

Sisters of Mercy(NGO)Mercy International Association: Global Action, The Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, and Australian Catholic Religious against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH)

Cordially Invite you to a Parallel Event during the 60th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

No Random Act: Human Trafficking and the Interplay between Systemic Oppression and the Individual Life Course

Thursday, March 17, 2016

4.30pm–6.00pm

Salvation Army

**221 East 52nd Street (Bt 2nd&3rd Ave),
NY Auditorium**

Young women who have been trafficked for sexual exploitation have unique perceptions about their lives and the significance of having been trafficked. Drawing on rich narratives of the domestic trafficking experience through stories collected in the course of focus groups and in-depth interviews in Cebu Philippines, this event will challenge participants to understand trafficking from a Life Course Perspective. An analysis of the women's stories through a Life Course perspective builds on and provides an innovative and new context for trafficking prevention and responding to women who have been trafficked. This is significant for those seeking to address sex trafficking, in particular, social workers, service providers, policy makers, program developers and trafficked women themselves.

- Moderator: Sr Angela Reed RSM PhD**
Advocate, Researcher
Mercy Representative, Sisters of Mercy
New York
- Presenters: Mrs Marietta Latonio, M.Social Work**
Advocate, Researcher, Professor of Social Work,
University of Southern Philippines,
Good Shepherd Welcome House
Cebu, Philippines
- Ms Mely Lenario, Social Work Candidate**
Survivor Advocate, Outreach Worker,
Good Shepherd Welcome House
Social Work Candidate, Cebu, Philippines
- Conclusions Sr Winifred Doherty, RGS**
Main NGO Representative to the United Nations
The Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the
Good Shepherd



The above image is part is one of 25 images painted by Sr Venus Marie Pagar SFX based on the stories shared by these women.

A series of these images will be displayed on the day.

These images and the accompanying stories have been published in a book entitled 'I Have a Voice: Trafficked Women –in their own words'. Edited by Angela Reed and Marietta Latonio. The book will be available for purchase at the event for \$20. All proceeds support the women associated with this project.

RSVP: mercyrep@mercyinternational.ie

About the Presenters

Sr Angela Reed RSM PhD

Angela Reed is an Australian sister of Mercy who completed her PhD in 2014 through RMIT University in Melbourne. Her research focused on giving voice to Filipino women who had been trafficked for sexual exploitation. Angela is currently in residence at the Mercy International Association:

Global Action office at the UN in New York. Angela has qualifications in education, social work and theology. For the last 16 years her work has been focused on violence against women. She man-aged 'Mercy Care' a women's safe house in Melbourne for 7 years and brings a multidisciplinary approach to her work on trafficking.

Ms Marietta Latonio, M. Social Work

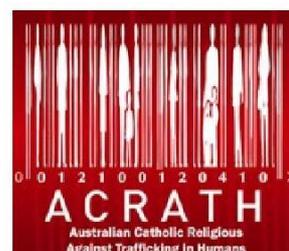
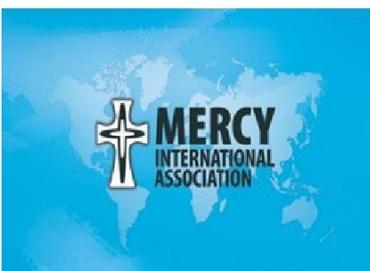
Marietta Latonio is a Filipino advocate, researcher and professor of social work. Based at the University of the Southern Philippines Foundation, she brings extensive experience of working with the Filipino Department of Social Welfare. Since 2011, Marietta has worked collaboratively on the "I Have a Voice" project as both research assistant and translator to Sr Angela.

Ms Mely Lenario, Social Work Candidate

Mely Lenario is currently an outreach worker in the Philippines at Good Shepherd Welcome House in the Philippines and is studying social work at the University of the Southern Philippines Foundation, Cebu City. Mely is a strong advocate for women's right to safety, support and empowerment. A Survivor Advocate, Mely is passionate about women giving voice to their own experience.

Sr Winifred Doherty RGS

Winifred Doherty is an Irish member of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd. She spent 16 years in Ethiopia, empowering girls and women through education, economic activities and community development programs, providing alternatives to prostitution and lessening vulnerability to being trafficked. Since 2008 she has been based in New York, serving the Congregation at the United Nations, where she engages with other NGOs and UN agencies in addressing policy issues related to poverty, gender inequalities and violence against women and girls, hallmarks of the Beijing Platform for Action.



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