

Project: Workshop on “Human Trafficking”	
Workshop requested by:	“Amaras Art Alliance”
The performer	Lilit Abgaryan

SUBJECT OF THE WORKSHOP	QTY	
Human Trafficking	1	

Scope of the workshop:

1. General and Global Discussion of the subject
2. An Interactive contact and intercourse with the audience: The comparison of the frequency of the cases both out of borders of The Republic of Armenia and inside it.
3. Watching of films based on real facts that have been found out in Armenia(Short videos made by Arzuman Harutyunyan)
4. Short reports of students on the subject.
5. Distribution of booklets given by The UN department of Armenia.

Place of Workshop & period:

“High School No 190 after Galust Gyulbenkyan,
Big hall (70 seats and several chairs),
Armenia, Yerevan, 27/04/2011.

I hereby certify that I have held the following workshop on 27/04/2011 and declare the time and place of it:

TIME LOG

Operations	Time	Date
The representative of “Amaras Art Alliance” Lilit Abgaryan arrived at “High School No 190 after Galust Gyulbenkyan, Big hall (Yerevan)	13:30	27/04/11
The director of audio visual journalists group, the coordinator of the website antitrafficking.am, the member of the Government Committee against trafficking Arzuman Harutyunyan arrived at “High School No 190 after Galust Gyulbenkyan, Big hall (Yerevan)	14:30	27/04/11
An Independent Expert Shogher Vardanyan arrived at “High School No 190 after Galust Gyulbenkyan, Big hall (Yerevan)	14:30	27/04/11

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Dear Colleagues,

This is to advise that me, as a representative of American Organization “Amaras Art Alliance” wish to draw your attention to the following:

On 27.04.2011 at High School No 190 after Galust Gyulbenkyan took place a workshop dedicated to Human trafficking generally and to the struggle against it. The workshop was organized by the representative of American Organization “Amaras Art Alliance” Lilit Abgaryan.

There were also special guests who gave reports on the subject: Arzuman Harutyunyan (The director of audio visual journalists group, the coordinator of the website antitrafficking.am, the member of the Government Committee against trafficking) and Shogher Vardanyan (An Independent Expert).

There were also guests from nearby schools, the heads of the UNESCO chairs of the schools. We also had a representative of UN department, We had journalists who took photos, took interviews and showed on TV what we did during the workshop.

The vital aim and the goal of the workshop was to give information about this terrible thing that has become something like a disaster for all of us. As the experience of the professionals has shown one of the best ways to eradicate this, is to be as well informed as it is possible in order not

to be cheated and not to become a victim.

Everybody should know that human trafficking is the illegal trade in human beings for the purposes of reproductive slavery, commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor, or a modern-day form of slavery.

Fortunately most of the audience was aware of the subject and had an active participation, shared their knowledge, wanted to find out some things that troubled them. A girl of about 15 told a story that she saw with her own eyes. Her sister had become a victim of trafficking. At first she was a bit shy and ashamed to tell the story, but later on when our expert explained to her that no one is guaranteed from this thing and all of us might become a victim not according to our will and without our wish, she started to tell. The story was of course astonishing. I will just tell it in a few words so as it would be clear to you either.

She had been a teen-age bride, “stolen” by a boy whom she hardly knew. “She tried to run away, but his male friends all stopped her,” she said. “If a boy steals you like this and you don’t get married, it’s a great shame to your family and you.”

The marriage was a disaster. Maria gave birth at eighteen, but her husband drank, beat her, and could not hold a job. “The only happy thing concerning him was her daughter. Otherwise, she hated him.” Mother counseled her to obey her husband. “She used to say, ‘You have to listen to him, because the sword doesn’t cut the bowed head.’ That’s a saying .(A similar adage, which I heard more than once, goes “*The woman who is not beaten is like a house that is not cleaned.*”) After several years of abuse, Maria fled. She left her daughter with her parents and headed to Ukraine, where she sold rug-cleaning machines and other products on the street.

Her husband pursued her to be back , and she returned to him briefly, but he drank up her savings and beat her. She went next, where she found work as a waitress. She returned to Armenia to see her daughter.

Here her narrative broke off. Tears streamed down her face. “Those years when her daughter needed her the most, she wasn’t there,” she said.

The troubles with her husband resumed, and Maria and her daughter went to live with her parents. She decided to get a divorce. Then a woman came to the village offering jobs in Turkey. She agreed and went. She actually became a victim of trafficking .After a long stay in an Istanbul hospital, she returned home. “She was not really a human being,” she said. “She could not walk, could not work.” Despite several surgeries and rehabilitation, she still walks with a great deal of pain.

She put off one operation she needed, she said, when she came to believe that the local doctor wanted to remove the main steel pin in her leg only because it was high-quality metal, which he could resell.

The story really saddened the whole audience but anywhere we went on. Arzuman Harutyunyan himself told some stories, as in these cases examples make everything more alive and it becomes easier for the children to imagine what a trafficking is and what it will bring to.

Our independent expert talked about the ways to prevent you from being trafficked. She suggested methods of being more attentive, more careful. She advised not to trust everyone who is surround you. Children were listening very carefully all the time interrupting the speaker with their questions. They were really engaged in the subject and wanted to find out every detail.

Our workshop lasted nearly 2 hours. Both the organizers and the audience felt some kind of satisfaction from what they did.

They were happy that they were able to warn another 70 or 80 people , they were happy that the knowledge they had could change something and could help teenage children to avoid this. At the end the headmaster of the school Karine Zatikyan took the microphone and thanked everyone for the wonderful opportunity and for the attention that is paid to this subject.

The UN department of Armenia also gave us a great number of booklets based on this subject so as we gave them to participants. At the end of the workshop we distributed them asking the students either to keep them or to give to those people who are less informed.

Just after the report, I would like also to present you the official invitation of the workshop that I have sent to many Ministries, schools, UN, UNESCO and also I would like to include the photos of the workshop.

The Official Invitation of the workshop

Official Invitation

Dear Colleagues!

We are honored to invite you to be present at a workshop which is dedicated to the subject "Human Trafficking". The workshop is going to take place at High school#190 after Galust Gyulbenkyan, on 27th of April, 15.00.

The workshop is going to be held by Lilit Abgaryan: the representative of American Organization "Amaras Art Alliance" www.amarasonline.com.

Also special guests would have speeches on the subject.

Arzuman Harutyunyan: The director of audio-visual journalists group, The coordinator of seminars and workshops on trafficking .

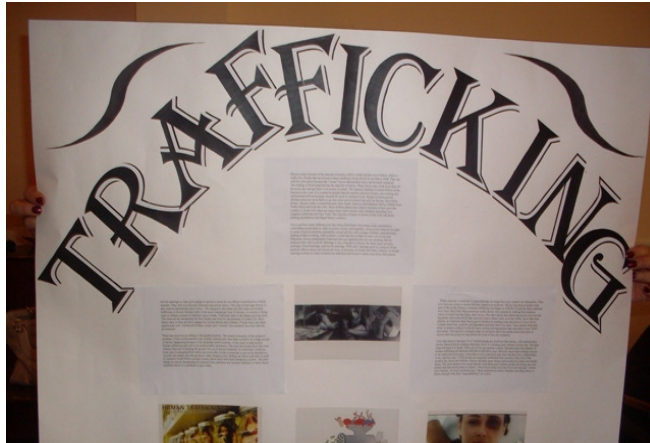
Shogher Vardanyan: An independent expert who deals with this subject and constantly gives reports on it. We also intend to show movies based on real facts that exist here in Armenia which will make our workshop more alive. The subject is surely worth discussing and being informed is one of the vital keys to fight against it. So let's join, form an ally and raise our voice against it. Let's do everything that is in our strength to eradicate this disaster that has the name "TRAFFICKING" altogether. We are looking forward to seeing you at our workshop. The subject is contemporary and troubling.

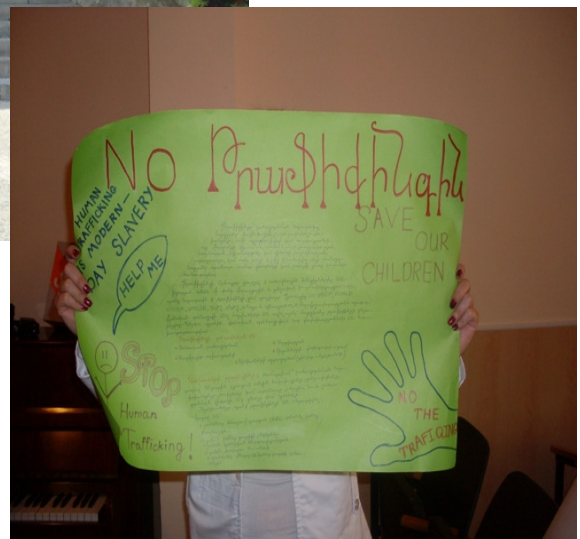
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**School No 190 after Galust Gyulbenkyan
Handed by LILIT ABGARYAN**