



Operation Cross Country

Children are rescued and pimps are arrested

Operation Cross Country, which is an annual law enforcement project of the F.B.I. and its partners, resulted in the rescue last week of 168 child victims of human trafficking and the arrest of 281 pimps in 106 cities in the United States.

“Child sex traffickers create a living nightmare for their adolescent victims,” said Leslie R. Caldwell, Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division of the

Department of Justice. “They use fear and force and treat children as commodities of sex to be sold again and again. This operation puts traffickers behind bars and rescues kids from their nightmare so they can start reclaiming their childhood” (*F.B.I. press release, June 23, 2014*).

The rescue of child victims of human trafficking is one of several reasons for the Center for Youth Leadership’s (CYL) public awareness activities in hotels and

motels, store windows, and truck stops. We also lead activities in school hallways, including our popular “*Real men don’t buy girls*” project. The photo is of a staff member from Love 146, a New Haven based trafficking agency that has led classroom discussions with CYL at Brien McMahon High since 2010.

Photo: Health hallway at Brien McMahon High in Norwalk.

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