

TOWNSVILLE COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTER 2/181 Sturt Street

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, especially women, is a global phenomenon. It involves the movement of people by means of force, threats, deception, fraud or the payment of money for the purpose of exploitation.

Recent reports of foreign women trafficked to the Gold Coast, Far North Queensland, Sydney, and other parts of Australia, raises the probability of similar cases elsewhere and on a wider scale.

Despite greater awareness and acknowledgement of the problem by government agencies, trafficking in persons and the exploitation of foreign workers in Australia's sex industry remain phenomena not well understood and poorly researched. Strategic policies and concerted government are still missing and prosecutions are very rare and often unsuccessful.

The University of Queensland (UQ) TC Beirne School of Law, in cooperation with The University of British Columbia Centre of International Relations is carrying out a research project to provide a comprehensive analysis of trafficking in persons and the exploitation of foreign workers in the sex industry in Australia and Canada.

On February 4, 2009, UQ's Human Trafficking Working Group will present its initial findings and discuss its future research agenda in a public forum in Townsville.

This event is kindly supported by the Queensland Law Society.

RSVP by February 2, 2009 c.baker@qls.com.au