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Hon. Joy Smith, MP Vice-Chair,
Standing Committee on the Status of Women
Parliament Hill
424 Confederation Building
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A6

Dear Hon. Joy Smith, MP

In the press release of October 6, 2006 entitled “MP Joy Smith at the Forefront of the Initiation of a Study in Human Trafficking” we note that you, in cooperation with Conservative caucus members, are initiating an immediate investigation into human trafficking. And that human trafficking has priority in the Standing Committee on the Status of Women. We totally agree with your comment that “the truth of the nature of human trafficking must be brought to light ... [and that] ... it is a horrendous crime that persists; unnoticed by nearly everyone who is not directly affected by it.”

For these reasons we are submitting to you the enclosed paper, *WITHIN CANADA, Trafficking and Non-State Actor Torture Combined*, discussing not only human trafficking but the acts of non-state actor torture that can occur within the environment created by human traffickers. We provide two case examples, one involving spousal enslavement, torture, and human trafficking, the other of the girl child and enslavement, torture, and human trafficking within the context of pedophilic-based families/groups.

We are into our 14th year of listening, helping, writing, researching, and activism in an attempt to bring such horrors within Canadian society to light. We are asking that you and the Standing Committee on the Status of Women incorporate the expertise we have shared and the recommendations we have made into the investigative process. Please contact us if you have questions, if there is a need for us to present to the Standing Committee, or if there are other ways in which we can participate so that such horrors are understood to occur within Canada. Please notify us as soon as possible with feedback.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Sarson, MEd, BScN, RN & Linda MacDonald, MEd, BN, RN

cc. Mr. Bill Casey, MP Cumberland Colchester Musquodoboit Valley