



To Love Children's mission is to create sustainable educational development opportunities for the girl child in the developing world, in order to break the cycle of poverty.

## Celebrating our Three-Year Anniversary

Inside This Issue: Human Rights, Meet our Staff, Just For Today, Kirsten Mickelson, Gender Equality, New T-Shirt design, Classified Ads: Volunteers wanted, RESPECT International Canada.

# january

## news

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To Love Children Educational Foundation International,  
Inc. 501c(3) non-profit, International Non-Governmental  
Organization

Founded July 25, 2002

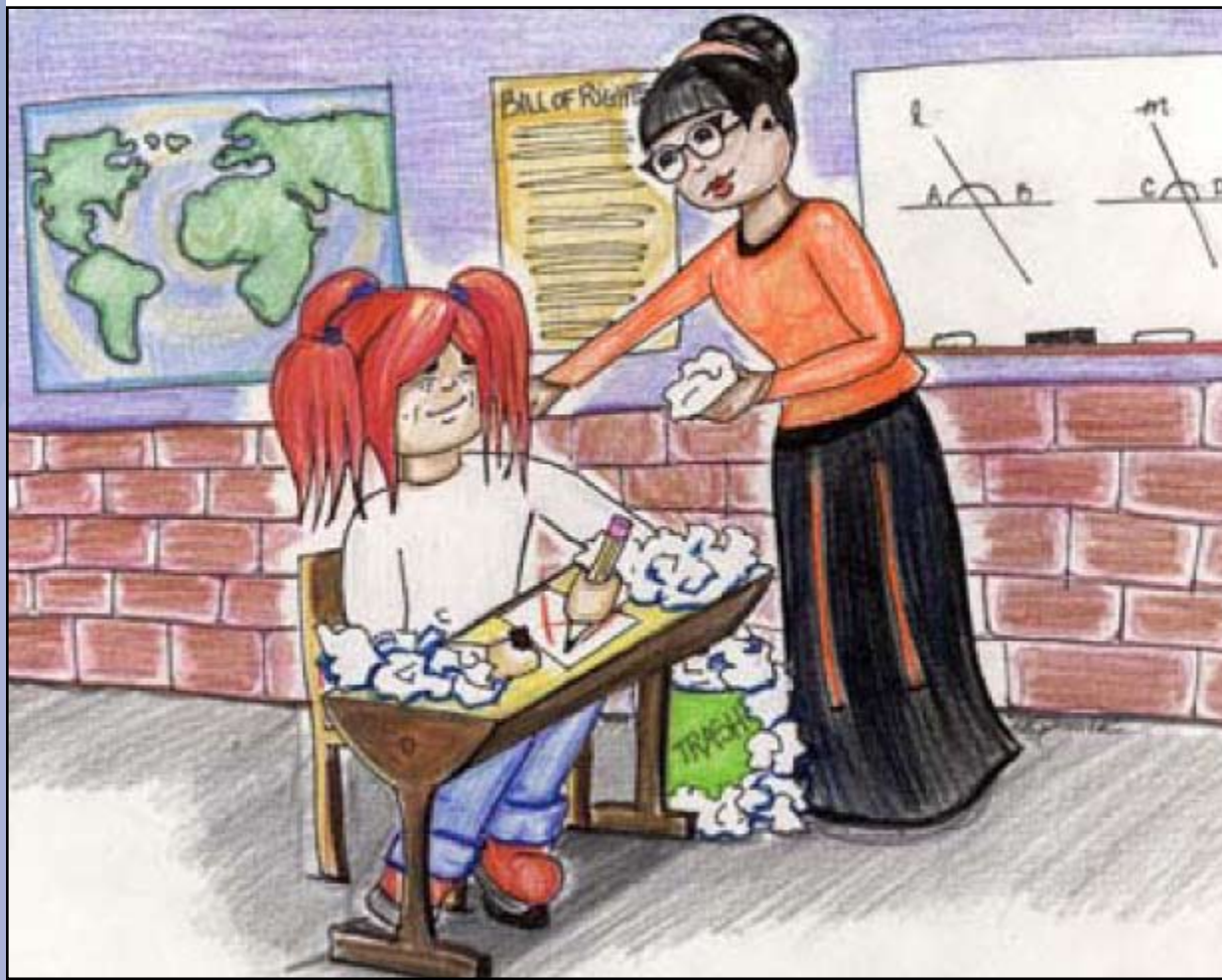
International Home Office in San Francisco, California  
Registered NGO in Uganda, East Africa

Key staff volunteer offices in Kenya, England, USA,  
Germany, Ecuador

ILLUSTRATION BY KIM SPUHLER  
CREATED BY DAVID KENNETH WALDMAN



“Due to the fundamental interconnectedness which lies at the heart of reality, your interest is also my interest.”





Dear Volunteers, Board of Directors, Partners, Staff, and Friends,

As we enter the year 2006, To Love Children will be three - and - a - half - years - old on January 25th. We are still a relatively new non-governmental organization, but we have made considerable progress in a brief amount of time with little resources due to the dedication of our volunteers around the world. In this new year, we will expand our existing programs, embark on an ambitious marketing and sales strategy to bring more funding to TLC, create and strengthen partnerships, and launch our WOMEN micro loan institution (see the Spotlight on WOMEN in this newsletter for more information). As Madeline learns while struggling taking her math test, her success is also connected to the teacher's success. And so, we are all connected working together and everytime you have a success moving To Love Children closer or achieving our mission, there is a ripple effect that benefits children and women all over the world.

To Love Children is also committing to the excluded and "Invisible" children - the children that have no voice that we have been advocating for by featuring this problem in the next issue of the Global Child Journal. It is time that , as an organization, find the means and ways to reach the unreachable that even, as the State of the World's Children UNICEF report says, the Millennium Development Goals will still not reach. I call upon all of our volunteers to submit to me your ideas, proposals, and strategies and to work with me in finding solutions to reach the unreachable children and women. It is not just a matter of funding; it is finding a program and solution that will get to the isolated regions of the world, the street children, the refugee children, children in the sex trade and forced into labor, abducted children forced to fight wars, and those that are excluded because of caste or becoming HIV positive or orphans. The list is indicative of the extent of how difficult this problem truly is. It was difficult to land on the moon; find answers to malaria, measles, and a host of diseases that killed millions; and many other problems that seemed impossible to solve. All it takes is resolve, and To Love Children has the resolve, but we need your help.

To ensure that the quality of the educational programs and services available at our Universal Resource Centers and Libraries and that our curriculum will provide, it is important that we establish Performance and Program Standards and criteria to promote positive outcomes for the girl child. The quality of these standards will be based on the caliber of our programs and curriculum, the training of the teachers and volunteers who will teach our curriculum and services, and the quality of the materials and resources made available to all populations of children, whether children in Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps or refugee children, street children, urban children, children unable to attend school, children with developmental delays, and children with special needs. To Love Children recognizes that all children have individual learning styles, strengths, and needs and our programs and services will adapt to those needs.

In finding the best standards and practices, I have adopted as my model the National Education of the Young Child in the United States of America. It is most important that we recognize that the educational development of the girl child starts with pre- and post-natal care up to kindergarten, which is around five years of age.

The program standards and performance criteria represented are evidence-based and grounded in six explicit values. Though they will be adapted for culture and local community variations, these six



David Kenneth Waldman  
Founder/President/CEO

values will remain constant:

- The uniqueness of childhood as a developmental phase.
- The essential contributions to optimal child learning and development of reciprocal, respectful relationships with children and their families and communities.
- The distinctive opportunity from birth through five years of age to support children's intellectual, language, and social/emotional development.
- The essential role of partnerships with NGO's, communities, parents, and society.
- The significance of a strong program infrastructure in providing high-quality care and education.
- The importance of the quality of children's lives in the present, not only as a preparation for the future.

There will be new curriculum, workshops, newsletters, partnerships, early child development centers, and more as we expand our services for the girl child to promote her sustainable educational development.

Source: [http://www.naeyc.org/accreditation/performance\\_criteria](http://www.naeyc.org/accreditation/performance_criteria)

Sincerely,

*David Kenneth Waldman*

Founder/President/CEO

## Spotlight On Executive Director's Place

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I would like to introduce our second TLC intern to all of you. Interns are a vital part of our success as they are very talented high school or college students who are looking to apply their academic experience to the "real world." We are able to benefit from their motivation, drive, and knowledge of various topics. Then we are able to help them grow their skills that will benefit their future careers. It is our goal to increase the number of interns that work with us in 2006.

SreeRam Banda is in his final year of a Bachelors program in Journalism and Mass Communications at Rai Foundation in India. He has experience as a part-time political reporter a local paper, as well as research and documentary experience. His future career goal is to excel as a reporter by working with reputed news organizations and NGOs and to start a documentary film production house and make films on human rights and related issues. He speaks Teluga, English, and Hindi. Welcome to the team, SreeRam.

Another personal goal of mine is to focus on training and development of staff and volunteers in the coming year. We want to provide online or self-study training materials on topics that affect our work, such as budgeting, time management, marketing/sales, fundraising, and other basics of nonprofit management; however, we also want to make sure that we are growing skills that volunteers feel are relevant as well.

If you have a topic that you'd like to see us offer, please contact me and I'll do my best to incorporate it into our training plan. In addition to training that TLC management will offer, we have so many talented and educated volunteers that have Masters and PhD degrees in all areas of learning. We would love to have those volunteers act as mentors and teachers to newer volunteers. If you are interested in being a mentor or having a mentor, please contact me as well and I'll work with you to set that up.

I look toward 2006 as a year of continued growth and excellence for TLC and you – our wonderful volunteers and staff. Thank you for all you do to help us succeed.

Sincerely,

Katie Patricelli  
Executive Director

# To Love Children Launches WOMEN

On January 1, 2006, the WOMEN ORGANIZATION MICROFINANCE EDUCATION NETWORK (WOMEN) became a separate entity from To Love Children, but will be working in close partnership in order for To Love Children to support the social and educational mission of educating women and girls that makes WOMEN mission sustainable and social at the same time. This partnership will allow WOMEN to become successful and will avoid the trap of other NGO's going into microfinance trying to accomplish two complete sets of objectives and missions.

This begs the question as to why To Love Children has created a microfinance institution. The history begins with our first micro loan, which was a poultry project in 2004. The success of this mission spawned a micro advisory team made of experts from all over the world to research the best model to follow in microfinance. Out of that first success and the research and study that followed for the entire year of 2005, WOMEN was created. As you will see from the qualifications of the new team running WOMEN, we are off to a strong beginning.

Programs at To Love Children are created from the reality and research from the field that shows clearly that when a woman is given an opportunity to open a small enterprise and get trained, educated, and supported to succeed, the extra income directly benefits her girl children. The benefits are that girls are more likely to stay in school and the economic and physical health of the family improves.

With that said it is important to note that our dear friend and Board Member Randy Taran and her husband David donated funds for the microfinance to first happen, and they are supporting the growth of WOMEN. Their generous and dedicated commitment and belief in the power of this new institution motivated me to create a Micro Finance Institution with the people, knowledge, and experience for implementation that matched the Tarans' unconditional support.

## Mission Statement WOMEN



WOMEN is working on a two-tier level in order to give women with or without education, and women at the bottom 25% of the poverty line, including the poorest women as also defined by the community standards of poverty an opportunity to graduate from extreme poverty into self sufficiency and the opportunity to participate with a more

successful group of women entrepreneurs, . This will benefit women who may live in IDP camps or refugee camps, with a focus on rural women in the greatest state of poverty..

WOMEN will create relationships with our parent International NGO, To Love Children Educational Foundation International, as well as other NGOs, schools and public services in order to provide free access to education and training as a tool for economic stability and growth.

WOMEN's products include savings, life insurance, health, education, grants, loans, and micro credit to bring the poorest women out of poverty, disease, and despair, including women living in IDP and refugee camps. These products will lift them up to become part of a larger group of women that are working together in a savings and support system.

With this approach WOMEN intends to create viable sustainable development opportunities for women in order to enable the girl child to receive an education and thus break the cycle of poverty.

# The WOMEN Team

## David Kenneth Waldman



Founder/President/CEO of To Love Children  
B.A. Elementary Education Queens College, New York  
M.A. International Relations Golden Gate University San Francisco

David Kenneth Waldman is the founder of Rebecca House International Publishing, To Love Children Educational Foundation International, Global Child Journal, Global Educational Organization Travel Opportunities Program, Walk for Education World Wide, and Women Organization Microfinance Education Network. He is the creator of Just for Today and Born with a Learning Mind cartoons, an author of children's books, a curriculum consultant and specialist/researcher/educator, and a children's advocate with over thirty years of diverse experience. David has experience in a cross section of fields including the non-profit, government, business and education sectors. A strong, confident problem-solver and organizer, David has developed new programs from the research, analysis, and processing of data from the field to create operational management and program systems. He manages and maintains 100 staff in over 30 countries around the globe. A communicator, speaker, and accomplished interviewer, David has radio and TV broadcast experience that has led to an increased awareness on children's issues. His experience is driven by a passion and love for children, especially children with no voice, the invisible children and the girl child in the developing world.

## Sinisa Pepic

Executive Director



Sinisa Pepic is a 28-year-old Economist from Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina. He graduated from the Graduate School of Business Studies and qualified as a Economist in Executive Management from Megatrend University of Applied Studies in Belgrade. Sinisa's Bachelor of Arts degree is in Economy.

He has had various experiences and training such as with the United States Department of Agriculture and Cochran Fellowship Training Program in Farm Marketing and Management at various locations in the United States of America. His training also includes experience at the Microfinance Centre for Central and Eastern Europe and the New Independent States with a Human Resource Management Micro Finance Institution Course in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo

Since 1997 he has been working on postwar development of Bosnia and Herzegovina, first with NATO and then beginning in 2000 he worked as a Business Specialist and Operations Officer on a number of Income Generation projects funded by U.S. Government. From 2003-2005 he was at the Branch Manager at the leading women's microfinance institution, Prizma, in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Currently, he is working in the Corporate Business Department of ProCredit Bank, also in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Sinisa is a published expert with his article Terrorism and its Financing and handbooks in the field of Economics.

Always working for the betterment of the people of his country, Sinisa was a Regional Assistance for Minority Return Program (RAMR) Program Caseworker. Caseworkers are a part of the RAMR team in Bosnia and are responsible for assisting ethnic minority groups and individuals to return and to sustain their return to their homes of origin.

Additionally he has serves on committees with United Nations Development Programme UNDP/SRRP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT, Project Selection Committee; as a voting member and the OFFICE OF THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE AND EU SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, OHR Regional Office Banjaluka, and at the RRTF Department as a active member. Sinisa is also active in sports and is a certified international kickboxing referee. He was Secretary General of the Republic of Srpska Kickboxing Federation in two terms.

## Christy Aherne

Executive Assistant to the President

Masters Degree Masters of Arts in Industrial and Organizational Psychology  
Montclair State University, Montclair NJ

Bachelors Degree Bachelors of Arts in Psychology, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Mahwah NJ

Christy seeks a challenging position in Organizational Development and/or Employee Relations that creates opportunities to demonstrate her extensive professional background while benefiting both the organization and her career. Her career goal and her background makes her the perfect selection for the Executive Assistant reporting to the President.

Christy will use her education and recent experiences to act among many roles as the WOMEN Human Resources Consultant where she will consult on all facets of Human Resource Development and administration with the Executive Director and our offices internationally starting in Africa. Part of her role will be to

- develop the organization's Human Resource plans and policies; and
- develop and create the many new needs of organization's Human Resource documents, including but not limited to the Employee Handbook and the Non-Compete Non-Disclosure Contracts.

Christy will also be responsible for management/supervision and collection of data so that all departments will be able to have access to databases and information as needed. In this role, Christy will have a staff reporting directly to her so she can ensure the smooth operations of our MFI.

She will also work closely with the Executive Director and be responsible to help him with the extensive communications with other organizations in the MFI field in order to inquire into and perform comparative analysis regarding selection procedures for personnel, and development of new products. Christy will be part of all hiring of employees and volunteers and will help select entry-level and promotional job placement and conduct eligibility reviews.

Additionally she will create, train, and implement programs and workshops and provide training books for our clients to ensure that they are able to cope with stress. By working to develop a needs assessment of the women we serve, this project will be an ongoing evaluation of the effects of stress on emotional health, physical health, and work productivity of poor women that receive our financial products and loans to provide the assistance and social support services needed to ensure their success. In conjunction with working closely with the Board of Director Liaison, Christy will coordinate the social support from To Love Children to our clients. Creating an occupational health support for poor women will be a free service for all women receiving our loans and financial products.

Christy's most treasured title and job responsibilities are as a mother to her 2 year-old son and as a wife. Christy, we welcome you to the team.

## Kirsten Mickelson

WOMEN Board Member & Board Liaison to To Love Children Board of Directors

Kirsten is from the northern part of California and currently lives in San Francisco. She received her B.A. with honors in 2003 from UC Berkeley where she double majored in Spanish Language and Literature and Mass Communications. After graduation, she spent a year in the UK taking courses and interning at an international law firm.

As an undergrad, she spent her junior year abroad in Granada, Spain to study Spanish literature, culture, and language. Kirsten also spent a summer in Hamburg, Germany working in a refugee camp with an NGO called Civile Service International- a relative organization of UNESCO. Additionally, she interned at the International Rescue Committee in Oakland where she assisted Spanish-speaking refugees. Kirsten also assisted refugee families in social and cultural orientations and helped enroll the young children into local schools and government-sponsored



programs. Kirsten had the opportunity to work with people from all over the world, and she would like to become more involved with international relations. She has gained a truly international perspective from living and working abroad, plus practical experience working with non-profits. Kirsten is very excited to serve as a board member for WOMEN, particularly acting as a liaison between WOMEN and TLC. She looks forward to being a part of such an important organization.

## Dr. Ravinder Rena

M.A., B.Ed., LL.B., M. Phil., Ph.D.

Board Member

Assistant Professor of Economics, Dept. of Business and Economics

Eritrea Institute of Technology and Teacher Education Mai Nefhi  
(Under the Ministry of Education) Asmara, Eritrea



The details of his educational qualifications are impressive, but his willingness to give of his time, talents, and experience to better the lives of women and girls economically and educationally speaks volumes of his humanitarian spirit.

With a Ph.D. in Economics (August 2000) from University College of Arts and Social Sciences, Osmania University, (his Research Topic: “Financing and Cost Recovery in Higher Education: A Study with Special Reference to Private Colleges in Andhra Pradesh”), will add a significant benefit to build the motivation for our programs for women to reach the highest levels of education possible.

He received his M. Phil. in Economics from University College of Arts and Social Sciences, Osmania University, Hyderabad, (A. P.) India as well, and his research topic was: “The Performance of Overseas Development Administration (O.D.A.) Assisted Project on Andhra Pradesh Primary Education with Special Reference to Warangal District.”

Dr Rena’s M. A. is in Economics with First Division 68.9% from University College of Arts and Social Sciences, Osmania University. He also qualified in the National Eligibility Test (N.E.T. November 1996) - Master’s Level for Lectureship in Economics at Universities and Colleges conducted by the Andhra Pradesh College Service Commission accredited by the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, India.

His credentials are indeed impressive with an additional LL.B. (Bachelor of Laws) from the University College of Law, Kakatiya University, Warangal, (A.P.) India, a B.Ed. (Bachelor of Education – May 1994) from Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, Tamilnadu, India, and a B. A. in Economics (June 1990) from Kakatiya Govt. Degree College, Kakatiya University, Warangal, (A.P.) India.

His Academic Honor was Awarded the University Gold Medal (December 2001) on the occasion of the 75th (Platinum Jubilee) Osmania University Convocation for the Best Ph.D. Candidate / Thesis in the Field of Economics / Commerce / Business Management.

Presently Dr Rena is the Assistant Professor of Economics, Dept. of Business and Economics at the Eritrean Institute of Technology- Mainefhi, Under the Ministry of Education, The State of Eritrea on renewable contract beginning September, 2004.

With expertise in economics, banking, and finance as well as creating curriculum and teaching, Dr. Rena adds additional depth to our talented team at WOMEN.

## Irene Francesca Castillo

Board Member

Education that gives depth to her recent experience, Irene has a M.B.A., International HR and Finance from Johns Hopkins University and was an MBA Capstone Team Leader: Hispanic market penetration in the financial service sector. Her undergraduate work is equally impressive with a B.A. in International Affairs and Business Administration from American University. She has expanded her learning with The World of Microfinance, microfinance on-line course series, UNDP, Diploma, fluent

in English, French, Spanish, and Italian and with a working knowledge of Portuguese, Irene will add an important aspect of communication to many of the people WOMEN will need to talk to in order to grow.

Irene has worked at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Institute as a Training Administrator in Washington D.C. for the last ten years where she manages international economic training programs in French, English, and Spanish. She provides advisory and logistic support to clients for compliance with the economic curriculum and the IMF Institute's guidelines. With excellent relationship-building skills that instill confidence and transcend language and cultural barriers, Irene has extensive mission work in Francophone Africa and Latin America.

Some of her other professional development experience include:

- House of Assistance to Children with Cancer - Worked with the cancer patients and their parents, Salvador, Brazil;
- Johns Hopkins University, Finance Club (in process) - Charter Member, by-laws, comparison analysis of other finance clubs and JHU;
- Volunteer Career Coach - Mentoring minority women; and
- Agora Partnership - Fundraising for microfinance and micro entrepreneurs in Nicaragua.

Her associations with the Wharton DC Chapter, the National Association of Hispanic MBAs, The Association of Latinos in Finance and Accounting, The World Bank/International Monetary Fund Investment Club, and NYU and Columbia University Microfinance Working Groups make Irene a valuable and welcome new board member.

## Mehnaz Haider

Consultant to the Board of Directors

Mehnaz Haider has a B.A. from Smith College in Economics and Studio Art and a M.Phil. in Development Studies from Cambridge University. She has consulted for Kashf Foundation, a pioneering MFI in Pakistan, conducting research on social capital formation and microfinance for a project funded by CIDA and AKFC, which was later published. As the Manager of Enterprise Development at Kashf, which has outreach to over 800 low-income women in areas of Lahore, she provided strategic management to three business units, including overseeing the production of the largest hand embroidery order in Pakistan for a multi-national company compliant with international labor standards. She has also worked at Aurat Foundation, a national level civil society organization in Pakistan, where she conducted research on home-based workers and street vendors to increase workers' productivity and incomes and developed their collective bargaining strength and secured recognition for them as workers under the labor laws. She debriefed UNIFEM and HomeNet International in New Delhi and Bangkok on the research findings and their policy implications. Mehnaz has also conducted training at the grass-roots level in Punjab, to facilitate women's group action for solving community problems.



Since moving to the U.S. in 2002, Mehnaz has consulted for Business Investment Growth in Austin, Texas to develop a technical assistance program for small business clients. She has also consulted with the Austin Project, a city funded program that creates partnerships among service providers that allow women to transition from welfare dependence to employment. She has advised TLC as a member of the Microfinance Advisory Board in developing a work strategy for WOMEN. She is currently a fellow of the Saratoga Foundation for Women Worldwide and is conducting research on environmental health and microfinance in China. She is a national of Pakistan and lived in Switzerland for 17 years. She speaks Urdu, German, and French. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and daughter.

# A Warm New Year

By Yuan Wong (Michelle Wong) To Love Children Volunteer-China

It was a normal weekend before Christmas.

For many Chinese boys and girls, this weekend was for their precious “Christmas Presents.” In Kaifeng, a small developing city in central China, a group of girls were offering their warm-hearted voluntary work to a group of blind doctors. The girls are from the No. 14 Middle School and the school has socialized with the Massage Hospital in Kaifeng by blind people for over four years.

This weekend, grabbing the brooms and mops, the lovely girls headed to the hospitals and helped the doctors to clean their yards and offices. Despite the chilly winter, their work won high praise from the doctors. The organizer of the activity, a girl named Li Shuang, said their motivation for this voluntary work was from the classroom. They heard from their teachers that they had to maximize their care to whomever they could reach. Li Shuang organized eight girls in her class and inherited the former volunteer work in the Massage hospital near their school.

“Every weekend, our group will take action. Our help is not huge but I’m sure we can bring happiness and warmth to the doctors,” said Li Shuang. “Our work is lasting. I hope our hands could bring them a clean and warm Christmas and a blessed New Year,” a member in the voluntary team added.

Today, the No.14 Middle School has organized more than ten kinds of voluntary jobs, stretching from SOS village to military bases. From these extracurricular activities, education goes beyond the classroom to merge with the current trend, which becomes more practical and humane. Students who benefit from this voluntary work can find out that there are still a lot for them to learn and to absorb outside the classroom. Living in this diverse world, a middle school student should realize that her action will not only influence her behavior but will make a difference to others.

As the eight girls pointed out: “Being a volunteer helped them to grow up as human beings and they’ve learned to respect different people in the process.”



# Impact of HIV/AIDS on Women in Developing Countries in Africa

By: Dr. Ravinder Rena

According to the UNAIDS report (2002), global estimates of HIV/AIDS epidemic as of the end of 2001 show the total number of adults and children living with HIV/AIDS in the world is 40 million of which 37.1 million are adults, 18.5 million are women, and 3 million are children under 15 years of age. It is also reported that the total number of children orphaned by AIDS is 14 million. The rapid spread of AIDS threatens to undermine some populous nations in the world and to destabilize security over the next decade, according to a report by the US Central Intelligence Agency (USCIA, 2002). The report indicates that cumulative AIDS cases will triple in these five populous countries (China, Russia, India, Nigeria and Ethiopia) over the next decade from an estimated 23 million today to as many as 75 million by 2010.

HIV/AIDS is having a debilitating effect on many developing countries of Africa, largely by undermining human capital particularly in the countries like South Africa, Ethiopia, Botswana, and Uganda. The disease affects primarily the adult population in its most productive years, thereby thwarting population incentives to save and invest. The epidemic disease of AIDS destroys the social fabric of whole communities, undermines the capacity of government to provide basic social services, and essentially curtails the potential for sustained economic development and social transformation. Since development has to start with human resources, many African economies suffer with problems such as a high rate of poverty, low-skilled populations, and desperately needed human capacity building by expanding the institutional infrastructure and increased public awareness of AIDS.

In Sub-Saharan Africa alone, for example, some 17.2 million people have died of HIV/AIDS, of which 3.7 million were children under the age of 15. In Eritrea, over 70,000 adults are currently infected with HIV/AIDS and the number is progressively increasing. Women make up almost 59 percent of the total reported AIDS cases nationally. Women are over-represented as victims of AIDS because they are biologically more vulnerable than men to sexually transmitted diseases and physically more susceptible to AIDS. Over 70 percent of the cases reported fall in the age range of 20 to 39 years, of which 60 percent are males and 40 percent are females. Pediatric AIDS cases are reported to be progressively increasing over the years. Heterosexual activity is the main mode of transmission of HIV/AIDS in Eritrea, up to 95 percent, while 5 percent are prenatal.

Women infected with sexually transmitted diseases through the use of force in rape are very likely to transmit the disease to their unborn children, and those involved in prostitution also contribute to disease transmission due to limited use of safe sex. Women are largely dependent on men's willingness to use condoms or to practice other alternatives to penetrative sex in order to prevent sexually transmitted diseases. In most ethnic groups, the terms of sexuality are essentially determined by men, whether contained in religious belief or laws, in less formal cultural traditions, or in the emotional context of individual sexual negotiations between a man and a woman. Males are expected to initiate relationships, and sexual assertiveness in women is often stigmatized.

Women's vulnerability to sexually transmitted infections (HIV/AIDS and others) is directly related to and enhanced by the social, economic and political status. In many societies, there is a significant power differential between men and women due to social, cultural, and economic systems.

Indeed, it is an overdue issue and serious social problem around the globe. It needs special attention in collecting and transferring appropriate knowledge about the effect of the disease and in initiating capacity building in order to design preventative and control measures against the disease by expanding institutional infrastructure and increased public awareness of HIV/AIDS all over the globe, especially in Africa.

Dr. Ravinder Rena M.A., B.Ed., LL.B., M.Phil., Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Economics  
Dept. of Business and Economics  
Post Box No: 7956  
Eritrea Institute of Technology and Teacher Education  
(Under the Ministry of Education) Asmara, Eritrea.

# To Love Children Round Table

We invite your response from experts to extend the dialogue and to find solutions to topics presented in the TLC Roundtable

## Invisible Children

**By Estanislao Ozewicz**

The Globe and Mail (Toronto) Unicef reveals 'invisible' children  
Wednesday, December 14, 2005 Page A20 Globe and Mail (Toronto)

About one-third of the estimated 150 million children born worldwide each year are never registered by their governments, making these "invisible" children more vulnerable to problems such as trafficking, UNICEF said in a new report. An estimated 1.8 million children are forced to enter the sex industry and another 5.7 million are sold into slavery each year, conditions often facilitated by the children having no birth certificate, the United Nations' children's agency warned.

The United Nations Children's Fund calls them the "invisible" children, so out of sight and out of mind that they've fallen off the developed world's radar.

In its annual report on the state of the world's children, being released today, UNICEF says that hundreds of millions of the poorest and most vulnerable have become forgotten and defenceless.

Why? UNICEF says that more than 50 million children are not registered at birth and, as a result, are not counted in statistics or even officially recognized, leaving them without access to education and health care.

As well, one in 13 children in the developing world (143 million) has lost at least one parent. More than 250,000 children are serving as soldiers in armed conflicts.

There's more. UNICEF estimates that 171 million children are forced into working in hazardous jobs with dangerous machinery, in factories, mines and agriculture. Millions of others are forced into the sex trade.

For Nigel Fisher, president of UNICEF Canada, none of this is acceptable. "Children deserve to live in safety and with dignity," he said in a statement, "and protecting children from harm is critical to their physical and emotional health, as well as their ability to develop to their fullest potential."

UNICEF executive director Ann Veneman says in a forward to the report that the state of the world's children is directly linked to whether the so-called millennium development goals set by world leaders include promoting gender equality and trying to improve maternal and child health by 2015.

She says that at current rates of progress, about 8.7 million children under the age of 5 will die in 2015. But if the millennium goal to reduce child mortality is met, 3.8 million would be spared.

"Meeting the goals is, therefore, a matter of life or death -- of progress or a step backward -- for millions of children."

## The World Clock-Time Zones

Even though our Board of Directors meet in person and we do have an office in Uganda and one in Kenya, the majority of our volunteers and partners live all over globe. Here is a useful web site tool to plan meetings and to figure out who is awake when you want to plan a meeting with your team.

## The Fixed Time World Clock-Setup

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixform.html>

Have you planned a web cast, online chat, teleconference call, or other event where users from all over the world might participate? The Fixed Time World Clock can help tell your users when this event will happen in their local time zone.

(To convert between just two time zones, use the Time Zone Converter instead. Use the Meeting Planner to find a suitable time to across many time zones.)

Find your own place/city in the list (or a city in the same time zone as yourself), select the time, and press the button to get local time all over the world at the fixed time and place you entered.

## Youth Advisory Board Kids Council

At To Love Children's new Youth Advisory Board and Kids Council we teach:

- Skills in social entrepreneurship, leadership, and philanthropy--learn to help others, to make a real difference.
- Children and Youth to make decisions that will directly affect children living with a lack of resources.

The Kids Council will have a budget and the Advisory Board, along with the Kids Council, will decide where to spend the money in order to help children in the developing world. They will also look to the needs of inner city children in countries all over the world, including Native American, indigenous, and refugee children, who have become the most invisible and excluded in getting their basic needs and human rights met.

This is an exciting opportunity to meet and work with children from all over the world. You will be able to learn and practice new languages, such as Spanish, French, Italian, German, Portuguese and Telugu to name a few, and learn new cultures, history, and geography from people directly and not from a book or a film. There will be opportunities for possible trips to other countries with parents and volunteers who are teachers to go and see the difference you have made.

With the Director of the Youth Advisory Board and Kids Council, Adwoa Aidoo will monitor and manage the mentors and see that the Board gets the information and experience they need to be able to make decisions that are carefully weighed and evaluated to their merits given the resources at hand. Adwoa will also work to sure that the program become sustainable and that there is a constant flow of funding for the board and council to decide how best to benefit children in the developing world.

There will be opportunity to publish your art,, children's stories, articles, and work you are doing to help children from around the world in this RESPECT International Canada E-zine and the Global Child Journal published by To Love Children

You can link to other children's groups all over the world so that children will be able to start talking more to other children in order to create solutions for children by children and youth and learn, but of course also to have a lot of fun.

We are looking for children, youth, and young adults to speak up and speak out in order to give children and youth a real voice and the means to create change. Learn management skills and decision-making around money. Learn valuable and lessons you can use for the rest of your life.

Kids Council is a Youth Advisory Board linked to To Love Children Educational Foundation International Inc.

[www.tolovechildren.org](http://www.tolovechildren.org). The age of the children and youth is from 7 years of age to 18 years. 7 years to 12 years will be the Kids Council and 13 years to 18 years will be the Youth Advisory Board. After that age, members become an advisor to the board. Adowa is seeking adult mentors, in addition to children and youth.

For more information contact

Adowa Aidoo at [adwoa\\_aidoo@yahoo.com](mailto:adwoa_aidoo@yahoo.com)

or David Kenneth Waldman at [DavidKennethWaldman@tolovechildren.org](mailto:DavidKennethWaldman@tolovechildren.org)



# How Can I Help?

Healthy And Safe Hiv/aid Prevention Curriculum

Women Organization Micro Financial

Educational Network

Clean Water Project

Solar Energy Resource Center

Universal African Resource Center And Library

Kampala Brass Band

Peace – A Peace Curriculum For Children



Each month we will focus on a part of our many programs where you can make a difference with a \$100 contribution. And of course any amount goes a long way. Your contribution will pay for the running of our programs.

## To Love Children Classifieds

Place your classified ad here for free and reach hundreds of people that live in over 29 countries. All ads are subject to approval of the Editor and a minimum of 10% portion of any profits from any sale must be donated to the running of TLC's programs

Jeanmarie Martin is now editing some of our To Love Children's newsletters and documents with the professional skill of the best of editing tradition. She is reliable and thorough. We recommend that you call or email her company, A Way with Words, to receive a quote for your next editing job.

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A WAY WITH WORDS

(615) 895-7332 • [readydex@aol.com](mailto:readydex@aol.com)

ALL WORK COMPLETED IN A TIMELY & CONFIDENTIAL MANNER.

## Volunteers Needed

- Chief Financial Officer
- International Public Health Director
- Editors and Writers
- People to work on To Love Children's BLOG site
- Translators in Russian, Italian, German, Chinese Mandarin, or other major dialects
- Graphic Designers and Illustrators
- Fundraising and Sales People
- Board of Directors Members
- Advisory Board Members for Micro Loan Program
- Curriculum Writers
- Join Board of Directors committees such Financial, Education, Programs, Fundraising and Publishing

For more information, please contact Katie Patricelli, Executive Director  
[katiepatricelli@tolovechildren.org](mailto:katiepatricelli@tolovechildren.org)

# Rebecca House Publishing International

## Children's Books & Cassette Tapes for Sale

**Profits from the sales of children's books and cassettes go for operating costs for  
To Love Children.**

**Crystal Moonlight by David Kenneth Waldman  
\$10.95**



**For ages 4-8.**

**A blind girl named Gale learns to see with her heart and not with her eyes  
alone.**

**The Changer by Tatiana Strelkoff  
\$10.95**



**For ages 9-12. A ten-year-old boy named Jeremy learns the gift of being one  
with animals from Woodman, a Choctow Indian.**

**How Teddy Bears Find Their Homes by David Kenneth Waldman**  
**\$7.95**



**For ages 4-8. At the age of five, Benjamin Tristan Bear learns that you find your home through love. An original teddy bear song is included.**

This cassette also includes Crystal Moonlight, a Crystal Moonlight lullaby song, and the theme song for To Love Children. Ron Dante, a two-time Tony award winner and the voice of The Archie's and hits such as Sugar, Sugar, is featured on this tape along the incredible voice talent of Roo Morgan, who has done work for Disney and appeared on the Smothers Brothers TV show.

To order, send a check made out to 'To Love Children Educational Foundation International Inc.', to: 1550 California Street, Suite 6L330, San Francisco CA 94109 or make an online credit card donation for \$50 at <http://www.tolovechildren.org/donate.htm> and e-mail [rebeccahse@aol.com](mailto:rebeccahse@aol.com) with your name and mailing address, and we will send all three as a thank-you gift for your donation.

Please Note: you will only be able to declare \$43.00 as a donation to our 501c3 non-profit . TLC recommends when making donations to non-profit organizations that you check with your accountant to ensure what you are able to declare on your taxes.

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