



City of
OAKLAND
California

Media Contact:

Chantal Reynolds
Tel: [510.238.3245](tel:510.238.3245)
CReynolds@oaklandnet.com

News from: Department of Human Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OAKLAND YOUTH COMMISSION CALLS FOR HEARING ON COMMERCIALLY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN (CSEC)

Oakland, CA -- The Oakland Youth Commission has called a hearing on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). The hearing will be held on Monday, May 6, 2013 at 5'o'clock pm at City Hall in Council Chambers. The Commission has organized this hearing to raise awareness of this problem and bring stakeholders together to discuss prevention education.

Oakland has the frightening distinction as having one of the nation's worst child sex trafficking problems. H.E.A.T Watch indicates that Oakland Police reported 1,782 sex trafficking cases in the past five years. Children are bought and sold in Oakland as big business. While most victims are teenagers, some are in elementary school. The practice is modern day slavery. The dangers facing children from child pornography, online enticement, child sex tourism, commercial sexual exploitation, and sexual exploitation is not a problem that only affects young people from other countries. A high percentage of the girls and boys being exploited in Oakland are US citizens.

This hearing is intended to give these enslaved girls and boys a face, a name and a voice. "Our goal is to stop CSEC through education and prevention."

Hearing Details:

Oakland Youth Commission
Oakland City Hall
Council Chambers
Monday, May 6, 2013
5:00 pm

An Oakland parent brought CSEC to the attention of the Oakland Youth Commission. "Too many Oakland residents are oblivious to our city's child sex trafficking problem," notes Oakland parent and CSEC advocate Gencie Jacobs. "While there are many services for victims of CSEC, it is time to put an end to this madness. We'd like to see an expanded focus on prevention and education services. No child should be subject to a horrifying life on the streets being sold to for sex right here in our back yard," she concludes.

Confirmed speakers include: Nancy O'Malley, Alameda County DA, Sgt., Oakland Police Department representatives, along with representatives from Oakland Unified School District, OUSD Police, Measure Y, MISSSEY, EBAYC, H.E.A.T Watch, Youth Radio, Native American Health Clinic, West Coast Children's Clinic, BAWAR, Banterei Srei, Love Never Fails, Oakland youth, CSEC survivors and parent advocates.

For more information, contact Chantal Reynolds at [510.238.3245](tel:510.238.3245).

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