploitation of minors, a review of the current situation in France, Action against child prostitution

ACPE, Florence Hénaut, Matiada Ngalikpima and Fabienne Reviglio, 2016.

Downloadable at www.acpe-asso.org

A study of responses by the French Police and Justice System to exploitation.

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Taken in, fed, protected, housed and accompanied... towards stability and self-sufficiency

In the film #DEVENIR (Becoming), Gabi and her family and their accompanying adults pp 23-25 | Comic book – Success' true-life story pp 26-28 | **FACT SHEET 01: Taken in, fed, protected and housed... towards stability and self-sufficiency** pp 29-31 | A trial scheme in Paris for the protection of underage victims of trafficking p.32 | Inappropriate responses p.33 | Testimony by a cultural mediator p.34

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Being recognised as a minor and gaining access to ordinary law. The transition to adulthood.

In the film #DEVENIR (Becoming), Bazir and his accompanying adults pp 39-41 | Comic book – Tuan's true-life story pp 42-44 | **FACT SHEET 02: Being recognised as a minor and gaining access to ordinary law. The transition to adulthood: Hassan's story** p.45 | The challenges of being recognised as a minor pp 46-48 | The young adult contract pp 49-50 | Needs of the child p.51

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Growing up and rebuilding one's life through physical care and psychological support.

In the film #DEVENIR (Becoming), Farih and her accompanying adults pp 55-57 | Comic book – Adesuwa's true-life story pp 58-69 | **FACT SHEET 03: Growing up and rebuilding one's life through physical care and psychological support: The impact of exploitation on the health of trafficked minors** pp 61-64 | How to access medical and psychological care? pp 65-68 | Needs of the child p.69

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Building a future through education and training.

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Having an administrative identity and being defended in the legal process.

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Using the arts and culture / cultures to encourage victims to speak up and raise awareness of this all-too-often invisible scourge.

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From #INVISIBLES to #DEVENIR... 2 films and 2 educational booklets

The following contributed to the drafting process:

ACPE : Agir contre la prostitution des enfants : Armelle Le Bigot-Macaux, Arthur Melon
AFJ : Yolanda Gutierrez, Céline Huard, Magali Poirier
Amicale du Nid : Hélène de Rugy
Aux Captifs la libération : Jean-Marc Oswald, Aurélie Jeannerod
Comité Contre l'Esclavage Moderne, CCEM : Sylvie O'Dy, Mona Chamass
Annabel Canzian et Camille Ladrat
COFRADE, Conseil français des associations pour les Droits de l'Enfant : Laëtitia Romain, Aurélia Lamiroy
CPDH : Samuel Buot
Fondation Jean et Jeanne Scelles : François Vignaud,
Hors la rue : Guillaume Lardanchet, Audrey Guitton, Séverine Canale,
La Cimade : Violaine Husson,
Mouvement du Nid : Pierre Albert
Organisation Internationale Contre l'Esclavage Moderne : Nagham Hriech Wahabi,
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Cécile Riou
Nicolas Le Coz
Elisabeth Moiron-Braud
Pauline Soubie-Ninet

Graphic design / dummy

Le Cargo jaune : Nicolas Bezin,
Frédéric Brat

Comic book illustration

Stéphanie Rubini

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The power of volunteers

In their work, the associations working with persons who are victims of trafficking in human beings or at risk thereof call on committed professionals who have both the necessary skills in the social, legal and psychological fields and the time needed.

Volunteers – the cornerstone of many associations operating in this area – also participate actively in associative life on all levels. In addition to donating their time, they often contribute a specific skill acquired in one of the areas of assistance.

With regard to efforts to combat trafficking in human beings, training is a prerequisite at all levels of intervention, for both paid staff and volunteers. Of course, goodwill is not sufficient: the association gives them the necessary training. In this way, so-called “skills” volunteering can best meet the need of both victims and associations.

All forms of volunteering may be useful since trafficked children must be able to access various activities, not only because they are victims of trafficking but also, and above all, because they are children.



OCEAN – RUBENS SANTANA

TRANSLATED FROM BRAZILIAN INTO ENGLISH AND FRENCH

Once there was a young man
who wanted to travel, see the world,
cross the ocean to bring back
the joy from this wonderful experience
to his country, his family and friends, and the Brazilian people.
As he walked away from his life and crossed the border,
he turned around and saw his parents
wave goodbye to him.

He instinctively understood that with that gesture,
his father and mother were telling him
not to forget his country, his origins, his family.
Looking down from the air on his country,
he knew he would never forget
Guanabara Bay.

A native of São Paulo,
the young man was a real urban dweller,
he couldn't help urbanising
the sea, the ocean with all its little islands
that smiled at him to wish him a safe trip.
He was sure he would find happiness,
comfortably seated in a Boeing 747
that was taking him to his future joys and loves.
Now the young man who has become a man,
has realised that he made
this long trip to meet you and love you,
to sing happiness.

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Original version: Brazilian

French version: Translation by the author of the ideas into French, because word-for-word translation of this poem written in Brazilian does not reflect the metaphors and the subtlety of the words.

English version: Translation of the French version

In the film #DEVENIR, this song is performed at rehearsals and in concert.



The associations belonging to the Collective “Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains” (Together against trafficking in human beings), a group coordinated by Secours Catholique, act in different areas: support for victims, prevention campaigns, awareness-raising and advocacy.

In 2017, Guido Freddi and the association LYO – Les Yeux Ouverts – made a film called #DEVENIR as part of a multidisciplinary, multimedia project with the Collective “Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains”.

Written to mesh with this short film, this educational booklet #DEVENIR is also the work of the Collective and persons whom its member associations identify, meet and support and for whom the Collective lobbies against trafficking in human beings.

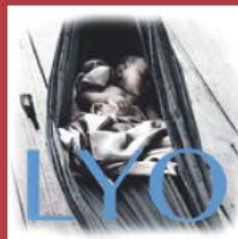
The film #DEVENIR follows #INVISIBLES, which was produced in 2016 by LYO and which has already been combined with an educational booklet by the same name drafted by the Collective “Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains”.

The first short film was designed to raise awareness among a wider public of the “invisible” reality of child victims of trafficking here in France and in relation thereto. Many members of the general public and various professionals remain unaware of this scourge. Trafficking in human beings, in all its forms, concerns a growing number of victims in our country.

Yet the work cannot stop at this first stage of locating and identifying children who have been trafficked or are at risk thereof. Indeed, this work is far from complete. It must be followed by a long process that allows these child victims to break free of the hold that criminals had on them and to (re) build their lives. Civil society’s work in this field and the results achieved go largely unrecognised. Progress in the institutional sphere must be reinforced. The responsibility of institutions and civil society is at stake. The Collective “Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains” is working in this direction.



Guido Freddi, the Director of #INVISIBLES and #DEVENIR, receives an award at the International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival in Kyrgyzstan for #INVISIBLES



In 2017, Guido Freddi and LYO came up with a new 30-minute fiction film called #DEVENIR, a promising title. We meet up once again with the child victims who were the protagonists of the first short film, #INVISIBLES. A year has gone by, and various associations have been supporting Anne, Farih and Gabi. The film also comes back to Alex, a minor

accomplice/victim of the network responsible for the abuse that Anne suffered. In addition, we become better acquainted with two unaccompanied minors, Bazir, a young Afghan, and little Nicolai.

This new episode explains the difficulties that the support workers and children have encountered along the difficult road to reconstruction. It further highlights the different instruments these children can use to create a future for themselves and live again.

This audiovisual aid and its accompanying booklet #DEVENIR offer tools for awareness-raising, prevention and advocacy, made available by the Collective “Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains”.

They are meant for:

- Volunteers who are likely to come across minors who may have been trafficked;
- Professionals (social, legal, health, education, police, etc.) who may, at different levels, play a role in assisting minors who have been trafficked or are at risk thereof;
- Group moderation, inter alia in the form of talks aimed at the general public, our association networks, in education and academia.

This film is also suitable for film festivals – especially those with a human rights theme – and television programmes targeting a wide public.

Some of the photos featured in the booklet were taken as the film was being shot. Thus, the photos of children and adults are those of the protagonists of #DEVENIR. The five comics were all inspired by true stories of minors whom the Collective's associations met in the field. The first names have all been changed.

Contents of the DVD

#INVISIBLES 16 mins

Anne and Alex 10 mins

Farih 8 mins

Gabi 8 mins

#DEVENIR 29 mins

Anne and Alex 12 mins

Farih, Bazir 15 mins

Gabi and her family 8 mins

Video clip of the song

Décide-toi

*The DVD contains the film in the original French version with English sub-titles,
to be found using the "Sub-titles" menu.*

Other versions will be uploaded on Youtube as soon as they are translated.

#DEVENIR

CONTRE
 **LA TRAITE**
DES ÊTRES HUMAINS

Member associations of the Collective
« Ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains »
Action Catholique des Femmes, AFJ, Agir Contre la
Prostitution des Enfants, Agir Ensemble pour les Droits
de l'Homme, Amicale du Nid, Armée du Salut, Association
pour la Réadaptation Sociale, Aux Captifs la Libération,
Comité Contre l'Esclavage Moderne, Comité Protestant
évangélique pour la Dignité Humaine, Congrégation Notre
Dame de Charité du Bon Pasteur, Conseil Français des
Associations pour les Droits de l'Enfant, ECPAT France,
Espoir-CFDJ Service Jeunes Errants, Fédération de
l'Entraide Protestante, Fondation Jean et Jeanne Scelles,
Hors la rue, Justice et Paix France, La Cimade, Les Champs
de Booz, Mouvement du Nid, Organisation Internationale
Contre l'Esclavage Moderne, Planète Enfants, SOS
Esclaves, Secours Catholique - Caritas France

#INVISIBLES (2016)

Short film + tool for spotting child
victims of trafficking in human
beings in France



Coordination of the Collective

Geneviève Colas – 06 71 00 69 90
contre.la.traite@secours-catholique.org
www.contrelatraite.org

under the coordination of:



with the support of:



MINISTÈRE
DE LA CULTURE

