

United Nations - Fifty-First session of the Commission on the Status of Women

February 26 to 9 March 2007, United Nations, NYC, NY 10017



NGO Canadian Voice of Women for Peace (VOW) Presents:

Human Trafficking and Non-State Actor Torture of the Girl Child* within the Context of Ritual Abuse-Torture

March 5, 2007 - 2:00 to 3:45 pm, UN Church Center, Hardin Room, 11th Floor
777 UN Plaza, 44th St. & First Ave. NYC

Speakers and Members of VOW

■ Linda MacDonald and Jeanne Sarson

Linda MacDonald, MEd, BN, RN and Jeanne Sarson, MEd, BScN, RN are Canadians and founders of Persons Against Ritual Abuse-Torture whose partnership of 14 years of activism, research, writing, and supportive work focuses on the relational violence of ritual abuse-torture (RAT) that occurs within intergenerational family/guardian-child relationships nationally and globally. Their goal centers on having RAT recognized as a human rights violation and form of non-state actor torture. They will present visual models explaining the state of enslavement that occurs, discuss the complexity of integrative healing, and the impact of *misopais* locally and globally. A fact sheet will be available.

* (We recognize the boy child also suffers ritual abuse-torture and human trafficking victimization.)

■ Kelly Watt

Kelly Watt is a writer, activist, and survivor of ritual abuse-torture. She has written for print, radio, film and television on women's health. Her award-winning short fiction has been published in Canadian literary magazines and anthologies. Her first novel, *Mad Dog* (2001 Doubleday Canada) about a young girl growing up in a religious cult is currently being made into a feature film. She volunteers with Persons Against Ritual Abuse-Torture presenting at conferences in the U.S. and Canada, and recently at the VOW lecture series *Violence and the Global Sex Trade*, University of Toronto.

■ Jeanette Westbrook

Jeanette Westbrook MSSW, CSW is a nationally known speaker and lecturer on ritual abuse-torture. A licensed Social Worker in practice full time she also serves as a consultant to survivors, their supporters, and law enforcement sharing her experiences as a ritual abuse-torture survivor who pursued criminal charges against her perpetrators in the US criminal justice system. This is Ms. Westbrook's third panel presentation at the UN in conjunction with Persons Against Ritual Abuse-Torture of Nova Scotia, Canada. She seeks to help bring awareness, reality, and policies that address the worldwide suffering of Ritual Abuse-Torture Survivors and those deceased.

Moderator

■ Janet Eaton

Janet M. Eaton, PhD, activist, academic, researcher, and consultant, is known nationally and internationally for her work in the women's, environment, peace and global democracy movements. Canadian VOW Co-Chair, she focuses on UNSC Res.1325; on the root causes of the intolerable levels of violence against women; sustainability and peace; foreign policy analysis and on the failures of the globalized militaristic dominant economic growth model; she advocates locally and globally for principle centred, participatory, economically just and ecologically sustainable alternatives. She is the new international trade critic of the Green Party of Canada.

Canadian Voice of Women for Peace Canadian Voice of Women for Peace/ La Voix Canadiennes des Femmes pour la Paix works locally, nationally, and internationally on issues related to peace, social justice, human rights and development, always seeking to promote a woman's and a feminist's perspective.

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