

EXODUS CRY

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



NEFARIOUS II

COMING SOON



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LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

THE ANCIENT PATH OF ABOLITION

“At night, when I go to bed... I am afraid to close my eyes to sleep because when I do, all I see is pain. I see the faces of all those men and I see [my pimp]. I just want to forget... But I can’t.”

Stefa, Former Moldovan Slave



The innocence of a beautiful 17-year-old girl was savagely stolen the night Stefa was brutally raped and forced into prostitution as a sex slave. And though she was fortunate enough to be rescued, Stefa’s nightmare did not end. Alone with her thoughts at night, plagued with indescribable horror, her unforgettable past continues to haunt her.

Stefa shares her suffering with every victim of human trafficking who has been marked by deep emotional trauma. This dark reality presents a great challenge to the modern abolitionist movement. Can abolition be understood only in terms of bringing an end to slavery, to simply break the bonds of physical shackles? Not for Stefa.

Many things are being done in the name of abolition. Great efforts are under way to establish effective law enforcement, provide counseling, write music, wear certain colors to raise awareness, and campaign to purchase one set of products while boycotting others. While these are all noble endeavors — none of them will bring an end to the thoughts that haunt and

terrify Stefa night after night. The traumatization she has suffered will never be healed by nice words, good music, new laws, or economic conscientiousness. In fact, it takes six to eight years of professional counseling before even a modicum of difference can be made in the life of a person who has faced the type of trauma a trafficking victim faces.

To answer the crisis of modern-day sex trafficking we must look to the pages of scripture for guidance. The very first abolition movement began 3,500 years ago when Moses stood before Pharaoh and declared,

“Thus says the Lord, ‘Let My people go, so that they may worship Me...’”

Notice that Moses does not stop with, “Let My people go.” Instead he declares the purpose for which the people shall be emancipated—to worship God. The mission of Moses was not simply to bring about the physical liberation of those who were oppressed in slavery, but to lead them into an encounter with God. This must be the core of our abolition work. Our efforts to end slavery are complete only when those who were once bound by slavery’s shackles have experienced true freedom by encountering the God of Exodus. Only in the glory of His presence will every nightmare end, every dark and haunting thought be expelled, every broken heart mend, and broken dreams be reborn.

The work of Exodus Cry encompasses more than bringing physical deliverance to those who are bound. It is our mission to declare, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.” As we put our hands to this plow we are amazed time and time again by the miracle-working power of the God who gives beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and the garments of praise for the spirit of heaviness. We hope that, as you read about our work in 2010, you will be encouraged and inspired by the stories that are shared and will consider partnering with us as we navigate the ancient path of abolition.

With great appreciation,
Benjamin Nolot



MISSION STATEMENT
TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AND MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

LOCAL OUTREACH

If you were to walk the roughest streets of any major city in the United States, you would find them. Slouching in the doorways of abandoned buildings or the more bold, shifting their weight from one hip to the other as the headlights of passing cars illuminate their silhouettes in the night. Many would call them prostitutes — and with that one word of disdain, these young girls are demoted to the category of bottom feeders, the filth of society. Although more than 90% of girls in prostitution want out but feel they have no options, we continue to justify the legitimacy of this “oldest profession” by saying that these girls choose to be there. In a scathing indictment, we tell them that they chose to be there and so they deserve to be treated the way this “business” necessitates — to be labeled with a price tag, used over and over again, and then discarded without a second glance again and again. Day after day, customer after customer, dollar after dollar, their maddening bondage continues, and all the while we mandate that their participation was voluntary and thus their degradation deserved.

Human Trafficking is a global problem, a billion-dollar trade in the bodies and souls of men and women, that the international community must answer to; but it is even more staggering when you realize the extent of the problem in America, one of the highest destination countries for trafficking victims. In Kansas City, where Exodus Cry is headquartered, we began a street outreach to women in prostitution in 2010. Street prostitution is only one of many ways that girls are sexually exploited and trafficked in the United States. As the world has begun to wake up to the realities of human trafficking and forced prostitution, the circumstances of many girls’ exploitation have come to the light. Childhood sexual abuse, poverty, neglect, drug addiction, fatherlessness and many other factors including pimping, all push vulnerable young girls into the gnashing teeth of the monster that is prostitution.

During this weekly outreach in Kansas City our team hits the streets to talk to women who are being sold to men passing by in their vehicles. As we chat with the girls we will often see the familiar vehicles of pimps who circle the streets keeping a careful eye on their property. Sometimes the girls are welcoming of our conversation and prayers, other times they want to

be left alone. Either way, our team goes back week after week to gain their trust, to pray with them, and to encourage them to not give up, there is a way out, there is hope.

Adriana is one person in prostitution we have begun to befriend through our street outreach. Adriana stumbled upon our team unexpectedly, after climbing out of a customer’s car on the way back to the corner to await another customer. As soon as she got close enough, I realized that Adriana was indeed not a woman, but actually a young man — a trans-gendered person. This is becoming more common in this particular area of town where our team has been prayer walking and encountering girls forced into prostitution.

As I introduced myself to Adriana, I looked into her beautiful eyes and was able to tell her with an overflowing heart how beautiful and precious she was to the Lord. Trans-gendered people in prostitution are some of the most broken people I have ever encountered. In the place of rejection that they live, they are so hungry for love and affection. Adriana was closed and not forthcoming with personal information, but she welcomed our prayers. And so on a corner where she often sells her body, she put her large hands in mine and let me pray with her. With her eyes closed and head tilted up towards the sky she listened as I prayed the plans and purposes of the Lord over her life, as I asked the Lord to resurrect her dead dreams, to protect her and to draw her to Himself. Adriana has a pimp who keeps a close eye on her and often she is not able to spend much time talking with us, yet each time we see her, she is more open to us, more excited to see us, and lets us in a little more to the prison of prostitution that she is trapped in. We are believing for the love and light of Christ to touch Adriana and many other girls’ hearts and fill them with courage to follow their Deliverer as He calls them out of captivity and into freedom.

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Exodus Cry is committed to the abolition of modern-day slavery—a work that is central to the heart of Jesus Christ. When injustice doesn’t penetrate the insulation of people’s lives, they often become content to look away. And wherever people succumb to such blindness, there slavery will thrive in the shadows.

As part of our strategic international fieldwork, Exodus Cry focused our efforts on the Winter Olympics in Vancouver and the FIFA World Cup in South Africa last summer. Leading up to these international events we began praying and preparing for the moment when these nations would be placed on the world stage and many women and children on the auctioning block that is the modern-day sex trade.

As the world’s most popular sporting event, many experts began projecting the imminent rise in sex trafficking that would occur during the World Cup. To our surprise, though, what we saw throughout our six-week trek in South Africa was a different story altogether.

We traveled from Durban to Cape Town to Johannesburg and throughout the country. We cheered on an active community of NGOs and churches united in their efforts to educate the public on sex trafficking—making South Africa an inhospitable environment for the sex trade. We saw a united law enforcement front that had decisive visibility in every corner of the country, affording them the ability to organize multiple raids before, during, and after the 30-day event.

The crowning testimony of the trip, however, came from the sex industry itself. As we would take our outreach teams into South Africa’s brothels and into areas of street prostitution, we heard over and over from the women working in the industry how bad business was. Many said they just wanted the World Cup to be over because they had seen such a significant decrease in business. One news article reported this, calling the industry the “impotent trade.” Another article quoted a prostituted woman who described business as “oddly quiet.” During a period of time where all the circumstances would point to a burgeoning business in the sex industry—open borders, influx of tourism, active crime syndicates, and rife poverty—we saw just

the opposite. This divine breakthrough is due in no small part to the intercession of people who refuse to allow injustice on their watch.

Midway through our trip, our team hit the streets of Cape Town to pray and distribute awareness materials around the stadium. Through spirit-led circumstances, one of our teams was led to a brothel called Club Arabesque—a well-known strip club that targeted Muslim men. Our team began to intercede for the Lord to break in to this club that seemed to be such a stronghold for captivity. We spent about half an hour in the area praying before moving on. Three days later, the front page of the *Cape Times* read, “Police Raid, Shut Down Club Arabesque.” Thirty-two women—most from Eastern Europe—were rescued. The owners of the club and 17 patrons were arrested.

Almost a year later, the club is still shuttered. This case led to the uncovering of corruption in the Department of Home Affairs that led to false work permits being issued to more than 70 women. We learned later that the original raid was planned for a different club, but at the last minute law enforcement changed their plans and went after Club Arabesque. As intercessors and abolitionists, it was a powerful moment for us as we stepped into the will of the Lord, were led by His spirit, prayed what was on His heart, and saw the speedy justice of Luke 18 come to pass!

The seemingly insurmountable mountain we are up against when we stare at the global sex trade becomes small when your perspective shifts to the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and the power of the blood of Jesus, which has no limit or end.

SOCIAL REFORMATION



When William Wilberforce wanted to show the cruelty of the Transatlantic Slave Trade to the British Parliament, he showed them a picture. That single, infamous image of a diagram of the galleys of a slave ship with slaves packed in like sardines informs our modern struggle. If you want to affect sweeping social change, use a picture.

We live in an age when this has never been easier. With the rise of video sharing over the internet (e.g., YouTube), we are witnessing the development of tools that make an abolitionist's job infinitely easier. It is no mistake, then, that our primary efforts in 2010 have been channeled into completing the *Nefarious: Merchant of Souls* documentary—a project that began in 2008.

This feature-length film will be a rallying point for abolitionists and a weapon for champions in the battle to end human trafficking. This past year has been the most arduous stage of the project yet, as we made our way toward the finish line.

At some point, we realized we just could not fit everything into one movie. If we wanted to tell this story right—the story of the victims and the buyers and the factors in modern slavery—we had to give ourselves enough time to do just that. Once we gave ourselves permission to think in a longer time frame, the solution presented itself: *Nefarious* was not a project that could be conceptualized in just one film. Instead, we'd need three.

Nefarious will be available for viewing in a variety of contexts, whether at a film festival, a screening, or on DVD. Through expert testimony, startling stories, and heart-pounding reenactments, the plight of women who have been hurled into the global sex trade is portrayed in all of its ugly truth. Yet, though the reality of human trafficking is devastatingly harsh and severe, *Nefarious* is not without tenderness or hope. When the darkness seems heaviest, the solution breaks forth like the dawning light, not from the ideas and theories of experts, but from the lips of the victims themselves.

What is left behind in the production of the first film will be picked up next year in the production of *Nefarious II* and *III*. These films will continue to address elements of society, both secular and sacred, that need reformation if we are to see an end to the modern-day slave trade. The second movie will explore the astonishing connection between our sexualized western culture and the enslavement of women, showing that Americans cannot participate in the sale of sex even on a "legal" level without fueling the illegal trade. The third film will expose the major world religions and their implicit sanctioning of the slave trade through their explicit institutionalized abuse of women. When men can buy women and still feel holy, it is clear that the last barrier between women and the rapacious male sexuality has been stripped of any potency.

ACTIVATING ABOLITIONISTS



Last year brought a number of opportunities for the Exodus Cry staff to engage in the growing movement of intercessors and abolitionists to end human trafficking. In March, Exodus Cry took part in a forum to end child trafficking that was hosted in our own backyard. With Kansas Governor Sam Brownback and Sergeant Byron Fassett—head of the ground-breaking special victims unit in Dallas that targets underage women trapped in prostitution—as keynote speakers, it was a fascinating conference. Exodus Cry learned new language and approaches to helping victims that will aid us in bringing people into the fight against human trafficking in their own cities.

Later in March, we had the opportunity to visit Longview, Texas, to participate in a human trafficking awareness rally. Exodus Cry was featured alongside Rahab House, Not For Sale, and International Justice Mission as a Christ-based justice organization that is pursuing a holistic solution to the problem of trafficking. I was able to deliver an exhortation that the church look to the God of the Exodus who freed a nation of slaves by the hand of Moses. For a problem as daunting as human trafficking, we need the God of the Exodus to get in the fight, and the only way forward is through partnership with the heart of the Great Abolitionist Himself through intercession. Immediately after the rally, the hosting church organized an all night prayer vigil for the ending of human trafficking.

In the spring, we participated in a human trafficking conference hosted by a church in Norfolk, Virginia, that had taken upon themselves the burden of human trafficking. In a forum setting alongside Beth Grant of Project Rescue and others, I fielded questions in a panel discussion. One of the most astonishing truths that emerged was that aftercare for human trafficking victims was virtually nonexistent. The next day, at a meeting over lunch with a local Exodus Cry chapter, we strategized about how to launch safehouses and aftercare ministries in the area.

LOOKING AHEAD



There is a great deal of excitement on the horizon for Exodus Cry. In the months to come, much of our labor of the last few years will come to fruition. Here is a peek at what we are anxiously anticipating looking ahead:

- *Nefarious: Merchant of Souls* will be released this summer
- This fall, an Exodus Cry team will lead the Incurable Fanatics tour — a screening campaign for *Nefarious* which will seek to raise up abolitionists on college campuses across the United States
- Exodus Cry's philanthropy department is looking to acquire properties for its Kansas City and Moldova LightHouses before the end of the year
- The Exodus Cry Prayer Watch, a new initiative focused on mobilizing prayer for the ending of human trafficking, anticipates abundant growth in the months to come
- The groundwork for two prayer and outreach campaigns — to the 2012 Summer Olympics in London and the 2014 World Cup in Brazil — will be laid
- Currently, Exodus Cry is developing therapy curriculum that is specialized for trafficking situations and will assist victims, clinicians, and caregivers in the treatment process
- A new endeavor, the Abolitionist Business Network, is in the early stages of development, and Exodus Cry is hoping to have it launched in the months to come

FINANCIALS

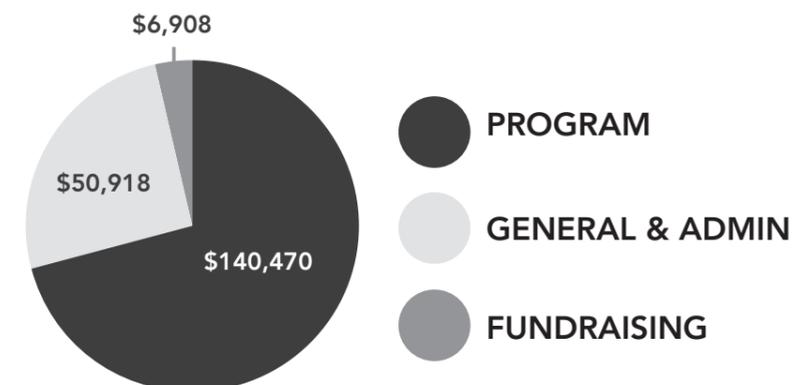
On behalf of the entire Exodus Cry team, we would like to offer our heartfelt gratitude to those of you who have chosen to partner with us in prayer and finances. We would not have been able to give a voice to the forgotten and offer help to the oppressed this year without your partnership.

This has been an exciting year for Exodus Cry. We have immersed ourselves in many new projects and worked tirelessly to complete others. In 2010, we invested significant resources into the *Nefarious* documentary. The rewards of this investment will be endless as we seek to expose the secrets of the sex industry that all too often remain hidden behind a veil of secrecy and corruption.

Moving forward, we are constantly seeking new and innovative ways for our organization to function more efficiently. This pursuit for excellence affords us a greater opportunity to focus our time, energy, and finances into our abolition and philanthropy work, while maintaining financial integrity, accountability, and transparency.

We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful group of partners who have chosen to commission us onward in the fight against injustice. Again — thank you.

01 JUL 2010 – 30 JUN 2011



Income	\$687,772
Expenses	\$198,296
Net	\$489,476
Total Assets	\$874,406
Total Liabilities	\$23,764
Net Assets	\$850,642

EXODUS CRY STAFF

Back Row
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EVENTS COORDINATOR
Aaron Wenninger

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