



# HAART KENYA

HAART Monthly Newsletter

Issue 10 - October 2015

## Introduction

October was a month packed with meetings and events with partners. One of our partners; HopeNow from Denmark visited our offices in the first week of the month to see the progress of the project. We also had a conference with yet another donor Mensen met een Missie to discuss on the next project together with all the members of the Kenya Peace Network. Other events included the stakeholder's forum with UNODC in Naivasha and the 6th Regional Consultative Process which was held in Djibouti by IGAD. HAART was invited by IGAD to participate and also to carry along the art work from the A2ES project. We are glad to report that everything went well and we got positive feedback.

On the 30th of October, HAART held a validation meeting for a research we have been conducting since late last year about the vulnerability of children to trafficking. This is so as to help us come up with a manual that can be used in training vulnerable children on child trafficking. The turnout for the meeting was good and HAART received good feedback from different stakeholders that attended. We look forward to developing the manual and see to it that its effectively utilized. We are doing this project with our partners VMM and Misesan Cara.

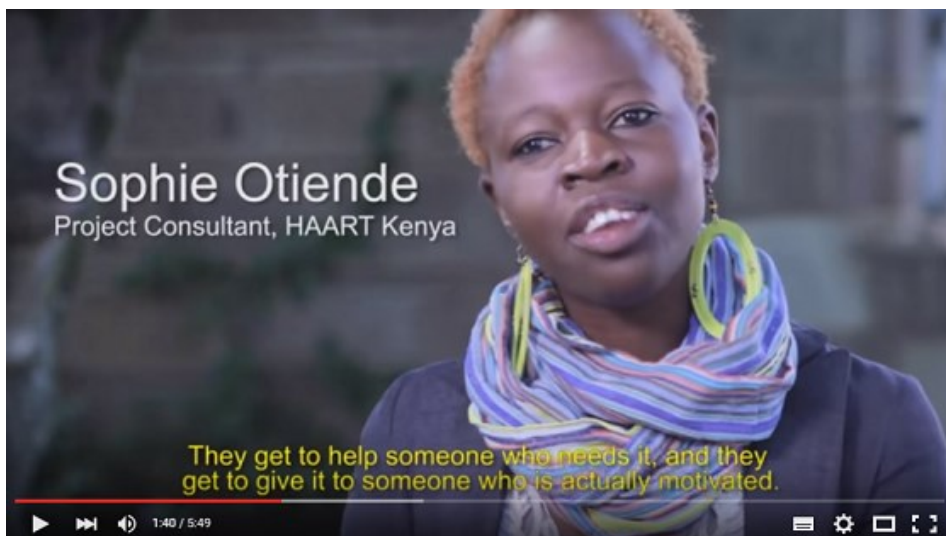
This month you can read a story by Derek Kaddo who was part of the audience in a poetry event held by HAART, Fatuma's Voice, PAWA254 and HopeNow on human trafficking. He was inspired by the event and decided to write this essay. You can also read HAART's response to the letter from the His Holiness Pope Francis in which he recognizes HAART's efforts in combating human trafficking. We are honored for this kind of recognition. The month of November will see a lot of HAART's staff out of the office for meetings. These include the National Referral Mechanism validation by UNODC in Kisumu, the GIVEFreeDom campaign in Poland ([givefreedom.eu](http://givefreedom.eu)), the Vatican Academy meeting in Rome, COATNET meeting in Paris and the South to South Vital Voices Fellowship in South Africa among others.

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*"KNOWLEDGE  
MAKES MAN  
UNFIT TO BE A  
SLAVE"*

*- Frederick Douglass*

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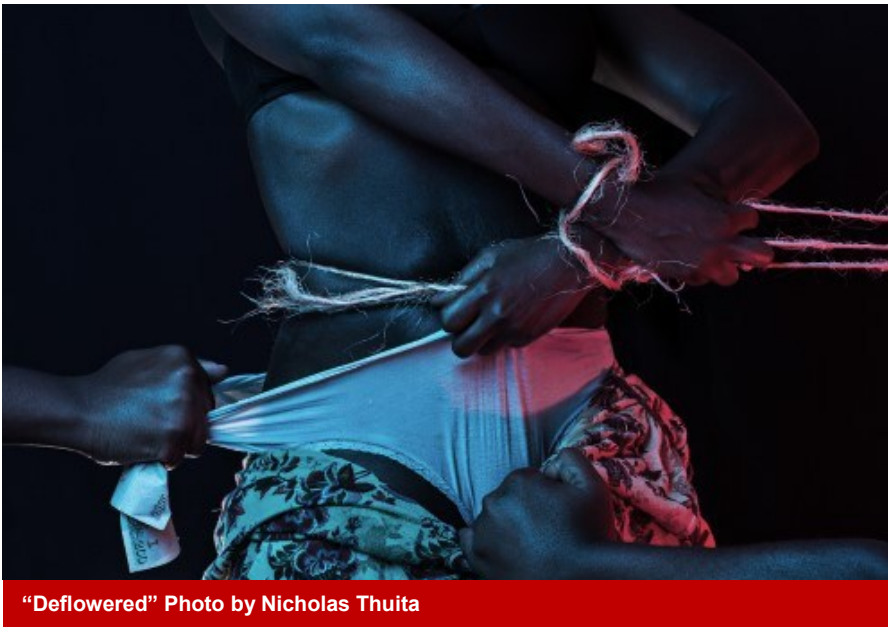


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### Giving Hope to Survivors of Human Trafficking

In October, HAART's partner Youth Career Initiative published a short film about the work we do together to empower victims of trafficking through providing job opportunities. See the video on [www.haartstories.org/yci](http://www.haartstories.org/yci)



“Deflowered” Photo by Nicholas Thuita

## Human Trade

Virtue has a voice, and sometimes it starts with one; Fatuma’s Voice. The other evening, I attended a function organized by Fatuma’s Voice at PAWA254 under the auspices of HAART and a host of other partners. The topic of discussion was human trafficking and associated crimes. I learnt much, and notably that there is a difference between human trafficking and human smuggling. That Kenya itself is a country of origin, transit and destination of trafficked persons. It got me thinking more on how the world is heaving under the weight of its own vices, and why no one seems to want to talk about it, more often. We live in a society so wounded for so long, it has become accustomed to shame of its perversions, to even try to remedy it.

Just the other week end of September one of the local dailies run a story of Mercy\*, a young girl who committed suicide after a person she met online and got into a sexual relationship with threatened to expose on the web nude photos he took of her. The motive behind the threat is unknown at this point but we can speculate that Mercy blamed herself for this outcome, so much she could not live with herself, an opinion shared with many who commented on the post. What does this tell you? That most of those people would probably go down the same road Mercy did, if they were to find themselves in Mercy’s shoes.

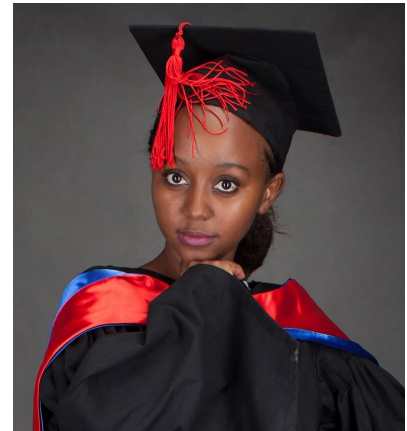
And then there was another lady who stood for long in these endless queues prevalent in government offices she ended up fainting right there on the floor. Guess what happened; no one lifted a finger! Not even wanting to know what to do with her. Until she came to and got herself out of there. Go figure that.

Why are we so cold to human suffering? We are the only species in the creation kingdom that relish annihilating their own kind, not for food or survival, but for vanity. In relation to last weekend’s event, I learned human trafficking has so many faces, including kidnap for ransom, rape, pedophilia, child sex prostitution, harvesting body organs, sex trafficking of kin to capitalize on their lesser bargaining position, et cetera. How that is progressive beats all logic.

(continued on page 4)

## Congratulations!

On October 23rd HAART’s Programme Assistant, Phyllis Mburu, graduated with a degree in communication and public relations from the Multimedia University of Kenya. We are super proud of her and we would also like to congratulate her and her family.



Phyllis Mburu, BA

## Announcement

HAART would like to thank Field Officer George Matheka for his hard work for HAART over the years. He has finished his contract in October 2015 and we wish him luck in his future endeavors.

## HAART response

This month we would like to acknowledge His Holiness Pope Francis for his support to HAART depicted in a letter addressed to the Director of HAART.

We are grateful for recognizing the work that HAART is doing in Kenya and East Africa in combating human trafficking. Although HAART is non-religious we are grateful for the partnership with many Catholic institutions and we certainly recognize the impact of the Vatican and Pope Francis in fighting human trafficking. HAART is dedicated to fight until human trafficking is eradicated especially in Kenya and East Africa and to see to it that the victims are no longer victims but survivors living an empowered life. Thank you again to His Holiness Pope Francis for offering prayers for HAART, its supporters and the beneficiaries.

We would like to also welcome His Holiness Pope Francis to Kenya this month from the 25th to the 27th. May you enjoy your visit to Kenya. We wish you safety and fulfillment in your endeavors through this time.

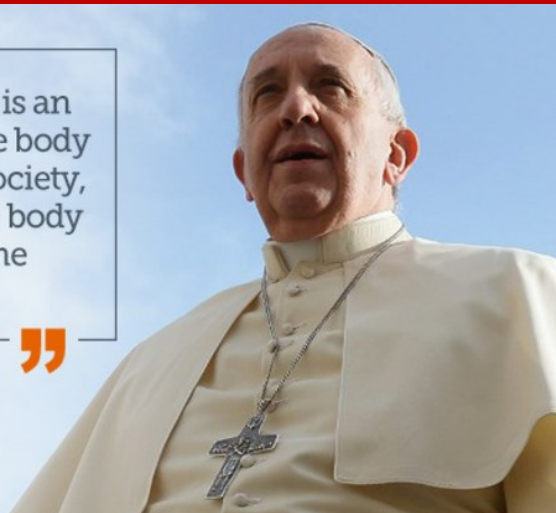
In the letter Pope Francis mentions a campaign that we are starting online to raise funds to build a rescue center for victims of human trafficking. Read more about the campaign on [givefreedom.eu](http://givefreedom.eu).



Human trafficking is an open wound on the body of contemporary society, a scourge upon the body of Christ. It is a crime against humanity.



**POPE FRANCIS**



## Letter from Pope Francis:



APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE

Mr. Radosław Malinowski  
Director of HAART  
Nairobi

His Holiness Pope Francis learned with gratitude of the efforts by HAART to combat human trafficking in Kenya and throughout East Africa, and he encourages you in your campaign to establish a shelter for victims of this grave crime. Your care for those who suffer this enslavement is especially significant given the hidden nature of trafficking, and serves to educate peoples about this scourge, which denies the very dignity of human life. His Holiness prays that the initiatives of HAART, especially Zbuduj FreeDOM, may assist in freeing men, women and children from the injustice of human trafficking, and assist in their healing so that they may live free and fulfilling lives. To all who assist you in this essential work and to those for whom you labour, Pope Francis offers the assurance of his prayers that Almighty God may bless and guide your work.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin  
Secretary of State

## Human Trade (continued)

### Wolves of Red-Street

What factors could be fueling increase in such vices happening?

Poverty is cited as the number one reason why people find themselves lured by the promise of glitz and riches of the unknown. Many young people ending up in Middle East find themselves forced into sexual slavery and forced labour by their masters or working for a pittance.

But there could be another angle. What if the on-going waves of economic collapse in different parts of the world is creating motives for bad people with good money to exploit the lack of opportunities for others? Money is their means to an end, right?

All of a sudden the liberation that the West packaged for Arab Spring had become a powder cage extending the whole region of Sahel, setting ablaze Timbuktu to Tigris and whatever is caught up in between. Suddenly, humanity is being displaced by the millions. The waters of Mediterranean and Aegean are so agitated by a bloodbath created by sub-human-shark-smugglers and traffickers who are making such a frothy killing as would put Silk Road to shame. People are smuggling people for profit; to satisfy perverted idiosyncrasies of pedophiles, brothels and gentlemen's salons, escort services, modern-day slavery, you name it.

### Frankeinsternet?

To effect this massive movement of humanity of unprecedented proportions in human history, the complex elements of coercion, manipulation, fraud, physical as well as emotional abuse, all come into play in the world wide web. Today it is something you are reading about on the internet. Tomorrow it will be someone you know. Who among Laura Imali's friend she would end up being a sex slave to a stranger she fell in love with after hooking up on Tagged? We meet strangers every day in the streets, some we end up marrying and building happy families with. What difference does it, meeting someone in the streets and meeting someone on the net? The anonymity provided by the internet is a thriving breeding ground for perverts, criminals, drug-dealers, pimps, body-organ smugglers, modern-day slave traders, arms traffickers and all related vice that provide revenue that viciously feed into all these vices. They are all connected, the more vicious the more lucrative. But far more dangers lurks in the deep corners of the 'web-street' than you can fathom, far much more than in let's say, Koinange Street. The kind of debasement that lady went through leaves you completely gutted...

You can read the rest of the story on HAART's blog:

[www.haartstories.org](http://www.haartstories.org)

By Derek Kaddo

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information or check out the website or any of our social media sites.

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.haartkenya.org](http://www.haartkenya.org)

Visit our blog at  
[www.haartstories.org](http://www.haartstories.org)

 [fb.com/haart.ke](https://fb.com/haart.ke)

 [@haartkenya](https://twitter.com/haartkenya)

[#FightHumanTrafficking](https://twitter.com/haartkenya)

### Upcoming activities

- Attending international conferences
- Fundraising campaign
- Assistance to victims of trafficking
- Anti-trafficking campaign in social media

## Donate

Become part of the push to end modern slavery in Kenya. Support HAART Kenya:

[www.haartkenya.org/donate](http://www.haartkenya.org/donate)

**MISEREOR**  
IHR HILFSWERK

  
misean cara  
mission support team network

  
International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations (OIM)  
Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)

**HopeNow** giz  
Empowering Trafficked People

  
mensen  
met een  
missie



AUSTRIAN  
EMBASSY  
NAIROBI

  
YCI  
Youth Career Initiative

HAART's main partners in 2015