



## **Who is Exodus Cry? Setting the Record Straight.**

### **Overview**

Over the years, as Exodus Cry has grown in influence, there has been increased reporting in the media about its work. Some of the reporting has contained inaccurate and false claims about Exodus Cry, made by certain members of the porn industry and a handful of misguided individuals and organizations. This document is intended to set the record straight about these claims, who Exodus Cry is, and what it does.

### **Who Is Exodus Cry?**

Exodus Cry is a global anti-trafficking nonprofit organization which fights to end sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation worldwide. Since being founded in 2008, this has been the organization's sole focus, and everything it does revolves around this mission.

Exodus Cry is an independent 501(c)3 charitable organization and is not affiliated with any other ministry or organization.

### **What Does Exodus Cry Do?**

In its outreach, messaging, films, and legal efforts, Exodus Cry aims to serve people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and religious or non-religious backgrounds so that all may find freedom from a life of sexual exploitation. It believes human rights stem from the dignity that all humans possess. Exodus Cry does not discriminate based on sex, race, class, political views, religious or non-religious views, gender identities, or sexual orientations.

To set the record straight and dispel myths about Exodus Cry, below are some **key facts**:

- Exodus Cry's mission is to end sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, and provide assistance to survivors of these atrocities so that they can find freedom and healing.
- Exodus Cry's outreach teams regularly reach out to exploited women and children, including those in the LGBTQ+ community, in the sex industry, assisting them in multiple ways: (1) Exodus Cry helps individuals get out of dangerous, abusive, and crisis situations; (2) Exodus Cry gives women and children small gift bags with health, toiletry, and beauty essentials; (3) Exodus Cry connects individuals to programs, services, and covers the cost of trauma therapy to help them find freedom, receive healing, and obtain healthy forms of employment.
- Exodus Cry reaches out to exploited women and children on the streets, in strip clubs, and online.



- Since its founding in 2008, Exodus Cry has reached more than 5,000 exploited women and children, including those in the LGBTQ+ community, in 12 countries and has trained more than 3,000 individuals on outreach and intervention in 28 countries, helping these trainees to advocate for vulnerable women and children globally.
- Exodus Cry works with a well-respected third-party therapy institute to provide trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation survivors with some of the nation's best trauma-informed therapy. After the first three months of therapy, survivors have reported an average of: 51% decrease in depression, 37% decrease in self-harm, 39% decrease in suicidal thoughts.
- Exodus Cry creates films and videos featuring survivors of trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, and other sex industry-related injustices so they can share their tragic stories with a global audience. Exodus Cry has produced six documentary films and seven animated videos that have been distributed through social media, YouTube, and Netflix, and amassed more than 40 million views worldwide.
- Exodus Cry is honored to have presented and screened several of its signature films and videos to officials from the highest levels of government, including: the United Nations, U.S. Congress, and Canadian, UK, and Australian Parliaments.
- Exodus Cry films have featured interviewees who are notable experts in their respective fields, including investigative journalist Victor Malarek, anti-child-trafficking advocate Don Brewster, and former president of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Ernie Allen.
- Exodus Cry advocates for the passing of laws that target the root causes of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.
- Exodus Cry works to eliminate pornography that features victims of trafficking, child sexual abuse, rape, and other forms of nonconsensual pornography.
- Exodus Cry does not have a legal agenda to ban all pornography; however, it does maintain that porn use is a detriment to public health for many reasons, including that it normalizes and eroticizes acts of sexual assault and child sexual abuse.
- Both religious and non-religious organizations, as well as people from across the political spectrum, support Exodus Cry, its campaigns, and media content.
- Exodus Cry has never advocated against, or for, LGBTQ+ rights because it falls outside the scope of its mission.
- Exodus Cry has never advocated against, or for, abortion rights because it falls outside the scope of its mission.

- Exodus Cry's pursuit of justice is rooted in Jesus' call to "love your neighbor as yourself," as demonstrated in the parable of the Good Samaritan found in the New Testament (Luke 10:25-37).
- The inspiration to found Exodus Cry came after Benjamin Nolot led a prayer meeting which was focused on asking God to bring justice in the realm of sex trafficking. Benjamin is the CEO and Founder of Exodus Cry.
- Exodus Cry has no political affiliation or agenda and has never advocated for any candidate or political party. Its staff is comprised of individuals from a wide range of political convictions.

## Notable Milestones

- In 2020, Exodus Cry was credited with prompting Pornhub to delete approximately 10 million videos from its website that were suspected of potentially containing non consensual pornography and/or child sexual abuse material (also known as "child porn"). Pornhub also removed its download button from videos and now requires all uploaders to be verified users.
- In 2020, Exodus Cry put pressure on Mastercard to cease doing business with Pornhub because it was hosting videos of nonconsensual pornography and child sexual abuse material. As a result, Mastercard introduced the most robust standards ever put forth by a payment processor, requiring strong age verification and documented consent for anyone featured in content on porn sites globally.
- In 2021, xHamster, a major competitor to Pornhub, began implementing significant changes to its website, shifting its entire business model just as Pornhub had done in response to Exodus Cry's advocacy. The changes include: removing the download button from videos, deleting large numbers of unverified content from the website, and preventing anonymous uploaders from uploading content to the site.
- In 2021, Exodus Cry called on Roku, the number one TV/video streaming platform in the U.S., to stop hosting a Pornhub channel. As a result, Roku ceased hosting all porn channels.
- In 2022, the CEO and COO of Pornhub's parent company, MindGeek, resigned from the company after leading it for ten years. This came days after the New Yorker released an in-depth investigative piece which exposed Pornhub's crimes and highlighted Exodus Cry's work.
- In 2015, after Members of Canada's Parliament screened Exodus Cry's film *Nefarious: Merchant of Souls*, a Canadian Member of Parliament sent Exodus Cry a letter acknowledging that the film was instrumental in supporting the passage of stronger anti-trafficking laws in Canada.

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- During the 2018 World Cup in Moscow, Exodus Cry uncovered an international human trafficking ring and assisted law enforcement authorities with staging a raid. As a result, the traffickers were arrested and other similar raids took place in Russia. Exodus Cry also assisted one of the underage trafficking victims directly and connected her to a restoration program, after which she was able to attend university.
- Exodus Cry's first film, *Nefarious: Merchant of Souls*, has been used to train law enforcement, educate vulnerable girls in at risk communities about trafficking, and has inspired sex buyers to stop buying vulnerable women and girls for sex. The film has received millions of views from audiences around the world and 24 awards and honors, including Best Feature Documentary and Best Director.

## Endorsements from Leaders & Professionals

*"Exodus Cry is the most effective organization in existence that is fighting against human trafficking on a global scale."* -**Dr. Caroline Heldman**, Executive Director of The Representation Project, Author, Occidental College Professor

*"For years I have been impressed with how Exodus Cry tells the hard truth about the reality of sexual exploitation. In the face of continued opposition, it stands as a strong and leading transformative force in the fight for change, built on truth. As a survivor, I cannot imagine a world without Exodus Cry, not only as a personal supporter and community but also for the generations to come."* -**Christina Rangel**, trafficking survivor leader, founder of United Justice

*"I have continued to be impressed with Exodus Cry and its deep sense of mission, clear vision, powerful and compelling filmmaking, and unique, rare approach to anti-trafficking work. Its work is courageous and compassionate, and its messaging is cutting edge in the field and needs to be supported to reach as many people in the world as possible."*  
-**Harvey Schwartz**, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist

*"I support the work of Exodus Cry, an organization that shares the goal of abolishing prostitution, along with Prostitution Research & Education. We also share the understanding that abolishing prostitution is necessary in order to end sex trafficking. Exodus Cry's focus on creating films and social media content is especially important in today's world. I have appreciated the opportunity to work with Benjamin Nolot and Helen Taylor, and look forward to continuing to do that."* -**Melissa Farley, Ph.D.**, Executive Director, Prostitution Research & Education

*"Exodus Cry has been at the top of our list of global anti-trafficking organizations for the last 15 years. Through its bold and courageous films and campaigns, it has been unsurpassed in building awareness, and far better than that in enlisting hundreds of thousands to join the fight against human trafficking. How much do we believe in what they do? We are monthly supporters."*  
-**Bridget and Don Brewster**, Founders of Agape International Missions (AIM)

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*“Exodus Cry is among the most strategic thinkers in this movement! From the beginning, its leadership has boldly confronted the roots of sexual harm, including pornography, sex buyers, objectification, prostitution, and more. It is unwilling to retreat from proclaiming the truth despite the opposition hurled at the organization, or the reticence of the general public to listen. Its persistence, passion, and hope has paid off as we are seeing great damage to the sexual exploitation industry largely thanks to Exodus Cry’s work.”* -**Dawn Hawkins**, CEO of National Center on Sexual Exploitation

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