

# THE OLIVE BRANCH

Weekly Newsletter  
November 2—9, 2011

## SLAVERY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

*Information from FreetheSlaves.net.*

For most people, slavery evokes images of African people shackled in dank cargo holds of ships crossing the Atlantic. Slavery is something that we think of as part of history rather than the present.

**The reality is that slavery still thrives. There are an estimated 27 million slaves in the world today. This is more than twice the number of people taken from Africa during the entire trans-atlantic slave trade.**

Today's slaves are not bought and sold at public auctions; nor do their owners hold legal title to them. Yet they are just as surely trapped, controlled and brutalized as the slaves in our history books.

Under the old slavery, slaves were a long-term economic investment. In 1850, an average agricultural slave in Alabama sold for \$1,000 to \$1,800, around \$50,000 to \$100,000 in today's money. This was over three times the average yearly wage of an American worker at the time. The profit made from a slave varied between 5% and 10%, so the slaveholder had to balance the violence needed to control the

slave against the risk of an injury that would reduce profits. A bonded labourer in India today can be enslaved for a mere \$36 and will generate over 50% profit per year for the slaveholder. Slaves are thought to generate a total yearly profit of \$13.6 billion for their slaveholders.

Today, slaves are cheap and disposable. The sick, the injured, the elderly and the unprofitable are dumped and quickly replaced by other desperate people. The poor, uneducated, women, children, indigenous or marginalized people become trapped by poverty and powerlessness and are forced or tricked into slavery.

Poverty, inequality and the lack of enforcement of laws allow slavery to continue: these can be tackled.

Through our development and campaign work Free the Slaves is committed to abolishing slavery. Again.

**“Nobody is free until  
everybody is free.”**

Vivek Pandit, Indian anti-slavery  
campaigner

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### **Free the Slaves- Free Fair Trade Fondue Party**

Wed. 7:00-10:00 PM in  
Student Center 2nd  
Floor Cardinal Hall.  
Free for all who wish to  
attend. Marti Macgibbon,  
a former stand-up  
comedian and current  
activist for human  
rights, will be the guest  
speaker. She will share  
her own journey as a  
former sex slave in Ja-  
pan. There will be po-  
etry readings and  
booths from other or-  
ganizations.

## SLAVERY IN THE 21ST CENTURY (CONT)

### FACT SHEET: Slavery in the 21st Century

There are an estimated 27 million slaves alive today. The majority, up to 20 million, are bonded laborers in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal.

Today's slave population is over five times greater than the population of the island of Ireland.

Slavery was legally abolished in the British Empire in 1838, in Brazil in 1888, in Burma in 1929, in Saudi Arabia in 1962 and in Mauritania in 1980. Slavery still exists in all these areas.

In Mississippi in 1850 an agricultural slave cost the equivalent of \$50,000 to \$100,000 at today's prices. An equivalent slave in India in 1999 cost just \$90.

In India or Nepal, a person can be trapped into a lifetime of hard labour just to pay the interest on as little as \$36.

In one area of the South of Sudan, 3,000 children from a Christian population of 150,000 were abducted during 1998 to work as laborers.

About 14% of Haiti's under-18 population, or 300,000 children, are *restaveks* – children working as domestic slaves. Thirty percent receive only one meal per day.

An estimated 40,000 women and young girls from Burma are forced in the sex industry in Thailand each year.

The CIA and US State Department estimate that over 50,000 women and children are trafficked into the US each year.

Between 1988 and 1998 there were over 100,000 slaves on 226 estates in Brazil, according to the Pastoral Land Commission (CPT).

# YOU are the change!


**Slavery Footprint**

Signup / Login

## How many slaves work for you?

What?

Slaves work for me?



Find out

Take the survey



<http://www.slaveryfootprint.org>

[Methodology](#)
[Terms & Conditions](#)
[Get App](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS— ON CAMPUS

### Wednesday, November 2

- *Amnesty International Meeting:*  
4:00 PM in Bracken Library Room #301
- *Free Fair Trade Chocolate Fondue Party Sponsored by Free the Slaves*  
7:00-10:00 PM in Student Center 2nd Floor Cardinal Hall. Free for all who attend. Marti Macgibbon, a former stand-up comedian and current activist for human rights, will be the guest speaker. She will share her own journey as a former sex slave in Japan. There will be poetry readings and booths from other organizations as well.

### Monday, November 7

- *OXFAM America Meeting*  
5:30 PM in WB 140. For more information, contact [oxfambsu@gmail.com](mailto:oxfambsu@gmail.com).
- *Social Justice League Meeting*  
6:00PM at the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies (310 N. McKinley Ave.) For more information, contact [SJL@bsu.edu](mailto:SJL@bsu.edu).

### Tuesday, November 8

- *Continuum Meeting*  
4:00-5:00 PM in Student Center room 303
- *Feminists for Action Meeting*  
6:00 PM in BB 220. Come have tea, discuss current events, and become an activist for gender equality. Everyone is welcoming, including non-students and community members. For more information, contact [feministforaction@gmail.com](mailto:feministforaction@gmail.com) or [ckhurst@bsu.edu](mailto:ckhurst@bsu.edu).
- *International Ambassadors Club*  
7:00PM at the L.A. Pittenger Student Center in Room 306. For more information, contact [IAC@bsu.edu](mailto:IAC@bsu.edu).

### Wednesday, November 9

- *Falling Whistles at Emens Auditorium*  
7:00-10:00 PM. Come out and hear the founder of Falling Whistles speak. This is a FREE event and open to everyone, not just students! Through: COMM CLUB Sponsored by: SGA, WLBC 104.1, Cool Cayenne, Ball State Federal Credit Union. Twitter : #1000whistles. Falling Whistles gives a small window into our world's largest war. Originally just a journal written about boys sent to the frontlines of war armed with only a whistle, readers forwarded it with the same kind of urgency in which it was written and demanded to know – what can we do? The Falling Whistles campaign launched with a simple response – make their weapon your voice and be a whistleblower for peace in Congo. Read the story and buy the whistle. Together we partner with local leaders to advocate and rehabilitate for those affected by war. Share their story and speak up for them. Together, we'll become the voice of a growing coalition for peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo. For more info, visit [www.fallingwhistles.com](http://www.fallingwhistles.com).

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS— OFF CAMPUS

### Wednesday, November 2

- [Muncie] *Dine for the Dream at Chili's* (all day) sponsored by MLK Dream Team and Cardinal Communications: When you present the restaurant with a "Dine for the Dream" voucher (included at the end of the newsletter), a portion of the cost of your meal will be donated to the Freedom Bus project. When finished, the Freedom Bus will function as a traveling civil rights exhibit that can be used to help promote Dr. King's dream across the state.
- [Indianapolis] *Bread for the World* (downtown) will hold its monthly lunch meeting at 11:30 am at Downtown Bazbeaux Pizza, 334 Mass. Ave. For more info, email Dave Miner at [dminer145@aol.com](mailto:dminer145@aol.com).
- [Indianapolis] *A discussion of policing in schools entitled "The School to Prison Pipeline"* will take place from noon to 12:50 pm in the WFYI Community room, 1630 N. Meridian, sponsored by American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana, NUVO, WFYI, Frazier Designs, and Center for Inquiry-Indiana. Panelists include: Saddam Tinnin-Bey, Indianapolis Public Schools; Terri Jett, Butler University; Bill Glick, Indiana Juvenile Justice Task Force; and Natalie Douglass, Respect Education. Moderator is Jennie Runevitch from WTHR-TV. . Bring your lunch, drinks provided. For more info, email Laurie Rice at [lrice@aclu-in.org](mailto:lrice@aclu-in.org)
- [Bloomington] *Bloomington Peace Action Coalition's monthly Peace Demonstration* on the Square takes place, 5-6:00 pm, at Monroe County Courthouse Square at the intersection of Kirkwood Ave. and Walnut. For more info, email Timothy Baer at [timothy-baer2003@hotmail.com](mailto:timothy-baer2003@hotmail.com)

### Thursday, November 3

- [Muncie] *Dine for the Dream at Chili's* (all day) sponsored by MLK Dream Team and Cardinal Communications: When you present the restaurant with a "Dine for the Dream" voucher (included at the end of the newsletter), a portion of the cost of your meal will be donated to the Freedom Bus project. When finished, the Freedom Bus will function as a traveling civil rights exhibit that can be used to help promote Dr. King's dream across the state.
- [Indianapolis] *The NAACP* will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 pm on the second floor of the Julia Carson Government Center, 300 E. Fall Creek Blvd. For more info, contact Chrystal Ratcliffe at [celliott@indynaacp.org](mailto:celliott@indynaacp.org).

### Friday, November 4

- [Indianapolis] *The Race and Cultural Relations Leadership Network* will hold its monthly meeting over breakfast at 8:00 am at the Urban League, 777 Indiana Ave., sponsored by the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee. For more info, phone 327-3625.
- [Indianapolis] *Women in Black* will gather at 11:30 am at Monument Circle. WIB stand together to call for the end of the illegal Israeli occupation of Palestine and to mourn both Israeli and Palestinian lives lost. For more info, email Judy King at [timothy\\_a\\_king@hotmail.com](mailto:timothy_a_king@hotmail.com).

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS— OFF CAMPUS (CONT.)

### Friday, November 4

- [Indianapolis] *The weekly vigil protesting warfare* will take place, 4:30-5:30 pm, in front of the Federal Building, North and Pennsylvania, sponsored by the Indianapolis Peace and Justice Center. Bring an appropriate sign or we will provide you with one. For more info, phone Gilbert Kuhn at 926-3068 or email Ron Haldeman at [ronjane@igc.org](mailto:ronjane@igc.org)

### Saturday, November 5

- [Indianapolis] *Community, Faith and Labor Coalition* will meet at 10:00 am at the Unleavened Bread Cafe, E. 30 and Central. For more info, email Nancy Holle at [nancyholle@communityfaithlabor.org](mailto:nancyholle@communityfaithlabor.org). Or phone John Gibson at 525-1856 or Jay Carrigan at 283-2273.
- [Indianapolis] *Annual Alternative Christmas Fair* will take place from 10:30 am - 2:30 pm at Northview Church of the Brethren 5555 East 46th Street. Shop with Principle, Purpose, Pleasure. Delicious lunch will be served from 11:30-1:30; freewill donations for lunch encouraged but not required. For more info, call 547-7293 or visit: <http://tinyurl.com/4xxb2gu>
- [Fort Wayne] There will be a *Peace Rally*, 12-1:00 pm at Allen County Courthouse Green, Main and Clinton, sponsored by Fort Wayne Peace Action. For more info, visit [fwagitator.org](http://fwagitator.org) or phone Tim Tiernon at (260) 478-9106
- [Nashville] There will be a *Peace Vigil on the theme "War Is Not the Answer!"* at 6:00 pm at Brown County Courthouse, Main and Van Buren Streets sponsored by Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Brown County branch). For more info, contact Tom Hougham at 878-4210 or [annntom@hotmail.com](mailto:annntom@hotmail.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ON-CAMPUS

- November 15: A documentary called "Invisible Children— The Rescue" will be shown from 7:00-10:00PM in the Student Center Ballroom. There will be a guest speaker, merchandise, and booths from on-campus organizations.
- November 16: Continuum Brown Bag Series— 12:00-1:00 PM Student Center room #306

**DISCLAIMER:** The events described in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies.

If you would like for your events to be included in this newsletter, please contact Lacey Lord at [lglord@bsu.edu](mailto:lglord@bsu.edu).



## **Pepper Partner Program**

Bring this voucher when you visit (Dine In or To Go) the **Chili's** location identified below and 10% of your purchase (excluding taxes) will benefit:

### **MARTIN LUTHER KING DREAM DANCE**

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Group/Charity

**NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> – 3<sup>RD</sup>**

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Event/Exp. Date

One coupon per person, per visit at participating Chili's restaurants only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer ends per expiration date above.

**809 W. McGalliard, Muncie 765-287-8741**

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Chili's Location/Telephone

**#99999000001915**