

How Travel Suppliers Can Help End Child Trafficking

Three steps to end child trafficking at the source.

The Problem

With the use of online classified ads, child trafficking has moved off the streets and behind the closed doors of local hotel rooms. Youth are targeted and manipulated by pimps who transport victims from city to city via U.S. owned airlines and buses.

Exploiters use hotel rooms as venues to abuse children, knowing that systems are not in place to identify and protect the victims. Air travel is also a primary means of transportation for child sex tourists— individuals who travel overseas to sexually exploit local children.



The Solution

In response, ECPAT-USA can work with your company to put in place programming to educate your staff about trafficking and how to address suspicious incidences. You can:

① Create a policy against the commercial sexual exploitation of children

Official policies send a zero-tolerance message to staff letting them know that they should not look away when they suspect trafficking. Staff will feel more empowered to react to their suspicions. The policy will also build a sense of pride in their company for being responsible. Sample policy is available.

② Engage in ECPAT-USA's training

Train staff about commercial sexual exploitation of children, the signs of trafficking, and your protocol for reacting. Companies can receive training certificate and acknowledgement as partners.

③ Sign the Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct

The Code is an internationally accepted voluntary set of guidelines travel and tourism companies can implement to prevent child sex tourism and trafficking of children. Signatories of **the Code** are supported by ECPAT-USA to comprehensively and sustainably address trafficking.

ECPAT-USA's Role in your Response

ECPAT-USA can develop a work-plan outlining how your company can effectively address this issue. We can engage in strategic planning on the best way to leverage your position to fight child trafficking:

- Develop corporate training on the topic.
- Develop consumer friendly copy on the topic.
- Available for speaking engagements on corporate responsibility, children's rights, etc.

Join These Organizations in Partnering with ECPAT-USA



Contact us today: Michelle Guelbart, Private Sector Project Coordinator [michelle@ecpatusa.org] – 718-935-9192